Building Literacy with English Language Learners

Insights from Linguistics

SECOND EDITION

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Online Materials

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Quick Guide to Including the Five Domains
and Three Functions of Language Learning

	Learning language	Learning about language	Learning through language
Listening			
Speaking			
Reading			
Writing			
Communicative competence			

The 50 Most Common American English Words

The 50 most common words in American English	Content or function?	Germanic, Old English, or Latin?
1. *the*	F	
2. *be*	C/F	
3. *and*	F	
4. *of*	F	
5. *a*	F	
6. *in*	F	
7. *to*	F	
8. *have*	C/F	
9. *to*	F	
10. *it*	F	
11. *I*		
12. *that*		
13. *for*		
14. *you*		
15. *he*		
16. *with*		
17. *on*		
18. *do*		
19. *say*		
20. *this*		
21. *they*		
22. *at*		
23. *but*		

(continued)

The 50 most common words in American English	Content or function?	Germanic, Old English, or Latin?
24. *we*		
25. *his*		
26. *from*		
27. *that*		
28. *not*		
29. *n't*		
30. *by*		
31. *she*		
32. *or*		
33. *as*		
34. *what*		
35. *go*		
36. *their*		
37. *can*		
38. *who*		
39. *get*		
40. *if*		
41. *would*		
42. *her*		
43. *all*		
44. *my*		
45. *make*		
46. *about*		
47. *know*		
48. *will*		
49. *as*		
50. *up*		

Note. Data from Word Frequency Data (2016).

Common Morphemes from Content-Area Vocabulary

Some Key Science Morphemes					
sol	aero	hydro	paleo	astro	physio
bio	ecto	endo	ortho	chemo	cyto
meta	geo	therm	eco	electr(o)	micro
macro	quant	qual	trans	techn	syn

Some Key Mathematics Morphemes					
grad	graph	deci	centi	milli	circ
meter	plex	numer	equa	tri	quad
angl	hemi	sphere	add	sub	tract
fract	penta	hecto	octo	vert	hor

Some Key Social Studies Morphemes					
multi	proto	poli	agri	metro	ethno
anthro	hist	demo	gyn	homo	andro
poly	mono	bi	mega	hetero	gen
morph	popu	arch	aqua	theo	psych
cult	edu	logy	soph	etic	emic

Some Key Language Arts Morphemes					
biblio	script	auto	comp	improv	infere
solos	meta	orat	studere	spect	littera
rhetoric	genus	narrare	krisis	dict	caput

Note. Some morphemes change spelling when adopted into English.

The Compound Noun Game

1. Print the game cards and cut them into pieces. If possible, use card stock or laminate the cards. If the class is larger, create more compound noun pairs. If students are at a very beginning level, pictures can be added to the words.
2. Each student picks out one card with half of the compound word written on it. They will walk around and find a person whose card completes the compound word (e.g., if your word is *water*, you can make a compound noun with the person who has the word *fall—waterfall*).
3. Once the students find their partners, they discuss why it is a compound word and what it means. Explain to the students that sometimes compound words are made up of two random words (e.g., *butterfly*).
4. Now, collect all the words and mix them up. Have two sets of partners pick out four new game cards. Put them together in any order to make a new compound word! Be creative and have fun! Students can use the word in a sentence and draw a picture of the new word. They can also create an advertisement for their new word if it is an object.

ANIMAL COMPOUND NOUN GAME

Try doing this same activity with the set of animal compound words below. When the cards are shuffled, students can create their own animals!

catfish	*dragonfly*	*bulldog*	*jellyfish*	*starfish*
ladybug	*anteater*	*bluebird*	*lionfish*	*grasshopper*
sheepdog	*seahorse*	*bullfrog*		

When they create the animal, have them draw it and describe what it does.

ANOTHER COMPOUND WORD GAME (COMPOUND WORD LADDER)

1. Give the students a compound word. Take the word and think of another word that has part of the first word. Keep going to make a compound word ladder!

    Example: *snowman*
    snowball
    basketball
    football
    footprint
    fingerprint
    fingernail

2. When you can't think of any more words, try a new compound word!

(continued)

**CARDS FOR THE COMPOUND NOUN GAME
(ENTERING OR BEGINNING LEVEL)**

back	pack
day	dream
sail	boat
water	bed
book	case
flash	light
lunch	box

More English and Spanish Words from Latin Roots

Related Spanish words	Related English words	Root meaning
		solo (Latin, alone)
		cent (Latin, one hundred)
		circulus (Latin, ring)
		vacare (v) (Latin, to empty) *vacuus* (n)

Scoring Charts for Repeated Reading

Chart for a Single Reading

	First reading	Second reading	Third reading	Fourth reading
340				
330				
320				
310				
300				
290				
280				
270				
260				
250				
240				
230				
220				
210				
200				
190				
180				
170				
160				
150				
140				
130				
120				
110				
100				
90				
80				
Title of passage:	First reading	Second reading	Third reading	Fourth reading
Slowest score	Fastest score	Difference:		

Chart for a Set of Readings

340						
330						
320						
310						
300						
290						
280						
270						
260						
250						
240						
230						
220						
210						
200						
190						
180						
170						
160						
150						
140						
130						
120						
110						
100						
90						
80						
Best score from each passage	Name of passage:	Name of passage:	Name of passage:	Name of passage:	Name of passage:	Name of passage:

Technology Terms Demonstrating English Word Formation

Classify the technology vocabulary below using the chart on p. 282 according to the 12 kinds of English word formation you have studied in Chapter 6, and add a 13th—"metaphors" (using an image or action already known to the reader in a completely new context). Since "backformation" is one kind of multiple process, we include it with multiple processes. In many cases, more than one answer can be correct, but there is usually a best answer. (See p. 283 for suggested answers, but only after you've filled in the chart.)

gigabyte	to message	troll	cached	blog	doc	phishing
online	iTunes	keyboarding	GIF	to boot	majordomo	PDF
pinterest	to upload	meltdown	web	surfing	menu	geek
ebook	to "friend"	firewall	to text	techie	pixel	DVD/DVR
keyword	avatar	cyberspace	logon	ROM	mouse	newbie
spam	help desk	fax	nerdette	Skype	stream	cloud
snail mail	clickbait	dropdown	reboot	app	podcast	Google

Coinage (neologisms)	Borrowing (loan words)	Clipping	Blending (portmanteau words)
Compounds	Acronyms	Paired-word sound play	Metaphors
Abbreviations	Conversion (category shift)	Scale change	Multiple processes (backformation)

Which forms predominate? Which are less common?

Suggested Answers for APPENDIX 10.1

Coinage (neologisms)	Borrowing (loan words)	Clipping	Blending (portmanteau words)
Google phishing geek pixel Skype	avatar cached menu majordomo	app doc fax web	spam blog podcast cyberspace pinterest ebook iTunes
Compounds	**Acronyms**	**Paired-word sound play**	**Metaphors**
dropdown help desk keyword logon online firewall clickbait	ROM GIF	snail mail	mouse cloud stream meltdown surfing troll
Abbreviations	**Conversion (category shift)**	**Scale change**	**Multiple processes (backformation)**
DVD/DVR PDF	to message to friend to boot to text to upload	gigabyte techie nerdette newbie	keyboarding reboot

Note. In many cases, more than one answer can be correct, but there is usually a best answer.