

Technical Vocabulary

Technical vocabulary in specialized language and its indispensability in professional and vocational communication are visible nowadays. Technical vocabulary is often found in the fields of Science, Engineering and Medicine etc. More recently, the term ‘specialized vocabulary’ has been used as a generic term that covers both ‘academic vocabulary’ and ‘technical vocabulary’. Although both academic and technical words are specialized vocabulary, they differ in that while academic vocabulary consists of words that occur across a wide range of subjects, technical vocabulary is composed of words with a specialized meaning used usually in one specific subject.

Technical vocabulary generally refers to words and phrases that are used and known mainly in a specific profession, trade, or, for simplicity purposes, subject area (henceforth, ‘subject area’ or simply ‘subject’ will be used as a generic term to refer to both ‘profession’ and ‘trade’). Because of its subject-specific nature, technical vocabulary varies significantly from one subject area to another. Furthermore, technical words are ubiquitous and highly frequent in professional language. As such, technical vocabulary constitutes a very important and required knowledge for those who work directly or indirectly in a subject area as well as for students studying the subject. Technical vocabulary is subject-bound, referring to words used in a specific subject for communicating subject-specific knowledge. It includes both high-frequency and academic words that are used with a specialized meaning in a specific subject as well as those low/lower-frequency words that appear almost exclusively in a subject. Together with academic words, technical words help form specialized vocabulary. It is necessary to note that technical vocabulary is not limited to individual words. It includes multiword units and their acronyms, such as Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), flux theorem, and static electric field etc.

Examples:

S. No.	Technical Terms	Meaning
1.	<i>Analysis</i>	A detailed examination of something
1.	<i>Automation</i>	The use of automated equipment instead of manpower
2.	<i>Balance</i>	An equal distribution of something

3.	<i>Calculation</i>	A computing determination of an amount
4.	<i>Consultation</i>	Seeking advice from an expert
5.	<i>Depth</i>	The measure of the deepness of something
6.	<i>Dimension</i>	An aspect or a point of view of a condition
7.	<i>Engine</i>	A machine that converts a form of energy into its mechanical equivalent
8.	<i>Electronics</i>	The study of the design of circuits using its components
9.	<i>Fabrication</i>	The process of inventing and producing something
10.	<i>Friction</i>	The resistance of a surface when it moves over another surface
11.	<i>Generator</i>	A machine that converts mechanical energy into its electric equivalent
12.	<i>Hydraulic</i>	A liquid moving in limited space under pressure
13.	<i>Intersection</i>	A point where two or more things cross each other
14.	<i>Machine</i>	A device that uses power to put force and control its movement to perform an action
15.	<i>Manufacturing</i>	Similar to fabrication; refers to produce something on a large scale
16.	<i>Oscilloscope</i>	A device used to check oscillations, for a CRT
17.	<i>Precision</i>	A measure of accuracy and exactness of something
18.	<i>Propulsion</i>	Similar to thrust; the action of pushing forward
19.	<i>Refine</i>	The industrial process of removing impurities from something
20.	<i>Regulation</i>	The process of controlling and sustaining something
21.	<i>Suspension</i>	Supporting a vehicle on its wheels with the help of shock absorbers and springs
22.	<i>Technology</i>	When science and knowledge is put into use for practical purposes
23.	<i>Transmission</i>	The process of sending something
24.	<i>Valve</i>	A device that controls the corridor of the flow of air through a duct or a pipe
25.	<i>Vibration</i>	The periodic motion of shaking of something

26.	<i>Weight</i>	The measure of heaviness or a body's relative mass
27.	<i>Weld</i>	The process of joining metallic parts by heating the surfaces to a very high level
28.	<i>Arbitrary</i>	based on or subject to individual discretion or preference
29.	<i>denominator</i>	the divisor of a fraction
30.	<i>Abrasion Resistance</i>	The ability to withstand the effects of repeated wearing, rubbing, scrapping, etc.
31.	<i>Amorphous</i>	Latin meaning without form. Non-crystalline structure.
32.	<i>Anneal</i>	To prevent the formation of or remove stresses in plastics by cooling from a suitable temperature.
33.	<i>Dimensional Stability</i>	Ability to retain precise shape and size.
34.	<i>Dissipation</i>	Unusable or lost energy, as the production of heat in a circuit
35.	<i>Elongation</i>	The fractional increase in length of a material stressed in tension.
36.	<i>Epoxy Resins</i>	Straight-chain thermosetting resins containing at least one 3 membered ring consisting of 2 carbon atoms and 1 oxygenation.
37.	<i>Extrusion</i>	The method of processing plastic by forcing heat softened plastic through an opening of the desired shape of the cross-section of the finished product.
38.	<i>Fishpaper</i>	A type of vulcanized fibre paper treated chemically for insulating purposes where high mechanical and electrical strength and flexibility are required.
39.	<i>Flash Point</i>	The lowest temperature at which a flammable liquid will produce a combustible vapor that will burn in the presence of a flame, under certain prescribed conditions of test.
40.	<i>Flexural Strength</i>	The strength of a material in bending, expressed as the tensile stress of the outermost fibers of a bent test specimen at the instant of failure.
41.	<i>Formulation</i>	A combination of ingredients before processing or made into a finished product. Also used as a synonym for a material, compound.
42.	<i>Heat Loss</i>	Power dissipated as heat.

43.	<i>High-Pressure Laminates</i>	Laminates molded and cured at pressures not lower than 600 psi (pressures of 1000 to 2500 psi are not uncommon).
44.	<i>Impact Resistance</i>	Relative susceptibility of material to fracture by physical shock.
45.	<i>Impact Strength</i>	Ability to withstand physical shock loading or work required to fracture under shock loading a specified test specimen in a specified manner.
46.	<i>Impregnate</i>	To fill the voids and interstices of a material with a compound (this does not imply complete fill or complete coating of the surfaces by a hole free film.)
47.	<i>Inert</i>	Deficient in active properties; not affecting other substances when in contact with them such as inert gases.
48.	<i>Light Transmission</i>	The amount of light that a plastic will allow to pass.
49.	<i>Loss Factor</i>	The product of the power factor and the dielectric constant