



## High-Frequency Word List

The following lesson sets use this resource:

- Introducing High Frequency Words
- Reviewing High Frequency Words
- Reading Sentences with Taught Words
- Reading a Text
- Practice Games

This list contains high-frequency words. High-frequency words are the most common words in the English language. The high-frequency word list used here is based on an analysis of four databases containing common English words. The list does not include any words with the inflections -s, -ed, or -ing. As a result, this list does not contain the exact same words as other commonly used high-frequency word lists.

For instructional purposes, teachers sometimes refer to high-frequency words as "sight words" to emphasize that these words should be remembered by sight. In fact, readers should eventually commit all words they read to sight memory. As a result, it is somewhat inaccurate to call this particular set of words "sight words." However, this terminology captures the important idea that these words should be committed to sight vocabulary early in reading.

It is very important not to describe these words as non-decodable or "irregular." Some English words--including high-frequency words--contain spelling patterns that are not very common. For example, the A in "was" makes the short-U /ü/ sound. However, many other high-frequency words contain very common spelling patterns. So, make sure not to describe these words as irregular. Even with words like "was," point out that the word does contain some common pronounceable patterns--the pronunciation of W in this case.

This list is designed to be used in combination with the Phonics Lesson Templates for the Foundational Reading Lesson Set. It was created by Devin Kearns ([devin.kearns@gmail.com](mailto:devin.kearns@gmail.com)).

## Words 1 to 100

|       |       |       |        |       |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| the   | to    | and   | of     | a     |
| in    | is    | I     | you    | it    |
| for   | that  | on    | was    | with  |
| are   | this  | be    | not    | as    |
| at    | he    | have  | from   | or    |
| they  | all   | but   | by     | your  |
| one   | can   | we    | his    | if    |
| will  | what  | about | my     | do    |
| there | an    | up    | had    | out   |
| when  | so    | no    | would  | more  |
| she   | were  | her   | like   | me    |
| some  | their | other | time   | has   |
| get   | them  | then  | people | how   |
| see   | who   | just  | new    | into  |
| now   | been  | which | only   | could |
| know  | any   | these | over   | than  |
| back  | him   | first | very   | us    |
| go    | our   | good  | may    | make  |
| here  | two   | many  | also   | way   |
| did   | where | use   | down   | home  |

## Words 101 to 200

|           |         |        |             |         |
|-----------|---------|--------|-------------|---------|
| well      | after   | day    | think       | help    |
| find      | most    | work   | its         | made    |
| too       | little  | want   | right       | because |
| much      | even    | each   | should      | through |
| before    | long    | take   | look        | must    |
| off       | am      | around | why         | come    |
| old       | last    | still  | need        | same    |
| man       | such    | got    | big         | next    |
| something | another | name   | water       | say     |
| world     | never   | great  | again       | those   |
| place     | read    | put    | school      | house   |
| part      | under   | while  | found       | own     |
| every     | away    | small  | year        | tell    |
| life      | three   | best   | really      | set     |
| high      | might   | went   | both        | thought |
| came      | without | few    | better      | always  |
| let       | book    | give   | end         | between |
| left      | show    | thing  | sure        | top     |
| hard      | keep    | money  | free        | once    |
| white     | live    | room   | information | yes     |

## Words 201 to 300

|         |          |          |            |           |
|---------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| page    | since    | group    | please     | number    |
| city    | men      | children | head       | black     |
| until   | night    | large    | call       | play      |
| enough  | run      | today    | ever       | line      |
| food    | hand     | open     | try        | air       |
| family  | car      | real     | side       | far       |
| against | lot      | course   | person     | took      |
| change  | anything | light    | state      | saw       |
| red     | told     | feel     | however    | important |
| system  | someone  | mother   | during     | full      |
| along   | game     | job      | together   | nothing   |
| seen    | list     | kind     | body       | care      |
| though  | special  | box      | order      | soon      |
| word    | buy      | sun      | done       | second    |
| yet     | country  | often    | start      | young     |
| story   | oh       | business | above      | heard     |
| able    | almost   | land     | sound      | face      |
| four    | front    | point    | mean       | ask       |
| else    | stop     | learn    | street     | ago       |
| write   | problem  | bad      | everything | maybe     |

## Words 301 to 400

|          |            |         |          |          |
|----------|------------|---------|----------|----------|
| father   | friend     | door    | talk     | several  |
| send     | wrote      | later   | near     | remember |
| news     | green      | anyone  | love     | dog      |
| move     | mind       | table   | across   | case     |
| don't    | form       | already | whole    | paper    |
| believe  | power      | class   | boy      | idea     |
| north    | inside     | hot     | everyone | close    |
| either   | turn       | area    | picture  | store    |
| less     | blue       | hear    | knew     | fast     |
| probably | become     | example | women    | least    |
| fire     | earth      | below   | fact     | American |
| voice    | began      | road    | music    | question |
| week     | early      | south   | behind   | center   |
| usually  | given      | space   | pay      | morning  |
| matter   | window     | five    | size     | short    |
| low      | cut        | past    | bill     | general  |
| girl     | government | answer  | easy     | quite    |
| woman    | half       | fun     | dark     | upon     |
| outside  | fine       | feet    | lost     | himself  |
| ground   | office     | stay    | within   | field    |

## Words 401 to 500

|            |         |         |         |          |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| company    | sat     | held    | leave   | king     |
| watch      | felt    | message | human   | happy    |
| understand | bit     | rest    | check   | possible |
| town       | mark    | energy  | main    | taken    |
| eat        | tree    | gave    | known   | team     |
| shall      | control | west    | nice    | subject  |
| law        | drive   | hold    | bed     | party    |
| America    | post    | instead | fish    | strong   |
| wrong      | ready   | child   | sign    | sent     |
| hope       | wish    | note    | English | sea      |
| cold       | gold    | search  | certain | service  |
| rather     | pretty  | true    | perhaps | wall     |
| finally    | rock    | type    | phone   | reason   |
| study      | test    | mail    | clear   | baby     |
| gone       | price   | whether | hair    | return   |
| board      | age     | plan    | river   | late     |
| public     | longer  | map     | bring   | support  |
| add        | ball    | view    | six     | among    |
| color      | history | wait    | seem    | travel   |
| level      | fall    | floor   | report  | I'm      |