

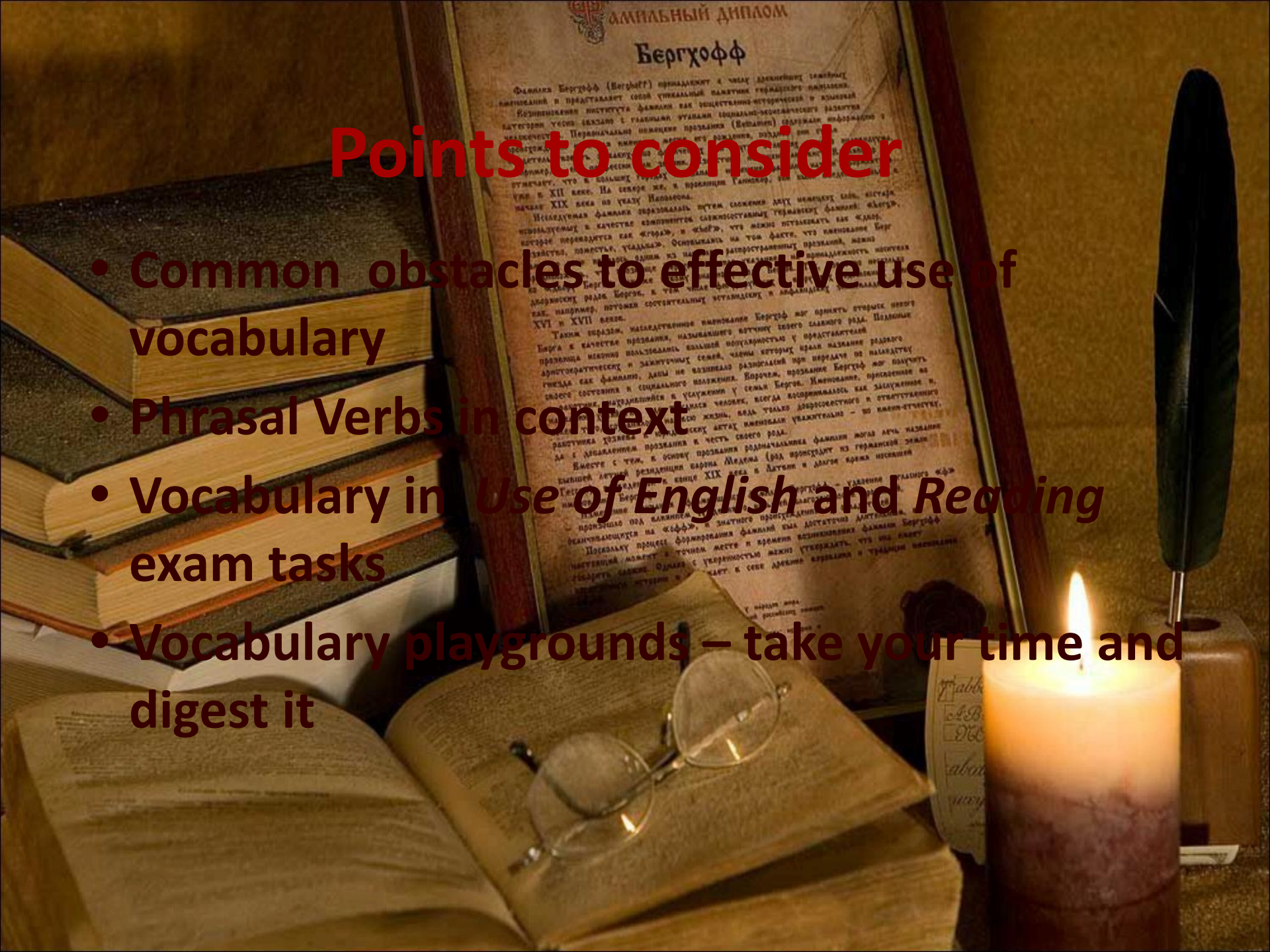
# Teaching vocabulary in Exam classes

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# Points to consider

- Common obstacles to effective use of vocabulary
- Phrasal Verbs in context
- Vocabulary in *Use of English* and Reading exam tasks
- Vocabulary playgrounds – take your time and digest it



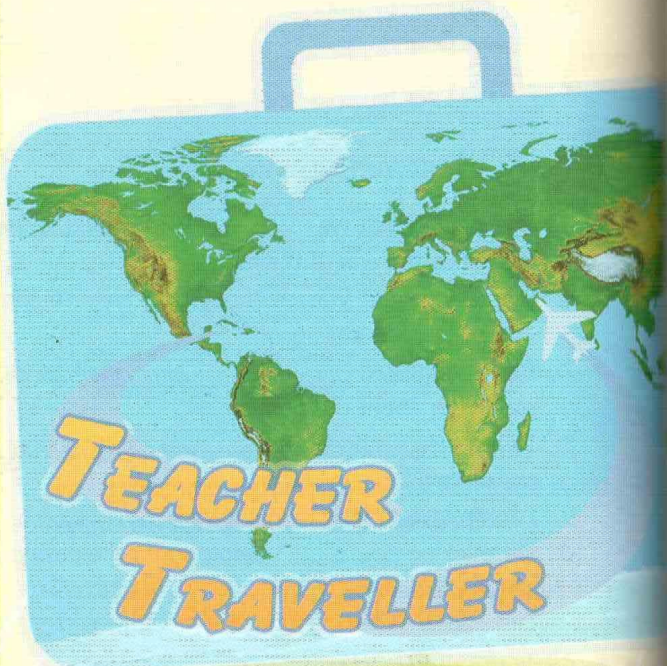


# Common mistakes and obstacles to effective use of vocabulary

- Too cautious - stay at their 'plateau'  
[http://www.cityandguildsenglish.com/sample\\_videos\\_b1](http://www.cityandguildsenglish.com/sample_videos_b1)  
Achiever level B1 SESOL  
[http://www.cityandguildsenglish.com/sample\\_videos\\_c2](http://www.cityandguildsenglish.com/sample_videos_c2) C2  
Fail –synonyms –collocations –word families –intensifiers-...?
- Know and are competent at relevant lexis but don't apply them in the exam
- Are afraid of phrasal verbs
- Have not spent enough time in the 'vocabulary sandpit'



difficult do you think it would be?



*Ashley Taylor, a 23 year old student from Brighton, tells us about the experiences of a TEFL teacher overseas ...*

After I finished comprehensive school, I spent some time wondering about what I should do with my life. I knew that I wanted to go to university and continue my education, but not straight away. Many 5 students take a 'gap year' before they continue

part in an intensive, one-month course to acquire my teaching certificate. [2] After that, it would simply be a question of choosing what world-famous sights I 20 wanted to see!

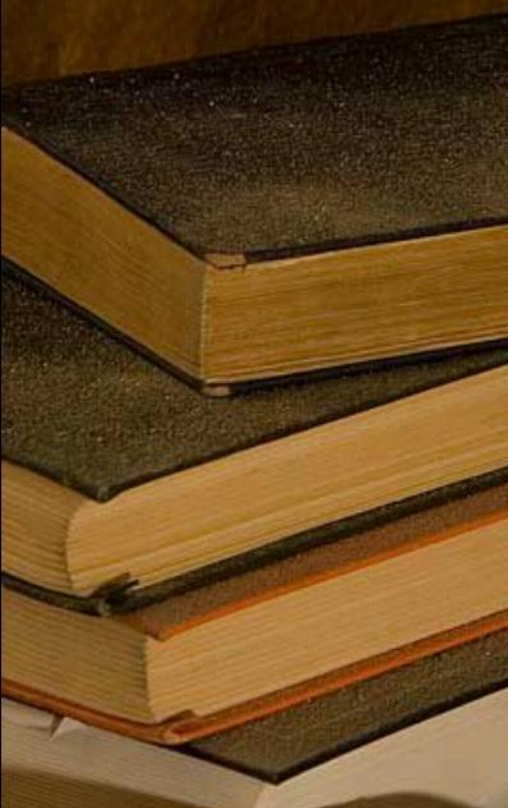
I studied at a fantastic teacher training centre, where I had three great teachers and made some very good friends. I passed the course and was given my certificate. I was a fully qualified English teacher! 25 [3] I now had to decide where I wanted to teach. Did I want to work in Greece or in another country? I settled on Greece. I had fallen in love with the language, culture and history of this ancient land and I knew that I didn't want to leave! 30

As is often the case, the training centre helped with job recruitment. They put me in touch with a private language school and we arranged an interview. [4] The school decided they wanted me! They agreed that the course had given me the 35 opportunity to get some teaching practice, learn new skills and adapt to a new culture, all of which proved I was ready to teach.

In many countries, English language teachers work in private schools, teaching children from late 40 afternoon into the evenings. My recommendation is that if you want a 'normal' 9-5 job, don't choose TEFL! [5] Personally, I like to sleep in a little later in the mornings, prepare my lessons and enjoy the sunlight on my balcony. Finishing a little later is fine 45 for me too. After all, Greece only starts to get more lively in the evenings anyway!

Teaching English is a very rewarding and exciting job. Each day provides a new challenge and it's always great to see your students develop and achieve. 50 [6] As well as job satisfaction, there is the





All reading texts also appear on audio CDs

## 2a Reading

# UNIQUE UNDERWATER CREATURES



**A** Seahorses are beautiful and unusual fish that have captured the imagination of writers and artists for millennia, and which feature in the ancient mythology, legends and folklore of many countries. Seahorses seem so magical that, to this very day, many people still believe they only exist in children's stories. But the fact is, these delicate and shy little creatures are very real!

**B** Scientists believe seahorses evolved at least 40 million years ago, and have survived from ancient times with only very small changes in their body structure and function. Seahorses have a peculiar appearance. They have a head like a horse, a pouch like a kangaroo, and a long, curved tail like a monkey. Their little bodies are covered in bony plates, not scales, and their tiny eyes resemble a chameleon's. Because of their confusing anatomy, for many years, people didn't know whether seahorses were a fish, an insect or a shellfish! Today, scientists know without a doubt that seahorses are fish because they have gills, a swim bladder and fins.

**C** Seahorses live mostly in shallow, warm waters. They are not strong swimmers, using only a back fin and a pair of tiny fins behind their eyes to push them through the water. Seahorses spend a lot of time attached to seaweed or sea grass. They are able to hang on to sea grass and seaweed by wrapping their tails around the stems, which helps them to avoid being swept away by strong currents. While they hang from sea grass, their long, tube-like mouth, which has no teeth, acts like a hoover for food, sucking up plankton. Strangely, seahorses have no stomach so they can't store their food. This means they have to eat fairly continuously throughout the day.

**D** Another unique characteristic of seahorses is that they (along with their cousins, the pipefish) are the only creatures in the animal kingdom where the male, not the female, becomes pregnant and gives birth to babies! The female produces eggs and places them in a pouch inside the male, where they are fertilised. The male gives birth to between 5 and 200 young. Amazingly, just a few hours after the male gives birth, the female will once again place eggs in the male's pouch. What's more, it will be the same female because seahorses mate for life!

**E** Sadly, seahorses are in danger all over the world. Their habitats are being destroyed by human activities. People catch seahorses for pets and for souvenirs. In Asia, people believe seahorses have magical powers so they are used in traditional Chinese medicine. The most endangered seahorse in the world is the Knysna seahorse, which is only found in South Africa. The reason it is in grave danger is that it has an exceptionally limited distribution range – it is only found in three estuaries in the whole of South Africa. Unless these estuaries are conserved, South Africa will lose its only seahorse species for good.

**1** a) Look at the photograph. What is this fish? What do you know about it?

b) Check the words below in the Word List. Use them to describe the fish's peculiar appearance.

- horse-like head • tiny eyes
- long pointed nose • pouch
- sharp spikes • no limbs
- bony plates • no scales
- gills • long curved tail
- swim bladder • fins

### Check these words

- capture imagination • millennia • feature • folklore • evolve
- survive • body structure • function • peculiar • pouch • scales
- resemble • chameleon • shellfish • gills • shallow waters
- attached (to) • seaweed • wrap • stem • sweep (away) • current
- suck (up) • pipefish • pregnant • fertilise • mate • grave danger
- exceptionally limited • distribution range • estuary • conserve

### STUDY SKILLS

#### Getting the main idea

Every paragraph contains a main idea. Finding the main idea of each paragraph helps us understand what the text is about.

**2** Read the text quickly. What is the main idea in each paragraph?



# Boost your Phrasal Verbs in context

## 43 Student life: courses and exams

### A Enrolling on courses

Look at this information leaflet for students at Welney College. Then look at how David explains the system informally to a friend, using phrasal verbs. The numbers (1,2, etc.) help you to match the phrasal verbs with their meanings.

**Welney College**  
Promoting excellence

- Autumn term ends<sup>1</sup> on 18 December. Spring term begins<sup>2</sup> on 8 January.
- Students wishing to register for<sup>3</sup> spring term courses should do so before 12 December.
- Any student not completing a course<sup>4</sup> will not receive credits for that course.
- Course essays must be submitted in a final form<sup>5</sup> seven days before the end of a course.
- Students failing more than 30% of their total coursework will be expelled<sup>6</sup> from the college.

A. Jobsworth, Academic Administrator

David:

- We **break up**<sup>1</sup> on 18 December and **go back to**<sup>2</sup> on 8 January, so we've got about a three-week break.
- But we've got to **sign up**<sup>3</sup> for courses for next term before 12 December.
- You have to go to all the lectures; if you **drop out**<sup>4</sup> before the end, you don't get the credits.
- And you have to **write up**<sup>5</sup> your course essay and submit it a week before the course ends.
- If you fail 30% or more of your courses, they **throw you out**<sup>6</sup> of the college.

### B Before an exam

#### Six tips for exam success

- Keep your reading up<sup>1</sup> during the term so that you have less to read just before the exam.
- Brush up on<sup>2</sup> some of the things you learnt a long time ago; they may possibly come up<sup>3</sup> in the exam.
- Don't just mug up<sup>4</sup> on the key points you need for the exam and hope that you'll scrape through<sup>5</sup> with little effort.
- On the other hand, don't try to do everything. Swotting up<sup>6</sup> on everything you have done all term means you will have to revise a lot of useless things too.
- Concentrate on polishing up<sup>7</sup> the most important areas and your best skills.
- Don't fool yourself that you'll pass the exam on the basis of what you've picked up<sup>8</sup> during the lectures and classes. You will need to revise!

- continue to do something
- practise and improve your skills or your knowledge of something, usually something you learned in the past but have partly forgotten
- if a question or a subject comes up in an exam, that question is asked or questions about that subject are asked in the exam
- (informal) quickly try to learn the main facts about a subject, especially before an exam (often + on)
- manage with a lot of difficulty to succeed in something
- (informal) learning as much as you can about something, especially before an exam (often + on)
- practising and improving your skills or your knowledge of something
- learnt by absorbing it rather than studying it

## Exercises

- 43.1 Rewrite these sentences using the words in brackets, so that they keep the same meaning.
- I'm going to register for a course in statistics next year. (SIGN)
  - Several students did not complete the Moral Philosophy course. (DROP)
  - Our course finishes on 20 June. (BREAK)
  - He was forced to leave university after one term. He'd done no work at all. (THROW)
  - I can't come out tonight. I have to have my essay finished for tomorrow. (WRITE)
  - My next term at college starts on 12 September. (GO)
- 43.2 Which of these would make most students happy and why?
- breaking up    dropping out    being thrown out  
scraping through    mugging up    swotting up
- 43.3 Choose the best phrasal verb from the opposite page to complete this letter.

Cambridge, 20 June

Dear Auntie Meg,

At last my first year exams are over. It's such a relief. I feel as if I've done nothing but ..... (1) for them for ages. Although I'd ..... (2) with work quite well during the year, I still needed to ..... (3) everything that we had covered, of course. Fortunately, everything that I hoped would ..... (4) in the exam paper did. So I hope I've done OK and haven't just ..... (5). Now all I have to do is ..... (6) one course assignment, which I need to hand in by the end of term.

We don't ..... (7) till the end of the month and so I won't be home till then. We don't ..... (8) until the end of September, so it'll be a lovely long break. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Love,  
Suzanna

- 43.4 Correct the ten phrasal verb mistakes in this wrong verbs have been used.

Dick hardly worked up at all for his exams. Revolution, but no questions on the French that he would be thrown off university for. He scratched through them and so he will be in control. He promised to try to keep through with work. It's of quite difficult courses, including business studies, because the business studies course involves a lot of work. He thinks he can just lift up the language when before he goes because he only has school French.

FOLLOW UP

Go to the Mini dictionary at the end of this book to check the common theme in their meaning? If so, what is it?

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## English Phrasal Verbs in Use

70 units of vocabulary reference and practice  
Self-study and classroom use

Michael McCarthy  
Felicity O'Dell

Oxford Word Skills

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Intermediate  
Both Gains and Stuart Robinson

OXFORD

Oxford Word Skills

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Advanced  
Both Gains and Stuart Robinson

OXFORD



# Juggling vocabulary work and exam preparation

## 11 Education

### Subjects

1.1 Complete this part of the subject grid for subjects and activities at university or college.

- You often do this subject.
- The answers to class are often given in this subject.
- They speak this language in this subject.
- This is the study of the history of this subject.
- In this subject you often play a game.
- This is a short way of writing about this subject.
- In this subject you often use traditional methods.
- In this subject you often always mark homework.
- In this subject you often learn to play a game.
- This is the study of the history of this subject.
- They speak this language in this subject.
- This is the study of the history of this subject.
- In this subject you often use traditional methods.
- In this subject you often always mark homework.
- In this activity you often learn to play a game.
- This is the name of this subject.
- This is the study of the history of this subject.
- In this subject you often use traditional methods.
- In this subject you often always mark homework.
- In this subject you often learn to play a game.
- This is the study of the history of this subject.

1.2 Write your own subject grid for subjects and activities at university or college.

Technology .....

### Teaching and studying

2.1 Where do these people give classes?

professor teacher lecturer

primary school secondary school  
college driving school

2.2 What are the most important characteristics of a teacher? Decide which of these words is the most important and which is the least important in your opinion.

strict funny kind serious  
intelligent patient reasonable

2.3 Look at the phrases in the box and complete sentence 2. You must use each phrase once.

1 A good teacher (is) .....

gets good grades a good listener  
uses traditional methods  
always marks homework often  
pays attention in class

2.4 Which sentences from 2.3 do you think are most important?

2.5 Talk or write about the best teacher you have ever had.

2.6 Look at the groups of words (1-10) and write the word that is most important in each group.

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| 1 learn        | study      |
| 2 college      | grade      |
| 3 class        | lesson     |
| 4 exam         | degree     |
| 5 advanced     | elementary |
| 6 library      | laboratory |
| 7 pupil        | professor  |
| 8 board        | bell       |
| 9 text book    | dictionary |
| 10 composition | essay      |

### Exam practice

#### READING Part 2

The people below all want to do a part-time course. Underneath are descriptions of 8 part-time courses. Decide which course would be most suitable for each person.

- Luis was given a digital camera for his birthday and would like to learn how to use it. He is a beginner and he wants to do the course for fun rather than for a qualification.
- Gloria studied art at university but has not painted for many years. She is free during the day. She is interested in painting pictures of nature but does not need a qualification.
- Julia would like to improve her computer skills. She already has some basic knowledge but needs a certificate for her new job. She can study evenings and weekends.
- Kim wants a course where she can learn how to become an author. She works in the morning but is free every afternoon. She is keen to do lots of homework.
- Claude is very interested in modern literature, and would like to learn more about it. He would like to get a qualification if possible. He works in the evening so can only do classes during the day.

#### PART-TIME COURSES AT BURLEY COLLEGE

- A** On this course we will look at several different art forms, including painting, digital photography, and printing. The course leads to a diploma in art, and every student will be expected to take the exam. The course is only suitable for those who have studied these art forms before. It is on Mondays at 10am.
- B** Do you dream of one day writing your own novel? If so, then this could be the course for you. We will look at how to create believable characters, interesting story lines and beautiful language. You will have to be prepared to do a lot of writing at home, and listen to other people criticise it! Classes are from 2pm to 5pm, Fridays.
- C** If you already have some skill and knowledge of art, but are simply out of practice, then this could be the course for you. We will start slowly but by the end of the course classes could be quite challenging so it will not be suitable for beginners. Classes will take place on Thursday mornings and we will be working outdoors in the countryside most of the time.
- D** This course explores the poetry and novels of 10 living authors. We will read and discuss the books and then you will be given compositions to write for homework. We will be working towards an examination, and those who pass will get a certificate at the end of the course. The course takes place on Wednesdays at 3pm.
- E** Employers these days require basic computer skills and if you don't have them you are at a big disadvantage compared to other job hunters. This course is only suitable for complete beginners, but with the certificate you get at the end, you should be able to get a good job. The course is on Tuesdays and Thursdays at midday.
- F** This course is on Saturdays at 1pm. It covers the basics of digital photography. You will learn how to take fabulous pictures which will impress all your friends with the minimum of effort. There is no exam to revise for at the end, and the only homework will be to take lots of pictures, so you can just relax and enjoy the course.
- G** This course will examine the literature of past centuries and look at whether the work is still important in today's modern world. There will be a lot of homework on this course, mainly reading but also writing essays, so you will have to be prepared for that. The course takes place on Thursday afternoons at 2pm.
- H** Our new computer course is suitable for those who have used a computer before but now need to increase their knowledge. It takes place on Wednesdays at 6.30pm. There is an examination at the end and if you pass you will be able to show the qualification to your employer, as it is widely recognised in the business world.

#### Exam Tip

There will be two or more texts which look as if they could be right when you first read them. The correct one will have ALL the information asked for.

Education 11



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# Vocabulary for PET

with answers

Self-study vocabulary practice

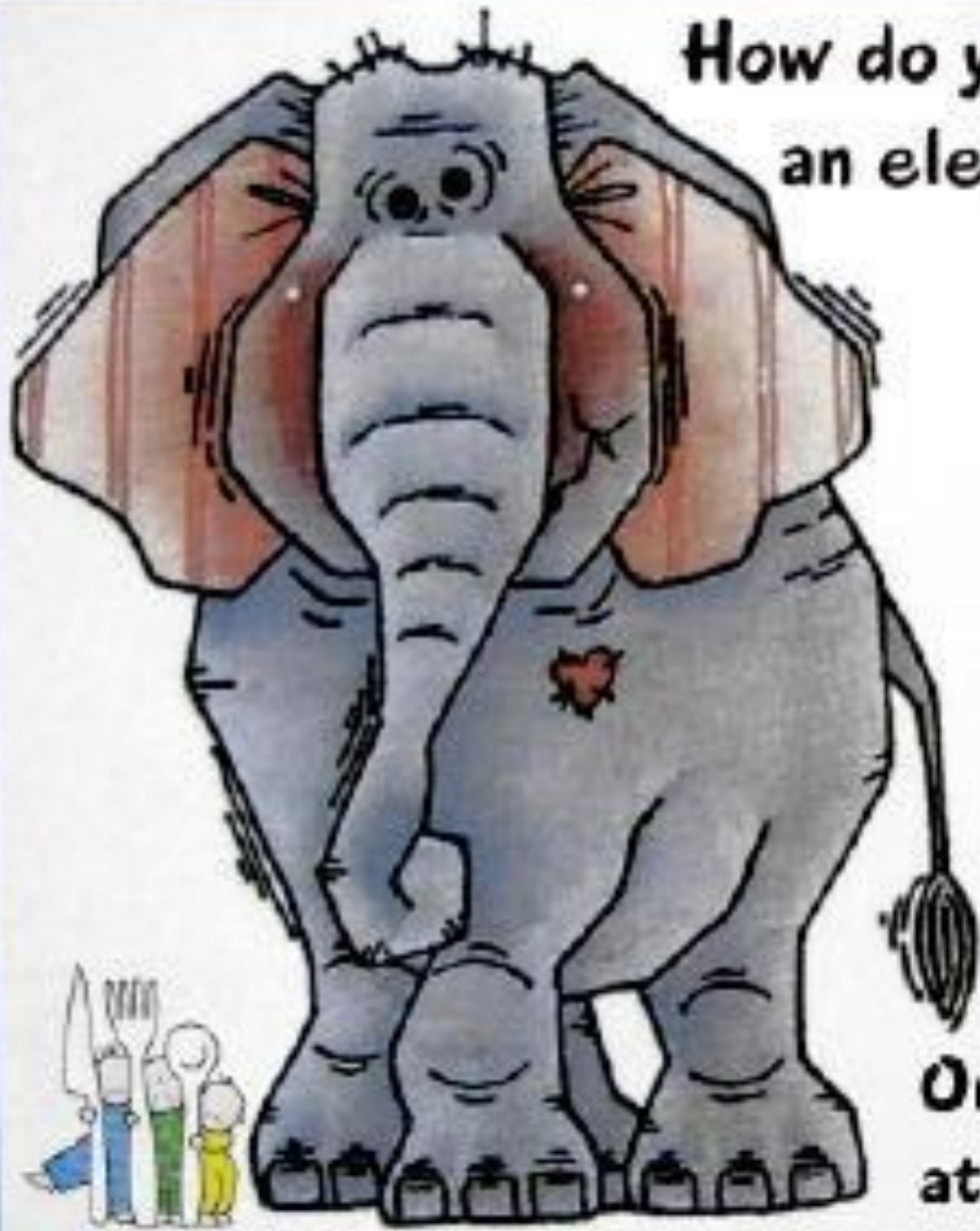
SUE IRELAND and JOANNA KOSTA



Cambridge Books for Cambridge Exams



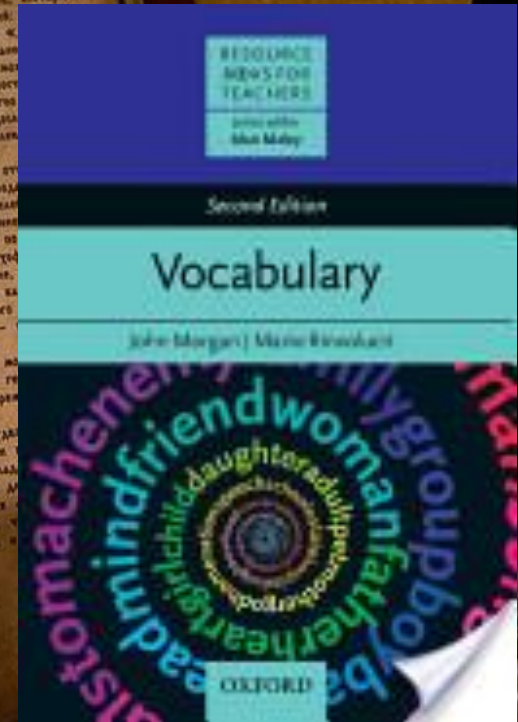
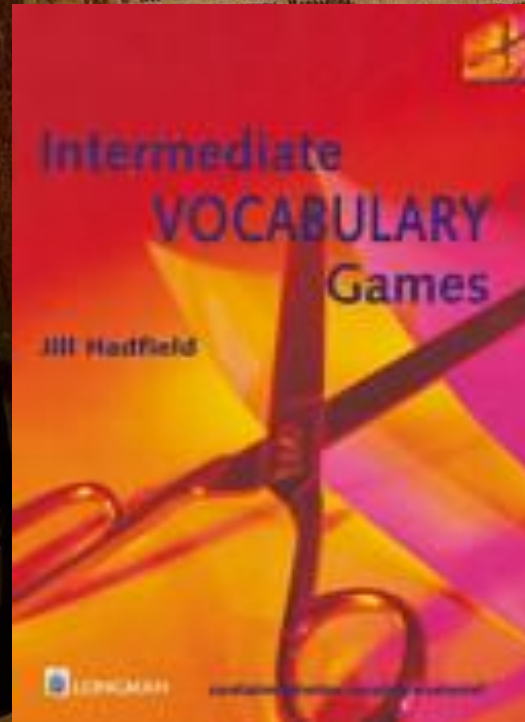
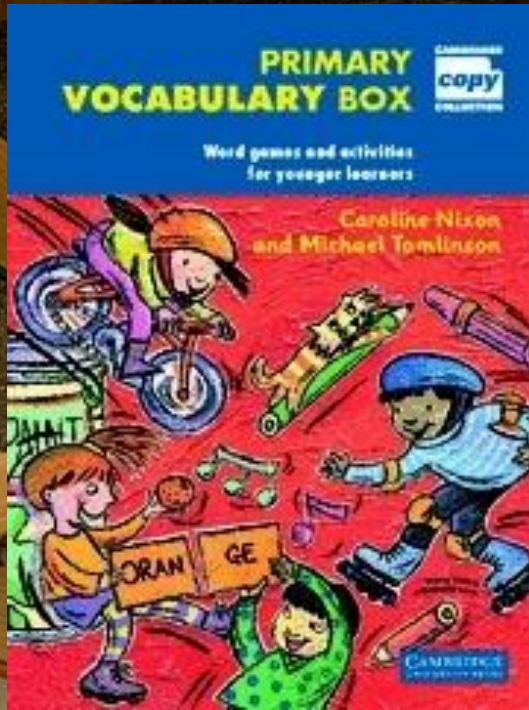
**How do you eat  
an elephant?**



**One bite  
at a time.**



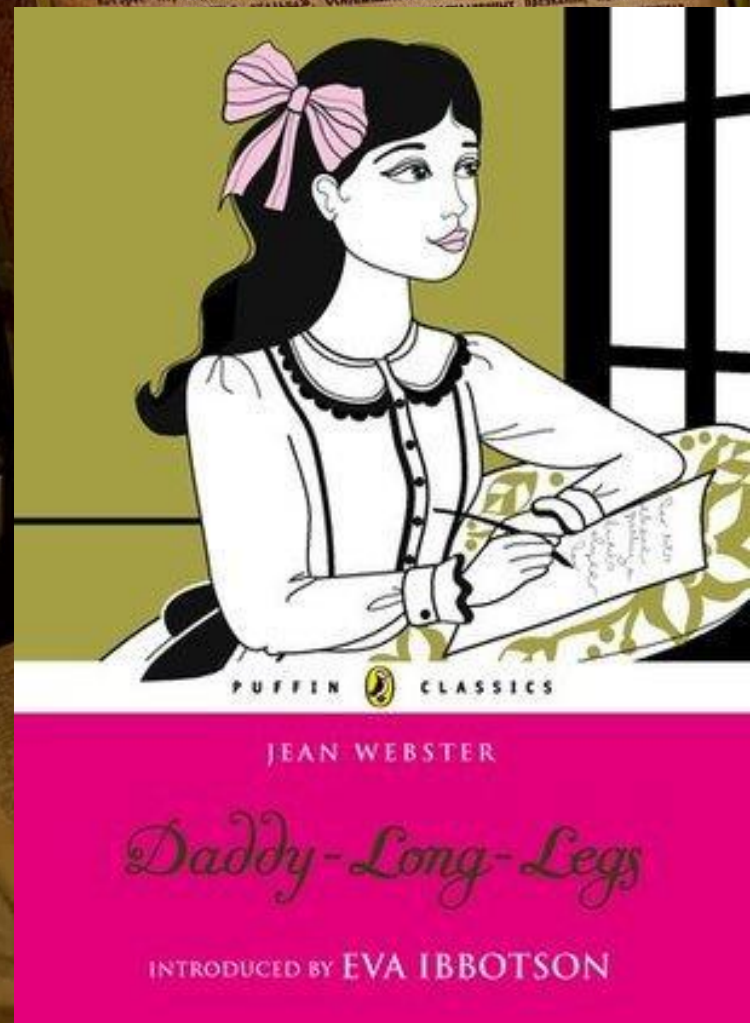
# Vocabulary 'Sandpit'



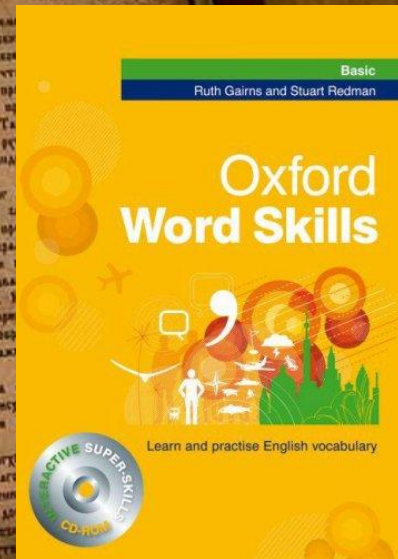
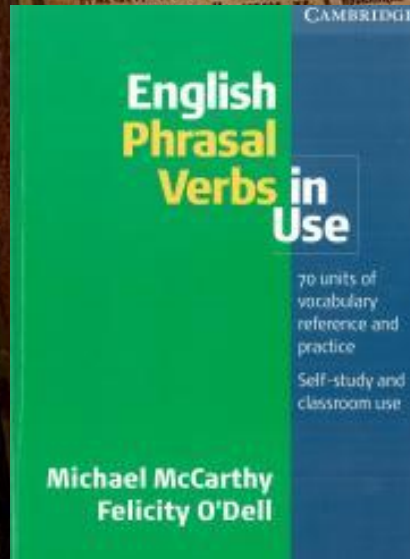
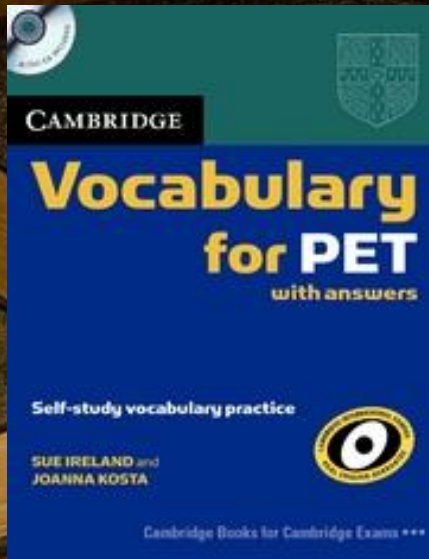
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# To recapitulate . . . (Judy from “Daddy Long Legs” by Jean Webster)







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