

Academic Word List

for Grades 6-8

This list, known as the Academic Word List (AWL), includes the 570 most common academic words found in academic texts. English learner students who learn these words before they graduate from high school will master academic material in the future more easily than those who know only conversational English. These especially apply to

achieving higher scores on state-specific tests, college entrance exams, and work at the college level.

The numbers following each word indicate the frequency at which students encounter that word in academic texts. For example, “1” designates words most frequently used and “10” designates words less frequently used.

Abandon 8	Aspect 2	Coincide 9	Consult 5	Derive 1	Enormous 10
Abstract 6	Assemble 10	Collapse 10	Consume 2	Design 2	Ensure 3
Academy 5	Assess 1	Colleague 10	Contact 5	Despite 4	Entity 5
Access 4	Assign 6	Commence 9	Contemporary 8	Detect 8	Environment 1
Accommodate 9	Assist 2	Comment 3	Context 1	Deviate 8	Equate 2
Accompany 8	Assume 1	Commission 2	Contract 1	Device 9	Equip 7
Accumulate 8	Assure 9	Commit 4	Contradict 8	Devote 9	Equivalent 5
Accurate 6	Attach 6	Commodity 8	Contrary 7	Differentiate 7	Erode 9
Achieve 2	Attain 9	Communicate 4	Contrast 4	Dimension 4	Error 4
Acknowledge 6	Attitude 4	Community 2	Contribute 3	Diminish 9	Establish 1
Acquire 2	Attribute 4	Compatible 9	Controversy 9	Discrete 5	Estate 6
Adapt 7	Author 6	Compensate 3	Convene 3	Discriminate 6	Estimate 1
Adequate 4	Authority 1	Compile 10	Converse 9	Displace 8	Ethic 9
Adjacent 10	Automate 8	Complement 8	Convert 7	Display 6	Ethnic 4
Adjust 5	Available 1	Complex 2	Convince 10	Dispose 7	Evaluate 2
Administrate 2	Aware 5	Component 3	Cooperate 6	Distinct 2	Eventual 8
Adult 7	Behalf 9	Compound 5	Coordinate 3	Distort 9	Evident 1
Advocate 7	Benefit 1	Comprehensive 7	Core 3	Distribute 1	Evolve 5
Affect 2	Bias 8	Comprise 7	Corporate 3	Diverse 6	Exceed 6
Aggregate 6	Bond 6	Compute 2	Correspond 3	Document 3	Exclude 3
Aid 7	Brief 6	Conceive 10	Couple 7	Domain 6	Exhibit 8
Albeit 10	Bulk 9	Concentrate 4	Create 1	Domestic 4	Expand 5
Allocate 6	Capable 6	Concept 1	Credit 2	Dominate 3	Expert 6
Alter 5	Capacity 5	Conclude 2	Criteria 3	Draft 5	Explicit 6
Alternative 3	Category 2	Concurrent 9	Crucial 8	Drama 8	Exploit 8
Ambiguous 8	Cease 9	Conduct 2	Culture 2	Duration 9	Export 1
Amend 5	Challenge 5	Confer 4	Currency 8	Dynamic 7	Expose 5
Analogy 9	Channel 7	Confine 9	Cycle 4	Economy 1	External 5
Analyze 1	Chapter 2	Confirm 7	Data 1	Edit 6	Extract 7
Annual 4	Chart 8	Conflict 5	Debate 4	Element 2	Facilitate 5
Anticipate 9	Chemical 7	Conform 8	Decade 7	Eliminate 7	Factor 1
Apparent 4	Circumstance 3	Consent 3	Decline 5	Emerge 4	Feature 2
Append 8	Cite 6	Consequent 2	Deduce 3	Emphasis 3	Federal 6
Appreciate 8	Civil 4	Considerable 3	Define 1	Empirical 7	Fee 6
Approach 1	Clarify 8	Consist 1	Definite 7	Enable 5	File 7
Appropriate 2	Classic 7	Constant 3	Demonstrate 3	Encounter 10	Final 2
Approximate 4	Clause 5	Constitute 1	Denote 8	Energy 5	Finance 1
Arbitrary 8	Code 4	Constraint 3	Deny 7	Enforce 5	Finite 7
Area 1	Coherent 9	Construct 2	Depress 10	Enhance 6	Flexible 6

Fluctuate 8	Insert 7	Minimal 9	Potential 2	Restore 8	Sustain 5
Focus 2	Insight 9	Minimize 8	Practitioner 8	Restrain 9	Symbol 5
Format 9	Inspect 8	Minimum 6	Precede 6	Restrict 2	Tape 6
Formula 1	Instance 3	Ministry 6	Precise 5	Retain 4	Target 5
Forthcoming 10	Institute 2	Minor 3	Predict 4	Reveal 6	Task 3
Foundation 7	Instruct 6	Mode 7	Predominate 8	Revenue 5	Team 9
Founded 9	Integral 9	Modify 5	Preliminary 9	Reverse 7	Technical 3
Framework 3	Integrate 4	Monitor 5	Presume 6	Revise 8	Technique 3
Function 1	Integrity 10	Motivate 6	Previous 2	Revolution 9	Technology 3
Fund 3	Intelligence 6	Mutual 9	Primary 2	Rigid 9	Temporary 9
Fundamental 5	Intense 8	Negate 3	Prime 5	Role 1	Tense 8
Furthermore 6	Interact 3	Network 5	Principal 4	Route 9	Terminate 8
Gender 6	Intermediate 9	Neutral 6	Principle 1	Scenario 9	Text 2
Generate 5	Internal 4	Nevertheless 6	Prior 4	Schedule 8	Theme 8
Generation 5	Interpret 1	Nonetheless 10	Priority 7	Scheme 3	Theory 1
Globe 7	Interval 6	Norm 9	Proceed 1	Scope 6	Thereby 8
Goal 4	Intervene 7	Normal 2	Process 1	Section 1	Thesis 7
Grade 7	Intrinsic 10	Notion 5	Professional 4	Sector 1	Topic 7
Grant 4	Invest 2	Notwithstanding 10	Prohibit 7	Secure 2	Trace 6
Guarantee 7	Investigate 4	Nuclear 8	Project 4	Seek 2	Tradition 2
Guideline 8	Invoke 10	Objective 5	Promote 4	Select 2	Transfer 2
Hence 4	Involve 1	Obtain 2	Proportion 3	Sequence 3	Transform 6
Hierarchy 7	Isolate 7	Obvious 4	Prospect 8	Series 4	Transit 5
Highlight 8	Issue 1	Occupy 4	Protocol 9	Sex 3	Transmit 7
Hypothesis 4	Item 2	Occur 1	Psychology 5	Shift 3	Transport 6
Identical 7	Job 4	Odd 10	Publication 7	Significant 1	Trend 5
Identify 1	Journal 2	Offset 8	Publish 3	Similar 1	Trigger 9
Ideology 7	Justify 3	Ongoing 10	Purchase 2	Simulate 7	Ultimate 7
Ignorant 6	Label 4	Option 4	Pursue 5	Site 2	Undergo 10
Illustrate 3	Labor 1	Orient 5	Qualitative 9	So-called 10	Underlie 6
Image 5	Layer 3	Outcome 3	Quote 7	Sole 7	Undertake 4
Immigrate 3	Lecture 6	Output 4	Radical 8	Somewhat 7	Uniform 8
Impact 2	Legal 1	Overall 4	Random 8	Source 1	Unify 9
Implement 4	Legislate 1	Overlap 9	Range 2	Specific 1	Unique 7
Implicate 4	Levy 10	Overseas 6	Ratio 5	Specify 3	Utilize 6
Implicit 8	Liberal 5	Panel 10	Rational 6	Sphere 9	Valid 3
Imply 3	License 5	Paradigm 7	React 3	Stable 5	Vary 1
Impose 4	Likewise 10	Paragraph 8	Recover 6	Statistics 4	Vehicle 8
Incentive 6	Link 3	Parallel 4	Refine 9	Status 4	Version 5
Incidence 6	Locate 3	Parameter 4	Regime 4	Straightforward 10	Via 8
Incline 10	Logic 5	Participate 2	Region 2	Strategy 2	Violate 9
Income 1	Maintain 2	Partner 3	Register 3	Stress 4	Virtual 8
Incorporate 6	Major 1	Passive 9	Regulate 2	Structure 1	Visible 7
Index 6	Manipulate 8	Perceive 2	Reinforce 8	Style 5	Vision 9
Indicate 1	Manual 9	Percent 1	Reject 5	Submit 7	Visual 8
Individual 1	Margin 5	Period 1	Relax 9	Subordinate 9	Volume 3
Induce 8	Mature 9	Persist 10	Release 7	Subsequent 4	Voluntary 7
Inevitable 8	Maximize 3	Perspective 5	Relevant 2	Subsidy 6	Welfare 5
Infer 7	Mechanism 4	Phase 4	Reluctance 10	Substitute 5	Whereas 5
Infrastructure 8	Media 7	Phenomenon 7	Rely 3	Successor 7	Whereby 10
Inherent 9	Mediate 9	Philosophy 3	Remove 3	Sufficient 3	Widespread 8
Inhibit 6	Medical 5	Physical 3	Require 1	Sum 4	
Initial 3	Medium 9	Plus 8	Research 1	Summary 4	
Initiate 6	Mental 5	Policy 1	Reside 2	Supplement 9	
Injure 2	Method 1	Portion 9	Resolve 4	Survey 2	
Innovate 7	Migrate 6	Pose 10	Resources 2	Survive 7	
Input 6	Military 9	Positive 2	Respond 1	Suspend 9	