

Academic vocabulary list

Sublist 1 (most common headwords)

analyse	approach	area	assess	assume	authority
available	benefit	concept	consist	constitute	context
contract	create	data	define	drive	distribute
economy	environment	establish	estimate	evident	export
factor	finance	formula	function	identify	income
indicate	individual	interpret	involve	issue	labour
legal	legislate	major	method	occur	percent
period	policy	principle	proceed	process	require
research	respond	role	section	sector	significant
similar	source	specific	structure	theory	vary

Sublist 2

achieve	acquire	administrate	affect	appropriate	aspect
assist	category	chapter	commission	community	complex
compute	conclude	conduct	consequent	construct	consume
credit	culture	design	distinct	element	equate
evaluate	feature	final	focus	impact	injure
institute	invest	item	journal	maintain	normal
obtain	participate	perceive	positive	potential	previous
primary	purchase	range	region	regulate	relevant
reside	resource	restrict	secure	seek	select
site	strategy	survey	text	tradition	transfer

This word list gives the first two sublists from An Academic Word List, compiled by A. Coxhead (1998). The full list contains 570 word families subdivided into ten sublists according to the most frequent words found in texts of twenty-eight subject areas.

Appendix 3 Academic headwords list

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