

To the Student

Vocabulary Mastery 3 will help you learn the vocabulary words that you will need to know to do well in your academic studies. These words come from the Academic Word List (Coxhead 2000), which contains 570 words common in the variety of academic reading texts you will encounter. These words may be different from the words you hear and use in your everyday life. By learning these words with a basic 2,000-word vocabulary, you will be able to understand more than 85 percent of academic reading assignments. Some suggestions for using this text follow. Your teacher may have others.

1. Find out how much vocabulary you already know by doing the **Vocabulary Preview** exercises in each unit.
2. Review words in the **Word Study** section. Cross out words that you already know.
3. Use your dictionary to find the meanings of words you do not know. Write these in a vocabulary notebook or make vocabulary cards (see How to Make Vocabulary Cards on page xiii). When you finish this textbook, you will have your own reference of academic vocabulary.
4. Read the introduction and readings in the unit. Check your dictionary for words that are not listed on your vocabulary list that you need to know to understand the reading.
5. As you read, check to see whether you understand what you are reading. Ask yourself: Did I understand what I just read? Which sentence or word is giving me a problem? Why? What or who can help me understand this? Can I ask a classmate or my teacher to help me?
6. Answer the **Comprehension Check** questions, which will show you how well you have understood the introduction and readings. The questions here are answered with True or False. If you have trouble, you may want to reread the introduction and readings.
7. Once you think that you understand the introduction and readings, complete the activities in the **Word Study** section.
8. When you have finished all of the **Word Study** activities, check your answers in the online key, if your teacher says it's okay.
9. Reread the introduction and readings. Have they become easier to understand?

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10. Use outside materials such as books, magazine articles, videos, and films to help you learn more about the topic in each unit. Your local library and the Internet are good places to find outside material.

Completing this textbook will help you to learn the words you need for academic success. Good luck in your studies!