

High Frequency Word Lists for

K, G, F, V, L, SH, CH, J,
TH, R, S and Z

(Sorted by target and position)

Do I Say That?

I've been considering word selection for articulation targets a little differently lately. If a child's name, my name, siblings, pets, etc. contained a target sound for the child, I've always added that to our word list. But beyond that, I've typically selected words with the best phonemic environment with a very subjective approach to frequency of use.

Then I went to a lecture by Dr. Secord in which he brought up the importance of using high frequency words and I started getting more organized about it. Though even selecting a "frequently used words" list to start with was problematic.

Word use frequency is so dependent on the individual. My husband uses "database" regularly while I could limit myself to ten "database" a year and probably not need to worry much about it. On the other hand, he's seldom used the word "mascara" or "wedge" (as in, "I need a cute wedge to go with my new sundress.")

Lots of hobbies—cooking, sports—have specific vocabulary that doesn't come up for outsiders very often. So where to start?

I finally found a word list of a thousand most frequently used words in written material for students. This seemed most likely to fit the bill for the kiddos I see. While I realize we use some words in conversation more than in written, and vice versa, students are so often asked to read aloud it seemed at least probable that these are words that come up over and over for my students.

Here it is, sorted by target sound and position for: K, G, F, V, L, SH, CH, J, TH, R (sorted by vowel, too!), S and Z.

Enjoy!

Frequently Used K and G Words

Initial Position K

can	carefully	cloud*
could	common	control
call	clear*	coast
come	cannot	clean*
came	can't	caught
kind	cause	captain
country	kept	cost
keep	clothes*	corner
close*	cross*	crops*
car	care	(cook)
carry	copy	compound
cut	case	compare
color	quite	consider
question	consonant	current
complete	quiet	cattle
covered	count	company
cold	cat	capital
cried*	killed	column
king	couldn't	create*
correct	catch	cotton
quicly	climbed*	corn
contain	continued	conditions
course	key	cow
class*	cool	

Frequently Used K and G Words

Medial Position K

because	scale	workers
picture	broken	difficult
America	act	located
example	fraction	
second	Africa	
become	exactly	
across	equal	
products	practice	
(correct)	direct	
(quickly)	increase	
became	uncle	
equation	(electric)	
object	insects	
circle	doctor	
include	indicate	
direction	except	
subject	expect	
picked	exciting	
record	particular	
discovered	action	
describe	factories	
factors	molecules	
section	suffix	
dictionary	actually	

Frequently Used K and G Words

Final Position K

make	park
like	block
look	truck
take	Greek
work	track
back	
think	
ask	
walk	
book	
music	
mark	
black	
rock	
check	
speak	
lake	
milk	
stick	
bank	
break	
(electric)	
(cook)	
thick	

Frequently Used K and G Words

Initial G

go

get

give

good

great*

got

group*

girl

ground*

gave

green*

game

government

gone

glass*

gold

gas

grass*

grew*

garden

God

guess

gun

Frequently Used K and G Words

Medial position G

begin

together

began

against

figure

English

ago

language

eggs

legs

paragraph

angle

fingers

England

experiment

single

triangle

agreed

sugar

Frequently Used K and G Words

Final position G

big

dog

fig

Frequently Used F and V Words

Initial Position F

from*	feel	factories
first	fact	fair
follow	force	France*
form	filled	fresh*
found	felt	fig
food	farmers	forward
father	forest	fear
few	finished	
feet	flowers*	
four	floor*	
face	phrase*	
family	free*	
fish	fraction*	
frineds*	fight	
fast	french*	
five	fingers	
farm	foot	
fall	fell	
figure	flow*	
field	feeling	
fire	fit	
fly*	flat*	
finally	fun	
front*	fruit*	

Frequently Used F and V Words

Medial Position F

before

different

often

surface

carefully

difference

beautiful

soft

laughed

Africa

information

suffix

afraid

office

difficult

effect

Frequently Used F and V Words

Final Position F

if

enough

himself

paragraph

itself

yourself

safe

Frequently Used F and V Words

Initial Position V

very

vowel

village

valley

value

various

Frequently Used F and V Words

Medial Position V

over arrived
even division
every
never
river
ever
however
waves
several
travel
government
heavy
divided
developed
discovered
everything
themselves
everyone
received
provide
seven
movement
level
evening

Frequently Used F and V Words

Final Position V

of

have

give

move

above

leave

gave

believe

love

solve

save

serve

observe

Frequently Used L Words

Initial Position L

like	length
look	lay
long	laughed
(little)	lead
live	lake
line	lot
large	let's
land	least
letter	law
learn	lost
last	lady
light	lie
left	loud
life	lifted
later	(level)
let	led
list	located
leave	
low	
listen	
less	
language	
love	
legs	

Frequently Used L Words

Medial Position L

only	English	themselves
help	halt	although
old	finally	gold
follow	quickly	milk
also	building	build
world	carefully	rolled
below	wheels	smiled
along	island	killed
always	explain	melody
children	filled	exactly
really	include	itself
almost	(syllables)	else
family	felt	England
color	suddenly	valley
problem	believe	alone
complete	cells	
told	developed	
usually	probably	
early	wild	
himself	million	
(slowly)	held	
pulled	solve	
cold	result	
field	already	

Frequently Used L Words

Final Position L

yourself	tools	I'll	decimal
child	underline	travel	control
feeling	all	feel	fell
supply	will	full	uncle
electric	people	rule	tail
belong	call	able	pole
soldiers	oil	ball	bell
silent	tell	material	sell
elements	small	special	cattle
value	well	circle	we'll
dollars	spell	metal	capital
particular	animal	hill	(level)
shoulder	still	tall	triangle
settled	school	soil	(plural)
yellow	while	scale	steel
(molecules)	example	possible	total
column	until	natural	deal
solution	mile	middle	apple
especially	whole	sail	smell
actually	several	angle	
similar	vowel	trouble	
allow	numeral	cool	
difficult	table	single	
details	fall	equal	

Frequently Used L Words

Blends L

block

place

(plural)

play

plant

close

black

(slowly)

fly

class

plane

clear

blue

glass

clothes

flowers

sleep

climbed

plains

cloud

clean

please

flat

blow

blood

planets

Frequently Used L Words

Blends:Sort

BL

black

block

blood

blow

blue

KL

class

clean

clear

climbed

close

clothes

cloud

FL

flat

flowers

fly

GL

glass

PL

place

plains

plane

planets

plant

play

please

(plural)

SL

sleep

(slowly)

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Initial Position SH

show

should

sure

ship

shown

shape

shall

shouted

shop

shoes

sugar

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Medial Position SH

ocean

machine

equation

special

direction

finished

pushed

nation

section

dictionary

fraction

information

addition

position

action

solution

especially

Washington

conditions

divisions

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Final Position SH

fish

English

wish

wash

fresh

British

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Initial Position CH

change

children

choose

child

(church)

chart

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Medial Position CH

picture

question

reached

inches

teacher

century

temperature

natural

branches

actually

stretched

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Final Position CH

each

which

much

watch

French

catch

rich

(church)

march

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Initial Position J

just

jumped

joined

Japanese

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Medial Position J

object

energy

subject

region

engine

soldier

enjoy

major

adjective

Medial Position ZH

usually

measure

Frequently Used SH, CH and J Words

Final Position J

page

edge

village

age

huge

Frequently Used TH Words

Initial Position TH

the

that

they

this

there

their

then

them

these

than

thing

think

through

three

thought

those

though

thousands

third

themselves

thus

thick

thin

Frequently Used TH Words

Medial Position TH

other

another

mother

father

something

together

without

nothing

anything

brother

weather

months

whether

clothes

either

everything

method

within

although

rather

rhythm

southern

northern

Frequently Used TH Words

Final Position TH

with

earth

both

south

length

death

Frequently Used R Words

Initial Position

right	raised
read	(represent)
run	result
river	ride
really	rolled
room	remain
red	row
(remember)	wrote
reached	report
rock	rise
road	received
rest	ring
ran	rather
round	rich
rule	rhythm
ready	radio
region	repeated
return	wrong
rain	rose
written	rope
reason	
race	
(record)	
root	

Frequently Used R Words

Medial Postion

word	heard	dark	(temperature)
first	during	material	dictionary
part	short	circle	natural
work	hours	perhaps	Africa
very	early	direction	(surprise)
form	covered	(farmers)	iron
large	several	general	fingers
turn	toward	energy	
different	morning	Europe	
learn	pattern	exercise	
America	numeral	difference	
world	north	heart	
every	farm	forest	
start	correct	interest	
earth	person	arms	
story	verb	(record)	
hard	starts	discovered	
important	course	third	
children	surface	(paragraph)	
carry	carefully	flowers	
area	force	factors	
mark	understand	century	
horse	warm	everything	
birds	government	already	

Frequently Used R Words

Medial: Vocalic

AR

part

large

start

hard

mark

farm

starts

dark

(farmers)

heart

arms

EAR

material

AIR

very

carry

area

carefully

paragraph

dictionary

IRE

iron

ER

word

first

work

turn

different

learn

America

every

earth

birds

heard

during

hours

early

covered

several

pattern

numeral

correct

person

OR

form

important

horse

short

morning

course

(record)

RL

world

verb

surface

understand

government

circle

perhaps

direction

general

energy

Europe

exercise

difference

interest

discovered

third

flowers

factors

century

everything

(temperature)

natural

(surprise)

fingers

Frequently Used R Words

Final Position

are	father	pair
or	never	matter
were	under	square
your	paper	center
there/their	together	members
other	car	summer
her	four	winter
more	hear	(brother)
number	later	store
water	far	weather/whether
over	ever	teacher
year	color	appear
after	order	either
our	door	care
where	sure	floor
before	better	(temperature)
another	however	hair
here	measure	per
picture	(remember)	bear
air	war	wonder
letter	figure	poor
mother	fire	
answer	clear	
near	power	

Frequently Used R Words

Final:Vocalic

AR	IRE	color	your
are	fire	order	more
car		sure	before
far	ER	better	four
	were	however	door
EAR	other	measure	war
year	her	(remember)	store
here	number	figure	floor
near	water	power	poor
hear	over	matter	
clear	after	center	
appear	our	members	
	another	summer	
AIR	picture	winter	
there/their	letter	(brother)	
where	mother	weather/whether	
air	answer	teacher	
pair	father	either	
square	never	(temperature)	
care	under	per	
hair	paper	wonder	
bear	together		
	later	OR	
	ever	or	

Frequently Used R Words

Blends

from	brought	grass	truck
great	bring	grew	printed
through	dry	president	triangle
three	train	brown	France
try	drop	trouble	(prepared)
country	probably	drawing	pretty
tree	(brother)	express	fresh
group	present	practice	afraid
grow	instruments	straight	stretched
problem	(paragraph)	strange	Greek
friends	(represent)	increase	create
across	describe	break	British
products	drive	electric	track
true	cross	crops	
hundred	phrase	provide	
draw	free	trade	
cried	spring	crowed	
ground	bright	string	
travel	broken	branches	
strong	fraction	fruit	
front	trip	stream	
street	(surprise)	process	
produce	French	(property)	
green	dress	spread	

Frequently Used R Words

Blends:Sort

PR	brown	drop	FR
problem	break	drive	from
products	branches	dress	friends
produce	British	drawing	front
probably			phrase
present	TR	KR	free
(represent)	try	across	French
(surprise)	country	cried	fruit
president	tree	describe	France
express	true	cross	fresh
practice	travel	crops	afraid
provide	train	crowed	
process	trip	increase	THR
(property)	trouble	create	through
printed	electric		three
(prepared)	trade	GR	
pretty	truck	great	STR
	triangle	group	strong
BR	track	grow	street
brought		green	instruments
bring	DR	paragraph	straight
(brother)	hundred	grass	strange
bright	draw	grew	string
broken	dry	Greek	stream

Frequently Used R Words

stretched

SPR

spring

spread

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Final ts

it's

products

minutes

(scientists)

(instruments)

(cents)

(students)

(insects)

elements

Final dz

birds

friends

(thousands)

seeds*

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Initial Postion /S/

said	(surface)	surprise*	(substances)*
so	(scientists)	sent	sir
some	(system)	symbols*	seat
see	(six)	save	
sound	size	seeds*	
(sentence)	circle	suppose*	
say	syllables*	serve	
same	suddenly	separate	
set	subject	supply	
such	simple	sand	
saw	(cells)	safe	
seem	sit	soldiers*	
side	sum	silent	
sea	summer	seven	
second	sat	(sense)	
sometimes*	sign	send	
soon	soft	sight	
song	solve	(science)	
sun	son	sell	
(since)	century	southern	
several	soil	(sister)	
seen	section	solution	
south	someone	(suffix)	
sing	sail	similar	

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Medial position /s/

most	beside	observe
just	raised	(necessary)
also	represent	(process)
answer	result	industry
last	outside	western
almost	instead	(sister)
question	themselves*	oxygen
listen	consonant	opposite
himself	possible	(substances)*
passed	least	
against	design	
person	president	
decided	decimal	
rest	yourself	
inside	coast	
(system)	received	
understand	desert	
explain	history	
thousands*	(business)	
(exercise)*	(insects)	
(distance)	interesting	
forest	exciting	
reason	consider	
interest	position	

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Final Position /s/

this	base	(insects)
its	force	crops
place	yes	thus
(sentence)	perhaps	guess
us	dance	elements
house	difference	(sense)
once	(distance)	famous
miss	race	planets
face	glass	(science)
it's	(instruments)	(process)
horse	months	chance
(since)	cross	France
piece	case	various
across	let's	(suffix)
products	dress	office
voice	else	(experience)
notice	gas	
minutes	grass	
course	(cents)	
(surface)	express)	
produce	practice	
class	increase	
(scientists)	business*	
less	(students)	

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Blends /s/

scale	steel
school	step
score	stick
square	still
sleep	stone
slowly	stood
small	stop
smell	store
smiled	story
snow	students
space	study
speak	straight
special	strange
speed	stream
spell	street
spot	stretched
spread	string
spring	strong
stand	swim
stars*	
start	
state	
statement	
stay	

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Initial position /z/:

NONE!

Medial position /z/:

example

music

easy

(thousands)

reason

present

raised

represent

result

exactly

design

president

visit

desert

business*

wasn't

position

observe

isn't

doesn't

Frequently Used S and Z Words

Final position /z/

is	members	soldiers*
was	cells*	wings
as	cause	branches
his	exercise*	dollars
use	eggs	Japanese
these	legs	terms
has	arms	factories
does	clothes	molecules
because	glowers	shoes
close	factors	nose
always	phrase	rose
those	themselves*	workers
sometimes*	pounds	details
birds	surprise*	substances*
friends	fingers	tools
hours	plains	conditions
waves	ears	cows
stars*	symbols*	
inches	rise	
wheels	suppose*	
(thousands)	choose	
size*	whose	
syllables*	please	
farmers	bones	