

Contents

Acknowledgements viii
Preface 1

PART A WORDS: THEIR MEANINGS AND FORMS

1 Language awareness activities 3

2 Words and their meanings 13

 2.1 Conceptual meaning 13

 2.2 Affective meaning 18

 2.3 Style, register and dialect 20

 2.4 Sense relations 22

 2.4.1 Synonymy 23

 2.4.2 Hyponymy 24

 2.4.3 Antonymy 24

 2.4.4 Other types of relations 28

 2.4.5 Translation equivalents 30

 2.5 Multi-word verbs 33

 2.6 Idioms 35

 2.7 Collocation 37

 2.8 Componential analysis 40

3 Words and their forms 44

 3.1 The grammar of vocabulary 44

 3.2 Word building 47

 3.3 Pronunciation 50

PART B PRINCIPLES IN LEARNING AND TEACHING VOCABULARY

4 Decisions about content 54

 4.1 Student responsibility and teacher responsibility 54

 4.2 Criteria for selection 57

 4.2.1 Frequency 58

 4.2.2 Cultural factors 59

 4.2.3 Need and level 59

 4.2.4 Expediency 61

Contents

4.3 Receptive versus productive vocabulary 64

4.4 How many items to teach 66

4.5 Grouping of items of vocabulary 69

5 How the learner discovers meaning 73

5.1 Traditional approaches and techniques used in the presentation of new vocabulary items 73

5.1.1 Visual techniques 73

5.1.2 Verbal techniques 74

5.1.3 Translation 75

5.2 Student-centred learning 76

5.2.1 Asking others 77

5.2.2 Using a dictionary 79

5.2.3 Contextual guesswork 83

6 Memory and written storage 86

Theoretical aspects 86

6.1 Types of memory 86

6.2 Organisation of the mental lexicon 87

6.3 Why do we forget? 89

Practical implications 90

6.4 Meaningful tasks 90

6.5 Imagery 92

6.6 Rote learning 93

6.7 Recycling 93

6.8 Written storage systems for learners 95

PART C CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

7 Using visual aids 103

7.1 Using pictures as a guide to meaning 103

7.2 Using pictures for further practice 111

8 Using authentic reading texts 115

9 Teacher designed contexts and the use of the dictionary 125

10 Speaking activities 144

10.1 Role play 144

10.2 Narrative 149

10.3 Processes, priorities and appropriacy 154

11 Games, questionnaires and problem solving 163

Contents

PART D VOCABULARY IN COURSE BOOKS

12	Vocabulary in course books	171
12.1	Checklist	171
12.2	Extracts from course books	173
Key	185	
Bibliography	196	
Index	199	