



To: Teachers and Parents

Topic: **Building back better -Importance of Vocabulary**

Message Objective(s): **Learners will be able to:**

- Use new vocabulary to improve reading comprehension
- Acquire the language through learning unfamiliar words
- Express themselves during creative writing

Message:

Vocabulary plays a fundamental role in the reading process and is critical to reading comprehension. The ability to analyse words is crucial for vocabulary development. It is important that learners have explicit and robust instruction in vocabulary in order to support their verbal and written communication. The explicit teaching of vocabulary allows learners to access academic language and discourse and facilitates the comprehension of increasingly complex texts.

Types of words

1. Figurative: non literal and is symbolic or representative *e.g., she was so hungry she could have eaten a whole cow*
2. Literal: representing the exact words of the original text *e.g. It was raining last night*
3. Synonyms: a word which has the exact meaning to another word *e.g., happy, joyful*
4. Antonyms: a word that has the opposite meaning of another word *e.g., wise, foolish*
5. Homonym: two or more words with the same spelling or pronunciation but different meanings *e.g., quail (the bird) quail (to cringe) reign (rule) and rain (water falling from sky)*
6. Euphemisms: a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh, blunt, or embarrassing *e.g., someone passes away instead of saying someone died*

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Reference: <https://nect.org.za/materials/recovery-atps-trackers>