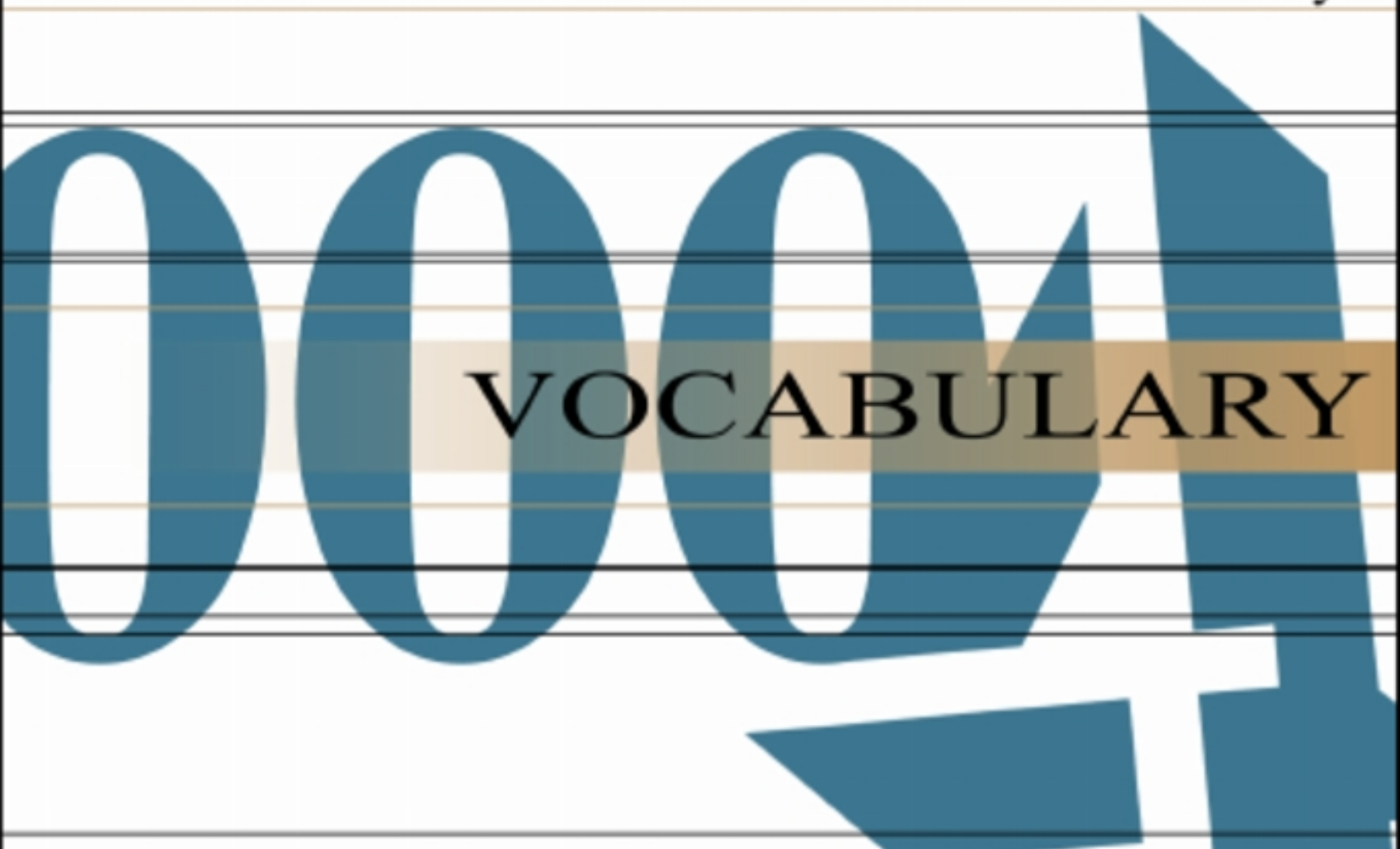


The 4000 Words Essential for an Educated Vocabulary



Word Analysis section

Idiom and Usage section

Great for the SAT, GRE and other entrance exams

200 Prefixes, Roots, and Suffixes

Concise, practical definitions

All the words you need
for success in business,
school, and life.

In this age of mass
communication, people
often know us only by
the words we use--make
sure you know the
right words!

JEFF KOLBY

Contents

ABOUT THIS BOOK	5
THE WORDS	7
WORD ANALYSIS	103
IDIOM AND USAGE	117

About This Book

English offers perhaps the richest vocabulary of all languages, in part because its words are culled from so many languages. It is a shame that we do not tap this rich source more often in our daily conversation to express ourselves more clearly and precisely.

There are of course thesauruses but they mainly list common words. Other vocabulary books list difficult, esoteric words that we quickly forget or feel self-conscious using. However, there is a bounty of choice words between the common and the esoteric that often seem to be just on the tip of our tongue. Vocabulary 4000 brings these words to the fore.

Whenever possible, one-word definitions are used. Although this makes a definition less precise, it also makes it easier to remember. Many common words appear in the list of words, but with their less common meanings. For example, the common meaning of *champion* is “winner.” A less common meaning for *champion* is to support or fight for someone else. (Think of the phrase “to champion a cause.”) This is the meaning that would be used in the list.

As you read through the list of words, mark any that you do not know with a check mark. Then when you read through the list again, mark any that you do not remember with two checks. Continue in this manner until you have learned the words.

There are four types of quizzes interspersed in the word list: Matching, Antonyms, Analogies, and Sentence Completions. The Matching quizzes, review words that were just introduced. All the other quizzes contain words from any part of the list.

THE WORDS

A

a cappella without accompaniment

à la carte priced separately

a priori reasoning based on general principles

aback unexpected, surprised

abacus counting device

abandon desert, forsake

abase degrade

abash humiliate, embarrass

abate lessen, subside

abatement alleviation

abbey monastery

abbreviate shorten

abdicate relinquish power or position

abdomen belly

abduct kidnap

aberrant abnormal

abet aid, encourage (typically of crime)

abeyance postponement

abhor detest

abide submit, endure

abject wretched

abjure renounce

ablate cut away

ablution cleansing

abode home

abolish annul, eliminate

abominable detestable

aboriginal indigenous, native

abortive unsuccessful

abound be plentiful

abreast side-by-side

abridge shorten

abroad overseas

abrogate cancel

abrupt ending suddenly

abscess infected and inflamed tissue

abscond to run away (secretly)

absolve acquit, free from blame

abstain refrain

abstract theoretical, intangible

abstruse difficult to understand

abut touch, border on

abysmal deficient, sub par

abyss chasm

academy school

accede yield, agree

accentuate emphasize

accession attainment of rank

accessory attachment, accomplice

acclaim recognition, fame

acclimate accustom oneself to a climate, adjust

acclivity ascent, incline

accolade applause, tribute

accommodate adapt, assist, house