

Essential Word List of 176 Function Words

the	at	when	its	five	half	behind	yourself
and	what	your	should	four	yet	million	fifty
of	so	will	after	around	whether	outside	whose
to	there	their	those	while	everything	nine	anyone
a	or	who	may	each	until	thousand	per
I	one	some	something	under	hundred	shall	except
in	by	two	three	away	within	myself	forty
you	from	because	little	every	ten	themselves	nobody
that	all	how	many	next	twenty	itself	unless
it	she	other	why	anything	either	somebody	mine
for	no	could	before	few	although	upon	anybody
he	his	our	such	though	past	thirty	till
on	do	into	off	since	himself	third	herself
we	can	these	through	against	seven	above	twelve
they	if	than	still	second	eight	therefore	fifteen
be	about	any	last	nothing	along	everybody	beyond
with	my	where	being	without	round	toward	whom
this	her	over	must	during	several	thus	below
have	which	back	another	six	someone	everyone	none
but	up	first	between	enough	whatever	near	nor
as	out	much	might	once	among	inside	more
not	would	down	both	however	across	nineteen	most

Essential Word Lists of 624 Lexical Words

SUB-LIST 1

know	now	people	come	too	man	Mr.	life
like	get	here	also	work	put	thought	
well	time	good	okay	take	let	lot	
just	go	only	want	make	day	same	
think	yes	really	way	year	never	old	
right	very	say	even	look	long	word	
then	see	mean	new	thing	need	course	

SUB-LIST 2

again	use	house	number	fact	maybe	week	keep
own	always	find	school	bit	far	family	
quite	great	place	end	night	case	ever	
give	kind	different	money	left	whole	talk	
home	actually	part	better	found	today	state	
tell	sort	sure	big	high	side	set	
world	government	point	probably	help	god	system	

SUB-LIST 3

problem	country	remember	hand	group	head	general	person
love	small	nice	already	question	least	area	
name	feel	rather	mind	sorry	read	believe	
percent	real	public	thank	show	morning	young	
call	best	mother	job	able	car	power	
water	laugh	less	business	together	try	almost	
important	room	later	else	order	change	start	

SUB-LIST 4

company	often	book	pretty	pay	service	run	understand
perhaps	example	father	matter	woman	stuff	anyway	
ago	play	bad	information	city	idea	full	
hard	care	war	hey	possible	line	office	
form	ask	large	face	cause	guess	live	
party	social	true	early	present	become	development	
means	national	open	please	leave	local	level	

SUB-LIST 5

fine	story	programme	further	stop	act	light	major
certain	door	free	move	class	hope	data	
turn	hear	font	guy	reason	child	wait	
control	food	language	girl	black	interest	road	
sometimes	moment	study	wife	human	air	particular	
political	sense	white	education	university	boy	paper	
top	law	wrong	close	body	research	view	

SUB-LIST 6

thinking	department	soon	community	special	health	future	interesting
stay	table	usually	cost	centre	buy	death	
market	experience	bring	friend	Mrs.	certainly	figure	
age	late	society	economic	living	type	land	
support	cut	history	position	difficult	street	process	
clear	south	couple	period	town	deal	meeting	
police	report	short	policy	music	news	seem	

SUB-LIST 7

situation	miss	council	meet	result	provide	month	tax
alright	hold	answer	west	plan	watch	evidence	
court	especially	common	art	effect	staff	total	
exactly	available	north	century	subject	board	indeed	
main	mum	happy	dead	college	husband	strong	
rest	church	building	particularly	red	private	stage	
son	rate	low	hi	hour	easy	committee	

SUB-LIST 8

thanks	section	team	sound	term	increase	sit	earlier
middle	industry	heart	international	stand	Dr	feeling	
suppose	sir	value	necessary	individual	bed	voice	
field	instead	issue	training	similar	fire	poor	
game	action	various	ok	doctor	baby	self	
test	personal	alone	according	yesterday	listen	chance	
dad	write	ready	single	nature	likely	speak	

SUB-LIST 9

finally	phone	tomorrow	bank	minute	price	hospital	attention
quality	forward	due	obviously	check	foreign	simply	
happen	member	knowledge	east	cold	lead	walk	
amount	letter	brother	writing	central	analysis	hit	
role	range	decision	return	throat	post	recent	
force	ground	beautiful	break	eat	evening	final	
difference	reading	hair	project	learn	hello	beginning	

SUB-LIST 10

president	worth	interested	serious	basis	current	dog	choice
production	simple	natural	minister	floor	recently	degree	
trouble	hell	agree	growth	fun	model	dear	
management	standard	modern	blood	financial	population	date	
account	record	student	bill	ahead	funny	normal	
size	ball	summer	trade	tonight	security	blue	
hot	piece	wish	list	lower	send	material	

SUB-LIST 11

approach	culture	drive	sign	complete	step	science	continue
computer	pick	visit	basic	bye	income	movement	
straight	river	green	military	fish	drink	expect	
space	pressure	teaching	press	clearly	authority	capital	
colour	picture	hotel	spend	share	film	economy	
fall	relationship	truth	consider	doubt	cover	Christmas	
performance	dark	island	sea	wide	afternoon	fast	

SUB-LIST 12

kill	somewhere	fair	shot	quickly	respect	wall	forget
follow	include	radio	energy	charge	structure	property	
function	Sunday	legal	offer	completely	club	activity	
practice	design	pass	patients	worry	purpose	note	
former	wonder	nearly	significant	generally	specific	treatment	
sister	dinner	daughter	deep	page	earth	station	
absolutely	medical	theory	begin	average	organisation	teacher	

SUB-LIST 13

television	key	park	hall	carry	environment	eye	dollar
western	series	response	trust	rights	cool	region	square
opportunity	born	style	window	fight	sex	original	direct

The Essential Word list was first published in: Dang, T. N. Y., & Webb, S. (2016). **Making an essential word list for beginners**. In I. S. P. Nation, *Making and Using Word Lists for Language Learning and Testing* (pp. 153-167, 188-195). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.