## Most common words in English

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The list below of **most common words in English** cannot be definitive. It is based on an analysis of the <u>Oxford English Corpus</u> of over a <u>billion</u> words, and represents one study done by <u>Oxford Online</u>, associated with the <u>Oxford English Dictionary</u>. This source includes writings of all sorts from "literary novels and specialist journals to everyday newspapers and magazines and from <u>Hansard</u> to the language of chatrooms, emails, and weblogs", and unlike some sources which use texts from only specific sources.

The Reading Teachers Book of Lists claims that the first 25 words make up about one-third of all printed material in English, and that the first 100 make up about one-half of all written material. [4]

Note that the items listed may represent more than one actual word; they are <u>lemmas</u>. For instance the entry "be" contains within it the occurrences of "are", "is", "were" and "was". Note also that these top 100 lemmas listed below account for 50% of all the words in the Oxford English Corpus. [1]

1	the	11	it	21	this	31	or	41	SO
2	be	12	for	22	but	32	an	42	up
3	to	13	not	23	his	33	will	43	out
4	of	14	on	24	by	34	my	44	if
5	and	15	with	25	from	35	one	45	about
6	a	16	he	26	they	36	all	46	who
7	in	17	as	27	we	37	would	47	get
8	that	18	you	28	say	38	there	48	which
9	have	19	do	29	her	39	their	49	go
10	I	20	at	30	she	40	what	50	me
51	when	61	person	71	than	81	back	91	even
52	make	62	into	72	then	82	after	92	new
53	can	63	year	73	now	83	use	93	want
54	like	64	your	74	look	84	two	94	because
55	time	65	good	75	only	85	how	95	any
56	no	66	some	76	come	86	our	96	these
57	just	67	could	77	its	87	work	97	give
58	him	68	them	78	over	88	first	98	day
59	know	69	see	79	think	89	well	99	most
60	take	70	other	80	also	90	way	100	us
Yellow=Kindergarten		Blue=1 <sup>st</sup>		Red=second		Green=Third		White=?	