

Strategies for word recognition¹

Dolch Word List – 220 High Frequency Sight Words

The Dolch list of sight words, first published by Edward William Dolch, Ph.D. in his book, *Problems in Reading*, in 1948, is a list of the 220 most common words in the English language, the Dolch excluding nouns. The list makes up from 50 to 75 percent of all ordinary reading matter excluding proper names. They are sorted here into 11 lists, in order according to frequency of occurrence. There are many activities related to the Dolch List available on the Internet, perhaps the best way of accessing these is to type 'Dolch' into a search engine, e.g. www.google.com or www.ask.com

The list below is presented in Comic Sans MS font however teachers can change this to whichever font they deem most appropriate if distributing to the students that they teach.

List 1

the	I	was	for
to	you	said	on
and	it	his	they
he	of	that	but
a	in	she	had

¹ With thanks to the City of Dublin VEC Psychological Service for material

List 2

at	look	out	we
him	is	as	am
with	her	be	then
up	there	have	little
all	some	go	down

List 3

do	what	get	my
can	so	them	would
could	see	like	me
when	not	one	will
did	were	this	yes

List 4

big	now	very	ride
went	long	an	into
are	no	over	just
come	came	your	blue
if	ask	its	red

List 5

from	want	put	every
good	don't	too	pretty
any	how	got	jump
about	know	take	green
around	right	where	four

List 6

away	saw	ran	sleep
old	call	let	brown
by	after	help	yellow
their	well	make	five
here	think	going	six

List 7

walk	again	stop	cold
two	play	off	today
or	who	never	fly
before	been	seven	myself
eat	may	eight	round

List 8

tell	first	black	goes
much	try	white	write
keep	new	ten	always
give	must	does	drink
work	start	bring	once

List 9

soon	has	our	warm
made	find	better	ate
run	only	hold	full
gave	us	buy	those
open	three	funny	done

List 10

use	hurt	sit	under
fast	pull	which	read
say	cut	fall	why
light	kind	carry	own
pick	both	small	found

List 11

wash	live	upon	thank
show	draw	these	wish
hot	clean	sing	many
because	grow	together	shall
far	best	please	laugh

Maths Words

which	spent	count	months
Number	bigger	means	equally
younger	longest	colour	grams
piece	take away	abacus	rectangle
between	shaded	cuboid	change
goes	less	altogether	tall
whole	curved	shape	circle
smallest	orange	edges	blue
shows	sides	among	pyramid
coins	time	triangle	heavier
fill	frame	fit	past
cost	shared	weigh	letter
need	green	quarter	minutes
cone	fraction	halves	faces
sphere	money	corners	biggest
yellow	first	next	second
square	how many?	purple	oval
cube	third	cylinder	how much?