A1 English vocabulary list

Every word with its meaning and an example sentence, topic by topic
virtuousenglishacademy.com/vocabulary/a1

These are the 300 words our A1 vocabulary pages teach, in 15 topics. Each topic is a page on the site with pronunciation, audio and flashcards.

Do not learn the list from top to bottom. Take one topic, cover the meaning column, and say what each word means. Then read the example sentence out loud.

Mark the words you did not know and learn about ten a day. The free Word Trainer on the site brings each word back just before you would forget it.

My House

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
house	A building where people live.	My house has a red door.
kitchen	The room where you cook and prepare food.	She is cooking dinner in the kitchen.
bedroom	The room where you sleep.	I sleep in my bedroom every night.
bathroom	The room with a toilet and a place to wash.	He is washing his hands in the bathroom.
door	The part you open to go in or out of a room.	Please close the door.
window	The glass opening in a wall that lets in light.	Open the window for some fresh air.
table	A flat piece of furniture with legs, used to eat or work on.	We eat dinner at the table.
chair	A seat for one person, with a back and four legs.	Please sit on this chair.
bed	The piece of furniture you sleep on.	The cat is sleeping on my bed.
sofa	A long, soft seat for two or three people.	We watch television on the sofa.
lamp	A small object that gives light.	I read my book with a small lamp.
floor	The flat surface you walk on inside a room.	The keys are on the floor.
wall	The side of a room that goes from the floor to the ceiling.	There is a picture on the wall.
roof	The top cover of a building.	A little bird is on the roof.
garden	The area of ground next to a house for plants and grass.	We have flowers in the garden.
room	A separate space inside a building with its own walls.	This room is very big and bright.
key	A small metal object used to open a lock.	I need my key to open the door.
mirror	A glass surface that shows your reflection.	She looks at herself in the mirror.
stairs	A set of steps for going up or down inside a building.	I go up the stairs to my room.
kettle	A container used to boil water.	The kettle is hot; the tea is ready.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Food & Drink

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
bread	A basic food made from flour and baked in an oven.	I eat bread for breakfast.
milk	A white drink that comes from cows.	She drinks milk every morning.
water	The clear liquid that people and animals need to live.	Please give me a glass of water.
apple	A round, sweet fruit that is red or green.	An apple is a healthy snack.
egg	A round food that comes from a bird, often a hen.	I have an egg for breakfast.
rice	Small white grains that are cooked and eaten.	We eat rice with chicken.
cheese	A yellow or white food made from milk.	I like cheese on my bread.
coffee	A hot brown drink made from roasted beans.	He drinks coffee at work.
tea	A hot drink made by putting leaves in hot water.	Would you like a cup of tea?
sugar	A sweet white food added to drinks and cakes.	I take sugar in my tea.
fish	An animal that lives in water and can be eaten as food.	We eat fish on Friday.
meat	The parts of an animal that people eat.	She does not eat meat.
fruit	The sweet part of a plant with seeds, such as apples or bananas.	Fruit is very good for you.
soup	A hot liquid food made with vegetables or meat.	The soup is hot and tasty.
cake	A sweet food made from flour, sugar and eggs, and baked.	We eat cake at the party.
salt	A white substance used to add flavour to food.	Can you pass the salt, please?
juice	The liquid that comes from fruit, drunk as a cold drink.	I drink orange juice for breakfast.
chicken	A common farm bird, and its meat, eaten as food.	We are having chicken for dinner.
banana	A long, curved yellow fruit.	A banana is long and yellow.
breakfast	The first meal of the day, eaten in the morning.	I eat breakfast at seven o’clock.

Family & People

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
mother	A female parent.	My mother cooks very well.
father	A male parent.	My father drives a blue car.
sister	A girl or woman with the same parents as you.	I have one younger sister.
brother	A boy or man with the same parents as you.	His brother is very tall.
baby	A very young child.	The baby is sleeping now.
son	Someone's male child.	Their son is six years old.
daughter	Someone's female child.	Her daughter goes to school.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
grandmother	The mother of your mother or father.	My grandmother tells good stories.
grandfather	The father of your mother or father.	My grandfather has a big garden.
friend	A person you know well and like.	She is my best friend.
man	An adult male person.	The man is reading a book.
woman	An adult female person.	The woman is a doctor.
child	A young person who is not yet an adult.	The child is playing outside.
boy	A male child.	The boy likes football.
girl	A female child.	The girl has a red bag.
parents	A person's mother and father.	My parents live in London.
wife	The woman a man is married to.	His wife is a kind teacher.
husband	The man a woman is married to.	Her husband cooks dinner.
aunt	The sister of your mother or father.	My aunt lives near us.
uncle	The brother of your mother or father.	My uncle has a friendly dog.

The Body

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
head	The top part of your body, where your face is.	My head hurts a little today.
hand	The part at the end of your arm, with fingers.	Please give me your hand.
eye	The part of your body you see with.	I have something in my eye.
ear	The part of your body you hear with.	My ear hurts a little.
nose	The part of your face you use to smell and breathe.	The dog has a wet nose.
mouth	The part of your face you use to eat and speak.	Please open your mouth.
hair	The thin threads that grow on your head.	Her hair is long and black.
arm	The long part of your body between your shoulder and hand.	He has a strong arm.
leg	The long part of your body you use to walk.	My leg hurts after running.
foot	The part at the end of your leg that you stand on.	My right foot is cold.
finger	One of the five long parts on your hand.	I have a ring on my finger.
face	The front part of your head.	She has a happy face.
tooth	One of the hard white parts in your mouth for biting.	My tooth hurts; I need a dentist.
neck	The part of your body that joins your head to your shoulders.	He wears a scarf around his neck.
knee	The joint in the middle of your leg where it bends.	The boy fell and hurt his knee.
back	The part of your body behind you, from neck to bottom.	My back hurts after work.
heart	The organ in your chest that pumps blood.	The heart is a very important organ.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
stomach	The part of your body where food goes after you eat.	My stomach hurts; I ate too much.
shoulder	The part of your body where your arm joins the body.	She carries a bag on her shoulder.
lip	One of the two soft edges of your mouth.	He has a small cut on his lip.

Clothes

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
shirt	A piece of clothing for the top of your body, with a collar.	He wears a white shirt to work.
trousers	A piece of clothing that covers each leg separately.	These trousers are too big for me.
dress	A piece of clothing for a woman or girl, in one piece.	She has a beautiful red dress.
shoes	Things you wear on your feet to go outside.	My new shoes are black.
hat	Something you wear on your head.	He wears a hat in the sun.
coat	A warm piece of clothing you wear outside over other clothes.	Put on your coat; it is cold.
socks	Soft coverings for your feet, worn inside shoes.	I am wearing warm socks.
jacket	A short coat.	Her jacket is dark blue.
skirt	A piece of clothing for a woman that hangs from the waist.	She is wearing a long skirt.
jumper	A warm knitted piece of clothing for the top of your body.	This jumper keeps me warm.
jeans	Trousers made of strong blue cotton cloth.	He likes blue jeans.
scarf	A piece of cloth you wear around your neck to keep warm.	She has a soft, woollen scarf.
gloves	Coverings for your hands, with a part for each finger.	I wear gloves in the winter.
boots	Strong shoes that cover your foot and part of your leg.	My boots are wet from the rain.
shorts	Short trousers that end above the knee.	He wears shorts in the summer.
tie	A long thin piece of cloth worn around the neck with a shirt.	He wears a tie to the office.
belt	A strip of leather worn around the waist.	This belt is made of leather.
pocket	A small bag sewn into clothes to hold things.	My keys are in my pocket.
button	A small round object used to fasten clothes.	A button fell off my shirt.
glasses	Two pieces of glass in a frame, worn to help you see.	She wears glasses to read.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Animals

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
dog	A common animal kept as a pet that barks.	The dog is playing in the garden.
cat	A small furry animal often kept as a pet.	My cat likes to drink milk.
bird	An animal with wings and feathers that can usually fly.	A bird is singing in the tree.
horse	A large animal that people ride or that pulls things.	The horse runs very fast.
cow	A large farm animal kept for milk and meat.	The cow gives us fresh milk.
sheep	A farm animal with a woolly coat.	The sheep are on the green hill.
pig	A pink farm animal kept for its meat.	The little pig is pink.
duck	A water bird with a flat beak.	A duck is on the lake.
rabbit	A small animal with long ears that lives in holes.	The rabbit eats carrots.
mouse	A very small animal with a long tail.	The cat is looking at a mouse.
lion	A large wild cat that lives in Africa.	The lion is a very big cat.
elephant	A very large grey animal with a long trunk.	An elephant is grey and huge.
monkey	An animal that climbs trees and has a long tail.	The monkey climbs the tall tree.
bear	A large, strong wild animal with thick fur.	The bear lives in the forest.
frog	A small green animal that jumps and lives near water.	The frog jumps into the water.
snake	A long animal with no legs that moves on the ground.	The snake is long and green.
bee	A small flying insect that makes honey.	A bee is on the yellow flower.
tiger	A large wild cat with orange fur and black stripes.	The tiger has orange fur.
fox	A wild animal like a dog with red-brown fur and a bushy tail.	A fox is running in the field.
goat	A farm animal with horns, kept for milk and meat.	The goat is eating the grass.

Colours & Shapes

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
red	The colour of blood or a tomato.	The apple is bright red.
blue	The colour of the sky on a clear day.	The sky is blue today.
green	The colour of grass and leaves.	The grass is green.
yellow	The colour of the sun or a lemon.	The sun is yellow.
black	The darkest colour, like the night sky.	My cat is black.
white	The lightest colour, like snow or milk.	Snow is cold and white.
orange	The colour between red and yellow.	I have an orange pen.
pink	A light red colour.	She likes pink flowers.
brown	The colour of earth or wood.	The big dog is brown.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
purple	The colour made by mixing red and blue.	Her new dress is purple.
grey	The colour between black and white.	The sky is grey before the rain.
colour	What something looks like, such as red, blue or green.	What is your favourite colour?
circle	A perfectly round shape.	The sun looks like a circle.
square	A shape with four equal straight sides.	The window is a perfect square.
line	A long thin mark or shape.	Please draw a straight line.
star	A shape with five or more points.	I can see one bright star.
triangle	A shape with three straight sides.	A triangle has three sides.
dark	Having little light, or a deep, strong colour.	The room is dark at night.
light	Bright, or a pale, soft colour.	Please turn on the light.
round	Shaped like a circle or a ball.	The ball is round.

Numbers & Time

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
one	The number 1.	I have one brother.
two	The number 2.	She has two cats.
three	The number 3.	There are three books on the desk.
ten	The number 10.	I have ten fingers.
hundred	The number 100.	The book has a hundred pages.
number	A word or sign that shows how many, like 1, 2 or 3.	What is your phone number?
day	A period of 24 hours.	Today is a sunny day.
week	A period of seven days.	There are seven days in a week.
month	One of the twelve parts of a year.	January is the first month.
year	A period of twelve months.	There are twelve months in a year.
hour	A period of sixty minutes.	I wait for one hour.
minute	A period of sixty seconds.	Please wait a minute.
morning	The early part of the day, before noon.	I get up early in the morning.
night	The dark part of the day, when it is time to sleep.	The stars come out at night.
today	This day, the day that is happening now.	Today is my birthday.
tomorrow	The day after today.	We have a test tomorrow.
time	What we measure in hours, minutes and seconds.	What time is it now?
Monday	The first day of the working week.	I go to work on Monday.
weekend	Saturday and Sunday, when many people do not work.	We relax at the weekend.
clock	A machine that shows the time.	The clock is on the wall.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

School

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
book	A set of printed pages held together for reading.	I am reading a good book.
pen	A tool for writing with ink.	Please write with a blue pen.
pencil	A thin tool for writing that you can rub out.	She draws with a yellow pencil.
teacher	A person whose job is to help others learn.	Our teacher is very kind.
student	A person who is learning at a school or college.	Every student has a desk.
desk	A table used for writing or studying.	My books are on the desk.
bag	A container with handles for carrying things.	My bag is full of books.
paper	The thin material you write or draw on.	I write on white paper.
class	A group of students who learn together.	Our class starts at nine.
lesson	A period of time when you learn something.	The English lesson is fun.
ruler	A straight tool used to measure and draw lines.	I draw a line with a ruler.
board	A flat surface on the wall that a teacher writes on.	The teacher writes on the board.
school	A place where children go to learn.	I go to school by bus.
homework	Work a teacher gives you to do at home.	I do my homework after dinner.
exam	An important test of what you have learned.	We have an exam on Monday.
word	A single unit of language with meaning.	I learn a new word every day.
question	A sentence that asks for information.	Please answer my question.
answer	A reply to a question.	Your answer is correct.
notebook	A book with empty pages for writing notes.	I write notes in my notebook.
dictionary	A book that lists words and explains their meanings.	I use a dictionary for new words.

Jobs

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
doctor	A person whose job is to help people who are ill.	The doctor helps sick people.
nurse	A person who cares for ill people, often in a hospital.	The nurse works at the hospital.
police officer	A person whose job is to keep people safe and stop crime.	The police officer helps people.
driver	A person who drives a car, bus or lorry.	The bus driver is very friendly.
cook	A person who prepares and makes food.	The cook makes delicious food.
farmer	A person who grows crops or keeps animals on a farm.	The farmer works on the farm.
waiter	A person who brings food to people in a restaurant.	The waiter brings us our food.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
pilot	A person who flies an aeroplane.	The pilot flies the big plane.
artist	A person who makes paintings, drawings or other art.	The artist paints a picture.
singer	A person who sings, often as a job.	The singer has a lovely voice.
dentist	A person whose job is to look after people's teeth.	The dentist looks at my teeth.
engineer	A person who designs or builds machines, roads or bridges.	My father is an engineer.
actor	A person who performs in films or plays.	The actor is very famous.
cleaner	A person whose job is to clean buildings or rooms.	The cleaner washes the floor.
manager	A person who is in charge of a business or a team.	The manager works in an office.
firefighter	A person whose job is to put out fires.	The firefighter is very brave.
baker	A person who makes bread and cakes.	The baker makes fresh bread.
vet	A doctor for animals.	The vet helps sick animals.
writer	A person who writes books, stories or articles.	The writer writes interesting books.
boss	The person who is in charge of you at work.	My boss is a very nice person.

Town & Places

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
shop	A place where you buy things.	I buy bread at the shop.
hospital	A place where ill people are looked after by doctors.	The hospital is near my house.
park	A public area with grass and trees for people to enjoy.	Children play in the park.
street	A road in a town with buildings along it.	I live on a quiet street.
station	A place where trains or buses stop for passengers.	The train leaves from the station.
restaurant	A place where you pay to eat a meal.	We eat at a restaurant on Sunday.
bank	A place that keeps people's money safe.	I get money from the bank.
library	A place where you can borrow and read books.	I read books at the library.
market	A place, often outside, where people buy and sell goods.	I buy fruit at the market.
hotel	A place where you pay to sleep when away from home.	We sleep in a hotel on holiday.
church	A building where Christians go to pray.	The old church is beautiful.
cinema	A place where you go to watch films.	We watch a film at the cinema.
city	A large and important town.	London is a very big city.
village	A small group of houses in the countryside.	My grandmother lives in a small village.
bridge	A structure built over a river or road to cross it.	We walk over the old bridge.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
museum	A building where interesting or old objects are shown.	The museum has old paintings.
airport	A place where aeroplanes take off and land.	We go to the airport by taxi.
café	A small place where you buy drinks and light meals.	We drink coffee at the café.
road	A hard surface built for cars and other vehicles.	Cross the road very carefully.
post office	A place where you send letters and parcels.	I buy stamps at the post office.

Transport

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
car	A road vehicle with four wheels for a few people.	My father drives a fast car.
bus	A large road vehicle that carries many passengers.	I go to school by bus.
train	A line of connected carriages that runs on rails.	The train to London is fast.
plane	A vehicle with wings that flies in the air.	The plane flies high in the sky.
bike	A vehicle with two wheels that you move by pushing pedals.	She rides her bike to work.
boat	A small vehicle that travels on water.	We cross the lake by boat.
taxi	A car with a driver that you pay to take you somewhere.	We take a taxi to the airport.
ship	A large boat that travels on the sea.	The big ship is on the sea.
lorry	A large vehicle for carrying heavy goods by road.	The lorry carries a lot of food.
motorbike	A vehicle with two wheels and an engine.	He rides a loud motorbike.
ticket	A small paper that shows you have paid to travel.	I buy a ticket for the train.
wheel	A round part that turns to move a vehicle.	My bike has a broken wheel.
helicopter	An aircraft that flies using spinning blades on top.	The helicopter flies over the city.
tram	A passenger vehicle that runs on rails in a city street.	We take the tram to the centre.
underground	A railway that runs under a city.	I travel by underground in London.
petrol	The liquid fuel used to make cars go.	The car needs more petrol.
seat	A place where you sit in a vehicle.	I have a seat by the window.
journey	The act of travelling from one place to another.	The journey takes one hour.
map	A drawing that shows where places are.	We look at a map to find the way.
traffic	The vehicles moving on a road.	There is a lot of traffic this morning.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

Weather & Nature

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
sun	The bright star in the sky that gives us light and heat.	The sun is very hot today.
rain	Water that falls from the clouds.	I use an umbrella in the rain.
snow	Soft white pieces of frozen water that fall in cold weather.	Children love to play in the snow.
wind	Air that moves across the land.	The wind is very strong today.
cloud	A white or grey mass in the sky made of tiny drops of water.	There is one white cloud in the sky.
sky	The space above you when you look up outside.	The sky is blue and clear.
tree	A large plant with a trunk, branches and leaves.	A bird sits in the tall tree.
flower	The coloured part of a plant that makes seeds.	She gives me a red flower.
river	A long line of water that flows to the sea.	We swim in the river in summer.
sea	A large area of salt water.	The sea is cold today.
mountain	A very high hill with steep sides.	We climb the high mountain.
grass	The green plant that covers fields and gardens.	The grass is wet in the morning.
hot	Having a high temperature.	It is very hot in summer.
cold	Having a low temperature.	It is cold in winter.
moon	The bright round object seen in the sky at night.	The moon is bright tonight.
ice	Water that has frozen and become solid.	There is ice on the road.
leaf	One of the flat green parts that grow on a plant.	A green leaf falls from the tree.
fire	The bright hot flames that burn something.	We sit near the warm fire.
storm	Very bad weather with strong wind and rain.	The storm is very loud.
weather	What the air outside is like, such as sunny or rainy.	The weather is nice today.

Daily Routine

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
wake	To stop sleeping.	I wake up at seven o’clock.
eat	To put food in your mouth and swallow it.	We eat breakfast together.
drink	To take liquid into your mouth and swallow it.	I drink water every day.
sleep	To rest with your eyes closed and your mind not awake.	Babies sleep a lot.
work	To do a job or activity to earn money or reach a goal.	My parents work in an office.
read	To look at words and understand them.	I read a book before I sleep.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
write	To make words or letters on paper or a screen.	Please write your name here.
walk	To move forward on your feet at a normal speed.	We walk to school together.
run	To move quickly on your feet.	I run in the park every morning.
wash	To clean something with water.	Please wash your hands.
study	To learn about something by reading and practising.	I study English every evening.
play	To do an activity for fun.	The children play in the garden.
watch	To look at something for a period of time.	We watch television at night.
listen	To pay attention to a sound.	I listen to music on the bus.
open	To move something so it is no longer closed.	Please open your book.
close	To move something so it is not open.	Please close the door quietly.
buy	To get something by paying money for it.	I buy bread every morning.
help	To do something useful for someone.	I help my mother at home.
clean	To remove dirt from something.	I clean my room on Saturday.
go	To move from one place to another.	I go to bed at ten.

Hobbies & Free Time

20 words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
music	Sounds arranged in a pleasant way, made by voices or instruments.	I love listening to music.
film	A story shown in moving pictures; a movie.	We watch a film on Friday.
game	An activity you play for fun, often with rules.	The children play a fun game.
football	A game where two teams try to kick a ball into a goal.	He plays football after school.
dance	To move your body in time with music.	She likes to dance to music.
sing	To make music with your voice.	We sing happy songs together.
swim	To move through water using your arms and legs.	I swim in the sea in summer.
draw	To make a picture with a pen or pencil.	Children love to draw pictures.
paint	To make a picture using colours and a brush.	She likes to paint flowers.
photo	A picture made with a camera.	I take a photo of the sunset.
guitar	A musical instrument with strings that you play with your fingers.	He plays the guitar very well.
ball	A round object used in many games.	The boy kicks the ball.
holiday	A time when you do not work and often travel for fun.	We go to the sea on holiday.
party	A social event where people meet to enjoy themselves.	We have a party on my birthday.
travel	To go from one place to another, often far away.	I love to travel to new places.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
cards	Small pieces of stiff paper used to play games.	We play cards in the evening.
hobby	An activity you enjoy doing in your free time.	My hobby is reading books.
ride	To sit on and control a bike, horse or vehicle.	I ride my bike at the weekend.
cooking	The activity of preparing and making food.	Cooking is her favourite hobby.
reading	The activity of looking at and understanding written words.	Reading is good for the mind.

© 2026 Virtuous English Academy · Free to print and copy for classroom use