

Figure 2.10 Types of vocabulary.

Type	Description	Use	Examples
Tier 1: General/ Everyday	Common in oral and written language  Meaning widely agreed on	Everyday speech and high frequency use in print	Barn, cat, girl, happy, them, town, yellow
Tier 2: Specialized/ General Academic	Words with two or more distinct meanings (polysemic), and words used differently across content or subjects	Contextual use shapes the meaning and sometimes the pronunciation of the word	Bias, blue, calibrate, establish, firm, incidental, note, setting, subject, verify, wash
Tier 3: Technical/ Domain Specific	Low-frequency words with a distinctive meaning and associated with one content or subject area	Primarily used in text and spoken in highly contextualized environments (e.g., a lecture or classroom)	Alliteration, calligraphy, cardiac, entomologist, isotope, octave, solar, sonnet, system, totalitarianism