

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT - GUIDELINES

Sample assignment:

Student's name
Faculty number
Group

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT 1

Based on *title of the book, author, page ... to page ...* (the first 100 pages of the book for Vocabulary Assignment 1)

I. COLLOCATIONS

TMs 1 and 2

V + time

I'd been biding my time, waiting for my chance, and now I've got my reward. (p. 21)

- to bide one's time = to wait, usu. for a long time, until the right moment

brisk + Noun

Outside, stalls selling "I was there" T-shirts did brisk business. (p. 17)

Adj + remark

He made a few snide remarks about her appearance. (p. 74)

- snide = expressing an unfavourable opinion in a way that is usu. indirect but unpleasant and hurts people's feelings

etc.

II. SEMANTIC FIELDS

SF Ways of Walking

Their shoes wore out and they trudged on through burning sand and over jagged rock, barefooted, and in pain. (p. 25)

- to trudge (across, along, on, through) = to walk with slow heavy steps, esp. because you are tired or it is difficult to walk

We traipsed around from travel agent to travel agent on a seemingly hopeless mission. (p. 12)

- to traipse (around, through, across) = (informal) to walk somewhere in a slow or unwilling way because you are tired or bored

etc.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **For the Collocations**, list collocations from the Word Combinations and Collocations covered in the relevant Teaching Modules (TM 1 and 2 for Vocabulary Assignment # 1). If you can only find very few of those in your book, you can also list any other collocations from the book that you find interesting or useful. Please remember, however, that not just any combination of words can be considered a collocation: make sure you distinguish between free or random combinations and collocations proper! (E.g., "a little black dress" is a collocation", but "a black dress" or "a red dress" is a free combination.) Please also make sure that the examples you quote from the book belong strictly to the collocation patterns under discussion (e.g., if you are focusing on the pattern V + house, you should not list collocations like "a dilapidated house", "the house faces north", or "house plant", even if they are, in themselves, good collocations).

For the Semantic Fields, list words from the Semantic Fields covered in the relevant Teaching Modules, or construct your own Semantic Fields.

2. **For the Collocations**, you need to provide definitions for those words or expressions that are less common or that you have come across for the first time (see examples given in the model). **For the Semantic Fields**, you need to provide a definition for *each* word or expression listed. We recommend that you take your definitions from *Longman Language Activator*, *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*, or another dictionary that defines words in a way that shows exactly how they are used (e.g., "to trudge = to walk *with slow heavy steps*, esp. *because you are tired or it is difficult to walk*"). Do not use a dictionary of synonyms, as that will merely provide a list of words that mean more or less the same as the word you are focusing on without telling you what makes that word different in meaning and use.

3. Each **Semantic Field** must contain at least two lexical items. These can belong to the same or to different parts of speech (e.g., you can have an SF Ways of Walking that contains "to trudge", "to traipse" and "a slog"). Make sure you organize the items in your SF neatly – e.g., putting all the verbs in one place and all the nouns in another, rather than mixing them all together.

4. Please do not list words and collocations that are far too common - e.g., Collocations: V + time: "to waste time", or Adj. + remark: "a stupid remark"; SF Ways of Walking: "to wander", "to stroll".

5. Always underline the relevant word or expression in the sentence you quote and give the relevant page from the book.

6. The minimum length of the assignment is 3 pages, and the maximum length is 5 pages. All assignments must be typed. Please stick to Times New Roman 12 and 1.5 spacing, and leave reasonable margins.

7. Please make sure you list all your reference sources (including Internet sources) at the end of your Vocabulary Assignment.