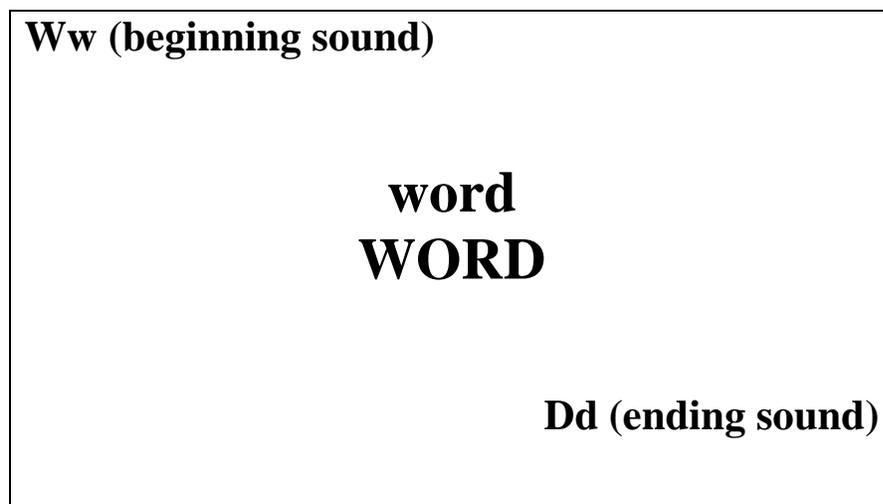# Teaching Vocabulary Words

Encourage your students to learn vocabulary words commonly used in the workplace. By asking them to individually choose 3-5 words per lesson, you are empowering them to create personal word banks that have meaning for them.

Your students will encounter many of the words used in this curriculum on the job, while looking for work, or when reading instructions or directions at work. By asking learners to study their flash cards on their own (or practice reading them with each other), you enable them to recognize these words automatically in various contexts outside of the classroom, to learn their definitions, and to practice spelling them.

An effective way to teach these as sight words is through the following steps:

1. Create flash cards

- During each session, ask students to select 3-5 vocabulary words they'd like to learn.

    1. Ask them to write each word on a 3x5 index card.

Ww (beginning sound)

word
WORD

Dd (ending sound)

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2. For each card, print the word in the center of the card in lower case letters and upper case letters.
3. Print the beginning letter in upper case and lower case, upper left.
4. Print the ending letter in upper case and lower case, lower right.
5. Write the definition on the back; or write a sentence using the word.

2. Practice reading the vocabulary

- Ask students to practice reading the 3-5 new vocabulary words for homework, or at the start of the next class. (Be sure to make a vocabulary list for each student in case they lose their flash cards. The lost cards can then be recreated.)

3. Practice writing the vocabulary

- Ask students to create their own flash cards, copying the words from the vocabulary list in the student handout.
- Ask them to write a sentence in the back of the card, using the word.
- Ask them to text you the words and send a voice message with pronunciations.

4. Practice looking up the definition of the word

- Ask them to look up the meaning of the word online, and write the definition on the back of the card.

5. Review the vocabulary

- At the start of each class, show students the flash cards and ask them to read the word. If, after 3 sessions, they are able to read the words accurately in varying order, tell them they can "retire" the words in their sight word vocabulary bank (an index card box).