EFL Tutoring
English as a Foreign Language

Academic Vocabulary:

A Student's Guide

by

Dr Barbara Howarth

Outline

This presentation gives information about:

- Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English

- Academic word lists

  – The Academic Word List & Academic Collocation List

  – The Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon

Introduction

General Academic Vocabulary:

- Words that occur frequently across different academic subjects are classed as general academic vocabulary.

- Many general English words are used slightly differently in academic texts (e.g. essays, reports, articles).

- In order to write accurately, students need good knowledge of general academic vocabulary.

OLDAE (1)

Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English:

- Contains 22,000 words, phrases, and meanings

- Includes 50,000 examples from real academic texts

- Contains synonyms and collocations

- Includes an interactive writer (Oxford iWriter)

- The next slide shows an example entry for 'analyse'.

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OLDAE (2)

OLDAE: Sample Entry for "Analyse"

Definition of **analyse** verb from the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English

🎓 **analyse** *verb*

(*British English*)
(*North American English* **analyze**)
OPAL written   OPAL spoken

BrE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊

— Verb Forms

present simple I / you / we / they **analyse**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊
he / she / it **analyses**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzɪz/ 🔊
past simple **analysed**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊
past participle **analysed**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊
-ing form **analysing**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzɪŋ/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzɪŋ/ 🔊

This icon means 'analyse' is on the Academic Word List.

Source: https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/academic/analyse

OLDAE: Sample Entry for "Analyse"

to examine the nature or structure of something, especially by separating it into its parts, in order to understand or explain it

- **analyse something** *Tomlinson (1999) analysed UK survey data, finding that...*
- *Some recent studies have analysed the impact of media on voter attitudes.*
- **analyse something for something** *A 50 cm³ sample of water was analysed for its calcium content.*
- **analyse how/what, etc...** *The authors analyse how dominant cultural values enter the classroom.*

| + Synonyms |
| + Collocations |
| + Word Family |

The plus signs expand to show:
words with similar meaning [synonyms];
words that go together well [collocations];
different forms of words [word family].

🗗 See **ANALYSE** in the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary

Source: https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/academic/analyse

Where can I buy OLDAE?

The Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English
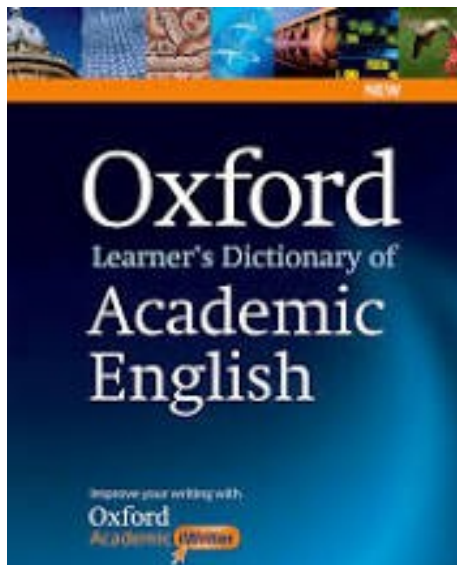
- can be bought from Amazon;

- can be downloaded as an app (**CHECK REVIEWS FIRST!**);

- is available online by paying a subscription.

OLDAE at Amazon

The Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English (10ᵗʰ edition) can be bought from Amazon

Click/Tap image for affiliate link to Amazon UK

OLDAE app

To view a demonstration of the OLDAE app,
click/tap image

OLDAE online

The Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English can be bought online by subscription

Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English

The *Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English* (OLDAE) focuses on words and phrases used in academic writing, and helps you to use them in your own academic written work.

OLDAE is specifically designed for learners who are studying, or preparing to study, an academic subject in English.

Buy a code ⧉   Redeem a code   Buy a print book ⧉

OLDAE iWriter

OLDAE has an academic writing tutor:
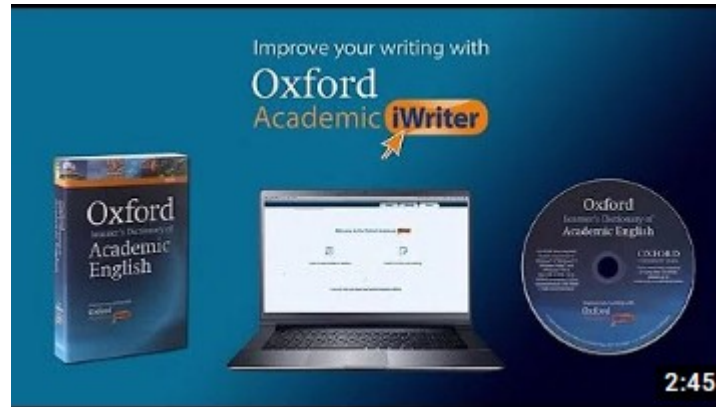
- The interactive writer (iWriter) includes samples of different types of text (e.g. essays, reports, dissertations).

- You can highlight different features of the sample essays (e.g. structure, useful language).

- You can use templates to help you write your own essay.

OLDAE i-Writer

To view a demonstration of the OLDAE academic interactive writing tutor, **click/tap image:**

The AWL (1)

The Academic World List (AWL):

- The AWL (Coxhead, 2000) lists English academic vocabulary.

- The list contains 570 word families.

- The AWL covers about 10% of vocabulary in written academic texts.

- The AWL is divided into 10 sub-lists.

- The most frequent words are on sub-list 1.

The AWL (2)

View the AWL at Victoria University of Wellington:

Click/Tap image to access the Academic Word List:

The AWL (3)

View the AWL at EAPFoundation.com

- A link to the Academic Word List can be found at EAPFoundation.com. **Click/tap the table/link below to link to the AWL**:

The Academic Word List

Headword	Sublist	Related word forms
analyse	1	analysed, analyser, analysers, analyses, analysing, analysis, analyst, analysts, analytic, analytical, analytically, analyze, analyzed, analyzes, analyzing

Source: https://www.eapfoundation.com/vocab/academic/awllists/

The ACL (1)

The Academic Collocation List (ACL):

- The ACL (Ackermann & Chen, 2013) lists pairs of words that often appear together in written academic texts.

- The list contains 2,469 words.

- There are 7 types of collocation [e.g. adjective + noun; verb + adverb].

- Word combinations of the ACL are drawn from the Pearson International Corpus of Academic English (PICAE).

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The ACL (2)

View the ACL at Pearson.com

- The full Academic Collocation List can be downloaded from the Pearson website: 'PTE Academic'

Click/Tap text below to link to Pearson's website:

Download Academic Collocation List (PDF)

Source: https://www.pearsonpte.com/teachers/academic-collocation

The ACL (3)

View the ACL at EAPFoundation.com

Click/tap image for a video about the Academic Collocation List

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OPAL (1)

The Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon (OPAL):

- The Oxford Dictionaries website has a link to OPAL: 4 lists of academic vocabulary from real academic examples.

- OPAL consists of 2 word lists (spoken and written) and 2 phrase lists (spoken and written).

- OPAL includes words and phrases across 4 areas; physical sciences, life sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities.

- Word entries that are on the lists will have an OPAL icon.

OPAL (2)

The Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon (OPAL):

- The word list (spoken) has 6 sub-lists.

- The word list (written) has 12 sub-lists.

- In the word lists, the most important words are on sub-list 1.

- The phrase lists are grouped into functions (e.g. classifying and comparing things, giving an example).

- The next slides show an example.

OPAL (3)

OLDAE: Sample Entry for "Analyse"

Definition of **analyse** verb from the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English

🎓 **analyse** *verb*

(*British English*)
(*North American English* **analyze**)
OPAL written   OPAL spoken

BrE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊

These symbols mean that 'analyse' is on the OPAL written and spoken word lists.

— Verb Forms

present simple I / you / we / they **analyse**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪz/ 🔊
he / she / it **analyses**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzɪz/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzɪz/ 🔊
past simple **analysed**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊
past participle **analysed**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzd/ 🔊
-ing form **analysing**   BrE /ˈænəlaɪzɪŋ/ 🔊; NAmE /ˈænəlaɪzɪŋ/ 🔊

Source: https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/academic/analyse

OPAL (4)

Go to: **https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/wordlists/**

OPAL (Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon)

Go to lists

The essential vocabulary for academic writing and speaking.

Read more

Select 'Go to Lists'

OPAL (4)

OPAL (Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon)

The essential vocabulary for academic writing and speaking. Find out more

Type and press Go **Go** | ☰ **Filters** | ⬇ **Download**

Academic English > OPAL written words > All

ability noun 🔊 🔊

abnormal adjective 🔊 🔊

Select 'Filters' and choose the word list
you want to view! e.g. 'OPAL Spoken Phrases'

OPAL (4)

OPAL (Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon)

The essential vocabulary for academic writing and speaking. Find out more >

Academic English > OPAL written word — All

abnormality   noun
above   adjective
above   adverb
absence   noun
absent   adjective
absolute   adjective
academic   adjective
academic   noun
accept   verb
acceptable   adjective

Select 'Filters'!

Filters

Manage filters for this word list

Dictionary:

Academic English

Word List:

OPAL spoken phrases

Sublist or function:

- Select all
- Adding
- Clarifying & restating
- Classifying & comparing things
- Direct address or instruction to students/audience
- Drawing attention to something or focusing on it
- Expressing aims, causes & effects
- Expressing quantity & increase/decrease
- Expressing relationships between things & ideas
- ✓ Giving examples or presenting evidence
- Hedging & expressing degrees of certainty
- Making contrasts
- Marking a shift in or change of topic
- Ordering content & making time references

Done

Check a function e.g. 'Giving examples or presenting evidence'!

Summary

This presentation has briefly introduced:

- The Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English (OLDAE)

- Word Lists for learning academic vocabulary
  - The Academic Word List (AWL); the Academic Collocation List (ACL)
  - The Oxford Phrasal Academic Lexicon (OPAL).

Glossary

Collocation	A term to describe words which are often seen together.
Entry	A piece of information (e.g. about a word) that is put into a record or a book, such as a dictionary (Adapted from OLDAE, p280).
Function	The purpose for which a piece of language or phrase is used.
Sample	An example of something (e.g. a dictionary entry) that can be looked at or tried out to see what it is like (Adapted from OLDAE, p.717).
Synonym	A word which has the same or a similar meaning to another word (e.g. advantage, benefit).

References

Ackermann, K. & Chen, Yu-Hua. (2013). Developing the Academic Collocation List (ACL) - A corpus-driven and expert-judged approach. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes, 12*(4): 235-247.

Coxhead, A. (2000). A New Academic Word List. *TESOL Quarterly, 34* (2): 213-238. doi:10.2307/3587951

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Oxford Dictionaries Online. Oxford University Press. Available from http://www.oxfordlearnersdisctionaries.com

Thank you for Watching!

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