eduKate

FREE LEARNING LIBRARY

PRIMARY 6 / ENGLISH

100 Vocabulary Words

Meanings. Examples. Words you can use.

REASON, QUALIFY & CONNECT IDEAS

Ten small sets for reading, speaking and writing.
With practice, answers and a review tracker.

READ	UNDERSTAND	REMEMBER	USE

Learn a few words. Explain them. Use them in your world.

eduKateSG.com

Properly Taught Kids Shine a Bright Light Into the Future.

Edition 1.0 | September 2026 | Free printable study pack

FOR THE CHILD AND A READING PARTNER

A few words, used well.

Read together where helpful. The aim is understanding and use.

01

Choose five words

Read each word and its meaning. Ask your child to explain the idea in everyday language.

02

Hear it in a sentence

Read the example aloud. Act it out, point to something or tell a small story that makes the word clear.

03

Cover, recall and check

Cover the meaning. Try to remember it, then check. A missed word simply needs another example.

04

Use it somewhere new

Say or write a different sentence. Return to some earlier words on another day.

Word labels
Noun: names a person, place, thing or idea. Verb: tells an action.
Adjective: describes a noun. Adverb: adds detail or links ideas.
Preposition: shows a relationship, such as place or contrast.
Conjunction: joins words, phrases or clauses.

About this selection. These are 100 useful words selected by eduKate for shared Primary 6 practice. A child may already know some. This is not an official syllabus list or a ranking of the 100 most frequent words. Each entry teaches one useful meaning; words can have other meanings.

Controlled movement and response

Show how an action changes as a person responds to the situation.

001 **pivot** verb
turn around a fixed point
I pivot on one foot to face the person behind me.

002 **veer** verb
change direction while moving
We watch the boat veer away from its original course.

003 **swerve** verb
change direction suddenly to avoid something
The cyclists swerve to avoid the fallen branch.

004 **edge** verb
move slowly and carefully in a particular direction
We edge towards the narrow opening, taking tiny steps.

005 **limp** verb
walk unevenly because a leg or foot hurts or is weak
I limp to the bench because my ankle hurts.

006 **totter** verb
walk or stand unsteadily as if about to fall
The toddler begins to totter across the room on unsteady legs.

007 **huddle** verb
gather closely together
We huddle beneath the small shelter to keep out of the rain.

008 **brace** verb
make your body firm and ready for a force or impact
I brace myself as the bus jolts over the uneven road.

009 **steady** verb
stop someone or something from shaking or losing balance
I steady the wobbling chair by holding its back.

010 **falter** verb
lose strength or confidence and begin to hesitate
I falter during my speech when I forget the next sentence.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Purposeful action and adjustment

Explain how resources, plans and effort are used and adjusted.

011 **allocate** verb
set aside something for a particular person or purpose
We allocate ten minutes to checking the final answers.

012 **coordinate** verb
organise people or activities so that they work well together
Two pupils coordinate the stalls so that each has enough helpers.

013 **prioritise** verb
decide which tasks or needs should receive attention first
We prioritise repairing the broken door before repainting the room.

014 **implement** verb
put a plan or decision into action
We implement our recycling plan by placing labelled bins in each room.

015 **sustain** verb
keep something continuing over time
The team practises regularly to sustain its progress.

016 **replenish** verb
fill a supply again after some or all of it has been used
We replenish the empty water jug before the next group arrives.

017 **reinforce** verb
make a structure stronger by adding support
We reinforce the cardboard bridge with extra strips underneath.

018 **retain** verb
keep something instead of losing or giving it up
We retain a copy of the letter for our records.

019 **revise** verb
change a piece of writing or a plan to improve it
I revise my paragraph to make the order of events clearer.

020 **resume** verb
begin an activity again after a pause
We resume the rehearsal after the short break.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Nuanced feelings and attitudes

Distinguish uncertainty, mixed feelings and thoughtful responses.

021 **uneasy** adjective
slightly worried or uncomfortable about a situation
I felt uneasy when the instructions did not match the map.

022 **dismayed** adjective
upset or disappointed by something unexpected
We were dismayed to find that rain had ruined the posters.

023 **exhilarated** adjective
very excited and full of energy
The exhilarated runners cheered after completing their first relay.

024 **conflicted** adjective
having opposing feelings that make a choice difficult
I felt conflicted because I wanted to win but also wanted my friend to succeed.

025 **conscientious** adjective
careful to do your work or duties well
The conscientious monitor checked that every borrowed book was returned.

026 **empathetic** adjective
able to understand how another person feels
The empathetic pupil understood why the newcomer felt lonely.

027 **tactful** adjective
careful to say or do something without needlessly upsetting someone
Her tactful suggestion helped me improve the poster without feeling embarrassed.

028 **impartial** adjective
fair and not favouring one person or side
An impartial judge applies the same rules to both teams.

029 **receptive** adjective
willing to listen to and consider new ideas
The receptive group considered its classmates' suggestions before deciding.

030 **humble** adjective
not acting as though you are better or more important than others
The humble winner thanked the team and did not boast about her prize.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Setting, texture and atmosphere

Select sensory details that serve the scene instead of decorating it.

031 **oppressive** adjective
so hot and heavy that it makes people uncomfortable
The oppressive afternoon heat made even a short walk tiring.

032 **stifling** adjective
uncomfortably hot with too little fresh air
The closed room felt stifling until we opened the windows.

033 **bleak** adjective
bare and unwelcoming in appearance
The bleak field held only dead grass and a broken fence.

034 **secluded** adjective
away from other people and busy places
We found a secluded corner of the garden behind the tall hedge.

035 **turbulent** adjective
moving violently and irregularly
The turbulent water tossed the floating branch from side to side.

036 **brittle** adjective
hard but easily broken or snapped
The brittle twig snapped with a sharp crack.

037 **coarse** adjective
rough in texture rather than smooth or fine
The coarse sack scratched my arm when I carried it.

038 **shrill** adjective
very high and sharp in sound
A shrill whistle cut through the playground noise.

039 **resonant** adjective
deep, clear and continuing to sound
The large bell produced a resonant note that rang across the courtyard.

040 **lingering** adjective
remaining for longer than expected
A lingering smell of smoke remained after the fire was put out.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Testing and combining interpretations

Connect evidence, examine differences and limit claims when necessary.

041 **synthesise** verb
combine ideas or information into a connected understanding
We synthesise information from the map and timetable to explain the journey.

042 **reconcile** verb
find a way for apparently conflicting facts or ideas to fit together
The clock error helps us reconcile the two different arrival times.

043 **substantiate** verb
provide evidence that supports a claim
The dated receipts substantiate her claim that she paid for the materials.

044 **qualify** verb
add a limit or condition to make a statement more accurate
I qualify my claim by adding that our test used only one type of paper.

045 **differentiate** verb
recognise or explain the differences between things
We differentiate the two routes by comparing their length and steepness.

046 **anticipate** verb
expect something and think about it before it happens
We anticipate a large audience and put out extra chairs.

047 **formulate** verb
develop and express an idea or plan carefully
We formulate a plan that gives every group a turn.

048 **refute** verb
show with evidence or reasoning that a claim is false
A single blue bead can refute the claim that every bead in the jar is red.

049 **generalise** verb
make a broad statement based on particular examples
We should not generalise about the whole class from two pupils' answers.

050 **discern** verb
notice or recognise something that is difficult to make out
I could discern a faint outline through the mist.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Competing reasons and decisions

Name the parts of an explanation and the limits of a choice.

051 **assumption** noun
an idea accepted as true without being proved
Our plan relied on the assumption that the hall would be available.

052 **inference** noun
an understanding reached by using clues and reasoning
The muddy boots support the inference that someone has been outside.

053 **assertion** noun
a statement made firmly as if it is true
Her assertion that the route was fastest still needed evidence.

054 **counterargument** noun
a reason or set of reasons against another argument
The lack of shelter is a counterargument to holding the event outdoors.

055 **justification** noun
a reason that explains why a decision or action is reasonable
Protecting the wet paint was our justification for closing the room.

056 **reservation** noun
a doubt or concern about a plan or idea
My main reservation about the trip was its high cost.

057 **constraint** noun
a limit that restricts what can be done
The small budget was a constraint on our choice of materials.

058 **concession** noun
an admission that part of another person's argument is right
Her concession that the bus was cheaper did not change her preference for walking.

059 **feasibility** noun
the possibility of doing something successfully in the available conditions
We checked the plan's feasibility by comparing its cost with our budget.

060 **trade-off** noun
a choice in which gaining one benefit means giving up another
The trade-off was a lighter bag but fewer books to choose from.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Linking and qualifying explanations

Show alternatives, consequences, emphasis and the scope of a statement.

061 **alternatively** adverb
as another possible choice
We could walk to the hall; alternatively, we could take the bus.

062 **accordingly** adverb
in a way that fits the situation or follows from it
Rain was forecast, so we changed our plans accordingly.

063 **admittedly** adverb
used to accept that something is true before adding another point
Admittedly, the route is longer, but it has a safer crossing.

064 **arguably** adverb
used to show that a view can be supported but may be disputed
The clearer map is arguably the most useful improvement to the guide.

065 **comparatively** adverb
when compared with something else
The small bag is comparatively light beside the large suitcase.

066 **notably** adverb
especially in a way worth pointing out
Several pupils helped, notably Sara, who stayed to pack every box.

067 **specifically** adverb
in an exact or clearly stated way
The notice specifically asks pupils to bring a blue pen.

068 **typically** adverb
in the way that usually happens or is usual for something
Our club typically meets on Fridays, although dates sometimes change.

069 **potentially** adverb
possibly, if certain conditions occur
The loose shelf is potentially dangerous because its books could fall.

070 **invariably** adverb
every time, without exception
In this game, a roll of six invariably gives the player another turn.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Claim strength and scope

Match certainty, coverage and size to what the evidence can support.

071 **tentative** adjective
not yet certain or firmly decided
My tentative explanation may change when we receive more evidence.

072 **provisional** adjective
arranged for now but able to change later
The provisional timetable will be confirmed after the hall booking is checked.

073 **conclusive** adjective
providing enough proof to settle a question
The clear recording gave conclusive evidence that the bell rang twice.

074 **inconclusive** adjective
not providing enough evidence to settle a question
The blurred photograph was inconclusive because neither face could be identified.

075 **representative** adjective
showing the main features of a larger group
We need a representative sample reflecting the class's reading preferences.

076 **comprehensive** adjective
covering all or nearly all important parts of a subject
The comprehensive guide covers the route, cost, timetable and safety rules.

077 **partial** adjective
covering only part of something rather than the whole
The torn page gave us only a partial account of the event.

078 **negligible** adjective
so small that it has little importance in the situation
A one-second delay was negligible during a journey lasting several hours.

079 **substantial** adjective
large enough in amount or importance to matter
Replacing twenty broken chairs required a substantial part of our small budget.

080 **proportionate** adjective
suitable in size or degree for the situation
The repair cost was proportionate to the small amount of damage.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Speech, purpose and response

Distinguish what a speaker is doing from the words being spoken.

081 **paraphrase** verb
express someone else's meaning in different words
I paraphrase 'Carry it carefully' as 'Move it with care'.

082 **reiterate** verb
say something again to make it clear or important
The coach will reiterate the safety rule before the next round.

083 **retract** verb
take back a statement that you made earlier
I retract my accusation after learning that I was mistaken.

084 **rebuke** verb
speak firmly to someone because they have done something wrong
The teacher will rebuke anyone who deliberately damages another pupil's work.

085 **interrogate** verb
question someone closely and thoroughly
In the play, the detective will interrogate the suspect about the missing painting.

086 **divulge** verb
make private or secret information known
I will not divulge the hiding place before the treasure hunt begins.

087 **advocate** verb
publicly support an idea or course of action
We advocate using refillable bottles to reduce disposable waste.

088 **stipulate** verb
state clearly that something is a required condition
The competition rules stipulate that each team must have four members.

089 **reciprocate** verb
respond to an action or feeling with a similar one
We reciprocate our neighbours' kindness by helping them carry their shopping.

090 **consent** verb
agree to something or give permission for it
The participants consent to having their photographs displayed in the hall.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

Meaning across a whole text

Connect small language choices to patterns and meanings in the text.

091 **nuance** noun
a small but meaningful difference in meaning or expression
The word willing adds a different nuance from the word eager.

092 **irony** noun
a contrast between what is expected and what actually happens
The irony was that the newly built rain shelter had a leaking roof.

093 **foreshadowing** noun
an early detail that hints at something that happens later in a story
The mention of the loose gate is foreshadowing of the dog's later escape.

094 **symbolism** noun
the use of something to represent an idea beyond its literal meaning
The author uses symbolism: a shared umbrella represents growing friendship.

095 **analogy** noun
a comparison used to explain an idea by showing a similar relationship
An analogy between a team and an orchestra helps explain cooperation.

096 **motif** noun
a repeated detail or idea that helps develop meaning in a text
The recurring image of locked doors forms a motif of exclusion in the story.

097 **cohesion** noun
the way words and sentences link together within a text
Repeating the key term and using clear pronouns improve the paragraph's cohesion.

098 **ambiguity** noun
the possibility of more than one meaning or interpretation
The phrase light bag creates ambiguity because light can refer to weight or colour.

099 **subtext** noun
an underlying meaning that is suggested rather than directly stated
Her jealous glance reveals the unhappy subtext beneath her words of praise.

100 **synthesis** noun
a connected account formed by combining ideas or information
Our synthesis of the two reports explains both the benefits and the limits of the plan.

Your turn: Pick one word. Explain it, then make a new sentence.

PUT THE WORDS TO WORK

Choose the word.

Use each bank word once. Check the meaning and grammar.

alternatively | cohesion | constraint | huddle | impartial | inconclusive | replenish | retract | shrill | substantiate

01 We _____ closely together under the tiny shelter to avoid the rain.

02 Please _____ the empty jug with drinking water before the visitors arrive.

03 An _____ judge applies the same rules to both teams and favours neither.

04 The whistle made a _____ sound that was very high and sharp.

05 These dated receipts _____ the claim that we paid for the materials.

06 Our small budget is a _____ that limits the materials we can buy.

07 We could walk; _____, we could take the bus as another choice.

08 The blurred photograph is _____ because it cannot settle who was there.

09 I _____ my accusation because new evidence shows that I was mistaken.

10 Clear pronouns and repeated key terms help give the paragraph _____.

Check your answers on page 15. If an answer surprised you, go back to the word and make up another example.

MAKE MEANING

Say it. Then write it.

Use your own ideas. A reading partner can write down what you say.

1 A cyclist sees a fallen branch and suddenly changes direction. Use swerve in a sentence without adding a collision.

2 A coach tour costs less but misses the garden. A walking tour costs more and includes the garden. Use trade-off and reservation to explain a reasonable choice.

3 A pupil claims that every bead in a jar is red. One blue bead is found. Use refute and conclusive to explain this evidence.

4 Only two pupils answer a survey about the whole class. Use representative and qualify to explain how to limit the report's claim.

5 One report says a library is quiet; another says it is noisy during lunchtime clubs. Use reconcile and synthesis to combine the accounts without declaring either false.

Need more space? Continue on another sheet. Check that your words fit the meaning and your sentences make sense.

CHECK WITHOUT A RUSH

Answers & a return visit.

For the reading partner: give help, then try a fresh example.

01 huddle
02 replenish
03 impartial
04 shrill
05 substantiate
06 constraint
07 alternatively
08 inconclusive
09 retract
10 cohesion

Page 14: Answers will vary. Check that the target word keeps its meaning, fits the sentence and makes sense in the child's situation.

Review tracker

Write a date when you return to a set. These are practice notes, not test scores.

SET	READ	RECALL	USE
01 Controlled movement and response			
02 Purposeful action and adjustment			
03 Nuanced feelings and attitudes			
04 Setting, texture and atmosphere			
05 Testing and combining interpretations			
06 Competing reasons and decisions			
07 Linking and qualifying explanations			
08 Claim strength and scope			
09 Speech, purpose and response			
10 Meaning across a whole text			

A useful check: can your child explain a word and use it in a new, sensible sentence?

KEEP THIS PAGE HANDY

Find a word.

Alphabetical index. The number after each word is its page.

accordingly 9
admittedly 9
advocate 11
allocate 4
alternatively 9
ambiguity 12
analogy 12
anticipate 7
arguably 9
assertion 8
assumption 8
bleak 6
brace 3
brittle 6
coarse 6
cohesion 12
comparatively 9
comprehensive 10
concession 8
conclusive 10
conflicted 5
conscientious 5
consent 11
constraint 8
coordinate 4
counterargument 8
differentiate 7
discern 7
dismayed 5
divulge 11
edge 3
empathetic 5
exhilarated 5
falter 3
feasibility 8
foreshadowing 12
formulate 7
generalise 7
huddle 3
humble 5
impartial 5
implement 4
inconclusive 10
inference 8
interrogate 11
invariably 9
irony 12
justification 8
limp 3
lingering 6
motif 12
negligible 10
notably 9
nuance 12
oppressive 6
paraphrase 11
partial 10
pivot 3
potentially 9
prioritise 4
proportionate 10
provisional 10
qualify 7
rebuke 11
receptive 5
reciprocate 11
reconcile 7
refute 7
reinforce 4
reiterate 11
replenish 4
representative 10
reservation 8
resonant 6
resume 4
retain 4
retract 11
revise 4
secluded 6
shrill 6
specifically 9
steady 3
stifling 6
stipulate 11
substantial 10
substantiate 7
subtext 12
sustain 4
swerve 3
symbolism 12
synthesis 12
synthesise 7
tactful 5
tentative 10
totter 3
trade-off 8
turbulent 6
typically 9
uneasy 5
veer 3

Keep learning with eduKate

Vocabulary Learning Hub

Primary 6 vocabulary: the full teaching guide

Original meanings and examples by eduKate. Edition 1.0, September 2026.