



Advanced ESL Vocabulary

This nine-page collection of 100 words has been carefully chosen from well-known academic word lists, including the Averil Coxhead Academic Word List (AWL) and more recent corpora studies. These words appear often in university textbooks, research articles, and IELTS essay topics. They are not everyday casual words, but they are common across many subjects such as social sciences, business, and humanities.

Learning these words will help you write essays and reports that sound formal, precise, and professional. Each word includes its part of speech, a simple definition, and two useful collocations. *Focus on how the words are used in context*, not just their meanings. Mastering them will expand your academic vocabulary, raise your IELTS band score, and make your writing more persuasive and effective in academic settings.

Stage 1 – Very Common Words (but still academic!)

1. **analyze** — v. examine in detail to understand. *analyze data; analyze trends.*
2. **approach** — n./v. method or way of dealing with something. *research approach; approach the issue.*
3. **assess** — v. evaluate the value or importance. *assess impact; assess performance.*
4. **assume** — v. accept something as true without proof. *assume responsibility; assume that.*



5. **available** — **adj.** able to be used or obtained. *available evidence; available resources.*
6. **benefit** — **n./v.** an advantage or helpful effect. *mutual benefit; benefit from.*
7. **conclude** — **v.** decide after reasoning. *conclude that; conclude the study.*
8. **conduct** — **v./n.** carry out research / behavior. *conduct research; ethical conduct.*
9. **confirm** — **v.** show to be true. *confirm results; confirm hypothesis.*
10. **consequence** — **n.** result of an action. *direct consequence; unintended consequence.*
11. **consistent** — **adj.** steady, logical, in agreement. *consistent with; consistent results.*
12. **context** — **n.** background situation. *historical context; in this context.*
13. **contrast** — **n./v.** difference or comparison. *in contrast; stark contrast.*
14. **create** — **v.** make or produce. *create opportunities; create a framework.*
15. **criteria** — **n. (pl.)** standards for judging. *selection criteria; meet criteria.*
16. **data** — **n.** factual information. *survey data; quantitative data.*
17. **debate** — **n./v.** formal discussion or argue. *ongoing debate; debate the merits.*



18. **define** — v. explain meaning. *define the term; clearly define.*
19. **determine** — v. decide or find out. *determine factors; determine outcomes.*
20. **evidence** — n. proof or supporting information. *empirical evidence; lack of evidence.*
21. **examine** — v. look at carefully. *examine the data; closely examine.*
22. **factor** — n. element that influences something. *key factor; contributing factor.*
23. **focus** — n./v. main attention. *focus on; narrow focus.*
24. **identify** — v. recognize or name. *identify trends; identify factors.*
25. **impact** — n./v. strong effect / influence. *economic impact; impact on society.*
26. **include** — v. make part of a whole. *include examples; include in analysis.*
27. **indicate** — v. show or point out. *indicate that; clearly indicate.*
28. **interpret** — v. explain meaning. *interpret results; interpret data.*
29. **issue** — n. important problem or topic. *central issue; raise an issue.*
30. **maintain** — v. keep something the same. *maintain stability; maintain that.*



- 31. **method** — **n.** way of doing something. *research method; methodological approach.*
- 32. **policy** — **n.** official plan of action. *public policy; policy decision.*
- 33. **predict** — **v.** say what will happen. *predict outcomes; accurately predict.*
- 34. **principle** — **n.** basic truth or rule. *basic principle; guiding principle.*
- 35. **process** — **n./v.** steps in doing something. *decision-making process; process data.*
- 36. **produce** — **v.** create or bring forth. *produce results; produce evidence.*
- 37. **range** — **n./v.** extent, scope, or variety. *wide range; range from X to Y.*
- 38. **relevant** — **adj.** directly related. *relevant factors; relevant literature.*
- 39. **require** — **v.** need or demand. *require permission; require further study.*
- 40. **respond** — **v.** reply or react. *respond to; respond positively.*
- 41. **role** — **n.** function or part. *central role; play a role.*
- 42. **significant** — **adj.** important or meaningful. *statistically significant; significant change.*
- 43. **source** — **n.** origin of something. *primary source; reliable source.*



44. **structure** — **n./v.** arrangement or organize. *essay structure; structure ideas.*

45. **theory** — **n.** idea to explain facts. *test the theory; theoretical framework.*

46. **trend** — **n.** general direction. *emerging trend; upward trend.*

Stage 2 – Common Words (but still academic!)

47. **bias** — **n.** unfair preference or prejudice. *selection bias; cultural bias.*

48. **cite** — **v.** mention as evidence. *cite sources; cite research.*

49. **coherent** — **adj.** logical and clear. *coherent argument; coherent structure.*

50. **establish** — **v.** set up or prove. *establish a link; establish guidelines.*

51. **estimate** — **v./n.** roughly calculate / approximate value. *estimate costs; rough estimate.*

52. **evaluate** — **v.** judge quality or value. *evaluate performance; evaluate impact.*

53. **expand** — **v.** make larger. *expand access; expand the study.*



- 54. **explain** — **v.** make clear. *explain the reasons; clearly explain.*
- 55. **explicit** — **adj.** clear and specific. *explicit instructions; explicit detail.*
- 56. **found** — **v.** base or establish. *founded on; found the theory.*
- 57. **function** — **n./v.** purpose or role / operate. *social function; function effectively.*
- 58. **highlight** — **v./n.** emphasize or main point. *highlight importance; highlight findings.*
- 59. **illustrate** — **v.** show with examples. *illustrate the point; clearly illustrate.*
- 60. **imply** — **v.** suggest indirectly. *imply that; implicitly imply.*
- 61. **involve** — **v.** include or require. *involve risks; involve participants.*
- 62. **justify** — **v.** show as reasonable. *justify the claim; justify action.*
- 63. **major** — **adj./n.** important / main subject. *major issue; major role.*
- 64. **modify** — **v.** change slightly. *modify behavior; modify approach.*
- 65. **obtain** — **v.** get by effort. *obtain permission; obtain data.*
- 66. **occur** — **v.** happen or take place. *occur frequently; occur naturally.*



- 67. **previous** — **adj.** earlier in time. *previous research; previous study.*
- 68. **primary** — **adj.** main or most important. *primary source; primary objective.*
- 69. **professional** — **adj./n.** related to trained work. *professional standards; professional role.*
- 70. **project** — **n./v.** planned work / forecast. *research project; project results.*
- 71. **section** — **n.** distinct part. *discussion section; results section.*
- 72. **similar** — **adj.** alike or resembling. *similar findings; similar pattern.*
- 73. **subsequent** — **adj.** coming after. *subsequent studies; subsequent years.*
- 74. **sufficient** — **adj.** enough, adequate. *sufficient evidence; more than sufficient.*
- 75. **transfer** — **v./n.** move or shift. *transfer skills; transfer knowledge.*
- 76. **whereas** — **conj.** in contrast. *whereas some argue; whereas others maintain.*

Stage 3 – Not So Common Words

- 77. **coincide** — **v.** happen at the same time. *coincide with; coincide exactly.*
- 78. **considerable** — **adj.** large in amount. *considerable effort; considerable evidence.*



79. **constitute** — **v.** make up, form. *constitute a problem; constitute evidence.*
80. **critique** — **n./v.** detailed evaluation. *critique the study; critical critique.*
81. **declare** — **v.** state formally. *declare independence; declare results.*
82. **derive** — **v.** get from a source. *derive from; derive benefit.*
83. **device** — **n.** tool or method. *rhetorical device; useful device.*
84. **differentiate** — **v.** show difference. *differentiate between; clearly differentiate.*
85. **dimension** — **n.** aspect or feature. *social dimension; multiple dimensions.*
86. **discrete** — **adj.** separate, distinct. *discrete units; discrete categories.*
87. **distribute** — **v.** give or spread out. *distribute resources; distribute evenly.*
88. **diverse** — **adj.** varied, different. *diverse cultures; diverse perspectives.*
89. **emerge** — **v.** become known. *emerge as leader; pattern emerges.*
90. **emphasis** — **n.** special importance. *place emphasis; emphasis on.*
91. **exceed** — **v.** go beyond limit. *exceed expectations; exceed capacity.*



92. **exhibit** — **v./n.** show or display. *exhibit behavior; exhibit symptoms.*
93. **incidence** — **n.** frequency of events. *incidence of crime; higher incidence.*
94. **notion** — **n.** idea or belief. *challenge the notion; basic notion.*
95. **proceed** — **v.** continue, go forward. *proceed to discuss; proceed with caution.*
96. **validate** — **v.** confirm accuracy. *validate findings; validate method.*
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Stage 4 – Less Common Words

97. **implicate** — **v.** show to be connected. *implicate in crime; strongly implicated.*
98. **journal** — **n.** academic publication. *peer-reviewed journal; academic journal.*
99. **modify** — **v.** (also in Stage 2 but used less in essays). Slightly change. *modify design; modify approach.*
100. **underlie** — **v.** be basis of. *underlie argument; underlie process.*