The Tennessee Academic Vocabulary Project

Prepared for the State of Tennessee Department of Education

by

Marzano & Associates

June, 2006

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Overview

This manual is designed to help school districts or individual schools systematically enhance the academic vocabulary of their students to better prepare them to learn new content in mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. The research and theory underlying the recommendations made here have been detailed in the book *Building Background Knowledge for Academic Achievement* (Marzano, 2004). Briefly, though, the logic of such an endeavor is that the more general background knowledge a student has about the academic content that will be addressed in a given class or course, the easier it is for the student to understand and learn the new content addressed in that class or course. Unfortunately because of a variety of factors, including differences in the extent to which experiences at home help enhance academic background knowledge, students transferring from one school to another or one district to another, and so on, there is typically great disparity in the academic background knowledge of students, and this disparity increases as students progress through the school years. However, if a district (or school) were to systematically ensure that all students were exposed to specific academic terms and phrases across the grade levels, this would form a strong common foundation for all students. To this end, this manual lists important academic terms and phrases in mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. Table 1 provides an overview of the number of terms and phrases in each subject area:

Table 1 – Terms and Phrases by Grade/Course within Subject Area

	Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
Grade K	23	29	23	21
Grade 1	27	28	27	25
Grade 2	29	26	26	23
Grade 3	30	26	26	29
Grade 4	23	23	27	25
Grade 5	27	27	24	18
Grade 6	27	33	27	32
Grade 7	29	25	29	32
Grade 8	28	26	29	29
Foundations I		26		
Foundations II		19		
Algebra I / Technical Algebra		26		
Algebra II		28		
Geometry / Technical Geometry		28		
Integrated Mathematics I		23		
Integrated Mathematics II		26		
Biology			31	
Earth Science			28	
Physical Science			29	
Grade 9	30			
Grade 10	26			
Economics				35
Geography				39
Government				31
U. S. History				44
World History				34

Table 1 illustrates that approximately 30 terms and phrases have been identified for each subject area for grades K – 8. In addition approximately 30 terms have also been identified for the following general courses:

Language Arts

- Grade 9
- Grade 10

Mathematics

- Foundations I
- Foundations II
- Algebra I / Technical Algebra
- Algebra II
- Geometry / Technical Geometry
- Integrated Mathematics I
- Integrated Mathematics II

Science

- Biology
- Earth Science
- Physical Science

Social Studies

- Economics
- Geography
- Government
- U. S. History
- World History

How the Terms and Phrases Were Identified

It is important to note that the terms and phrases listed in this document are meant as "examples." They are not to be considered implicitly or explicitly a list of "mandated" terms and phrases. Rather districts (or schools) might decide to add terms and phrases, delete terms and phrases, further define terms and phrases, or create their own lists which are completely different from those offered here.

The lists provided here were generated by groups of volunteer subject matter and grade level specialists from Tennessee schools whose charge was to identify those terms and phrases that are important to student understanding of mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. Approximately 30 terms were identified in each subject area so as not to overburden an individual classroom teacher. For example, a third grade teacher in a self-contained classroom whose job it is to teach all four of these subject areas would be responsible for about 120 terms and phrases. During a 36 week school year this would amount to about 14 terms and phrases per month allowing adequate time for the teacher to address many other terms of her own choosing. For example, the teacher could attend to the 120 pre-identified terms and phrases and still teach important words found in a story or important words found in a chapter of a textbook. In fact, research indicates that about 400 terms and phrases per year are typically addressed in programs that emphasize vocabulary instruction (see Marzano, 2004, p. 63). Identifying 120 terms and phrases leaves about 280 terms and phrases that are specific to an individual teacher.

To demonstrate the potential power of teachers within a district addressing common terms and phrases, consider the subject of mathematics. In mathematics 244 terms and phrases are listed for grades K – 8. If every teacher in a district were to teach these terms and phrases, students in that district would enter ninth grade with common, in depth experiences in these 244 key mathematics terms and phrases. Certainly this would provide a strong base on which ninth grade mathematics teachers could build.

How to Teach the Terms and Phrases

There is no single best way to teach terms and phrases. However, the research and theory on vocabulary development does point to a few generalizations that provide strong guidance.

Initially Provide Students with a Description, Explanation, or Example as Opposed to a Formal Definition

When introducing a new term or phrase it is useful to avoid a formal definition—at least at the start. This is because formal definitions are typically not very "learner friendly." They make sense after we have a general understanding of a term or phrase, but not in the initial stages of learning. Instead of beginning with a definition, it is advisable to provide students with a description, explanation, or example much like what one would provide a friend who asked what a term or phrase meant.

Have Students Generate Their Own Descriptions, Explanations, or Examples

Once a description, explanation, or example has been provided to students they should be asked to restate that information in their own words. It is important that students do not copy exactly what the teacher has offered. Student descriptions, explanations, and examples should be their own constructions using their own background knowledge and experiences to forge linkages between the new term or phrase and what they already know.

Have Students Represent Each Term or Phrase Using a Graphic Representation, Picture, or Pictograph

Once students have generated their own description, explanation, or example they should be asked to represent the term or phrase in some graphic, picture, or pictographic form. This allows them to process the information in a different modality—an imagery form as opposed to a linguistic form. It also provides a second processing of the information which should help deepen students' understanding of the new term or phrase.

Have Students Keep an Academic Vocabulary Notebook

One of the basic assumptions underlying the approach outlined in this manual is that over time students will develop an understanding of a set of terms and phrases that are important to the academic content in mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. This implies that the terms and phrases that are taught using this approach represent a related set of knowledge that expands and deepens from year to year.

To facilitate this cumulative effect it is highly advisable for students to keep an "academic vocabulary" notebook that contains the terms and phrases that have been taught. Enough space should be provided for students to record their initial descriptions, explanations, and examples of the terms and phrases as well as their graphic representations, pictures, and pictographs.

Space should also be provided for students to write additional comments about the terms and phrases as time goes on. As mentioned in the next section, students should be engaged in activities that allow them to review the terms and phrases in their academic vocabulary notebooks and add to their knowledge base regarding specific terms and phrases. As these activities occur, students can be asked to add to the entries in their notebooks perhaps correcting misconceptions, adding new information, or making linkages with other terms and phrases.

Ideally, all terms and phrases are kept in one academic notebook that has a "tab" or divider for each subject area. This would allow students to make comparisons between terms and phrases from different subject areas. The academic notebook might also have a tab or divider entitled "my words." In this section students would record terms and phrases of interest gleaned from their own reading experiences in or outside of school.

Periodically Review the Terms and Phrases and Provide Students with Activities That Add to Their Knowledge Base

If students experience a new term or phrase once only, they will be left with their initial, partial understanding of the term or phrase. To develop deep understanding of the terms and phrases in their academic vocabulary notebooks students must be engaged in review activities. Once a week or perhaps more frequently, students might be offered activities that add to their knowledge base about the terms and phrases in their notebooks. For example, they might make comparison between selected terms in a given subject area or between subject areas; they might create analogies or metaphors for selected terms; they might simply compare their entries with those of other students. Finally, they might be engaged in games that use the terms and phrases from their academic vocabulary notebooks. After each of these activities students should be asked to make corrections, additions, and changes to the entries in their notebooks. In this way, students' knowledge of the academic terms and phrases might deepen and become a sound foundation on which to understand the academic content presented in class.

Final Comments

The terms and phrases listed in this manual are offered to Tennessee districts and schools as a foundation from which to design and implement a comprehensive program to enhance the academic background knowledge of students. Districts and schools are encouraged to use this resource in ways that best suit their needs and dispositions.

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
alphabet	author / illustrator	adjective
back cover / front cover	blends	composition
date	capitalization	conversation
drawing	chapter	dictionary
fairy tale	character	discussion
first name / last name	complete	everyday language
follow / give directions	comprehension	fiction
letter	consonants/consonant blends	folktale
letter - sound relationship	create	glossary
listening skill	describe	group discussion
number word	direction	guest speaker
picture book	fantasy	main character
picture dictionary	final	main idea
poem	illustrate	margin
print	initial	mental image
retell	language	message
rhyme	magazine	nonfiction
sight word	order	noun
sign	predict	predictable book
speech	punctuation (basic)	prewriting
Title/title page (introduction)	questions	pronoun
word	reality	publish
word families	syllable	purpose
	symbol	reread
	uppercase/lowercase	spelling pattern
	vocabulary	table of contents
	vowel (long/short)	textbooks
		theater
		verb (action word)

*These terms are words included in the state frameworks that have been deemed essential knowledge for end of course tests.

Third Grade

abbreviation
adverb
antonyms
apostrophe
chronological order
complete sentence
context clues
contraction
declarative
exclamatory
fact
interrogative
multi-meaning words
opinion
organization
plural
possessive
predicate
prefixes
punctuation (commas)
root word
run-on sentence (introduction)
singular
story elements (character, setting, plot)
subject
suffixes
summarize
supporting details
synonyms
verb (types and functions)

Fourth Grade

analogy
audience (as listeners and readers)
author's purpose
cause/effect
compare/contrast
double negatives
drawing conclusions
encyclopedia
fable
genre (introduction)
index
making inferences
myth
outline
possessive nouns
proofread
punctuation (quotation marks)
sentence fragment
simple predicate
simple subject
thesaurus
title page (parts of)
verb tense

Fifth Grade

alliteration
caption (identify)
comparative
coordinating conjunctions
hyperbole
idiom (introduction)
interjections
introductory paragraph
main idea/stated and implied
metaphor
narrative
onomatopoeia
parts of speech
personification
plot
point of view/perspective
prompt
punctuation marks (colon, semi-colon)
reference source
root words (as aids in determining meaning)
run-on sentence (correcting)
simile
summary
superlative
text
theme
transitional words

*These terms are words included in the state frameworks that have been deemed essential knowledge for end of course tests.

Sixth Grade

affix
almanac
analogy (part to whole/function)
appositive
caption (determine function)
chronology
clause (dependent/independent)
common feature
criticism
dialect (introduction)
edit
literal vs. figurative
log
mythology
oral tradition
paraphrase
phrases (adj., adv., prep., inf., etc.)
plagiarism
poetic element (e.g., rhyme, rhythm, and figurative language)
point of view (1st, 3rd limited, and 3rd omniscient)
propaganda devices
proverb
relevant/irrelevant
rephrasing
stress
tabloid
textual features

Seventh Grade

analogy (verb forms, rhymes)
anecdote
assumption /assume
clarify
clause (adverb, introductory, etc)
compile
contract
convention
culture
documentary
exposition (literary)
expository writing
expression (emphasis, stress, etc. in oral language)
fluency
generalization
imagery
inconsistency
infinitive
interpretation
literary elements (irony, mood, foreshadowing, flashback, tone, symbolism)
parallel structure
projection
prose
revision
sentence structure
stereotype
strategy
types of poetry
viewpoint

Eighth Grade

allusion (define concept with simple illustrations)
antecedent* (pronoun/antecedent agreement)
bias
clincher sentence
coherent order
composition structure (structural patterns in composition)
cross-reference
debate
derivation
dramatization
elaboration (supportive details)
facilitator (role identification/groups)
gerund and gerund phrase
infer from unstated assumptions
jargon
logic (inductive/deductive reasoning)
mnemonic device
oral language techniques (inflection, enunciation, rate, and pitch)
participial phrase and participles
persuasive writing techniques
preface
reliability
sensory detail
shades of meaning
synthesize/analyze
tension
thesis statement
writing process

*These terms are words included in the state frameworks that have been deemed essential knowledge for end of course tests.

Ninth Grade

active listening skills
allusion (classical, Biblical, historical, mythological)
antecedent*
character motivation*
citation*
coherence*
comma splice (comma fault)
couplet
descriptive* writing (vivid details)
dialect (uses of dialect)
diction*
dramatic monologue*
elements of plot (rising action, conflict, climax, falling action)*
epic
excerpt*
figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia)*
genre
intervening* word phrases or clauses in writing
irony* (situational, verbal, and dramatic)
narration*
non-verbal feedback*
non-verbal language (gestures, body language)
omniscient*
recurring themes
revise*
Shakespearean English
shift* (tense/point of view)
soliloquy
target audience*
types of conflict (man vs. man, man vs. environment, man vs. himself, man vs. supernatural, external, internal)*

Tenth Grade

allegory
ambiguity
assonance
censorship
conjunctive adverbs
credible sources
cultural perspective
etymology
idiom (figurative language)
incongruity
juxtaposition
literary analysis
logical fallacy
MLA, APA (documentation styles)
parallelism*
paraphrasing*
persona
précis
primary source/secondary source
rebuttal*
semantics
sentence variety
stream of consciousness
syntax
understatement (litotes)
vernacular

*These terms are words included in the state frameworks that have been deemed essential knowledge for end of course tests.

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
above	addition	cardinal number
behind	backward/ forward	chance
below	between	decreasing pattern
calendar	chart	difference
circle	coin	distance
clock	corner	foot (measurement)
day	digit	fraction
graph (introduction)	direction	geometric shapes/figures
hour	doubles	height
in front	even/odd	increasing pattern
inside	greater than	length
left	grouping	model
money	guess	numeric pattern
months	half hour	ordinal number
number	inch	outcome
number line	less than	pattern extension
outside	lists	quarter-hour
pattern	measure	regroup
rectangle	minus	second (time)
right	minute	set
shape	numeral	standard measurement
size	plus	symmetry
sorting	pound	table
square	solve	time interval
triangle	subtraction	whole number
under	sum	width
week	temperature	
year	total	
zero		

Third Grade

addend
area
array
commutative property
data
decimal
denominator
elapsed time
estimation
factor
graph (using different types)
horizontal
measurement
metric system
multiple
letter/number coordinates
number sentence
numerator
perimeter
place value
probability (conceptual)
product
scale
three-dimensional
two-dimensional
vertical

Fourth Grade

acute
associative property
attributions
capacity
computation
congruent
dividend
divisor
equivalent
grid
hundredths
identity property
mass
median
mode
obtuse
quotient
reasonable
similar (comparing figures)
tenths
transformations (flips, slides, turns)
volume (conceptual)
zero property

Fifth Grade

diameter
distributive property (numeric)
edges
equation (modeling)
expanded form
faces
improper fraction
intersecting (lines)
inverse operation
mean
metric units (meter, liter, gram)
millions
mixed numbers
parallel (lines)
perpendicular (lines)
plane
polygon (regular/irregular)
proper fraction
quadrilateral
radius
ray
standard form
thousandths
types of triangles (isosceles, equilateral, scalene, right, acute, obtuse)
variable
vertex or vertices
x, y axis

Sixth Grade

algebraic expression (conceptual modeling)
bias
composite
conjecture (with data)
coordinate plane (ordered pairs)
degrees (angle)
equation (solving)
evaluate
formula
function
inverse
measures of central tendency
odds (probability)
order of operations
percent
prime
probability
properties of shapes and figures
proportion
random
rate of change
ratio
reciprocal
sample
scale drawing
simplify
simulation
statistics
stem-and-leaf plot
tessellation
transformation
tree diagram
volume

Seventh Grade

acute triangle
area of complex shapes
area of irregular shapes
box & whisker plot
equiangular triangle
equilateral triangle
exponential notation
exponents
inequalities (number line)
integer
isosceles triangle
linear equation
multi-step equations
obtuse triangle
opposite
percents (above 100, below 1)
pi (approximation, i.e. 3.14, 22/7)
rational numbers
regular polygon
right triangle
scale factor
scalene triangle
scatter plots
similarity
surface area

Eighth Grade

adjacent (angle relationship)
alternate exterior angle
alternate interior angle
complementary
corresponding
cost per unit
dilation
distance formula (d=rt)
distributive property (algebraic)
experimental probability
exterior
infinite
intercept
interior
line of best fit (conceptual)
nonlinear equation
perfect square
Pythagorean theorem
scientific notation
sequences
slope intercept form
square root
supplementary
theoretical probability
vertical angles
vertical line test

Foundations I

accuracy
area
composite
coordinate system
cost per unit
greatest common factor
intercept
least common multiple
monomial
opposite
ordered pair
percent
perfect square
perimeter
precision
prime factorization
proportion
quadrilateral
ratio
reciprocal
scale drawing
slope
stem-and-leaf plot
surface area
tree diagram
volume

Foundations II

algebraic expression
coefficients
composite numbers
constants
coordinate (number line)
degree (polynomial)
exponential form
factored form
hypotenuse
inequalities
integer
like terms
linear equation
linear graph
Pythagorean theorem
rational number
right triangle
similar triangles
verbal expression

Algebra I / Technical Algebra

absolute value
algebraic expressions
coefficients
combinations
constants
coordinate plane
distance formula
domain & range
equations (solving, graphing, slope-intercept, etc.)
factoring
function notation
inequalities
inverse operations (algebraic)
irrational numbers
line of best fit
linear systems (elimination, substitution)
midpoint formula
permutations
polynomial
Pythagorean theorem (area model)
quadratic equation
quadratic formula (discriminant)
ratio/proportion (scale factors)
real
slope
subsets

Algebra II

Cartesian plane
completing the square
complex numbers
conic sections
conjugate (complex)
correlation
Cramer's rule
delta Δ
dependent/ independent events
factorial
functions (exponential, polynomial, logarithmic, etc.)
inverse function
logarithm
matrices
mutually exclusive
normal distribution curve
parent function
Pascal's triangle
probability (theoretical, experimental)
radical equation
range (function)
rational expression
sampling
scalar (multiplication)
sigma ∑
synthetic division
three-dimensional coordinate
transformation (algebraic)

Geometry / Technical Geometry

adjacent
altitude
angle of depression
angle of elevation
bisect
central angle
chord
complementary (expressed algebraically)
congruence
conjecture
corresponding parts
deductive reasoning
geometric mean
inductive reasoning
inscribed
median of a triangle
parallel
perpendicular
pi
proof (formal, paragraph, flow, coordinate)
reflexive, symmetric, and transitive properties
secant line
similarity
supplementary (expressed algebraically)
surface area (lateral/ total)
tangent line
theorem
transversal

Integrated Mathematics I

bar graphs
central tendency
circle graphs
distance formula
domain & range
expression
Fibonacci sequence
function (exponential, polynomial)
inequalities
inverse operations (algebraic)
irregular geometric figures
line of best fit
measure of dispersion
non linear graph
Pascal's triangle
permutations
pi
Pythagorean theorem (area model)
quadratic equation
real numbers
relationship
slope
solve system of equations

Integrated Mathematics II

absolute value
bisect
Cartesian plane
chord
complex numbers
congruence
deductive reasoning
geometric mean
inductive reasoning
inscribed
irrational
mutually exclusive
networks
parallel
perpendicular
polynomial
probability
ratio/ proportion (scale factors)
rationalize
secant line
similarity
supplementary (expressed algebraically)
surface area (lateral/ total)
system of linear equations
tangent line
validity

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
air	balance	behavior pattern
animal features	dinosaur	characteristics
cloud	earth gravity	circular motion/ straight line motion / zigzag movement
color	environment	dissolving
day	freezing	distance
egg	heat	diversity of life
food	light	earth resources
growth	location	gas
insect	machine	habitat
month	magnet	individual differences
night	mammoth	liquid
parent	moon	magnification
plant	ocean	magnifier
ruler	position	observation
seasonal change	prediction	parent/offspring similarity
senses	properties of light	pebble
shape	pulling	prehistoric
size	pushing	properties
soil	salt water	reasoning
water	sand	scientist
weather	shelter	similarities & differences
week	sky	solid
year	star	sound
	sun's position	universe
	sun's size	vibration
	thermometer	weight
	weather patterns (seasons)	

Third Grade

atmosphere
conservation
energy
extinct
force
geological features
life cycle
magnetic attraction
matter
moon phases (basic four)
natural resources
observe
offspring
orbit
organism
photosynthesis
physical change
physical properties
pollution
predator
prey
rotation
scientific method
solar system
water cycle
weathering

Fourth Grade

adaptations
amphibians
cell (wall, membrane, cytoplasm, nucleus)
condensation
earth's layers (crust, mantle, core)
edible (parts of plants)
endangered
erosion
evaporation
friction
gravity
heredity
lunar
mammals
mixture/solution
moon phases (correct sequence)
parallel circuit
pitch
precipitation
renewable / non-renewable
reptiles
series circuit
simple machines
solar energy
threatened
thriving
traits / characteristics

Fifth Grade

acids /bases
chemical change
chemical properties
concave lens
conduction
conductor
contract/expand
convection
convex lens
ecosystem
environmental changes (human & nature)
fossils (relative age)
inherited traits
insulator
kinetic energy
light reflection
magnetic field
mass
metamorphosis (complete & incomplete)
potential energy
radiation
revolution
species
states of matter

Sixth Grade

absorption
amplitude
classification
commensalism
consumer
decomposer
eclipses (solar/ lunar)
energy transformations
extinction
food web
forms of energy
fossils
frequency
heat flow
mutualism
nuclear power
parasitism
producer
reflection
refraction
relative age
seasons
sedimentary rocks
tides
universe components
wave
wavelength

Seventh Grade

asexual reproduction
carbon cycle
cell organelles (ribosome, mitochondria, chloroplast, vacuole, lysosome)
chloroplast
chromosome
compound
concentration
cytoplasm
density
diffusion
element
gene
mitochondria
mitosis
molecule
nucleus
organ
organ system
osmosis
product
reactant
respiration
run-off
sexual reproduction (plant and animal)
tissue
transpiration
volume
weather data
weight (gravitational pull on mass/SI unit is Newton)

Eighth Grade

acceleration
biome
biotic and abiotic factors
chemical equation
continental drift and plate tectonics
dichotomous key
DNA
dominant and recessive traits
earthquake
endo/exothermic
energy resources
genetic engineering
genotype and phenotype
genus and species
gravitation (universal law)
igneous and metamorphic rocks
inertia
law of conservation of mass
minerals
momentum
monohybrid cross
mutation
Newton's 3 laws of motion
pH
Punnett square
rock cycle
speed
velocity
volcano

Biology

active transport
allele
alternation of generations
analogous structure
biomass pyramid
biomolecules (proteins, lipids, nucleic acid, carbohydrates)
body plan
cellular respiration (aerobic, anaerobic, fermentation)
diploid
DNA fingerprint
DNA replication
DNA sequence
evolution
haploid
homeostasis
homologous structure
innate behavior
karyotype
learned behavior
Linnean classification
meiosis
natural selection
nitrogen cycle
organelles (nucleolus, Golgi apparatus, endoplasmic reticulum)
passive transport
population growth curve
protein synthesis
recombinant DNA
sex-linked trait
transcription
translation

Earth Science

acid rain
atmospheric cycle
Big Bang Theory
boundaries (divergent, convergent)
cleavage
convection currents
fossil record
fracture
geo-chemical cycle
geologic cycles
geologic time
glaciers
global warming
gravitational effects
hydrologic cycle
inclination
oscillating/pulsating theory
paleoclimates
paleomagnetism
physiographic region
radioactive decay
solar flares
superposition
tectonic cycle
time (relative & absolute)
topographic map
tsunami
uniformitarianism

Physical Science

atom (proton, neutron, electron)
atomic mass (isotopes)
atomic number
atomic theory
balanced equation (coefficient, product, reactant, subscript)
behavior of light (diffraction, interference)
Bernoulli's principle
bonding (ionic, covalent, hydrogen, metallic)
buoyancy (Archimedes' principle)
catalyst
chemical formula (symbol)
chemical reaction (synthesis, decomposition, combustion, single & double replacement)
classification of elements (metal, non-metal, semi-conductor)
gas laws (Boyle, Charles, pressure, volume)
ion
Kelvin temperature
kinetic theory (plasma, temperature, phase change, heat)
mixture (heterogeneous, homogeneous, suspension, colloid, solution)
nuclear reaction (fusion, fission)
Ohm's law (voltage, current, resistance)
periodic table (groups, periods)
power
property (intensive, extensive)
quantity (scalar, vector)
substance
thermodynamics (convection, conduction, radiation)
valence electrons
waves (transverse, longitudinal)
work

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
automobile	America	area
celebration	citizen	authority
family	city	barrier
holiday	community	chronological
honesty	continent	climate
human	country	custom
job	elections	distance
leaders (i.e., Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, & Martin Luther King, Jr.)	equality	duty
	flag	goods
	globe	government
month	governor	heritage
neighborhood	independence	justice
privacy	law(s)	landmark
rules	map	privilege
seasons	mayor	qualifications
today	needs	rural
tomorrow	ocean	services
transportation	past	settlement
United States	president	symbol
vote	respect	tradition
week	responsibility	urban
year	rights	vegetation
yesterday	state	volunteer
	truth	
	veteran(s)	

Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
agriculture	American Revolution	abolitionist
barter	ancient civilizations	Amendments
borders	Articles of Confederation	American Federation of Labor-AFL(Samuel Gompers)
cardinal directions	Bill of Rights	Austin Peay
citizenship	colonial	border states
conflict	Constitution	boundaries (physical & political)
consumer	democracy	Civil War (e.g., Frederick Douglas, Clara Barton, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses Grant, Justice Roger Taney, Abraham Lincoln)
culture	executive branch	Confederate States of America (Jefferson Davis)
distribution	explorers	debt/credit
economy	judicial branch	Great Depression
equator	legislative branch	historical documents (Constitution, Bill of Rights, Declaration of Independence)
exports	Louisiana Purchase	Hull House (Jane Addams)
geographic features	Mayflower Compact	industrialization
geography	mission	Labor Laws
global	Native American groups (e.g., Cherokee, Creek, Chickasaw)	levels of government
hemisphere	preamble	Martin Luther King (Civil Rights)
imports	Puritan	primary/secondary sources
industry/manufacturing	Quaker	urbanization
latitude	religion	
longitude	slavery	
map key (legend)	Supply and demand	
natural resources	taxes (Revolutionary War)	
physical map	Tennessee political leaders (e.g., Daniel Boone, John Sevier)	
population	Trail of Tears	
producer	Westward expansion	
product		
suburban		
timeline		
wants and needs		

Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
anthropologists	autocracy	altruism
archaeologists	conservation	antebellum
artifacts	contemporary	Articles of Confederation
barter economy	deforestation	Bill of Rights
Buddhism	demographics	Columbian Exchange
caste system	depression	commerce
census	dictatorship	common sense
Christianity	drought	confederation
city states	economic system	Constitution of the United States
civilization	estuary	credit and debt
colonization	exploration	Declaration of Independence
domestication	famine	diplomacy
epics	fjord	doctrine
feudal system	global warming	Emancipation Proclamation
geologists	growth rate	federalism
Hinduism	immigration	Gettysburg Address
historians	infant mortality	infrastructure
impact	inflation	institution
irrigation	international	insurrection
Islam	lagoon	interdependence
Judaism	NAFTA	movement
merchant / trader	non-renewable	nationalism
migration	occupation	Puritanism
monarchy	oppression	Reconstruction
nomadic	phenomena	republicanism
oligarchy	political system	segregation
philosophy	recession	social norms
prehistory	renewable	suffrage
republics	resource allocation	supply and demand
romance language	scarcity	
theocracy	thematic	
trend	topography	

Economics

affirmative action
aggregate demand
aggregate supply
arbitration
boycott
business cycle
capitalism
collective bargaining
communism
consumer price index
corporation
deregulation
entrepreneurship
federal deficit
federalism
free enterprise
income tax
Interstate Commerce Act
major economic systems
market economy
micro and macro
monopoly
national debt
opportunity cost
private sector
Reaganomics
social security
Socialism
socioeconomic
standard of living
stock market
tariffs
trust
vertical and horizontal integration
workers compensation

Geography

Aborigine
absolute location
bilingual
commodity price
consumer welfare
consumer's rights
cultural traits
developed country
developing country
diversity
ecosystems
ethnic group
free trade
geographic information systems
globalization
gross national product
indigenous
installment plan
landmass
microclimate
monotheism
peripheral area
physical environments
physical map
Polytheism
population pyramid
price support
redistribution of wealth
regionalization
relative location
silting
spatial distribution
speculation
synergy
tectonic plate
thermal
threshold
topography map
tributary

Government

affirmative action
Amicus curiae
amnesty
anarchy
bicameral
branches of government (judicial, executive, legislative)
censure
constitutional law
de facto
double jeopardy
elastic clause
Electoral College
eminent domain
entitlements
Federal system
filibuster
gerrymandering
injunction
jurisdiction (concurrent appellate)
litigant
multilateral treaty
municipality
naturalization
ordinance
pardon
platform
powers (implied, expressed, inherent, reserved)
procurement
separation of powers
soft money
sovereignty

U. S. History

anti-Semitism
arms race
assimilation
baby boom
blockade
boss system
civil rights movement (sit-ins, segregation, desegregation)
civil service exam
Cold War
communism
containment
counter culture
Crédit Mobilier
dust bowl
entrepreneurs (i.e., Sam Walton, Michael Dell, Ray Kroc, Lee Iacocca, Donald Trump, Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Jeff Bezos)
fascism
feminism
Granger Laws
Grant's Black Friday
Harlem Renaissance
imperialism
isolationism
labor union
Manifest Destiny
mass media
McCarthyism
nationalism
nativism
New Deal
populism
populist
progressive
prohibition
propaganda
Social Darwinism
space race
Tammany Hall
tenement
totalitarianism
United Nations
Vietnam War
Watergate
Whiskey Ring
women's suffrage

World History

apartheid
appeasement
aristocracy
armistice
atheism
commercial revolution
coup d'état
ethnic cleansing
European Union
feudalism
genocide
guerilla warfare
heliocentric
Holocaust
humanism
imperialism
industrial revolution
labor organizations
liberal, moderate, conservative
manorial
mercantilism
middle passage, triangular trade
NATO
oligarchy
OPEC
Proletariat
renaissance
reparations
romanticism
scientific revolution
theocracy
totalitarian
tribal systems
United Nations

References

Marzano, R. J. (2004). *Building background knowledge for academic achievement: Research on what works in schools*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
6th FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

PHIL BREDESEN
GOVERNOR

LANA C. SEIVERS, Ed.D.
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Principals

FROM: John W. Scott

DATE: June 27, 2006

SUBJECT: Attached *Tennessee Academic Vocabulary List*

In April 2006 at the ASCD Conference in Chicago, Robert Marzano addressed a group of approximately 3,500 educational leaders from across the nation. He spoke of the groundbreaking work taking place in Tennessee where he was working with the Tennessee Department of Education to develop an *Academic Vocabulary List* for teachers and students of that state. To accomplish that task he worked with a group of 58 expert Tennessee teachers for the last few months as these teachers considered and selected a list of terms that would best serve the needs of our students. He then validated the list statistically.

This vocabulary project is a part of the larger Read TN initiative which included summer reading workshops and a high school summit focused on adolescent literacy. The resulting vocabulary list is based on the Tennessee curriculum frameworks. It is not another requirement for Tennessee educators, but instead a potentially powerful tool to provide all our students with a common knowledge base as they move from grade to grade within school systems and school to school within the state. It is an optional guide for systems, schools, and teachers and if they choose to use it, they may add to this list to address the needs of their specific populations. Professional development plans for using the list are underway, but have not been finalized at this time.

Beck, McKeown, & Kucan (2002) linked the development of an extensive vocabulary to greater academic success while Graves (1986) and Stahl (1998) linked vocabulary to higher reading achievement. Summing up the work of these and other researchers, the National Reading Panel (2000) termed vocabulary as an essential prerequisite to learning to read with fewer difficulties. Marzano (2005) identified the structured teaching of specific vocabulary as "probably the strongest action a teacher can take to ensure that students have the academic background knowledge they need to understand the content they will encounter in school." Armed with this research, the Teaching and Learning division of Tennessee Department of Education worked with Dr. Marzano to develop this suggested academic vocabulary for all grade levels and all core content areas K-10.

Directors, please make sure that every administrator in your district receives the attached *Tennessee Academic Vocabulary List.* Not all of them subscribe to the listservs. In addition, it will be posted on the state website in the near future. Please stay tuned for further information on professional development opportunities with the *Tennessee Academic Vocabulary List.*.