



PAT Vocabulary Skills

Achievement band descriptions

PAT VOCABULARY SKILLS ACHIEVEMENT BANDS

Achievement band 150 and above

Categorise and order rare words based on abstract concepts

Students understand, and identify definitions for, a wide range of rare vocabulary including literary words and vocabulary related to sophisticated, abstract concepts. They can differentiate fine shades of meaning in a group of words, for example by ordering words according to the degree of certainty.

Achievement band 140–149

Recognise, differentiate between, and infer the meaning of some rare words

Students understand a range of rare words, including words that are more likely to be encountered in carefully written texts such as novels or technical reports, than in speech, and words that have specialist or very precise meanings. Students can differentiate between the meanings of words with superficially similar meanings, and infer the meaning of some rare words.

Achievement band 130–139

Apply knowledge of uncommon words and some Latin and Greek roots

Students understand many uncommon words relating to a wide range of contexts. Students identify Latin and Greek roots for some uncommon words, and differentiate the meanings of words with the same Latin or Greek roots but different affixes that may also be of Latin or Greek origins. They can use contextual clues from a short, dense literary passage to understand rare words.

Achievement band 120–129

Categorise and infer the meaning of uncommon words in a range of contexts

Students understand a broad range of common and uncommon words and a few rare words in local contexts as well as some contexts outside of their day-to-day life. They understand, and can identify, the meanings of common root words and affixes, categorise uncommon words according to familiar concepts, and identify multiple meanings of common and some uncommon words.

Achievement band 110–119

Recognise and infer the meaning of uncommon words in everyday contexts

Students understand a range of common and uncommon words in everyday contexts, which includes words encountered at school. They can identify meanings of parts of common words (eg affixes), and identify how a word can be understood differently when used in different contexts. Students draw on their wider vocabularies to select synonyms for, and from, a wider range of common and uncommon words; to select words to complete sentences; and, to identify multiple meanings of uncommon words.

Achievement band 100–109

Apply knowledge of common words and familiar prefixes

Students understand familiar, common words and some uncommon words. They can sort some uncommon words into frequently used categories for these kinds of words, and identify multiple definitions of some common and uncommon words. They identify the different meanings some familiar root words can have when combined with a small range of common prefixes, and match prefixes to familiar or common words that create words of the opposite meaning (eg 'do' and 'undo').

Achievement band 90–99

Recognise and sort some common vocabulary in everyday contexts

Students understand familiar, common words that are related to themselves, their everyday life at school and home. They can match definitions and synonyms to the words that they know; match common words to pictures; sort common and some uncommon words into frequently used categories for these kinds of words; and, order common words by degree when there are very clear distinctions between them.

Achievement band 89 and below

Recognise familiar vocabulary in familiar contexts

Students understand vocabulary that is related to highly familiar contexts such as home, weekend activities and simple emotions. They correctly match words to everyday pictures in these contexts, and identify simple definitions for familiar words.

