

RELC Portfolio Series 2

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# Managing Vocabulary Learning

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This booklet looks at the teaching and learning of vocabulary. It looks first at the statistical nature of vocabulary and then examines what implications this has for learning and teaching procedures. A major distinction is made between high frequency and low frequency words, and this distinction is then examined further in discussions of intensive and extensive reading, vocabulary measurement, guessing from context, and specialised vocabulary. The book aims to provide a clear set of principles to guide the vocabulary component of a course as well as a range of practical activities to use in a course. The appendix to the book contains a vocabulary test and lists of useful vocabulary.

Paul Nation teaches in the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. He has taught in Indonesia, Thailand, the United States, Finland, and Japan. His specialist interests are language teaching methodology and vocabulary learning. He has just completed a study of graded readers which appeared in the journal *Reading in a Foreign Language* and a new book called *Learning Vocabulary in Another Language* published by Cambridge University Press (2001).



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