

**ANDREW  
JENNINGS**

**AGES  
10-11**

**VOCABULARY NINJA**



# **VOCABULARY NINJA WORKBOOK**



## **Learning at Home**

**Vocabulary activities to support  
the National Curriculum at home**

BLOOMSBURY

# VOCABULARY NINJA WORKBOOK



ANDREW JENNINGS

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# Introduction

When we think about being successful in education and life, we naturally think of the importance of reading and writing, but not so much vocabulary. Interestingly, in maths a child's understanding of their times tables is seen as crucial, as they are the foundations of any further mathematical activity a child does in school and beyond. Well, vocabulary is just as crucial. Not just for reading and writing, but for the whole curriculum as well as your child's wider understanding of the world around them, how it works and how they communicate with it. Vocabulary, or words, underpins all forms of knowledge acquisition and communication development. Words will literally unlock the doors to a world of understanding for your child.



**Vocabulary Ninja Workbooks** provide a comprehensive introduction to vocabulary, focusing on a variety of areas to enhance your child's curriculum knowledge and develop their reading and writing skills. The range of exciting activities, games and challenges include:

## World of Words

A range of activities designed to develop an understanding of the world, focusing specifically on objects and emotions.

## Curriculum Topic Vocabulary

Specially-selected vocabulary from key National Curriculum topics covered in each year group to help develop your child's subject-specific vocabulary.

## Breadth and Depth Activities

Activities that introduce new and exciting vocabulary, with the primary focus of widening your child's vocabulary and deepening their understanding.

## Grammar-Focused Activities

Activities that support the development of grammar and the vocabulary associated with it, in line with the curriculum requirements for grammar.

## Vocabulary Laboratory

Games, challenges and puzzles are littered throughout the book, providing engaging and exciting ways for your child to recall and use the vocabulary they have learnt.

## Creative Writing

Vocabulary for creative writing is built up throughout the book, starting with a focus on interesting descriptive words and increasing in complexity until finishing with writing activities that enable your child to apply the vocabulary from the earlier stages.



### Ninja Tip

Discussing, using and playing with the vocabulary from each page is just as important as getting the questions right. Where possible, try to use and model the vocabulary from the book during everyday life with your child, finding different contexts to use it in.

## How to use this book

This book increases in complexity and challenge across six different sections. Your child should attempt the Grasshopper and Shinobi sections of the book as independently as possible, asking for support where necessary. As your child moves through the rest of the book, adult guidance and support is recommended to ensure your child fully understands each activity and the vocabulary in it. Don't worry though, examples are provided on most pages and answers are available at the back of the book. When your child has finished the activities, you can go to [www.vocabularyninja.co.uk](http://www.vocabularyninja.co.uk) to download a certificate.

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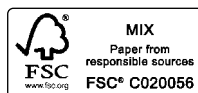
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You have reached the beginning of the end. This page is the first page of the last book in this series!



Use this page to record the exciting vocabulary you encounter as you go through this workbook. You could use different colours or small drawings to help you remember them.

Some words have been added to get you started.



bemused

twisted

ancient

collaborate

equator

ambitious

transform

Share your work with Vocabulary Ninja! Ask your parent or teacher to tweet us a picture of your completed list of words: @VocabularyNinja #vocabulary #words

Make your writing more engaging for the reader by adding descriptions before an object. This is called an expanded noun phrase.

Think about the colours, shapes, emotions or verbs you could use to add interest. Some words have been added already to help you.



the ancient  
twisted  
swaying tree



the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ firework



the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ storm



the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ children



the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ footballer



the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ mountain

Extend your vocabulary by learning lots of different interesting words to use.

Circle three words in each section that you can use instead of the word in bold. One has been done. Then write a sentence using one of the words you've circled.

**important** deliberate essential responsive significant vital unnecessary  
Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**other** alternative fresh separate distinct extraordinary humorous  
Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**clever** intelligent witty wise quick-witted hard-working funny  
Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**long** extended height endless stretching distant endurance  
Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_



Having alternative word choices in your vocabulary gives you power. We tend to use quite common words, but with a bit more thought we can use words that are more creative!

There are five common words below in colour, each accompanied by two words you can replace them with.

Think of a sentence using each common word, then replace it with one of the alternative words. One has been done for you.

## injured

Alternatives: wounded / maimed

Sentence: The poor bird had been injured by a cat

Replacement: The poor bird had been wounded by a cat

## sleepy

Alternatives: drowsy / sluggish

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement: \_\_\_\_\_

## wet

Alternatives: damp / soggy

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement: \_\_\_\_\_

## polite

Alternatives: cordial / gracious

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement: \_\_\_\_\_

## empty

Alternatives: vacant / deserted

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement: \_\_\_\_\_

Nowadays when a crime is committed, offenders end up in prison or pay a fine. In the past, more brutal methods of punishment were used.

Test your knowledge of historical vocabulary by filling in the gaps in the sentences using the words from the Word Banks. One has been done for you.

## Word Bank

~~compensation~~  
important  
drowning  
limb  
killer

## Anglo-Saxons

In Anglo-Saxon times there was a compensation system known as Wergild. If someone was killed, their \_\_\_\_\_ would be made to pay money; the more \_\_\_\_\_ the person, the bigger the sum to be paid. More often, \_\_\_\_\_ or having a \_\_\_\_\_ removed would be the punishment.



## Word Bank

confession  
committing  
brutal  
hook  
people

## Medieval England

Medieval England had some of the most \_\_\_\_\_ punishments, which were designed to put people off \_\_\_\_\_ a crime. The tongue tearer was used to extract a \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ was another brutal tool used to hang \_\_\_\_\_ up.

## Word Bank

children  
Thieves  
hanging  
stole  
death penalty

## The Tudors

Homelessness was a huge problem in Tudor times and was punishable by whipping or even by \_\_\_\_\_. Hangings were extremely popular public events and were even often attended by \_\_\_\_\_. Quite often, people could not afford food, so they \_\_\_\_\_ it. \_\_\_\_\_ could face the \_\_\_\_\_.





Like breathing, walking is something most humans and animals do every day! So to keep things interesting, we need lots of different words for walking. Let's check some of them out.

Look at each word, then read the definition to help you understand it. Then use the word in a sentence of your own. One has been done for you.

**amble** – walk in a slow and relaxed way

Sentence: He ambled along the riverside enjoying the cool breeze.

**bolt** – suddenly run away very fast

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**bound** – move with leaping strides

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**inch** – move slowly and carefully

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**march** – walk quickly, with determination

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**meander** – wander randomly with no purpose

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**sashay** – walk while swaying your hips in an exaggerated movement, catwalk-like

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**saunter** – walk in a slow and relaxed way

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**traipse** – walk reluctantly and slowly

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**trudge** – walk slowly with heavy steps

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**veer** – change direction suddenly

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

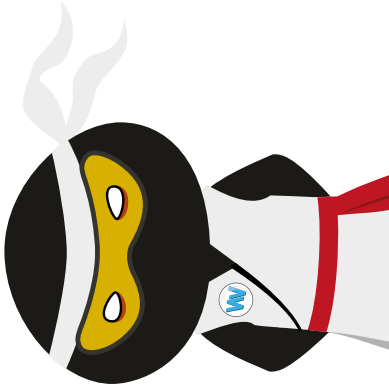
**wander** – walk without a purpose, not knowing where you're going

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

These next four words are great words to learn. They are a little bit difficult to understand, but it will be well worth it. Each word has a definition to explain what it means.

Read the words and definitions, then create your own sentence or sentences using each word.

These are fantastic words to add to your ever-expanding vocabulary!



**albeit**

**Albeit** means 'though' – it's more often used in writing than in speaking.

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**bemused**

**Bemused** is another way of saying 'puzzled' or 'confused'.

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**compel**

**Compel** means to force someone to do something.

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**conundrum**

A **conundrum** is a difficult or impossible problem to solve.

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_