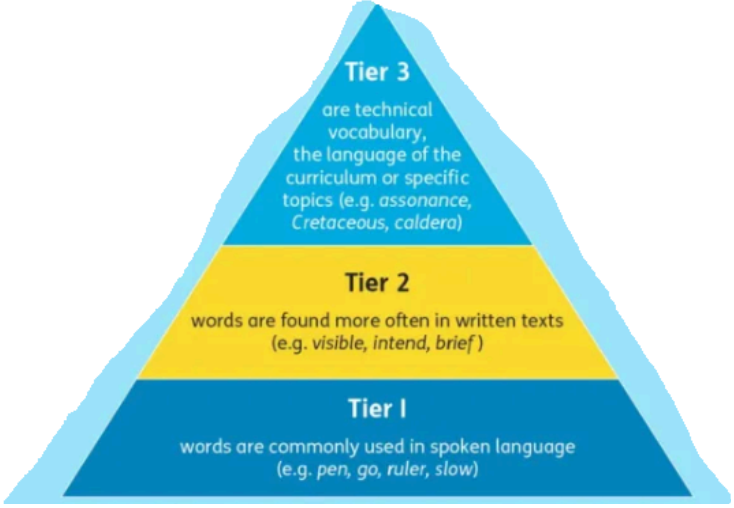


# Helping your child with the new Curriculum: 3-6 Vocabulary Glossary

This week the glossary will be focussing on vocabulary. Vocabulary refers to words that students can recognise, understand and use for communication. Vocabulary knowledge supports students to recognise humour in wordplay and brings precision to spoken and written uses for language.

Vocabulary is closely related to reading comprehension - for any reading of a text, the extent of a reader's word knowledge is crucial for comprehension. Accurate and fast retrieval of word meanings unburdens working memory and allows the brain to connect words into sentences, and sentences into larger passages of text.

<p><b>Tiers of vocabulary</b></p>	<p>The Tiers of vocabulary provide a framework to understand the types of words that require instructional attention (Beck et al. 2013)</p> 
<p><b>Tier 1</b></p>	<p>Typically appear in oral conversations and so children are exposed to them at high frequency from a very early age. Tier 1 includes basic-level, everyday words, eg dog, baby, happy, pretty, was, come, said.</p>
<p><b>Tier 2</b></p>	<p>Are general academic words that can be used across a variety of domains. They are of high utility for mature language users and are commonly used in written language, eg contradict, precede, stale, awful, snuggle. Tier 2 words add power and precision to written and spoken language, but many Tier 2 words are most commonly found in written language and explicit teaching of these words is recommended.</p>
<p><b>Tier 3</b></p>	<p>Are technical words that are used in specific situations, eg decibel, cataclysm, atom, quaver. These are best learnt in a content area, domain or discipline.</p>
<p><b>synonyms</b></p>	<p>A word or phrase that has the same or a similar meaning to another word or phrase. <b>For example,</b> <i>sick</i> and <i>ill</i>.</p>
<p><b>antonyms</b></p>	<p>A word or phrase that has the opposite meaning of another word or phrase.</p>
<p><b>Modal words</b></p>	<p>is used along with a main verb to express possibility, ability, permission, or necessity.</p>
<p><b>Aboriginal English</b></p>	<p>A recognised dialect of English which is the first, or home language, of many Aboriginal people. It differs from other dialects of English, such as Standard Australian English, in systematic ways including sounds, grammar, words and their meanings, and language use. Aboriginal English is a powerful vehicle for the expression of Aboriginal identity. Aboriginal English is not a target language study option for NSW Aboriginal Languages syllabuses.</p>
<p><b>Figurative language</b></p>	<p>Word groups/phrases used differently from the expected or everyday usage to express an idea in a non-literal way for a particular effect.</p>
<p><b>Digital text</b></p>	<p>An audio, visual or multimodal text produced by electronic technology. A digital text may be interactive and include still and/or dynamic images, animations and/or hyperlinks.</p>

<b>homonyms</b>	A word having the same sound and the same spelling as another, but a different meaning.
<b>Word play</b>	Experimenting with and manipulating language. <b>For example</b> , pun and spoonerism
<b>pun</b>	A figure of speech where there is a play on words, usually created through the use of a homonym or homophone. Puns rely on more than one meaning of a word to emphasise the point.
<b>spoonerism</b>	A language device, sometimes a slip of the tongue, by which corresponding phonemes or morphemes are switched between 2 words or within a word. <b>Examples</b> include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>butterfly</i> becomes <i>flutterby</i></li> <li>• <i>It's pouring with rain</i> becomes <i>it's roaring with pain</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>morpheme</b>	The smallest unit of meaning in a word. <b>For example</b> , jumps has 2 morphemes: jump + s.
<b>Morphemic knowledge</b>	Involves understanding how morphemes can be used to form words.
<b>suffix</b>	A bound morpheme comprising a letter or group of letters that attach to a base word to make a new word. <b>Examples</b> include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The -s in <i>dogs</i> is an inflected suffix that marks plurality.</li> <li>• The derivational suffix, -ion can be added to the end of the verb, <i>protect</i>, to form the noun, <i>protection</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Derivational word form</b>	A new word that is formed from another word, usually by adding a derivational suffix to change its grammatical form. <b>For example</b> , the noun, <i>proposition</i> , derives from the verb, <i>propose</i> , and contains the derivational suffix, -ion.
<b>Inflected word form</b>	A word form that marks a distinction in tense (jump-jumps-jumping-jumped), plurality (cat-cats), and comparatives and superlatives (big-bigger-biggest).
<b>prefix</b>	A bound morpheme made up of letters that appear before a base word to make a new word. <b>For example</b> , <i>un-</i> in 'unhappy' means 'not' (un + happy = not happy).
<b>Base word or root word</b>	A morpheme (meaningful unit) that stands freely on its own to make a word.
<b>Word associations</b>	The relationship between a word and other words that are semantically related in a text.
<b>metalanguage</b>	Technical terms used to describe and discuss how language and texts function.
<b>Literal word meaning</b>	Having only the most direct meaning.
<b>Non-literal word meaning</b>	When a word means something other than its normal, everyday meaning.
<b>idiom</b>	A commonly used phrase or expression, usually figurative or non-literal, that has an understood meaning specific to a language or dialect. <b>For example</b> , over the moon, half asleep, pull your socks up.
<b>metaphor</b>	Linguistic – a figure of speech used for effect that implies one thing by referring to another. Literary – an object, entity or situation that can be regarded as representing something else.
<b>Multimodal text</b>	A text that combines 2 or more expressive modes to communicate.
<b>etymology</b>	The origins of, and changes to, words in relation to meaning. Words derived from earlier or other languages, place names, words derived from people's names, coinages.
<b>nuance</b>	A subtle quality or difference in tone, meaning