

**COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT TEACHING VOCABULARY  
TECHNIQUES AT SCHOOL TO IMPROVE ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.**

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**Abstract**

When teaching English to school students, the acquisition of vocabulary is essential since having a strong vocabulary helps with reading comprehension and academic success in addition to being vital for the development of communication skills. Additionally, as students have just recently started their academic careers, it might be difficult to teach them vocabulary without utilizing suitable tactics. It can also be difficult to learn a foreign language without being familiar with their native language. Particularly, pupils in the first and second grades are unable to merely retain words that they hear or see in context, thus this study examined several approaches to teaching vocabulary and how to apply them to improve vocabulary in language learning. This paper aims to investigate the importance of comparison and contrast of vocabulary techniques to determine which is the most effective for improving English proficiency.

**Keywords:** teaching techniques, vocabulary, comprehension, academic achievement, language acquisition, English proficiency, comparison and contrast, tactics

**Introduction**

For several reasons, expanding your vocabulary is the greatest method to learn a language. For example, Umar Altaf Sofi (2019) noted that vocabulary is seen as a foundational element for every other skill development, including speaking, writing, spelling, pronunciation, listening comprehension, and reading comprehension. Additionally, according to Yokubjonova (2020), vocabulary is regarded as a crucial skill for language learners of foreign languages, and having a small vocabulary might cause communication difficulties. For students to be able to articulate and clarify their ideas and communicate fluently in the target language, they must learn a variety of new terms and understand what they mean. Furthermore, selecting effective vocabulary-teaching strategies should be under the purview of the instructors. Unfortunately, they can run into issues like how to come up with creative methods, what type of content is most useful, and how to grab students' interest. Plus, each student has a unique way of understanding words and how to use them in context, and a strategy that works for one kid may not be suitable for another, according to Sumarta (2016). Indeed,

procrastination, varied tastes, and diversions make it easy for younger pupils to lose their self-control. Because of this, the learning process should include methods that are instructive, easy, fun, and efficient. Additionally, visually appealing materials with colorful images, graphics, and actual objects might draw in students. The information demonstrated that it is practical to perform data analysis using methods like questionnaires, interviews, and others in order to determine which is more appropriate. Generally, the best method for teaching vocabulary will ultimately rely on the preferences and learning style of each student. While some students might do better using a combination of these strategies, others would do better using a more conventional method. It's significant that both teachers and language learners evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each strategy and modify their vocabulary instruction strategies to best meet their requirements. Through a comparative analysis of various vocabulary teaching methodologies, instructors can enhance their ability to assist students in enhancing their English language skills.

### **Literature review**

The formation of a broad and varied vocabulary is one of the most crucial aspects of language training since it enhances pupils' comprehension and communication abilities. However, educating young children is challenging, and it is impossible to boost pupils' passion for acquiring English vocabulary without employing effective and interesting teaching strategies. Educators can ascertain the most successful way for a certain learner or group of learners by contrasting and comparing several approaches. This process also helps to identify the advantages and disadvantages of each approach. This makes it possible for them to include components from other approaches to produce a thorough and successful vocabulary teaching plan. For example, Elsy (2013) advises educators to employ more visual aids, such as photographs, exhibits, and actual goods, since students are now required to respond to questions following an oral explanation of new vocabulary. This procedure so causes students to become bored and pay less attention to the instruction. When it comes to graphics, they can serve as a kind of inverse learning that fosters the acquisition of new vocabulary without the learner realizing that they are also having fun and learning. While using cartoon videos is attentive and funny method that helps pupils become more enthusiastic and successful in picking up new vocabulary (Sri Widia Astuti & Nur Chalipah, 2016), Dr. Srikantaswamy (2022) presents a novel approach to teaching that utilizes concepts based on keywords. Using this approach, the teacher needs to compile a list of keywords related to the content that needs to be covered. Next, provide a description and a visual depiction of the keywords that have been provided, as well as an effective use of the subject's concept. The next strategy is theme-based instruction, which aims to increase pupils' speaking vocabulary in English. Fitrah, Erwin, and Eka Prabawati (2022) have highlighted this strategy, which aids students in expanding their

vocabulary linked to subjects and serves as the most effective means of communication in various contexts. Mnemonics, defined as a system or tool that uses the verbal or the visual nature to assist the input and enhance the storing and recall of new information, is the method that Sameena (2022) prefers to use. As previously stated, mnemonic devices work by associating sounds with the target language, which is identified through an auditory link or visualized with the help of a visual aid, leading to more meaningful communication. It has been observed that a lot of school students pick up more vocabulary through enjoyable teaching methods including gesturing, speaking aloud, and acting out or displaying something, called Total Physical Response. What is more, a more modern approach to teaching vocabulary is through the use of technology, such as language learning apps and platforms. These tools often use gamification and interactive exercises to engage learners and make vocabulary learning more enjoyable. However, while technology can be a valuable tool for vocabulary acquisition, it may not be accessible to all learners. Using context and real-world situations to teach vocabulary is another well-liked method. By teaching vocabulary in the context of sentences or chapters, this approach helps students comprehend how the word is used in regular speech. This method can aid students in comprehending the subtleties of word usage and is advantageous for those who learn best by seeing instances from everyday life. For students who prefer more direct and controlled education, this approach might not be as efficient and could take more time.

### **Conclusion**

This article emphasizes the value of vocabulary instruction for language development and academic performance by giving a thorough review of the subject matter and academic conversations surrounding it. This provides insights on the best practices for teaching vocabulary to students with varying levels of English ability by comparing and contrasting vocabulary teaching techniques. As a result, educators can make informed decisions about how to best support their students in improving their English proficiency. This approach ensures that learners receive the most effective and personalized instruction, leading to better outcomes in language acquisition. The results can help educators and teachers create evidence-based vocabulary lessons that support efficient vocabulary learning and retention.

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