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# Word count of teacher's and children's directions in first grade reading workbooks

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*Thesis  
Tomashefsky, B. et al  
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BOSTON UNIVERSITY  
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Thesis

WORD COUNT OF TEACHER'S AND CHILDREN'S DIRECTIONS IN  
FIRST GRADE READING WORKBOOKS

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1962

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I	SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS RESEARCH	1-19
	A. Reading Workbook Studies	
	B. Reading Vocabulary Studies	
II	PLAN OF STUDY	20-26
III	ANALYSIS OF DATA	27-75
IV	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	76

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
I	THE MASTER LIST: WORD COUNT OF TEACHER'S AND CHILDREN'S DIRECTIONS IN EACH WORKBOOK	27
II	NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WORDS IN TEACHER'S DIRECTIONS AT EACH LEVEL OF THE TWELVE SERIES	75
III	NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WORDS IN CHILDREN'S DIRECTIONS AT EACH LEVEL OF THE TWELVE SERIES	75

## INTRODUCTION

The reading vocabulary of children is stimulated and developed through three processes: reading, speaking, and writing. In order to study and enlarge upon the vocabularies used in these processes, word frequency counts are continuously being made. Teachers and authors may then utilize and give practice to these words actually used in children's vocabularies.

One assignment in reading which requires children to understand words is following directions. Reading workbooks used with basal readers contain words in their directions, to be given either orally by the teacher, or to be read silently by the child. Many studies have been concerned with the vocabularies in the workbooks, but none have listed those in the directions.

Among the goals to be obtained in primary reading instruction, Hildreth mentions:<sup>1/</sup>

Reading to obtain accurate information and responding in ways that demonstrate the ability to make correct interpretations of printed directions and instructions.

The purpose of this study, then, is to make a word frequency count of the directions, both those given orally by the teacher, and those read silently by the child, which are found in the workbooks accompanying the preprimers, primers, and first readers of basal reading systems.

<sup>1/</sup>Gertrude Hildreth, "Reading Programs in the Early Primary Period," Forty-eighth Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, Part II, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1949, p. 55.

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CHAPTER I  
SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS RESEARCH

## CHAPTER I

### A. READING WORKBOOK STUDIES

#### Definition

A definition of the nature and use of the modern workbook is given by Bond:<sup>1/</sup>

A workbook is made up of a series of exercises, many of which are illustrated. It is designed to be completed co-temporaneously with reading in the basal readers. The workbook belongs to the child and he does the exercises in connection with the reading of each unit in the basal reader. One type of exercise introduces words that are to be used in the basal reader in meaningful content so that the child will know the words and thus have his textbook-reading situation a more natural one.

#### History

Johnson, the first publisher to commercialize the idea of the workbook, gave these three basic ideas that helped him formulate the publication of the first workbook:<sup>2/</sup>

1. The overflowing paperwork that teachers had to provide as drill work.
2. The three publications of sentence drills, practice books, and a tablet form of Practice Problems.
3. The general concept that there could be found an economical way to do this drill work.

He goes on to say that the name "workbook" was not given to the books published in the late '20's, but came later to be accepted to apply to all seatwork books, practice books, drill books, activity books or books containing consumable materials.<sup>3/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup>Guy Bond and Eva Wagner Bond, Teaching the Child to Read, New York: Macmillan Company, 1960, p. 32.

<sup>2/</sup>W. P. Johnson, "Then Came the Workbook," Journal of Education, 131:64, February 1948.

<sup>3/</sup>Ibid., p. 66.

Jacks gave two reasons for its appearance: (1) an increase in enrollment and (2) an increase in the length of class periods which required supervision for study.<sup>1/</sup>

Whipple reported the relative position of the workbook among types of reading materials to be the following:<sup>2/</sup>

During the last ten years, from January 1938-December 1947, at least 35 published articles or books have appeared that discuss one or more types of reading materials that ought to be furnished for the teaching of reading. In the order of decreasing frequency of mention, these (15) types are: basic readers, supplementary readers, library books, periodicals, workbooks, (etc.).

Thompson gave her opinion of the modern status of the reading workbook.<sup>3/</sup>

Today's teacher knows that the workbook which the child uses with his basic textbook is planned by skilled educators who have the knowledge of how best to develop specific skills and abilities from level to level in a sequential and systematic pattern of growth. . . . This "doing book" parallels the reader, complements it, and adds a variety of extending and enriching experiences.

#### Justification of the Workbook

The true value of the workbook results from proper use. The criticisms of the workbook often result from their misuse. The following presentation discusses both its advantages and disadvantages.

One of the earliest criticisms was given by Osburn in 1931. He stated that "the workbook shows no recognition of individual differences."<sup>4/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup>R. W. Jacks, "Status of the Workbook in Classroom Instruction," Educational Method, 18:106, December 1938.

<sup>2/</sup>Gertrude Whipple, Reading in the Elementary School, National Society for the Study of Education, Forty-eighth Yearbook, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1949, p. 150.

<sup>3/</sup>Martha Thompson, "Materials for Reading," Supplementary Educational Monograph, No. 86, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, December 1957.

<sup>4/</sup>W. J. Osburn, "Educational Medicine," Educational Research Bulletin, 10:19, January 7, 1931.

In the same year, Hurd stated that the workbook was "not a panacea to remedy all the inadequacies of present instruction, but that the understandings must come through specific information, specific mental techniques, and specific appreciations."<sup>1/</sup>

Maxwell stated the value of the workbook to be (1) developing initiative and independence, (2) representing material in a definite sequence providing a reliable check on the amount of material a class should have covered, and (3) reduces the labor of the teacher.<sup>2/</sup>

Pierce and Quinn saw that the value of the workbook was to make the pupil "reading conscious." "He soon learns that before he can use his scissors or crayons, the pupil must read."<sup>3/</sup> The authors added that the reading of directions gives a purpose to reading for the child as well as furnishing him with a variety of activities.<sup>4/</sup>

Vreeland summarized the following in regard to the value of the workbook: "The workbook may be either an utterly valueless instrument or an indispensable tool, depending upon the nicety with which it is adjusted to the instructional situation in which it is used."<sup>5/</sup> He says that the good workbook does the following:<sup>6/</sup>

- 1) tends to foster an intimate personal contact between pupil and teacher

<sup>1/</sup>A. W. Hurd, "Workbook as an Instructional Aid," School Review, 39:608, October 1931.

<sup>2/</sup>C. R. Maxwell, "Workbooks, a Recent Development," American School Board Journal, 88:16, March 1934.

<sup>3/</sup>P. R. Pierce and H. J. Quinn, "A Study of Certain Types of Work Materials in First Grade Readings," Elementary School Journal, 34:605, April 1934.

<sup>4/</sup> Ibid., p. 606.

<sup>5/</sup>Wendell Vreeland, "Good Workbooks from the Teacher's Point of View," Nation's Schools, 18:35, July 1936.

<sup>6/</sup>Ibid., p. 37.

- 2) utilizes as many as possible of the available materials and opportunities for experience
- 3) utilizes completely the findings of the scientific study of the learning process
- 4) provides adequately for maximum growth

In 1937, however, Scott cited the lack of evidence determining the value of the workbook, indicating that, "if this teaching device is to be correctly evaluated, more research on the problem is essential."<sup>1/</sup>

From data obtained on 354 pupils comprising nine classes in four schools in Manhattan, Gates found the following:<sup>2/</sup>

The data for the entire group show that the large amount of worktype or practice material produced no reliably greater achievement during the first semester.

Other results from this study showed, however, that groups using reading material free of word-recognition difficulties such as in workbooks did show advantageous scores.

Stone attributed misuse of the workbook to the fact that "too often teachers pay no attention to the real function of work-type, practice materials in silent reading, disregard the author's suggestions as to procedure, and use the material inefficiently."<sup>3/</sup>

Jacks found from a study in Indiana and in Pennsylvania, the following:<sup>4/</sup>

In workbook materials used and other supplementary procedures, half of the Grade 1 using these materials scored 8/10 of the way into the second grade.

Betts reported that the chief purpose of workbooks includes the

<sup>1/</sup>I. O. Scott, "Is the Workbook Really Worthwhile?" American School Board Journal, 15:28, August 1937.

<sup>2/</sup>A. I. Gates, "Types of Materials, Vocabulary Burden, Word Analysis, and Other Factors in Beginning Reading," Elementary School Journal, 39:29, September-October 1938.

<sup>3/</sup>Clarence Stone, "Major Types of Instructional Activities in Reading," Elementary School Journal, 38:595, April 1938.

<sup>4/</sup>R. W. Jacks, "Status of the Workbook in Classroom Instruction," Educational Method, 18:105, April 1938.

development of basic skills and abilities in silent reading required for information type reading and continuous pupil appraisal.<sup>1/</sup>

Kerr stated that drill from workbooks was necessary to insure mastery of the fundamental processes with speed and accuracy.<sup>2/</sup>

To save the time of copying examples from the board, with the resultant possibility of error, and to prevent the choosing of a chance example which contains an unforeseen difficulty, the use of the workbook is advisable.

She advised further that their use be planned carefully, selected wisely, and their materials intelligently prepared and presented.<sup>3/</sup>

Powers listed both advantages and disadvantages of the workbook. "A good workbook"<sup>4/</sup>

1. can provide exercises in learning to note details, securing meaning from context, and selecting relevant materials;
2. can give training in word analysis and in other reading skills;
3. can teach children to evaluate their own growth; and
4. can key itself directly into daily plans and extend the processes currently worked on in class periods with the teacher.

The misuse of workbooks, on the other hand,<sup>5/</sup>

1. can set up habits contrary to those the teacher is trying to establish
2. encourages wild guessing, poor eye movements, and a dislike of reading as a result of their sheer dullness and monotonous repetition.

<sup>1/</sup>E. A. Betts, "Workbook Situation," Educational Administration and Supervision, 27:564, November 1941.

<sup>2/</sup>M. Kerr, "Teaching with Workbooks," Elementary School Journal, 48:219, December 1947.

<sup>3/</sup>Ibid., p. 221.

<sup>4/</sup>Laversia Powers, "A Critique of Types of Materials Currently Used in Basic Reading Instruction," Supplementary Educational Monographs, Vol. X, No. 65, University of Chicago Press, October 1948, p. 100.

<sup>5/</sup>Ibid., p. 101.

Livengood cites the progress of the workbook to develop from "busy work to keep groups not reciting from disturbing the peace, to a niche that offers endless variety and opportunity in that it is individual."<sup>1/</sup>

An editorial in Grade Teacher advised the use of the workbook to demand that exercises be checked by the teacher as soon as possible after the exercise is done.<sup>2/</sup>

Gray gave the following advantages of the workbook:<sup>3/</sup>

- 1) It saves students' time in oral listening and the teacher's in preparation.
- 2) Instead of endless copying, the student writes only the words or numbers that are the result of considered choice.
- 3) It provides individual and adequate drill.
- 4) It transforms textbook situations into a functional experience.
- 5) It provides self-instruction.
- 6) It provides proportional emphasis.

Melton gave the following criteria of a good workbook.<sup>4/</sup>

A good workbook either makes the acquisition of skills and knowledge easier or provides opportunities for the creative identification and solution of problems. A good workbook will be based on scientific findings of child growth and development and the principles of learning. It should contain varied materials and experiences suited to pupils with different abilities and interests; it should provide for pupil growth and should stimulate pupils to assume responsibility for their work.

<sup>1/</sup>"Recent Trends in Classroom Techniques in Reading as Reflected in Manuals for Readers and Helps Accompanying Textbooks," Supplementary Educational Monographs, Vol. XI, No. 69, October 1949, p. 15.

<sup>2/</sup>Dwight Hamilton, "Basic Reading Materials and Their Use," Grade Teacher, 69:28, February 1952.

<sup>3/</sup>A. Gray, "Lift the Workbook Cover," Phi Delta Kappan, 33:286, January 1952.

<sup>4/</sup>Joseph Melton, "Workbooks Can Be Functional," Grade Teacher, 72:60, April 1955.

Madden defined the role of the workbook as having value other than busy work since scientific exercises will "pin down certain related knowledge and skills."<sup>1/</sup> He stressed the teacher's role of proper selection as well.<sup>2/</sup>

The teacher's primary task is to provide exercises that continuously evolve understandings at each pupil's level of development.

Dresden listed the following to be reasons for criticism of workbooks.<sup>3/</sup>

- 1) lack of pre-examination by the teacher
- 2) using workbook assignments as busywork
- 3) using workbook assignments for disciplinary purposes
- 4) inadequate teacher preparation of assignments
- 5) careless distribution of the books
- 6) using workbook assignments as art lessons
- 7) overuse of workbooks which results in reduction of valuable free time, and
- 8) inadequate study by the teacher of the pupil's completed assignments.

Thompson gave the following modern uses of the workbook.<sup>4/</sup>

- 1) as a diagnostic tool
- 2) for learning and not as a grading device
- 3) to indicate to the parents where the child's strengths and weaknesses are.

Herrick gave the benefits of the modern basal reader workbook as performing one or a combination of three functions.<sup>5/</sup>

- 1) serves as a means for introducing activities, vocabulary, or reviewing background material in order to insure successful reading of the regular book
- 2) provides additional practice materials for the development of the skills, vocabulary, and understandings growing out of a reading lesson; and
- 3) provides the major means for paying direct and specific attention to continuous skill development.

1/R. Madden, "Workbooks! Tool or Crutch?" National Education Association Journal, 45:94, February 1956.

2/Ibid.

3/Dorothy Dresden, "Use and Misuse of Workbooks and Teacher's Guides," Supplementary Educational Monographs, Vol. XIX, No. 86, December 1957, p.77.

4/M. Thompson, "The Purposes of Workbooks and Teacher's Guides," op. cit.

5/Virgil E. Herrick, "Basal Instructional Materials in Reading," Sixtieth Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, Part I, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961, p. 178.

The following are relevant comments on the workbook from textbooks of three modern writers.

Yoakam:<sup>1/</sup> The workbook makes additional experiences in directed reading available and thus tends to increase reading skill.

Tinker:<sup>2/</sup> Misuse of workbooks can easily degenerate into mere busy work. Close supervision is required, therefore, to assure proper procedures and adequate training with these materials.

Bond:<sup>3/</sup> One significant thing that is frequently overlooked when considering the value of workbooks is that the child likes to work in them. By doing the test exercises in the workbook the child can appraise his own progress to some extent.

#### Current Research on the Reading Workbook

Berg analyzed reading workbooks for grades one, two, and three. Two of the conclusions are the following:<sup>4/</sup>

1. Most publishers tend to include a diverse schedule of skill practice so that concentration on certain phases of the work is difficult.
2. Listing of skills by the publishers tends to be diversified.

<sup>1/</sup>Gerald A. Yoakam, Basal Reading Instruction, New York: McGraw-Hill, 1955, p. 205.

<sup>2/</sup>Miles A. Tinker, Teaching Elementary Reading, New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., 1952, p. 121.

<sup>3/</sup>G. Bond, op. cit., p. 34.

<sup>4/</sup>Natalie Berg, "An Analysis of Reading Workbooks for Grades One, Two, and Three," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1958.

White analyzed reading workbooks for grades 4, 5, and 6 in relation to the content of the workbooks which accompany the Scott, Foresman basal reading series for these grades. She concluded that, of the ten skills which were considered most important because they received the greatest number of practice, the following five received highest frequency:<sup>1/</sup>

- 1) Summarizing and organizing ideas for the purposes of remembering
- 2) Interpreting the main idea
- 3) Using pictures, diagrams, maps, and dates as meaning units
- 4) Using context clues to determine specific word meanings
- 5) Making judgments and drawing conclusions.

An analysis of reading-readiness workbooks by Rice found the area of motor coordination to receive the greatest amount of practice. The item which occurred least was using humor.<sup>2/</sup>

Salmon found the following:<sup>3/</sup>

Preprimer level: The outstanding item is matching sentences  
 Primer level: Most frequent item is following directions  
 First level: Completing sentences received the greatest practice.

Mills found second grade workbooks to give greatest practice to sentence completion, with matching pictures and sentences also of high frequency.<sup>4/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup>Virginia White, "An Analysis of Reading Workbooks for Grades 4, 5, and 6," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1957.

<sup>2/</sup>Olive C. Rice, "An Analysis of Reading Readiness Workbooks," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1958.

<sup>3/</sup>C. T. Salmon, "An Analysis of First Grade Reading Workbooks," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1948.

<sup>4/</sup>Grace Mills, "An Analysis of Second Grade Reading Workbooks," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1949.

Harkins<sup>1/</sup> found sentence completion to have highest practice in the third grade. Matching words and sentences and answering questions also had high practice.

1/Margaret Harkins, "An Analysis of Third Grade Reading Workbooks," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University.

## B. READING VOCABULARY STUDIES

### Introduction

Beginning with the work of Thorndike<sup>1/</sup> and Horn<sup>2/</sup> in the early 20's, there has been a growing body of research regarding vocabulary usage. Studies have been made of both children's and adult's vocabularies as they are found in the general areas of reading, speaking, and writing.

In the area of children's reading vocabularies, with which this study is primarily concerned, knowledge has been sought regarding the words used in written material intended for children: their frequency, difficulty, and range at various grade levels. Rinsland says:<sup>3/</sup>

Any accurate and exact knowledge concerning these symbols (words) -- what they are in each grade and how children use them from grade to grade -- should lead to a better method of preparing all verbal materials so that learning can go on with the greatest ease and benefit to the whole personality of the growing child.

Buckingham and Dolch state:<sup>4/</sup>

One of the major problems of the school is that of adapting materials to the learner. A large part of this problem is the choosing for school books of a vocabulary which is within the word knowledge of the children who study those books.

The purpose of this section is to review previous research which has dealt with the reading vocabularies of children.

<sup>1/</sup>E. L. Thorndike, The Teacher's Word Book, New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1921.

<sup>2/</sup>Ernest Horn, "A Basic Writing Vocabulary -- 10,000 Words Most Commonly Used in Writing," University of Iowa Monographs in Education, First Series No. 4, Iowa City: University of Iowa, 1926.

<sup>3/</sup>Henry D. Rinsland, A Basic Vocabulary of Elementary School Children, New York: Macmillan Company, 1945, p. 1.

<sup>4/</sup>B. R. Buckingham and E. W. Dolch, A Combined Word List, Boston: Ginn and Company, 1936, p. 3.

Reading Vocabulary Studies

Thorndike<sup>1/</sup> compiled The Teacher's Word Book in 1921. This list contains 10,000 words derived from forty-one sources, among them: children's literature, elementary textbooks, English classics, newspapers, correspondence, and the Bible. It was revised in 1931 to include 20,000 words,<sup>2/</sup> and in 1944 to include 30,000 words.<sup>3/</sup> The words are listed according to frequency, range, and grade difficulty. A supplementary list of the 500 most frequently used words, plus the second 500 most frequently used words, is given. Along with being an important tool for use by the teacher in analyzing written material for difficulty, it has served as a source, and a basis of comparison, for many other studies.

In 1926 Gates<sup>4/</sup> introduced a list of 15,000 words selected for suitability of use in reading material for grades one, two, and three. His sources were Thorndike's<sup>5/</sup> original list, and words found in children's literature and primary readers. The list was revised in 1928<sup>6/</sup> and again in 1935.<sup>7/</sup>

Selke and Selke<sup>8/</sup> investigated the frequency and range of words found

1/E. L. Thorndike, op. cit.

2/E. L. Thorndike, The Teacher's Word Book, rev. ed., New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1931.

3/E. L. Thorndike and Irving Lorge, The Teacher's Word Book of 30,000 Words, New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1944.

4/Arthur I. Gates, A Reading Vocabulary for the Primary Grades, New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1926.

5/Thorndike, 1921, op. cit.

6/Arthur I. Gates, A Reading Vocabulary for the Primary Grades, rev. ed., New York: Teachers College, 1928.

7/Arthur I. Gates, A Reading Vocabulary for the Primary Grades, rev. ed., New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1935.

8/E. Selke and G. A. Selke, "Vocabulary of Beginning Books in Twelve Reading Methods," The Elementary School Journal, 22: 745-9, June 1922.

in the basal readers of twelve reading systems. Their 1922 findings indicated that there was little in common among primers of that time with reference to the number of different words introduced. Only 38 words, of a total 1,638, were found in all books while 738 were found in one book.

In a similar study in 1930, Selke wished to note the influence of vocabulary lists upon beginning books and found:<sup>1/</sup> "a very noticeable trend to introduce fewer words in beginning books than formerly." There was a decrease of 26 per cent in total number of different words from 1922.<sup>2/</sup> The range of words, that is, the number of sources in which any given word appears, approximated that of the 1922 study.<sup>3/</sup> Of 1,207 different words, 52 words were common to all, 582 appearing in one book.

Wheeler and Howell<sup>4/</sup> felt that the Gates list<sup>5/</sup> was deficient in primary reading sources. They found that the first 100 words in the Gates list and the first 100 words in their list, derived from an analysis of ten primers and ten first readers published since 1922, had 68 words in common. In some cases they felt that other considerations than frequency entered into the ranking of words on the Gates list. For example, the common word "and" is ranked 174th on the Gates list, while it appears near the top of other lists.

<sup>1/</sup>E. Selke, "A Comparative Study of the Vocabularies of Twelve Beginning Books in Reading," Journal of Educational Research, 22:370, December 1930.

<sup>2/</sup>Selke and Selke, 1922, op. cit.

<sup>3/</sup>Selke and Selke, 1922, op. cit., p. 747.

<sup>4/</sup>H. E. Wheeler and Emma A. Howell, "A First Grade Vocabulary Study," The Elementary School Journal, 31:52-4, September 1930.

<sup>5/</sup>Gates, 1928, op. cit.

Using other vocabulary lists as his sources, Stone<sup>1/</sup> developed a list of 150 most common words graded according to eight levels of reading difficulty. He felt these words would be of use to the teacher in determining the grade placement of reading material.

In 1935 Stone<sup>2/</sup> introduced a second grade reading vocabulary of 1,276 words derived from first, second, and third readers.

In comparing the vocabulary of 87 poems recommended for first grade use with other primary vocabulary sources, Statts<sup>3/</sup> found that about one-half the words found in her sources appeared in the poems only once, and 70 per cent not more than twice.

Dolch<sup>4/</sup> compiled a list of 220 words resulting from a comparison of words with a high frequency found in the IKU<sup>5/</sup> list, the first 500 words of the Gates<sup>6/</sup> list, and Wheeler and Howell's<sup>7/</sup> study of 10 preprimers and 10 primers. He used no nouns because he felt they did not have universal application. Instead, he concentrated on "tool" words which are used in all writing regardless of subject.

1/Clarence Stone, "The Most Important One-Hundred-Fifty Words for Beginning Reading," The Elementary School Journal, 38:192-5, September 1930.

2/Clarence Stone, "The Second Grade Reading Vocabulary," The Elementary School Journal, 35:360-7, January 1935.

3/Pauline Statts, "A Vocabulary Study of First Grade Poetry," Childhood Education, 9:127-8, December 1932.

4/E. W. Dolch, "A Basic Sight Vocabulary," The Elementary School Journal, 36:456-60, February 1936.

5/Child Study Committee of the International Kindergarten Union, A Study of the Vocabulary of Children before Entering the First Grade, Washington, D. C., 1929.

6/Gates, 1935, op. cit.

7/Wheeler and Howell, 1930, op. cit.

The purpose of a study by Buckingham and Dolch<sup>1/</sup> was to find out what words children know in each grade as they progress from grade two through grade eight. Using a free association method plus other word studies as their sources, they found 9,520 words, noting in which grades each appeared and upon which of several well-known lists each could be found.

Durrell and Sullivan<sup>2/</sup> compiled a list of words most frequently encountered in each of the intermediate grades in basal readers and social studies books, eliminating those which appear on the Gates<sup>3/</sup> list. They found 691 words in the fourth grade, 525 words in the fifth grade, and 849 words in the sixth grade. In stating the reason for their study, they said:<sup>4/</sup>

Economy in learning, then, demands that lists of words be drawn up which are most frequently encountered by children in reading in each of the intermediate grades.

In analyzing 33 primers published between 1923 and 1935, Hockett and Neeley<sup>5/</sup> found a trend toward a smaller vocabulary load and greater frequency of repetition. This was born out in further studies conducted in 1937<sup>6/</sup> and 1938.<sup>7/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> B. R. Buckingham and E. W. Dolch, 1936, op. cit., pp. 3-20.

<sup>2/</sup> Donald D. Durrell and Helen B. Sullivan, "Vocabulary Instruction in the Intermediate Grades," The Elementary English Review, 15:141-7, April 1938.

<sup>3/</sup> Gates, 1935, op. cit.

<sup>4/</sup> Durrell and Sullivan, 1936, op. cit., p. 143.

<sup>5/</sup> J. A. Hockett and D. P. Neeley, "A Comparison of 33 Primers," The Elementary School Journal, 37:190-2, November 1936.

<sup>6/</sup> J. A. Hockett and D. P. Neeley, "The Vocabularies of 28 First Readers," The Elementary School Journal, 37:344-352, January 1937.

<sup>7/</sup> J. A. Hockett, "The Vocabularies of Recent Primers and First Readers," The Elementary School Journal, 39:112-115, October 1938.

A comparison of 29 second readers with the first 500 words on the Gates list (1935) by Hockett<sup>1/</sup> showed a range of from 23 to 54 per cent in common.

Rudisill<sup>2/</sup> analyzed 26 preprimers and 17 primers to determine: (1) primers for which the most adequate preparatory materials are available, (2) the preprimers which can best be used with each of the primers analyzed, (3) the best sequence for the reading of preprimers by children of different ability, and (4) the best sequence for the reading of primers by children of different ability. She found the total number of words varied greatly, as did the range of the percentage of vocabulary found in the comparison of one book to another.

In order to establish a list of commonly used words, Betts<sup>3/</sup> analyzed the primers, preprimers, and first readers of 13 basal reading systems published between 1932 and 1939. His findings indicated: (1) an insufficiency of vocabulary studies, (2) data on both frequency and spread are necessary to the establishment of a core vocabulary, and (3) basal readers at any one level vary widely in number of different words used, and in number of running words.

In 1939 the National Conference on Research in English<sup>4/</sup> published a digest of current research in vocabulary problems. This bulletin presented:

<sup>1/</sup>J. A. Hockett, "A Comparative Analysis of 29 Second Readers," Journal of Educational Research, 31:666-9, May 1938.

<sup>2/</sup>Mabel Rudisill, "Selection of Preprimers and Primers -- A Vocabulary Analysis I," The Elementary School Journal, 38:683-4, May 1938.

<sup>3/</sup>Emmett Betts, "A Study of the Vocabulary of First Grade Basal Readers," The Elementary English Review, 16:65-9, February 1939.

<sup>4/</sup>J. Conrad Seegers, Chairman, "Vocabulary Problems in the Elementary Schools," National Conference on Research in English, Seventh Annual Research Bulletin, Chicago: Scott Foresman and Company, 1939.

major findings of research dealing with elementary school vocabularies, generalizations concerning those findings, and suggested areas for further research.

When Stone<sup>1/</sup> introduced a graded vocabulary list of 2,164 words in 1942, he made a critical comment with reference to the trend toward a more limited vocabulary in primary grade books:

This study emphasizes the inadequacy of recently published expanded series with an undue restriction of vocabulary -- we have the problem of providing adequate vocabulary expansion with the problem of providing sufficient easy material at each level.

The purpose of a study by Rinsland<sup>2/</sup> was to build a graded vocabulary based upon the original writings of children in grades one through eight. He used as his source 200,000 samples of all kinds of children's writings obtained from schools throughout the country. He found 25,632 words. The 14,571 words which occurred at least three times in any grade were included in the final list.

In 1946 Sister Mary Dorothy and Sister Rita<sup>3/</sup> analyzed recently published preprimers. In general, they found a trend toward a lower number of different words and a more simple vocabulary. Some preprimers, however, still did not demonstrate this trend. They established a core vocabulary of 100 words from 244 different words, 98 per cent of which were in the first 500 words of the Rinsland list, and 68 per cent in the first 100.

<sup>1/</sup>Clarence R. Stone, "A Vocabulary Study Based on 107 Primary Grade Books," *The Elementary School Journal*, 42:452-5, February 1942.

<sup>2/</sup>Henry D. Rinsland, *A Basic Vocabulary of Elementary School Children*, New York: Macmillan Company, 1945.

<sup>3/</sup>Sister Mary Dorothy and Sister Rita, "A Vocabulary Analysis of Recently Published Pre-Primers," *Journal of Educational Research*, 40:116-125, February 1946.

Dolch wrote, "The Use of Vocabulary Lists in Predicting and in Developing Reading Materials" in 1949. In it, he offers helpful suggestions for teachers using word lists to determine the difficulty of materials.

Among these are:<sup>1/</sup>

1. Vocabulary difficulty is a basic element in reading difficulty.
2. Vocabulary is only one part of reading difficulty.
3. Consider the problem of multiple meanings.
4. Meaning vocabulary and sight vocabulary are very different things.
5. Choose size of list to fit needs.
6. Study words which are "not on list".
7. Consider source of list.

Volbrecht<sup>2/</sup> found in analyzing the second grade readers of 13 series to determine the varying degrees of difficulty of the material, that there is a wide range among readers in the difficulty of vocabulary factors. With regard to new vocabulary presented in each series, he found a range of from 236 to 598 total new words. From 22 to 130 words are found in one series only.

Garber<sup>3/</sup> analyzed three basal systems to determine which words are common to all. His list can be used by children transferring from one system to another.

The purpose of a study by Gellerson<sup>4/</sup> was to "build a vocabulary for supplementary reading in a second grade which is using Ginn and Gates readers." He found 268 words in the vocabularies of the 15 storybooks used as sources, which were not in the vocabularies of the basal readers.

<sup>1/</sup>E. W. Dolch, "The Use of Vocabulary Lists in Predicting and in Developing Reading Materials," Elementary English, 26:142-146, March 1949.

<sup>2/</sup>D. M. Volbrecht, "Vocabulary Analysis of 13 Second Grade Readers," Elementary English, 31:206-7, April 1954.

<sup>3/</sup>F. C. Garber, A Comparison of the Grade One Vocabularies of Three Basal Reading Systems -- the Curriculum Foundation Series, the Reading Foundation Series, the Ginn Basic Readers, Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1952.

<sup>4/</sup>A. D. Gellerson, Readability of Supplementary Materials for Second Grade

Reeve<sup>1/</sup> found 115 words in seven primary reading series which could be used for group activities related to primary reading instruction. He noted that the use of several preprimers involves a vocabulary load equivalent to that of one preprimer and a primer.

Using as their source fourth, fifth, and sixth grade textbooks, Green et al<sup>2/</sup> developed a frequency list of words commonly encountered by children in fifth and sixth grade school work.

Lurie et al<sup>3/</sup> augmented the 1935 Gates list. Using primary grade textbooks published since 1953, they found 3,265 words not in the list. They concluded from the number of new words that: (1) there has been a trend toward the use of a wider range of vocabulary in primary grade textbooks, (2) current experiences and spoken vocabulary can become part of the reading vocabulary, and (3) the reading vocabulary of children has been underestimated.

#### Summary

The research has shown differences in vocabulary load of primary books. The first part of this chapter has shown the value of workbooks. The next chapter attempts to add further knowledge concerning the vocabulary used in workbook directions.

and a Core Vocabulary from Same, Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1956, p. 1.

1/A. R. Reeve, "The Vocabulary of Seven Primary Reading Series," Elementary English, 35:237-39, April 1958.

2/G. I. Green, et al., A Vocabulary List Based on Word Frequency in Fifth and Sixth Grade Textbooks, Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University.

3/Lurie, et al., A Primary Word List -- A Revision of the 1935 Gates Primary Word List, Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1961

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CHAPTER II  
PLAN OF STUDY

## PLAN OF STUDY

In order to complete this study it was necessary to: 1. Select work-books, 2. Establish procedures to be used in compiling the vocabulary, and 3. Compile vocabulary list.

### Materials

The latest editions of first grade workbooks for twelve reading systems were included. These are listed in alphabetical order by publisher.

#### 1. Allyn and Bacon: Activity Book for

Preprimers At Home, Here and Near, Here and Away  
At Home and Away  
 Primer Our School  
 First Reader Our Town

Sheldon Basic Reading Series by William D. Sheldon, Queenie B. Mills, and Merle B. Karnes.  
 Boston, 1957, 80 pages.

#### 2. American Book Company: Study Book for

Preprimers On Our Way, Time to Play,  
All in a Day  
 Primer Up the Street and Down  
 First Reader Around Green Hills (96 pages)

The Betts Basic Readers by Emmett A. Betts and Carolyn M. Welch.  
 New York, 1958, 80 pages.

#### 3. Bobbs-Merrill: My Help to Read Book for

Preprimers Don and Peggy, Come and See,  
 Primer Days of Fun  
 First Reader Our Happy Ways

Reading for Living Series by William H. Burton, Clara Belle Baker, and Grace K. Kemp.  
 Indianapolis, 1950, 80 pages.

#### 4. Ginn and Company: My Do and Learn Book for

Preprimers My Little Red Story Book, My Little Green  
Story Book, My Little Blue Story Book  
 Primer The Little White House  
 First Reader On Cherry Street

The Ginn Basic Readers by David H. Russell and Odelle Cusley  
 Boston, 1957, 96 pages

## 5. D. C. Heath: Practice Book for

Preprimers Ned and Nancy, Bigger and Bigger, Little Lost Dog  
Molly, Pete and Ginger  
 Primers A Home for Sandy  
 First Reader Something Different

Reading for Interest Series by Paul Witty and Kate Kelly.  
 Boston, 1947, 93 pages.

## 6. Houghton Mifflin; Practice for

Preprimers Tip, Tip and Mitten, The Big Show  
 Primer Jack and Janet  
 First Reader Up and Away

Reading for Meaning Series by Paul McKee, M. Lucile Harrison,  
 Annie McCowen, Elizabeth Lehr.  
 Boston, 1957, 80 pages.

## 7. Laidlaw Brothers: Workbook for

Preprimers We Learn to Read, Up the Reading Road  
 Primer On the Way to Storyland  
 First Reader Making Storybook Friends

Laidlaw Basic Readers by Gerald Yoakum, Kathleen Hester, and  
 Louise Abney. 1955

## 8. Lyons and Carnahan: Fun to do Book for

Preprimers Three of Us, Play With Us, Fun With Us,  
Hide With Us (96 pages)  
 Primer Many Surprises  
 First Reader Happy Times

The Developmental Reading Series by Guy L. Bond, Grace A. Dorsey,  
 Marie C. Cuddy.  
 Chicago, 1955, 80 pages.

## 9. Row, Peterson and Company: Workbook for

Preprimers Skip Along, Under the Sky, Open the Door (80 pages)  
 Primer Day In and Day Out (112 pages)  
 First Reader Round About (128 pages)

The Alice and Jerry Basic Reading Program by Mabel O'Donnell.  
 Elmsford, N.Y., 1957.

10. Scott, Foresman and Company: Think-and-Do Book for

Preprimers     We Look and See, We Work and Play,  
                   We Come and Go  
 Primer         Fun With Dick and Jane  
 First Reader   Our New Friends

The New Basic Reading Program, Curriculum Foundation Series by  
 William S. Gray, Marion Monroe, and A. Sterl Artley.  
 Fair Lawn, N.J., 1956, 77 pages.

11. The John C. Winston Company: Studybook for

Preprimers     Come Here, Stop and Look, Go Up  
 Primer         Come With Me  
 First Reader   Away We Go (96 pages)

Winston Basic Reader Series, Winston Communication Program by  
 Russell G. Stauffer, Alvina Treut Burrows, Mary Elizabeth Coleman.  
 Philadelphia, 1960, 80 pages.

12. World Book Company: Workbook for

Preprimers     Up and Down, Bing (64 pages)  
 Primer         Betty and Bobby (63 pages)  
 First Reader   The Big Surprise (64 pages)

By Donald D. Durrell and Helen Blair Sullivan, with the  
 cooperation of Doris Spencer.;1950.

### Procedure

The procedures used deal with four areas: (1) those words which comprise the oral directions given by the teacher to the children in order that they may carry out the assignment on a given page in a workbook -- henceforth referred to as "teacher's directions," (2) those words comprising the directions read silently and independently by the children in order to carry out assignments in a workbook -- henceforth referred to as "children's directions," (3) method of tabulation, and (4) criteria for listing words.

1. Teacher's Directions. In twelve workbooks, the authors gave directions that the teacher could use verbatim; that is, no words needed to be changed in reading the directions to the children. For these workbooks, then, each word was tallied directly as it appeared from the book.

The majority of publishers, however, worded their teacher's directions in the form of "suggestions". The indirect statement of these instructions required a special procedural rule, which was followed throughout. Words comprising the indirect statement, such as: "Direct the children to . . . .", or: "The teacher should tell the pupils to . . . .", were omitted entirely from the count. Every other word that the author included in his directions was counted. In many instances, the difficulty of some of the words is obviously too high. These words, undoubtedly, were intended to be reworded by the teacher according to her purposes. Yet, for the purpose of retaining objectivity, all the words were tallied just as they appear.

Words used by the teacher in vocabulary tests were not included in the count.

Where the directions on a given page were stated to be similar to those on a previous page, the directions on the previous page were recounted.

When it was instructed that the teacher repeat directions, such as: "Have the children draw a line under all the words beginning with "s", or: "Do the same for "t", the directions were recounted.

Samples of the teacher's directions found in workbooks are given to illustrate the method used for selecting words to be included in the list. The directions are quoted exactly as they appear on a given page, and the words selected for the list are underlined.

1. From the John C. Winston Company: Studybook for primer  
Come With Me, page 5:

HOW: Read the word and look at the pictures in the first row. Find one or more pictures whose names begin with the same sound as the word. Draw a line under each of these pictures. Do the rest of the page in the same way.

2. From Lyons and Carnahan: Fun to do Book for the first reader Happy Times, page 14.

PROCEDURE: Have each group of words above the line pronounced by the children. After they have read those with initial sound "P", they may mention other words that begin with the same sound; do the same for "r" words. (The above directions would be recounted.) Tell them they are to think of the right word for each sentence. below the line and find the picture that shows that word. Let them work independently.

2. Children's Directions. The procedural rule for entering words on the list from the children's directions was as follows: words found in the children's reading sections of the workbooks that are meant to be followed by a pencil or crayon response were counted. Also, statements giving a negative pencil or crayon response were included. Thus, statements such as: "Look at Mother," would not be counted since no pencil response is required. However, "Color the dog brown," which asks for a crayon response, is applicable to the procedural rule.

### 3. Method of Tabulation.

- a) The directions in each workbook were examined word by word.
- b) The words to be incorporated into the vocabulary were selected according to the procedures outlined above.
- c) An alphabetical list of the selected words was gradually evolved by listing each word as it appeared and marking each additional appearance beside it.
- d) In counting the words, the two categories, "teacher's directions" and "children's directions," were used. Thus, for example, the word "to" might be shown to appear 50 times in the teacher's directions and 20 times in the children's directions.

- e) The results of final tallying of each workbook were transferred to an **alphabetically** arranged master list. This list (Table I) is presented in the next chapter and is organized to provide the following information:
- 1) A list of the words found in the teacher's directions of all the forty-one workbooks selected for the study.
  - 2) The number of times each word appears in the teacher's directions of each workbook.
  - 3) A list of words found in the children's directions of all the forty-one workbooks.
  - 4) The number of times each word appears in the children's directions of each workbook.

The key to the column headings is as follows. The numbers beneath the letters indicate Preprimer Level by "1", Primer Level by "2", First Reader Level by "3". The key to the letters is as follows:

AB - Allyn and Bacon	L - Laidlaw
A - American Book	Ly - Lyons & Carnahan
B - Bobbs-Merrill	R - Row, Peterson
G - Ginn	S - Scott Foresman
H - D. C. Heath	W - John C. Winston
HM- Houghton Mifflin	Wo - World Book

- f) Table II provides the total of vocabulary words included at each level of each workbook series: teacher's directions.
- g) Table III provides the total of vocabulary words included at each level of each workbook series: children's directions.

5. Criteria for Word Selection. In order to make this study compatible with related research, the rules for entering a word onto the list were similar to those of Gates<sup>1/</sup> as adapted by Lurie et al<sup>2/</sup> in their recent revision of the Gates Primary Word List.

1. Except for special reasons, separate entries are not made of plurals in s or es; plurals where y is replaced by ies; adverbs formed by adding ly; comparatives and superlatives formed by adding er and est, or r and st, or by changing y to ies (sic) of iest; verb forms s, d, ed, and ing (including change of y to ied; past participles formed by adding n; and adjectives formed by adding n to proper nouns.

Proper names are excluded from the list. Those having another meaning, such as "Bunny", or "Mr. Brown", however, are included.

The lists are presented in the next chapter.

<sup>1/</sup>A.L. Gates, A Reading Vocabulary for Primary Grades, New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1935, p. 4.

<sup>2/</sup>Lurie et al, "A Primary Word List," Unpublished Master's Thesis, Boston University, 1961, p. 95.

CHAPTER III  
ANALYSIS OF DATA

Table I  
The Master List





















		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
barnyard	T												
base	C												
baseball	T										4		
basket	C					5	1					2	2
bath	T			3					1			2	1
be	C	10	6	9	7	16	10	15	2		44	38	61
bear	T			1		2			1		1	1	1
beat	C												8
beautiful	T												2
because	C												1
bed	T				3	4	2		2				
bee	C					1				4			
been	T	4	4	4		1		1		1	1	2	
before	C		1				6	4	2	1	3	1	1
begin	T	4	5	5	141	119	44	1	19	5	13	7	5
beginning	C												12
behind	T												1
belong	C	3			2		4	1			9		
below	T	31	9	19	10	8	18	8	7		1	6	36
bench	C												1
beneath	T												
beside	C	2		2	16	31	1		1		2	2	
best	T			2									
better	C				21	1			1				
	T						3			1			





		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
between	T	1	18			5	2	8		1	1		
bib	C												
bicycle	T	4	5			5	1						
big	C	4	5		63	25	9	7	1				3
bill	T					5	5		4	1			
billy	C					1					1		
bird	T								1		8	7	4
birthday	C											2	
black	T												2
blackboard	C						9			2			2
blackberry	T						7		1				4
blame	C						3						
blank	T				3	4	5				1		
blanket	C												
blend	T						1						
block	C												
blot	T	4								1			
blow	C										2		
blue	T	1					5	2			1	3	
boat	C	5	9	3			9	3	4		5	31	
boo	T		1				5				5	1	1
book	C						6						2
boot	T	1	2			2		4	3	4			
both	C		2	1		2	5		3		14	2	1

		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
between	T				2	1		3			1	1	
	C												
bib	T						1						
	C												
bicycle	T												
	C												
big	T	2			9		4	1		1	4	3	8
	C			2	1		2		1	3			1
bill	T							5	1				
	C									1			
billy	T												
	C												
bird	T						1						
	C												
birthday	T												
	C												
black	T		1									1	
	C												3
blackboard	T												
	C												
blackberry	T												
	C									3			
blame	T												
	C												
blank	T		13	4		9	2				2	5	2
	C												
blanket	T												
	C												
blend	T											14	2
	C												
block	T							7	18	16			
	C												
blot	T												
	C												
blow	T												
	C												
blue	T	4	1		4			13	4	1	4		
	C				4							12	6
boat	T				6								
	C			1	3								
boo	T												
	C												
book	T					1	7			2			1
	C									1		1	
boot	T												
	C												
both	T	1			1	3	2			3	1		



		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
bottle	T												
	C												
bottom	T	27	10	10	6	5	3	3	1	1		2	
	C												
bow	T												
	C												
bowl	T								1				
	C								1				
bow-wow	T											1	
	C												
box	T	36	103	6	155	328	370	31	30	15	1	16	3
	C		1	2	333	3	2	3					7
boy	T					5	7			1			7
	C						8						1
bread	T												
	C												
bricks	T						1						
	C												
bridge	T						1		1				
	C												
brief	T											1	
	C												
broke	T				56	24		20	7	5			2
	C												
broom	T						4			1			
	C												
brother	T								1				
	C												
brought	T	1										1	
	C												
brown	T								1				2
	C								4	11			1
brush	T						1						
	C												
bubble	T												
	C												
build	T												
	C												
burn	T								1				
	C								1				
bus	T												
	C												
bush	T												1
	C												
busy	T												
	C												
but	T					3	2	2	1		1		1
	C										1		

		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
bottle	T												
	C												
bottom	T	1	2	13			2	4	2			3	14
	C												
bow	T												
	C												
bowl	T												
	C												
bow-wow	T												
	C												
box	T	6	48	40	13	24	11	8	7	1	23	47	60
	C									1			3
boy	T	2			1		1		1			1	
	C					1						2	1
bread	T												
	C												
bricks	T												
	C												
bridge	T												
	C												
brief	T												
	C												
broke	T	2		1									
	C												
broom	T												
	C												
brother	T												
	C												
brought	T												
	C												
brown	T	4						1			1		
	C											3	3
brush	T												
	C												
bubble	T												
	C												
build	T												
	C												
burn	T			1									
	C												
bus	T	1									3		
	C											3	
bush	T					1							
	C												
busy	T					1							
	C												
but	T	1			2	4	5						









		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
catnip	T												
caught	C									1			
caw	T											1	
center	C							1	4	3		1	
certain	T												
chain	C						1						
chair	T					1		5					
character	C							1	1		1		
chart	T												
check	C												
cherries	T						1						
chicken	C									1		1	
child	T							2				1	
children	C	1	2				1	1		1			5
chin	T		4										3
choice	C												
choose	T	1	9	2		5	7	1	2				
chosen	C					1							
church	T									1			
circle	C							8	4	2		2	
circus	T						4					2	
city	C												
clap	T			1									
class	C									1			



	AB			A			B			G		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
classify	T											
clean	C											
clear	T											
climb	C											
close	T						3					
clothing	C											
clothes	T											
clothespin	C								2			
clover	T											
clown	C											
clue	T											
coat	C											
cold	T					1						
color	C	7	1	-	4	4	1	8		2	1	1
colt	T				17	5	9				40	9
column	C	9		3				6	4	8	5	3
comb	T											
combination	C											
come	T	1		1					2		1	
compare	C						9					
complete	T	5	4							2	21	48
compound	C											
concept	T											
connect	C						17	17	5			

























		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
don't	T						1						
door	C												
dot	T										4		
down	C	3			8	13	5	6	1		18		
dramatize	T												
drank	C												
draw	T	72	121	103	89	82	59	54	87	84	18	50	26
dream	C			15					2	3		9	4
dress	T				10						1		
drive	C					1							
drop	T												
drug	C				1								
drum	T				3								
dry	C												
duck	T		2			2					2		
dug	C											1	
each	T	92	119	151	43	56	40	61	65	71	65	110	104
ear	C												
earth	T												
easel	C												
eat	T				1	3							
egg	C					1				1			1
eggshell	T												
either	C				6			1				1	



		H			HM			L			LY			
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	
element	T													
	C													
elephant	T		1	3									3	
	C												4	
elicit	T										1			
	C													
else	T													
	C			1										
empty	T													
	C													
encircle	T													
	C													
encour	T				1									
	C													
end	T	4	18	1	4	4					4	1		
	C			1										
enjoy	T	2												
	C													
entire	T							1			1	2		
	C													
especially	T													
	C													
even	T													
	C													
evening	T										1			
	C													
event	T													
	C													
ever	T						2		1					
	C						1							
every	T	3			7	7			13	7			1	
	C													
everything	T				6	18	3							
	C			4										
exact	T													
	C													
examine	T											3		
	C													
example	T											7		
	C													
except	T													
	C													
exercise	T								19	4	9	7	5	26
	C													
experience	T													
	C													
explain	T													
	C													
	T								1				1	

		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
element	T												
	C												
elephant	T												
	C												
elicit	T												
	C												
else	T				1								
	C												
emp ty	T		1										
	C												
encircle	T		3										
	C												
encourage	T												
	C												
end	T			29	8	7	9	5	12	3	2	2	
	C												
enjoy	T												
	C												
entire	T												
	C												
especially	T					1							
	C												
even	T							4					
	C												
evening	T												
	C												
event	T	1	2	2									
	C												
ever	T					2							
	C												
every	T		1		2	2		2					
	C												
everything	T				2								
	C												
exact	T	2					3				1		
	C												
examine	T												
	C												
example	T	22	3										
	C												
except	T					2							
	C												
exercise	T										6		
	C												
experience	T										1		
	C												
explain	T			1				1			2		

















		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
four	T				2		2		4		4		1
fourth	C												1
fox	T												
frame	C												
friend	T						2						
frighten	C						1						
frog	T												
from	C	32	85	35	28	11	14	34	19	9	1	1	19
front	T				1								
frown	C												
fruit	T						1						
fulfill	C												
fun	T												
funny	C				9	1					1		
furniture	T			1									1
further	C												
game	T												
garage	C												
garden	T		2										1
garment	C	2											
gate	T												
get	C				2	2	5	2	1			3	
gift	T									2			
girl	C	2											
	T						1	1					



		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
give	T				6	2	1	5	10	5		5	7
	C					1							
glad	T												1
	C												
go	T		1		2	4	9	5	2		12	4	2
	C			5			3			1		3	3
goat	T					14			1			2	3
	C								1				
gold	T												
	C		2										
gone	T					2				1			
	C												
good	T				3	3		1	1		2		2
	C								1			1	2
good-bye	T											2	
	C												
goose	T					5							
	C												
got	T					1				1		1	3
	C		1				2					2	
grade	T												
	C												
grandfather	T								1				
	C												
grandmother	T												
	C	4											
grass	T	1							1				1
	C			1					1				1
gray	T		5										
	C												
green	T	1					3		1				
	C		3	2			7		2				
ground	T							2					
	C			1									1
group	T	18	14	5	1	2		4	10	1	2		4
	C												
grow	T									1			
	C												
guess	T						2						2
	C											3	3
guide	T												1
guide line	T												
	C												
gun	T												
	C												
had	T			1		1		1				4	





		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
hair	T			1		1			1				
	C												
half	T							2					
	C												
hall	T												2
	C												
hammer	T					4	1				1		
	C												
hand	T		2		2	3	5			4			
	C												
happen	T	2	1	3									2
	C												
happy	T						2						1
	C												
hard	T						1						
	C												
hark	T						3						
	C												
has	T	9	21		11	36	12	9		1	3	4	7
	C						9					1	8
hat	T					7			1		1	2	
	C											3	
hatch	T									1			
	C												
have	T				6	8	9	6	1		2	21	6
	C						1			1		1	2
hawk	T									1			
	C												
hay	T												2
	C												3
he	T				2	16	9	7			8	1	12
	C			7			6					3	2
head	T					2						3	2
	C												
hear	T				1	1	3	12	2	5		3	3
	C									1		2	
heavy	T						3	4	1	5	41	10	
	C												
hello	T												
	C												
help	T	18		5	55	29	4			1		4	
	C		2										3
hen	T									1			
	C												
henhouse	T												
	C												
her	T	3	2		6	1		1				4	1
	C		20	2	1		3		1			10	1

		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
hair	T											2	
half	T												
hall	C												
hammer	T												
hand	C											1	
happen	T	7	10	4	20		15	20	7	7			2
happy	C												
hard	T												
hark	C												
has	T	1	4		3	3	1	2	9	1			
hat	C					1		1			1		
hatch	T								2	1			
have	C	1	5	1	5	8	17	12	3	5		11	1
hawk	T												
hay	C												
he	T	2	4	1	12	5	4	3			3		
head	C			1				1				1	1
hear	T			3	8		6						
heavy	C												
hello	T					1							
help	C				4		1	3	1	2	3		1
hen	T						1			1	1		
henhouse	C						1						
her	T				10	3	1				2	2	
	C						1			1		1	



		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
here	T				18		2	4			4		
herself	C					2				1		4	15
hide	T						3						
high	C					1							
hill	T						1			1			
him	C					2		4	1		2	2	1
himself	T		24	1	1				1				3
his	C	1				3	1	4				1	4
hit	T		5	2			3					8	2
hog	C												1
hold	T				3	2							2
hole	C									1			1
home	T				7					1			2
honey	C		1										1
hop	T					1				1			
horn	C				1				1				
horse	T						3			1			
hot	C						2						
house	T	6											
housekeeper	C	4	2	11	3	4	1	10	1		3		1
how	T	2	1		1	11	47	1		1	1	1	3
hump	C									1			3
hungry	T											1	2
I	C				28	19	19	1			4		1
ice	T				1		1				1		











		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
into	T					1		4				4	2
	C												1
introdustory	T												
	C												
iron	T												
	C												
is	T	55	15	32	3	183	289	33		3	95	22	20
	C		1	1			1					7	6
isn't	T				1								
	C												
isolate	T									3			
	C												
it	T	167	100	4	272	83	71	84	41	27	24	18	19
	C	13	4	2	3		3	3	7		13	26	13
item	T												
	C												
it's	T							5	14	11		1	
	C											2	3
itself	T												
	C												
jack	T												
	C												
jacket	T												
	C												
Jack-O-Lantant	T												
	C												
jam	T												
	C												
jar	T												
	C												
jelly	T												
	C												
jingle	T												
	C												
jolly	T											1	
	C												
jug	T												
	C												
jumble	T								1	3			
	C												
jump	T					1	10	3	3		5	2	
	C						1						
just	T					9	6		1		2		2
	C												9
kangaroo	T							1					
	C												
keep	T												
	C									1			















		1	AB 2	3	1	A 2	3	1	B 2	3	1	G 2	3
long	T			2									
	C												
look	T	38	35	12	6		1	77	58	27	75	79	60
	C		2			2	1		6	6		3	
lost	T												
	C												
loud	T												
	C												
lower	T							2			1		
	C												
lunch	T												
	C												
made	T						4						
	C												
make	T	4	8	3	4	4	5	4		1			
	C	24	26		2		3		11	25		5	10
magazine	T												
	C												
man	T				1								
	C				2	1							1
manner	T							2					
	C												
manuscript	T												
	C												
many	T							1					
	C												
march	T												
	C												
mark	T								2		2		
	C												
match	T	1						2					
	C												
may	T						1	1		1			2
	C		1							1			
maybe	T												
	C												
me	T												
	C												
mean	T	1	2	6		2	11			5			
	C												
meat	T												
	C												
meet	T												1
	C												
memory	T												
	C												
mention	T												
	C												







		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
met	T C									1			
naw	T C											1	2
middle	T C				4	15						1	
midnight	T C												
might	T C	1	1					1					1
milk	T C					6	1						
minute	T C						1					1	
missing	T C				3								
mister	T C												
mitt	T C										1		
mitten	T C				3	13	2						
mix	T C				2		3						
money	T C					1	3						
monkey	T C					6	1				1		
moon	T C					2							
more	T C		1										
morning	T C			2		1	2				1		2
most	T C												
mother	T C	2	1		9	3		7			1		2
mount	T C	4	2	3									1
mountain	T C							4	2	4			
mouse	T C					2							2
mouth	T C												1
move	T C							1	1			3	2
								13					1











		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
nose	T					4	1						
	C												
not	T		2		28	31	4	1	1		13	3	3
	C		3	2			3					2	5
note	T								1	5	12		1
	C												
notice	T			5				12	7	1	2		
	C												
now	T	4	2	1	21	48	64	1				3	2
	C		2		2		1						1
number	T			2		1	1				2		4
	C												9
nurse	T					3	1						
	C												
nut	T					4				1			
	C									3			
object	T	2						3	18	3			1
	C												
observe	T							25	8	5			
	C												
occur	T												
	C												
of	T	109	53	84	140	188	166	89	51	21	103	40	17
	C		10				2				3		18
off	T						2		2	5			1
	C												
oh	T												
	C												
old	T	1					1		1				2
	C						1						1
on	T	4	6	2	121	64	72	59	16	16	4	9	11
	C		15	12			67	1	2	1	9	54	70
once	T								1				
	C												
one	T	7	13	9	48	60	49	23	5	5	18	13	6
	C		7		1		22		1		8		58
only	T					1		6			3	2	1
	C												1
open	T				86				1			7	1
	C			1									
opposite	T							5	1	2	2		
	C												
or	T	6	17			5	9	6	3		3	3	5
	C												
oral.	T							4			6	1	36
	C												
orange	T			3									
	C						1						



		1	AB 2	3	1	A 2	3	1	B 2	3	1	G 2	3
order	T							4	6	3			
	C												
ostrich	T												
	C												
other	T	11	12	6	31	17	11	2			3	1	
	C						1						
otherwise	T												
	C												
our	T	2											
	C	4											
out	T		2				1	12	6	3			2
	C												15
outdoors	T												
	C												
outline	T		1					1			2		
	C												
outside	T												
	C												
oven	T												
	C												
over	T												
	C						3						6
own	T												
	C												
page	T	97	54	51	12	19	31	19	24	-	18	9	23
	C												
pail	T												
	C												
paint	T						2					1	
	C											2	
pair	T	8	1	1	19	5	13			1	1	-	7
	C												
pajamas	T												
	C												
pan	T												
	C												
pancake	T												1
	C												
panel	T												
	C												
paper	T												
	C												
parade	T												
	C												
paragraph	T				46		4	55	52	33			6
	C												
park	T							1					
	C												
part	T	13	4	15	6	18	25	1		1			7
	C					2							



		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
order	T	2	12	2		1	2	1	2	2		1	1
ostrich	C												
other	T	2	3		18	2	1	22	57	42	3	6	2
otherwise	C												
our	T				1	39							
out	C			2	4	3	1		1		2		4
outdoors	T				2		1						3
outline	C												1
outside	T												
oven	C												
over	T				18	8	5	1					
own	C	3						6			1		
page	T	1	32	16	16	35	30	62	41	36	2	4	8
pail	C												
paint	T												1
pair	C							9	3	4		1	
pajamas	T												
pan	C										2		
pancake	T												
panel	C												
paper	T					1							1
parade	C												
paragraph	T							1					
park	C												
part	T	1			10	32	28	6	19	26	1	5	2





		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
partial	T	1											
	G												
particular	T			2									
	C												
party	T											1	
	C												
past	T												
	C												
paste	T										1		1
	C												
path	T	4	4			1							
	C												
paw	T												
	C												
pea	T												
	C												
peanut	T												
	C												
pen	T				1	1							
	C												
pencil	T												
	C												
penny	T												
	C						1						
people	T					3	1	1					
	C												
person	T				4	5		4			1		1
	C												
pet	T				3	3			2				
	C			2		1			2				
phonetic	T			2									
	C												
photograph	T												
	C												
phrase	T	8	16	5							19		
	C												
piano	T												
	C												
pick	T												
	C												
picnic	T												
	C			1									1
picture	T	101	133	107	140	72	38	191	111	52	116	78	86
	C												
pie	T												
	C												
piece	T												
	C												
pig	T					2	1						
	C						1						

























		AB			A			B			G		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
road	T						1						
roof	C												
room	T												
rooster	C												
rope	T												
row	C	40	10	9	13	5	6				42	72	49
rug	T												
rule	C												
run	T												
said	C	12	2	9	8	3	2						
same	T	120	56	43	60	40	51	19	3	4	21	9	3
sand	C												
sat	T												
saw	C		1			1							
say	T	24	18	9	56	26	47		3	4	1	1	
scene	C												
school	T												
scissors	C					2	1						1
scooter	T												
season	C												
second	T	1	5	1		4	6	9	1	4	2	10	9
section	C							41	31	18	1		
see	T			1	2		5				1		
seed	C					1	1						

		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
road	T												1
	C		3										1
roof	T					2							
	C												
room	T									1			
	C												
rooster	T					4							
	C												
rope	T					2	3					2	
	C												
Row	T				5	15		1		1	4		
	C												
rug	T					2							
	C												
rule	T					1					9	7	
	C												
run	T					1	2	11			4		2
	C												
said	T	1		2	151	78	113		1		22	1	5
	C			1								6	6
sane	T	24	11	37	35	44	34	21	22	12	8	3	3
	C									2			
sand	T						4						
	C			1									
sat	T						3						
	C												
saw	T					11	1	3	1		6	4	4
	C											2	4
say	T	12	1		60		20	3		1	7	1	6
	C						3						22
scene	T												1
	C												
school	T											2	
	C	1										5	
scissors	T					7	2			1			
	C												
scooter	T					1							
	C												
season	T												
	C												
second	T	7	8	8	1	10	3	8				2	1
	C												
section	T										4		
	C												
see	T	7	2		13	2	5	5	3	3	6	3	2
	C									1		3	9
seed	T										3		
	C										3		



		AB			A			B			G		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Seem	T												
seen	C												
seesaw	T												
segment	C												
select	T												
self-help	C												
send	T												
sense	C												
sentence	T	134	107	124	63	67	112	61	62	52	103	106	113
separate	C												
sequence	T										2	1	1
series	C												
set	T			1									
several	C												
shake	T												
shall	C												
shape	T							11					
she	C	2	3			1	1						
shed	T									1			
sheet	C												
shine	T												
shirt	C												
ship	T												
shoe	C					1							
	T						2						



















		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
source	T												1
space	C		2		3		2	3				1	
speak	T												
specific	C											1	
specify	T											1	
speech	C												
splash	T												1
spoken	C												
spoon	T								4				
spot	C						1		5				
spring	T												1
square	C							15	4	9			
squirrel	T												1
stair	C						2						
stamp	T						1						1
stand	C									1			2
star	T		1				2				2		
start	C	5			2		1	15	9				
state	T									2			
statement	C											2	
stay	T									1			
step	C											2	
stick	T							1	1			2	2
still	C						2			1			
	C						2						





		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
stone	T									1			
	C												
stood	T			5						1			
	C												
stop	T						2				3		
	C												
store	T												1
	C												
story	T	36	21	4				3	30	17	6	8	20
	C												
straight	T							1					
	C												
street	T						3					1	
	C											2	1
stretch	T		2							1			
	C												
string	T				1	1							
	C												
strip	T						2			1			
	C												
strong	T						3						
	C												
study	T							5	7	7			
	C												
such	T											2	
	C												
suggest	T												
	C												
summer	T												2
	C												1
sun	T					2			1				
	C												
suppose	T				1								
	C												
sure	T	18	11	2		13	5	3					
	C												
surprise	T								1		1		
	C								1				
sweep	T							1					
	C												
sweet	T												2
	C												
swish	T											2	
	C											1	
table	T					4	1	1					
	C												
tack	T		1										
	C					1							



		AB			A			B			G		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
tag	T												
tail	C												
take	T	1	1										
talk	C	6	2										1
tall	T												
tea	C												
teacher	T	7	15	8	5	5				4	5	7	
tears	C												
technique	T												
tell	C	37	23	28	19	9	10	1	3	21	10		
tent	T												
test	C												
text	T												
than	C					4							
thank	T												
that	C	142	50	83	63	52	39	11	29	46	74	48	70
the	T						1			2			9
their	C	996	541	541	606	460	647	606	486	498	554	495	642
them	T	12	11		15	13	29		112	31		31	28
themselves	C			1				1					1
then	T	8	3	2	28	23	28	54	25	14			
there	C								2				
these	T												
they	C	126	17	67	86	49	96			5	6		1
	T		7			4	1					1	
	C	7	10	10		1	2					1	2
	T		1				2						
	C	8	7	6							2		3
	T												
	C	7	7	7	1	3	4			3		1	1

		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
tag	T												
	C												
tail	T					1				1			
	C											2	3
take	T					9	9		1	1		1	
	C												
talk	T				4	2		9	4		1		1
	C												
tall	T								1				
	C												
tea	T							1					
	C												
teacher	T											1	
	C												
tears	T						4						
	C												
technique	T											1	
	C												
tell	T	86	30	18	43	56	52	18	2	1	18	1	11
	C												
tent	T					2							5
	C												
test	T												5
	C												
text	T												
	C												
than	T				2	1	26	1					1
	C												
thank	T					1				1			
	C												
that	T	153	124	37	211	375	316	60	18	19	48	22	19
	C		2				20		1	2			30
the	T	1094	963	447	1119	1025	1083	563	362	260	527	225	150
	C	24	87	43			59	5	12	20		57	108
their	T				1				2				1
	C												
them	T	6	11	7	12	4	2	7	7	4	3	2	3
	C		10						4	8		3	1
themselves	T												1
	C												
then	T	43	54	18	2	26	16	26	54	34	41	13	19
	C		7							1			9
there	T				43	26	40	10	2		1	12	6
	C		1				1					2	
these	T		1			3	4	5					
	C												
they	T	5	15	2	11	7	9	10	4	4	2	1	8
	C		6			2							





		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
thread	T C							1	1				
three	T C	12	5	2		29	25	13	1	1	4	7	
through	T C		2		2			3	1	3		2	
throw	T C		1									1	
thus	T C							1				1	
time	T C	3	14	1			3	5	1	1			5
tire	T C						1						
title	T C	2	5	1									
tomorrow	T C						2						
to	T C	167	59	14	173	2	264	82	64	43	120	57	52
today	T C		21	6			4		1				14
together	T C	3	3		1			1					
told	T C				3	14	48	2	1			1	
too	T C				31	3	1	3	1				1
toot	T C		3	2			1					1	
top	T C	14	27	16	62	40	29	29	14	1	1		1
toward	T C												
town	T C								1				
toy	T C						2	1					
thing	T C	8	2	6	54	56	7	1	1			1	2
think	T C		2			1	3	1		1	1	1	2
third	T C		4	2		22					4		
this	T C		4	2	114	53	79	24	4		3	5	22
those	T C				8	20	2	2	5	8	4	2	2







		1	R 2	3	1	S 2	3	1	W 2	3	1	WO 2	3
though	T C				1							4	
thought	T C	2	1			1							
trace	T C	48	4	4							4	3	
tracks	T C												
traffic	T C										1		
train	T C	1			1								
tree	T C			1			2				2		
trick	T C						1						1
troll	T C												
trouble	T C							1					
trousers	T C										1		
truck	T C										1		
true	T C			12					4		6	12	8
trunk	T C												
try	T C						1						
tub	T C												
turkey	T C												
turn	T C					1	3						
turnip	T C												
turtle	T C												
twenty	T C												
two	T C	9	3	3	14	19	5	8	41	37	5		5
type	T C	2		1									
umbrella	T C						2	1			1		









		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
wag	T												
wagon	C					3	3					2	
wait	T											2	
wake	C						3		1				
walk	T						1						2
wall	C										1		
want	T				2	1	7		1			12	3
was	C		1	1			3		1			2	5
wash	T		2						3			3	4
watch	C												5
water	T					2	1				1		
wave	C		1										1
way	T					3			1			1	
we	C		1	30	7	18	21	4					
wear	T												
week	C	1			5	19	6		1			1	
weep	T							5					
we'll	C												
well	T												1
went	C					1			1			3	4
were	T						2					1	2
wet	C					1	3		1				2
what	T												
whatever	C	1											
		54	42	2	108	194	210	14				24	9
			13		17		11					12	8





		H			HM			L			LY		
		1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
wheat	T												
wheel	C				7	1							
when	T	1			1	6	4	1	4		4		5
whenever	C												3
where	T	6			5	6	3	2	1		2	4	7
wherever	C	1										5	5
whether	T	1	3										
which	C												
whichever	T												
while	C												7
whip	T					4							
whiskers	C												
whistle	T					3							5
white	C												
who	T	1	2	1									
whole	C	5	1		4	8	2	2	1			39	13
whom	T						12						17
whose	C												13
why	T												
will	C												
win	T	18	1		78	33	5	9	2		2	1	9
wind	C						5					2	2
windmill	T						2						
window	C												
	T		1										
	C												
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		1	H 2	3	1	HM 2	3	1	L 2	3	1	LY 2	3
winter	T												2
	C												1
wise	T									1			
	C												
wish	T						8				1		1
	G												
with	T	76	61	12	202	156	61	37	18	11	68	12	12
	C		1	1			3			6	3	7	3
within	T												
	C												
without	T									1			1
	C												
wolf	T									1			
	C												
woman	T									1			
	C												
wood	T					1							
	C											4	
word	T		107	7	275	345	216	106	36	54	44	44	16
	C									12			53
work	T					3		15	18	5	68	52	26
	C												
workbook	T				80	112	112					7	2
	C												
world	T									1			
	C												
worm	T									2			
	C												
would	T				1	1	2	1		1		3	2
	C												
wouldn't	T												
	C												
write	T							3					
	C												
wrong	T						1						
	C												
wrote	T												
	C												
yard	T											2	
	C											3	3
yarn	T											2	
	C												
year	T	1	1										
	C												
yellow	T						1	2		1			
	C						3			6			
yes	T	6	10			1	2	15				1	2
	C					1							









TABLE II

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WORDS IN TEACHER'S DIRECTIONS  
AT EACH LEVEL OF THE TWELVE SERIES

	Level		
	1	2	3
Allyn & Bacon	188	153	149
American	106	125	149
Bobbs Merrill	155	103	118
Ginn	147	117	148
Heath	141	164	116
Houghton Mifflin	71	319	333
Laidlaw	297	291	317
Lyons & Garnahan	249	275	346
Row Peterson	179	173	169
Scott Foresman	280	279	254
Winston	247	146	142
World	214	148	164

TABLE III

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WORDS IN CHILDREN'S DIRECTIONS  
AT EACH LEVEL OF THE TWELVE SERIES

	Level		
	1	2	3
Allyn & Bacon	19	48	11
American	14	52	52
Bobbs Merrill	5	35	34
Ginn	9	50	70
Heath	30	84	76
Houghton Mifflin	20	17	66
Laidlaw	14	46	45
Lyons & Carnahan	26	110	166
Row Peterson	--	---	54
Scott Foresman	16	14	48
Winston	---	15	49
World	--	49	54

CHAPTER IV  
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The preceding vocabulary list is a result of a frequency count of (1) children's directions and (2) teacher's directions in workbooks at the first grade level. The forty-one workbooks selected accompany the preprimer, primer, and first reader of twelve basal reading series.

The examination of these workbooks yielded the following information:

1. The master vocabulary list totalled 1134 words.

For the teacher's directions

2. At the preprimer level the number of different words ranged from 71 (Houghton Mifflin) to 297 (Laidlaw).
3. At the primer level the number of different words ranged from 103 (Bobbs Merrill) to 319 (Houghton Mifflin).
4. At the first reader level the number of different words ranged from 116 (Heath) to 346 (Lyons & Carnahan).

For the children's directions

5. At the preprimer level the number of different words ranged from none (Row Peterson, Winston, World) to 30 (Heath).
6. At the primer level the number of different words ranged from none (Row Peterson) to 110 (Lyons & Carnahan).
7. At the first reader level the number of different words ranged from 11 (Allyn & Bacon) to 166 (Lyons & Carnahan).

In comparison

8. The vocabulary load in the teacher's directions is greater than the vocabulary load in the children's directions in all cases.

Suggestions for Further Study

Current vocabulary lists do not discriminate among the multiple meanings of individual words. A study which would break down these words according to their multiple meanings would be useful.

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