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Jamie Grill/Getty Images This is a simple theory and easy to practice: The more words your child hears on a daily basis, the more he will learn, absorb and eventually use himself. And while the expansion of vocabulary usually happens on its own as children meet other people and enter preschool education, there is a lot you can do at home every day to teach your child to use descriptive words. To expand your child's vocabulary, try some of these tips. You are the best and first teacher of your child. Help them increase the number of words in their vocabulary by just talking to them. Studies conducted by psychologists at Stanford University show that more communication with the baby helps them to process the language faster, which accelerates the growth of vocabulary. When you are talking to your child, use as many descriptors as possible (within reason). Instead of saying: Bring me your shoes, try bring me your pink, lace shoes. Do you want to take a walk? In You want to go for a long walk on the street where we can look at the blue sky and colorful flowers? You can also find opportunities to model using descriptive language, describing what they want. For example, if your child says: I want my doll, answer: A doll with brown hair? Or the one with the green dress? (It will be good practice when your child is a teenager and you will try to get as much information as possible from them!) Studies show that reading aloud to children exposes them to an even greater variety of words than talking to them. This is because, compared to parent-child conversation, picture books are two to three times more likely to include a word that is not among the 5,000 most common English words. In fact, young children whose parents read their one picture book a day will hear about 290,000 more words at age 5 than those whose parents don't regularly read them. As you read, answer any questions your little one may have, and put some of your own. Start with simple questions such as: What does a child do? Or what color is the cat? Choose picture books that use large and simple fonts. Your child will most likely also focus on the words. Marking household items is a great way to create your child's vocabulary. Select multiple items at the same time for marking, such as refrigerator, chairs and tables. Write the word on the index card in large, clear letters; Then use the tape to glue the tags to the objects. Throughout the day, your child asks you questions. Turn the tables and get some information from them. Your queries don't have to be anything complicated, just things, make them think and talk. There are many toys and games on the market that teach children about words like spell them out, what they mean read them and more. And that's great! But you can also play some games at home or in the car with your toddler, which won't cost you a dime. For example, play a rhyme game where you give your child a word and they have to rhyme. Or you can play the game I spy. Reading a book with your child, just say: I spy with my little eye something yellow on this page. Then your child can specify or say what they think the item is. The possibilities are endless! Thank you for your feedback! What do you care? Do you need to study vocabulary for the ACT, but don't know where to start? We have links to free ACT vocab listings from all over the internet. We've also found other vocab research resources - from video to apps and browser plugins - to help you explore the ACT-specific vocabulary. A few words of advice: Don't overdo Vocab Vocabulary on the ACT is far from the most important thing you can do to prepare. You won't be tested on obscure words or need to memorize definitions to be successful. Spending hours memorizing the difficult, secret words vocab won't help you on the ACT. This is because the ACT tests medium-complexity words in the context of sentences and focuses on multi-meaning words. For more information on this, read our article on act vocabulary - it's a must read before you start learning! In short, make sure you don't just memorize your vocabulary and assume that it will help you prepare for ACT English and ACT Readings. You should focus on being able to identify vocabulary in context and recognize words with multiple intentions. Many preparatory programs over-emphasize vocabulary memorization because it is easy to teach. However, learning vocabulary is important for the ACT (we recommend using the waterfall method to study), so we're including lists of words and resources here. Keep in mind that you should consider vocabulary as just one component of ACT Reading and English. Don't neglect to learn grammar rules or reading practices. It's important that your ACT study regimen is balanced. Don't spend so much time on one skill you neglect another. ACT Vocabulary Word Lists As we discussed above, the ACT is all about testing vocabulary in context rather than weird, obscure words. Beware of any super-long lists of words that claim to be for the ACT - they're probably just old lists of SAT words with a different name. Focus on learning medium-complexity words very well, so you know them in context, and less on learning as many words as possible. I recommend starting with our List of PrepScholar. We focus on words with multiple meanings that may appear on the ACT. Our 150 words ACT also includes some vocabulary to help you in the section if you are still struggling with vocabulary after learning our 150 words, you can also learn these 100 words from Scholastic. Technically, this is an ACT/SAT list, but it focuses on the medium-complexity words that appeared in the scholastic publication, so this will be useful for the ACT. Finally, you can There are 50 more science-specific terminology words to help with the science section. If you have these words under your belt, you'll have the base you need to do well on ACT Reading and English. Remembering a bigger word will have a decrease in profits, as again, obscure words are not checked by the ACT. And more importantly, you should practice the possibility of defining words in context. Doing ACT Practice sections will be just as useful for learning this skill. Memorizing hundreds of vocab words will not. Flashcards, games and other resources Here are some additional free web resources that can be really useful for learning the ACT vocabulary, and specifically to study words in the context of great articles or passages. The first two would be great resources for any student. The last two are useful for students who are auditory students or learn best by example. The quiz is a flash card website that you can use to learn the vocabulary of words. If you make an account, you can use their website, but also mobile apps for iPhone and Android - which means you can learn when you find yourself with a free moment. You can search through thousands of existing flash card sets on the quiz. You can make your own sets using the lists above, or search the ACT dictionary to access the pre-made flash cards other users have made. Just be careful you don't pull up the supposed ACT Vocab map set that's actually just an old SAT dictionary. (Any lists longer than 250 words are too long.) You can also search for ACT Science to view more vocabulary science. I personally used this app all the time in college for my language classes and found its format very useful. I could make flash cards on the quiz much faster than writing them out manually. Also, I wanted to pull up the app when I found myself with free time (waiting in line somewhere, for example) and learn a few words. ProfessorWord is an app for your browser that pulls ACT vocabulary words from articles and pages and identifies them for you. This is really cool, because if you read articles online, especially in publications such as The Economist, Time, or The New Yorker, you come across tons of ACT vocabulary words. This app just passes and points to them, so you don't miss them! It's a great way to learn words in context, which is super useful for preparing for ACT Reading and English. Even if you only read one article a day, despite the highlighted words and testing your knowledge of them, you can improve your ability to define words in context. It's a great way to practice to act vocabulary as well as a fun way if you like reading articles and blogs. No, Mum, I'm not just reading Game of Thrones for fun, it's for the ACT! Image Wired. Vocab Forward If you learn better with the concepts explained aloud to you, check out the video on Vocab ahead. Instead of just giving you a dictionary definition, they also use a vocabulary of words in sentences, with animations to match to help you get you Go to the Learning Room tab to find the video's vocabulary. You can go through the SAT Common 300 list, as it has many words that intersect with the ACT vocabulary. You can also go to the Master list to look for the words you are having problems with. Vocab Sushi if you like online quizzes, Vocab Sushi is an interesting site that lets you test your vocab knowledge with quizzes and teaches vocab words using them in sentences. This site is particularly useful for the ACT because it emphasizes meaning in context. Vocab Sushi draws an example of sentences from real newspapers and magazines, helping you see how words are actually used in the real world. It's a great way to learn vocabulary in the way the ACT tests it - through context. What's next? What else do you need besides vocab to do well in the ACT? Explore the 5 critical concepts you need for the ACT English ace. We mentioned that the ACT focuses on vocabulary in context. Learn more about this and get strategies to read act. Read 4 types of ACT reading excerpts and learn how to stop running away from READING ACT. You may have heard the ACT doesn't have to guess the penalty - but how can you use this to your advantage and guess effectively? Read about guessing strategies for the ACT. Want to improve your ACT score by 4 points? Download our free guide to the 5 best strategies you need in your training to significantly improve your ACT result. Dramatically.

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