

What It Means to Know a Word

Facilitators can use this sheet as a guide to develop their understanding of vocabulary learning but may also be distributed to students.

Form	Spoken	Recognition	What sounds are heard in the word? What does the whole word sound like?	
		Production	How is the word pronounced?	
	Written	Recognition	What shape does the word have?	
		Production	How is the word spelled or formed?	
	Word parts	Recognition	What suffixes, markers, prefixes, roots etc. are recognizable	
		Production	What word parts can be used to express different meanings of the word?	
Meaning	Form and Meaning	Recognition	What meaning does this word form signal, e.g. d/ed signals past tense, s/es signals plural	
		Production	What word form can be used to express a meaning?	
	Concept and References	Recognition	What is included in the concept?	
		Production	What items does the word make users think of?	
	Associations	Recognition	What other words does the word make users think of?	
		Production	What other words could be used instead of this one?	
	Use	Grammatical Functions	Recognition	In what patterns does the word occur?
			Production	In what patterns must the word be used?
Collocations		Recognition	What words or types of words occur with this word?	
		Production	What words or types of words must be used with this one	
Constraints on use (register, frequency)		Recognition	Where, when, and how often would we expect to meet this word?	
		Production	Where, when, and how often can we use this word? Where and when can we NOT use this word?	

Adapted from Nation, I.S.P. (2013)