

# Additional vocabulary





# The importance of vocabulary

Students with the most extensive vocabulary have:

- better reasoning, inference and pragmatic skills<sup>1</sup>
- academic success and employment<sup>2</sup>
- better mental health in adulthood.<sup>3</sup>

According to Isabel L. Beck, and others, in their book *Bringing Words to Life* <sup>4</sup>, students should be taught, systematically, a range of academic words so that they can articulate complex ideas.

In *The Essentials Curriculum*, each milestone introduces a range of historical vocabulary. The next few pages provide a student-friendly glossary of these terms.

1 Law, J., Charlton, J., Dockrell, J., Gasgoigne, M., McKean, C., Theakston, A (2017) Early Language Development. Education Endowment Foundation  
2, 3 Law, J., Charlton, J., Assmussen, K. (2017) Language as a Child Wellbeing Indicator. Early Intervention Foundation/Newcastle University  
4 Beck, Isabel L., McKeown, Margaret G., Kucan, Linda (2002, 2008) Bringing Words To Life, Guildford Press



## Milestone 1 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>observe</b>	To look carefully at something in order to learn about it
<b>artefact</b>	An ornament, tool or other object that is made by a human being, such as tools, coins, clothing, pottery and jewellery
<b>represent</b>	To describe something in a certain way, e.g. one might represent things in pictures, writing, diagrams or tables
<b>past</b>	Any time before the present (now)
<b>present</b>	The period of time we are in now
<b>future</b>	The period of time that will come after the present
<b>recount</b>	To tell or describe a story or event to people
<b>appropriate</b>	Suitable, right or acceptable for a purpose

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>recent</b>	Having happened a short time ago
<b>year</b>	The time it takes the Earth to orbit (travel around) the Sun – a year lasts 365 days but every four years it lasts 366 days (called a leap year)
<b>decade</b>	A period of time that lasts ten years
<b>century</b>	A period of time that lasts one hundred years
<b>nation</b>	An individual country or group of countries that share a government
<b>civilisation</b>	An organised group of humans with its own culture
<b>monarchy</b>	The king or queen and royal family of a country
<b>parliament</b>	A group of people who make or change laws
<b>law</b>	A set of rules in a county that one must follow otherwise there will be a punishment
<b>democracy</b>	A system of government in which the people choose who is in charge or the rules they follow by voting in elections



## Milestone 2 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>Primary and secondary sources</b>	
<b>source</b>	The person, place or thing that you get something from
<b>evidence</b>	Anything that you see, experience, hear or are told which causes you to believe something is true or has really happened
<b>historical source</b>	An item that gives information about the past
<b>primary source</b>	First-hand evidence (primary describes something that comes first) about an event. Primary sources of evidence include: autobiographies, memoirs, diaries, personal letters, correspondence, interviews, photographs, drawings, posters, works of art, literature, speeches, original documents (e.g. birth certificates, deeds, census returns), artefacts (e.g. tools, coins, clothing, furniture, cups, newspapers)
<b>account</b>	A report or description of an event or an experience (primary and secondary)

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>secondary source</b>	Secondary means something that comes after the first (primary) thing. Secondary sources of evidence are created after the event has taken place. They include: bibliographies, biographical works, reference books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, articles – after the event, history books, textbooks.



## Milestone 2 vocabulary (continued)

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>enquiry</b>	A question asked in order to get information
<b>historical enquiry</b>	A series of questions asked to find out information about the past
<b>cause</b>	The thing that makes something happen (Every event has a cause and is itself a cause of a future event – an effect or consequence.)
<b>consequence</b>	Something that occurs because of an event (e.g. the impact on people, society and beliefs)
<b>locality</b>	A small area of a country or city (neighbourhood, area, district, environment, zone, territory, community)
<b>overview</b>	A short description, general review or summary of a subject with no detail
<b>ancient</b>	Of or from a long time ago (very old), belonging to the distant past (before the end of the Roman Empire)
<b>medieval</b>	Relates to, or made in the period of, European history 476 CE–1500 CE
<b>culture</b>	The ideas, customs and social behaviour of a society

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>BCE</b>	Before Common Era (formerly BC)
<b>CE</b>	Common Era (formerly AD)
<b>social</b>	Relating to society and its organisation
<b>ethnic</b>	Relating to a particular racial or cultural group of people
<b>society</b>	People living together in an organised group
<b>change</b>	To make or become different
<b>concept</b>	An idea
<b>represent</b>	To portray something in a particular way



### Milestone 3 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>suitable</b>	Right or acceptable for a particular person, purpose or event
<b>hypothesis</b>	An idea that may explain a situation that has not yet been proven to be correct – an idea to try something out
<b>testable</b>	Able to be tested or tried (by a procedure intended to establish quality and reliability)
<b>reliable</b>	Likely to be correct
<b>culture</b>	The ideas, customs and social behaviour of a society
<b>racial</b>	Relating to race
<b>diverse</b>	Containing many different elements (this may refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• gender</li><li>• race</li><li>• ethnicity</li><li>• abilities</li><li>• sexual orientation</li><li>• beliefs</li><li>• culture – food, music, art)</li></ul>

Vocabulary	Definition
<b>characteristic features</b>	The particular qualities or aspects that make something recognisable
<b>analyse</b>	To consider something carefully in order to understand it or reveal something or find something out
<b>justify</b>	To show or prove to be right or to be reasonable or necessary
<b>propaganda</b>	Often inaccurate information, published or broadcast by a political organisation in order to influence people
<b>bias</b>	A tendency to prefer and favour one person or thing
<b>culture</b>	The ideas, customs and social behaviour of a society