

Vocabulary Factoids

Vocabulary assessed in first grade predicted over **30%** of reading comprehension variance in **11th grade** (Cunningham and Stanovich, 1977).

While **four encounters** with a word did not reliably improve reading comprehension, **12 encounters did** (McKeown, Beck, Omanson, and Pople, 1985).

One of the **most critical services** a teacher can provide, particularly for students who do not come from academically advantaged backgrounds, is **systematic instruction** in important academic terms (Marzano and Pickering, 2005).

The same student placing at the **50th percentile** in reading comprehension, with no direct vocabulary instruction, placed at the **83rd percentile** when provided specific instruction in academic vocabulary (Stahl and Fairbanks, 1986).