

Basic Vocabulary *in use*

**Second
Edition**

60 units of
vocabulary
practice in
North American
English

with answers

**Michael McCarthy
Felicity O'Dell**
with John D. Bunting

Acknowledgments	v
Introduction	vii

Learner training

- 1 Talking about language
- 2 Learning strategies

Common verbs

- 3 *Have*
- 4 *Go*
- 5 *Do*
- 6 *Make*
- 7 *Come*
- 8 *Take*
- 9 *Give*
- 10 *Get*
- 11 Phrasal verbs
- 12 Verbs for everyday actions
- 13 Verbs of talking
- 14 Verbs of movement

Words and grammar

- 15 Conjunctions and other connecting words
- 16 Time words
- 17 Describing time: when
- 18 Describing place: where
- 19 Describing manner: how
- 20 Irregular past tense verbs
- 21 Common uncountable words
- 22 Adjectives describing good and bad things
- 23 Adjectives describing people
- 24 Words and prepositions
- 25 Prefixes
- 26 Suffixes
- 27 Greetings and other useful phrases
- 28 Words and phrases you may confuse

People

- 29 Birth, marriage, and death
- 30 The family
- 31 Parts of the body
- 32 Clothes
- 33 Describing people's appearance
- 34 Sickness and health
- 35 Feelings

The world

- 36 Countries, languages, and people
- 37 Weather
- 38 In the city
- 39 In the country
- 40 Pets and other animals
- 41 Travel
- 42 Signs and notices

At home

- 43 Food and drink
- 44 In the kitchen
- 45 In the bedroom and bathroom
- 46 In the living room

School and workplace

- 47 Jobs
- 48 School
- 49 Communications

Leisure

- 50 Taking a trip
- 51 Shopping
- 52 In a hotel
- 53 Eating out
- 54 Sports
- 55 Movies
- 56 Leisure at home

Social issues

- 57 Crime
- 58 The media
- 59 Everyday problems
- 60 Global problems

Common weights and measures	122
Phonetic symbols	123
List of irregular verbs	124
Index	126
Answer key	139

This new edition of *Basic Vocabulary in Use* still retains the features that made the first edition so popular:

- The format of presentation on the left-hand page and practice on the right-hand page.
- Approaching vocabulary in a variety of ways: topics (e.g., Eating out, Food and drink), common verbs (e.g., Phrasal verbs), words and grammar (e.g., Time words, Prefixes), etc.
- A student-friendly Answer key, including not only correct answers to right/wrong exercises, but also possible answers for more open-ended exercises.
- Usage notes that are ideal for self-study learners.
- A complete unit-by-unit Index, which lists all the target words and phrases.

What is different about the new edition?

Updated content

The content has been updated in several ways:

- A new design makes the book easier to use: language explanations are more clearly shown, example answers to the exercise questions are in a different color, and *tip* boxes are more clearly marked.
- All the artwork is new: illustrations are clearer and more attractive, and they reflect recent changes in technology.
- A new unit on the verb *give* has been added, focusing on its basic meaning and collocations.
- New words that have entered the language and become common have been added: for example, *text message* (Unit 49), *Wi-Fi* (Unit 52).
- Vocabulary explanations are clearer and more logically presented.
- Exercises have been updated and improved where possible: for example, in Unit 5, Exercise 5.1 better practices the use of *do* as a general verb.
- The Index is organized unit by unit, allowing learners to see at a glance the key words and phrases of any unit.

Use of the *Cambridge International Corpus*

This new edition has made use of the *Cambridge International Corpus* of written and spoken English. This has been important in several ways:

- The *Corpus* has been used to check that all language and content is contemporary, natural, and accurate.
- The frequency information in the *Corpus* has helped guide the selection of words and phrases in the book and ensure that the vocabulary will be suitable for learners of English at a basic level.
- Example sentences are the same or similar to those in the *Corpus*. In other words, the examples show you words and phrases being used in their most typical contexts.

Using this book

Who is this book for?

Basic Vocabulary in Use has been written to help take learners from a very basic level of vocabulary to a level where they can use around 2,000 words and phrases. It has been designed for students who are studying on their own, but it can also be used by a teacher in the classroom with a group of students.

How is the book organized?

The book has 60 two-page units. The left-hand page explains the new words and phrases chosen for that unit. Most units contain approximately 25 new words or phrases and they are all highlighted in **bold**. The right-hand page gives you a chance to check your understanding through a series of exercises which practice the new vocabulary.

The book is organized around everyday topics, but also has units devoted to core verbs such as **get** and **go**, as well as units concerned with ways of learning vocabulary. Typical errors are indicated where appropriate, and the most common meanings and uses are focused on for each key item.

There is an Answer key at the back of the book. This gives correct answers to exercises with “right” or “wrong” solutions, and also possible answers for exercises which do not have “right” or “wrong” solutions.

There is also an Index at the back of the book. This lists all the words and phrases introduced in the book. It is organized unit by unit.

The left-hand page

The left-hand page introduces the new vocabulary for each topic or area of language. The vocabulary is divided into a number of sections (A, B, C, etc.) with simple, clear titles. New words and phrases are explained in a number of different ways:

1. A short definition
e.g., a **date** [a romantic meeting]; **do the laundry** [wash clothes]; **apologize** [say “I’m sorry.”]
2. A short explanation
e.g., What topics **came up** in class today? [What topics did you talk about?]
3. Example sentences
For many new words, sentence examples give a situation that helps you understand the meaning:
Some people cannot find jobs and are **unemployed**.
I need some coins for the parking meter. Do you have any **change**?
4. A picture or diagram
This is the clearest way to illustrate a large number of words.
e.g., **lightning** **surprised** **swim**



Right-hand page

The right-hand page contains the exercises to practice the new vocabulary presented on the left-hand page. There are a variety of activity types, ranging from traditional activities such as fill-in-the-blanks, to more open-ended ones. There are also personalized activities which enable learners to talk about their lives. Although the activities are designed for self-study, they can easily be adapted for pair work, group work, or whole-class activities.

How should I use the book?

The units in the book can be used in any order you like, but we recommend you do the first two units on learning vocabulary first. As well as teaching you important words and phrases, they will give you information about vocabulary and also ideas and techniques to help you learn vocabulary.

Everything you need is in the book. The new vocabulary is explained on the left-hand page, and the exercises have an Answer key at the back of the book. But if you need a dictionary to help you with any of the words and phrases, or exercises, you can go to <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>, where you can look up words you are not sure of and learn more about words you already know.

Companion Web site: www.cambridge.org/vinu

On the *Vocabulary in Use* Companion Web site, you will find a range of free additional activities for vocabulary and listening practice.

We hope you like this book. When you have finished it, you can go to the next book in the series, *Vocabulary in Use Intermediate*, and after that, to the highest level, *Vocabulary in Use High Intermediate*.

Good luck!

Talking about language

A Language words

Part of speech	Meaning	Examples
noun	a person, place, or thing	Mary, China, pen
verb	something we do	eat, read, write
adjective	describes a noun	good, bad, happy, long
adverb	describes a verb	slowly, badly, well
preposition	used before a noun	in, on, by, at, of

Other useful concepts	Meaning	Examples
singular	one noun	book, house, child
plural	more than one noun	books, houses, children
phrase	a group of words (not a complete sentence)	in a house, at home, an old man
sentence	a complete idea; begins with a capital letter and ends with a period	The new student parked his car in front of the school.
paragraph	one or more sentences about the same topic beginning on a new line	<i>Basic Vocabulary in Use</i> has 60 units. Each unit has two pages.
question	a group of words that begins with a capital letter and ends with a question mark	What time is it? Do you speak Spanish?

B Instructions used in this book

- Match the words on the left with the words on the right.
 orange — ice cream
 chocolate — juice
- Fill in the blank.
 Maria is**at**..... home today.
- Correct the mistakes.
 Maria is in home today. **Maria is at home today.**
- Complete the sentence about yourself.
 I take**the bus**..... to work.
- Write these words in the correct column.

cat	apples	oranges	dog	horse
<i>Animals</i>		<i>Fruits</i>		
cat, dog, horse		apples, oranges		

Exercises

1.1 Write these words in the correct column.

shirt quietly of speak by quickly bad car banana at
daily write new in woman old sad eat correctly go

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb	Preposition
shirt				

1.2 Are these phrases, sentences, or questions?

- in the park *phrase*
- Do you speak English?
- a black cat
- She's writing a book
- What's your name?
- I like English

1.3 Answer these questions.

- What is the plural of *book*? *books*
- What is the singular of *women*?
- Is *from* a verb?
- Is *cat* an adjective?
- Is this a phrase: "Jane likes Harry."?

1.4 Follow these instructions.

- Fill in the blank. What your name?
- Complete the sentence about yourself. I have eyes.
- Correct the mistakes.
speak
inglish
He has seven cat
- Match the verbs on the left with the nouns on the right.
make homework
do a shower
take a mistake
- Write these words in the correct column:

hat rice coat milk

Food	Clothes

Learning strategies

tip *Keep a vocabulary notebook. Write the words you learn from reading this book in your notebook. Use a good dictionary. You will need it for some exercises in this book.*

A Write down words that go together (collocations).

You do the exercises in this book. Sometimes, you make mistakes in English. In your vocabulary notebook, write: do + exercise and make + mistake.

When words are used together like this, we call it a collocation.

You make mistakes. (<i>not do mistakes</i>)	verb + noun
I'm on the bus. (<i>not in the bus</i>)	preposition + noun
Some people are good at languages. (<i>not good in</i>)	adjective + preposition
I saw a very tall man. (<i>not high man</i>)	adjective + noun

tip *Always write down collocations when you learn a new word.*

B Learn words in groups that are related (word families).

Word family	Some words in the family
furniture	chair, desk, table, sofa
travel	ticket, passport, visa, bus

tip *Make a page for every different word family in your vocabulary notebook.*

C Pictures and diagrams

Draw pictures in your notebook to help remember words. For example: car



Draw diagrams like this one. Add more words as you learn them.



tip *When you can, use pictures and diagrams. One more tip: Look at the words you have written down again and again!*

Exercises

2.1 How many more collocations for *have* + noun can you write in your vocabulary notebook? Look at Unit 3 for more ideas.

have a party, have lunch.

2.2 Not all of the words listed in the box describe weather. Which words can go with *weather*? Use a dictionary if you need help.

wet high big dry warm happy cool rainy light

wet

weather

2.3 Write these words in the correct family. Use a dictionary if you need help.

school bread teacher milk notebook test water salad student rice

Name of word family	Words in family
<i>education</i>	
<i>food</i>	

2.4 Draw simple pictures to help you remember the words in bold.

Example: a girl crying



1. a plane lands
2. **sunny** weather
3. **under** the table

2.5 Write words in the empty circles.



tip

Make sure you have started a vocabulary notebook before you do the other units in this book.

Have

A Have

Have often means *to own* or *possess*.
 I have a computer.
 We have a small house.
 I don't have enough money to buy a car.



B What can you have?

You can . . .
 have breakfast.
 have a party.
 have a class.
 have a cup of coffee/tea.
 have a cold (when you're sick).



C Other things you can have

Example	Other things
breakfast	dinner, lunch, a meal, something to eat
a party	a meeting, a good time, an argument
a class	homework, a test, an exam, an appointment (with the dentist)
a cup of coffee/tea	something to drink, a drink, a snack [a little food between meals]
a cold	the flu, a headache, a broken arm, a sore throat

D Expressions with have

Have a nice day.
 Goodbye! Have a good trip! [when someone is going away]
 I have a brother and two sisters.
 She's going to have a baby [give birth] next month.
 I want to learn to ski, but I don't have time.
 Do you ever have trouble / have problems [difficulty]
 understanding English?



E Have to = must

Use **have to** when something is necessary and you have no choice.
 The museum isn't free. You **have to** pay \$10 to get in.
 She **has to** take an exam at the end of the course.



Use **don't have to** when something is not necessary and you have a choice.

I **don't have to** work on Saturdays.
 We **don't have to** go to the party if you don't want to.

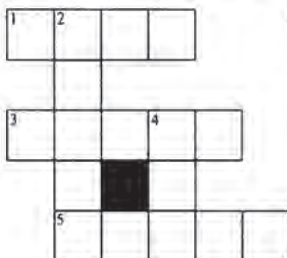
3.1 Fill in the blanks. Use words from B, C, and D on page 6.

1. I never have a big *breakfast* in the morning.
2. I have an with the doctor at 1 o'clock.
3. I had a yesterday, so I studied all night.
4. Mike is having a on Saturday night. Are you going?
5. I'm too busy, so I don't have to take a vacation.
6. I have a terrible I keep sneezing. Atchoo!
7. I had a with Maria last night. We went out to dinner and a movie.
8. Keiko is going to have a She thinks it'll be a girl.

3.2 Answer these questions about yourself.

1. Do you have any brothers or sisters? If yes, how many?
2. Which days do you have classes?
3. What do you usually have for lunch?
4. On weekends do you have to get up early in the morning?
5. Do you have coffee or tea with breakfast?
6. Is there anything you don't have at home that you want to have? What is it?
7. Do you ever have trouble understanding English? When?
8. Do you have to study hard to learn English? Why?

3.3 Do the crossword puzzle.



Across

1. You can have one in a restaurant.
3. Some people like to have one on New Year's Eve.
5. You have this between meals.

Down

2. You have these at school.
4. If you don't want coffee, you can have

3.4 Complete the sentences using *have*.

1. A: I'm thirsty!
B: Why don't you
2. A: I feel sick today.
B: Do you.....?
3. A: Bye, everyone! I'm leaving for my trip to Hawaii!
B: Bye,!
4. A: Can you come to my party on Friday?
B: I can't. I have a big test on Monday, and I this weekend.

A Go

Go means to move from one place to another.

I go home after school. Ahmed goes to work after school.

Where does this road go?

Is this bus going downtown?

Let's go to the movies tonight.

We went to Mexico last summer.

(went = past tense of go)



B Go + prepositions

Many prepositions can follow go, such as to, out, up and down.

Kim went to her room.



Kanako went out the door.



Paulo went up the stairs slowly.



Ann went down the stairs quickly.



C Go + -ing for activities

Use go with -ing for certain activities.

I hate to go shopping.



I usually go swimming in the morning.



Let's go running.



Do you want to go sightseeing?



Mei goes skiing in the winter.



Bob is going fishing today.



D Future plans with be going to

On Saturday John is going to visit his aunt. On Sunday we are going to stay at home. On Monday I'm going to meet Sam for lunch.

Exercises

4.1 Where are they going? What are they going to do? Write two sentences.



1. Bill *is going to the park. He is going to go running.*
2. Jean and Mike
3. Antonio
4. The Lees
5. Sun-hee

4.2 Correct the mistakes.

1. I went Brazil. *I went to Brazil.*
2. We're going sightsee today.
3. Joe went down to the top of the hill.
4. Where this bus go?.
5. Sarah goed out to dinner.

4.3 Write about Sue's plans for next week.
Use *be going to*.



1. On Monday *Sue is going to play tennis with Rose.*
2. On Tuesday
3. On Wednesday
4. On Thursday
5. On Friday

4.4 Look at the activities in C on page 8. Which activities do you do on vacation?
Write sentences.

I usually go shopping when I'm on vacation.

A What are you doing?

A: What are the people in the picture doing?

B: They're studying.



A: What do you do to relax?

B: I listen to music.



Don't do that, Tommy.



B Do + task

do the housework [clean the home]

do the laundry [wash clothes]

do the dishes [wash dishes]

do the cooking

do business with

do (your) homework



A: Did you do the dishes this morning?

B: No, I'm going to do them later.

Our company does a lot of business with Canada.

You always do a good job.

C What do you do? [What is your job?]

What do you do? [What is your job?]

I'm a student.

or

I'm a teacher.

or

I'm an engineer.

What does your wife do? [What is your wife's job?]

She's a lawyer.

or

She's a secretary.

or

She's a doctor.

D Do used with other verbs

	Simple present	Simple past
Questions	Do you like tennis?	Did they like the movie?
Short answers	Yes, I do. So does Mari.	Yes, they did. So did I.
Negatives	He doesn't play well.	Bob didn't see it.

tip

Write down expressions with **do** that you find when you are reading in English. (See Unit 6 for differences between **do** and **make**.)

Basic Vocabulary in use

Second Edition

Basic Vocabulary in Use is a reference and practice book for students of North American English at the basic level. Each unit is on two pages. The left-hand page teaches an important selection of vocabulary that is related by grammar or topic. The right-hand page provides practice exercises. **Basic Vocabulary in Use** can be used as a classroom text or for self-study.

- teaches approximately 1,200 useful words and expressions
- contains 60 two-page units that cover different grammar- or content-based topics
- teaches words and phrases useful for work, travel, weather, feelings, greetings, animals, food and drink, and more
- shows how to use new words and phrases in context
- suggests strategies for learning new vocabulary
- allows a flexible approach: learners and teachers can select the units relevant to their needs
- includes a complete index and an answer key

www.cambridge.org/vinu

Additional activities for extra vocabulary and listening practice are available on the companion Web site.

Also available:

Vocabulary in Use Intermediate

Vocabulary in Use High Intermediate

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CORPUS

The Cambridge International Corpus is a database of over 1 billion words of spoken and written English that have been collected from a variety of authentic sources. Developed by Cambridge University Press as a tool to help in writing materials for learners of English, the Corpus can be analyzed to determine how the language is actually used.
www.cambridge.org/corpus



REAL ENGLISH GUARANTEE



978-0-521-12375-4
(with answers)



978-0-521-12386-0
(with answers)



978-0-521-62600-2
(with answers & audio CD)



978-0-521-69198-7
(with CD-ROM)



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS
www.cambridge.org

ISBN 978-0-521-12367-9



9 780521 123679 >