

THE ACADEMIC WORD LIST (AWL)

Developed by Averil Coxhead at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.
Words in the AWL are not connected with any subject, meaning they are useful for all students.

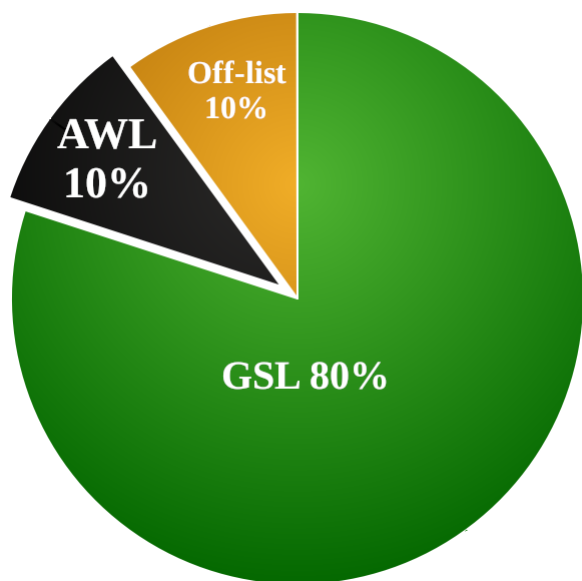
The AWL contains

570

word families which frequently appear in academic texts, but which are not contained in the General Service List (GSL).



COVERAGE



10%

of words in texts are covered by the AWL.

The GSL covers around 80%, so
GSL and AWL together cover

90%

SUBLISTS

The word families of the AWL are divided into

10

sublists according to frequency. Sublist 1 has the most frequent word families, sublist 2 the next most frequent, etc.

Each sublist has

60

word families, except sublist 10, with 30.

| Headword | Sublist | Related word forms |
|-----------|---------|---|
| analyse | 1 | analysed, analyser, analysers, analyses, analysing, analysis, analyst, analysts, analytic, analytical, analytically, analyze, analyzed, analyzes, analyzing |
| approach | 1 | approachable, approached, approaches, approaching, unapproachable |
| area | 1 | areas |
| assess | 1 | assessable, assessed, assesses, assessing, assessment, assessments, reassess, reassessed, reassessing, reassessment, unassessed |
| assume | 1 | assumed, assumes, assuming, assumption, assumptions |
| authority | 1 | authoritative, authorities |
| available | 1 | availability, unavailable |

<https://www.eapfoundation.com/vocab/academic/awllists/>

AWL HIGHLIGHTER

To make the most of the AWL, try tools such as AWL highlighter on the EAPFoundation.com website.

Infographic by

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<https://www.eapfoundation.com/vocab/academic/highlighter/>