

CAMBRIDGE

Academic Vocabulary in Use

50 units of
academic
vocabulary
reference and
practice

Self-study and
classroom use

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To the student and the teacher 6

Working with academic vocabulary

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 What is special about academic English? | <i>discipline, virtually, quantify</i> |
| 2 Key nouns | <i>theory, model, pattern</i> |
| 3 Key verbs | <i>attempt, establish, explain</i> |
| 4 Key adjectives | <i>relevant, abstract, significant</i> |
| 5 Key adverbs | <i>comparatively, eventually, simply</i> |
| 6 Phrasal verbs in academic English | <i>put forward, go through, write up</i> |
| 7 Key quantifying expressions | <i>a substantial amount, in excess of, no fewer than</i> |
| 8 Words with several meanings | <i>set, accommodate, issue</i> |
| 9 Metaphors and idioms | <i>shed light on, remain in the dark, the battle against</i> |

Word combinations

- | | |
|--|--|
| 10 Nouns and the words they combine with | <i>heated debate, pivotal role, to collate results</i> |
| 11 Adjective and noun combinations | <i>important contribution, major concern, widespread support</i> |
| 12 Verbs and the words they combine with | <i>loosely based on, examine the evidence, suggest an alternative solution</i> |
| 13 Prepositional phrases | <i>in conjunction with, on behalf of, for the most part</i> |
| 14 Verbs and prepositions | <i>focus on, consent to, account for</i> |
| 15 Nouns and prepositions | <i>dissertation on, rationale for, progress towards</i> |
| 16 Fixed expressions | <i>in a variety of ways, with the exception of, be that as it may</i> |

At academic institutions

- | | |
|--|---|
| 17 Applications and application forms | <i>entry requirements, referee, deadline</i> |
| 18 College and university: the UK system | <i>student union, tutorial, research student</i> |
| 19 Systems compared: the US and the UK | <i>dormitory, freshman, fraternity</i> |
| 20 Academic courses | <i>diploma, credits, defer</i> |
| 21 Study habits and skills | <i>reading speed, mind map, rote learning</i> |
| 22 Online learning | <i>online community, username, subject header</i> |

Ways of talking about ...

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 23 Sources | <i>primary source, draw on, body of literature</i> |
| 24 Facts, evidence and data | <i>distort the facts, hard evidence, empirical data</i> |
| 25 Numbers | <i>random, tally, estimate</i> |
| 26 Statistics | <i>standard deviation, correlate, proportion</i> |
| 27 Graphs and diagrams | <i>pie chart, intersect, decline</i> |
| 28 Money and education | <i>student loan, cost of living, receipt</i> |
| 29 Time | <i>century, simultaneous, in the near future</i> |
| 30 Cause and effect | <i>trigger, give rise to, chain reaction</i> |

Opinions and ideas

- 31 Talking about ideas
- 32 Reporting what others say
- 33 Analysis of results
- 34 Talking about meaning
- 35 Research and study aims
- 36 Talking about points of view
- 37 Degrees of certainty

*movement, hypothesis, stance
pinpoint, cast doubt on, implication
deduce, outweigh, critical
transparent, comprehend, misinterpret
objective, to further, instigate
impartial, ideology, hold views
tendency, likelihood, allegedly*

Functions

- 38 Presenting an argument
- 39 Organising your writing
- 40 Making a presentation
- 41 Describing research methods
- 42 Classifying
- 43 Making connections
- 44 Comparing and contrasting
- 45 Describing problems
- 46 Describing situations
- 47 Processes and procedures
- 48 Describing change
- 49 Evaluation and emphasis
- 50 Summary and conclusion

*beyond the scope of, furthermore, the extent to which
with a focus on, at this point, respectively
address a topic, handout, take questions
carry out a procedure, case study, replicate
component, consist of, marital status
correlate with, mutual, interaction
distinction, similarly, whereas
experience difficulties, deal with, resolve a problem
context, integral, stable
simulation, to supplement, output
expansion, diminish, perceptible change
inadequate, contradictory, acknowledge
bring to a close, in the final analysis, finally*

Reading and vocabulary

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