

Vocabulary Steps

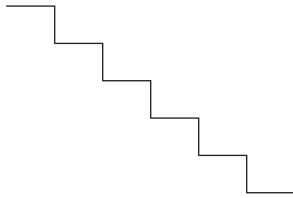
Aim: Help Ss review and personalize vocabulary in a category.

Levels: All

Preparation: Choose four to six words in a category.

Comment: Use with Snapshots or Word Powers.

- After presenting the Snapshot or Word Power, write the words you chose on the board. For example, if the category is *seasons*, write the words spring, summer, fall, and winter. Then draw steps on the board:



- Explain the task. Ss rank the words individually according to a criterion. For example, if the criterion is *favorite*, Ss write their favorite season at the top of the steps and their least favorite at the bottom of the steps.
- Ss complete the task. Then they compare their answers in pairs.

Variation 1: Ask Ss to rank vocabulary using different criteria. For example: the most fun or most popular sports, the most useful or most expensive things, the tastiest or healthiest foods, or the most difficult or most dangerous jobs.

Variation 2: Ask higher-level Ss to rank the words collaboratively in small groups.

Acknowledgment: Idea adapted from *Five-Minute Activities* by Penny Ur and Andrew Wright, Cambridge University Press.