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How to Choose a Dictionary

The busy teacher has little time in which to choose between dictionaries by thorough testing. Here is a quick two-minute test which will tell you whether a dictionary is suitable for your school.

1 How many words has it? 15,000 is the minimum for children aged 12.

2 Does it miss out easy words? Look up *do, bring, were, who.*

3 Is it up-to-date? Look up *air-hostess, central heating, nuclear energy.*

4 Will it be useful for lesson notes? Look up *mortise, bunsen burner, tropic, gramme.*

5 Will it help with grammar? Does it give parts of speech; does it give the tenses of *bring,* and the plural of *lens*?

6 Does it give pronunciation? Look up *café.*

7 Does it give compound words? Look up *level-crossing, self-sacrifice, third-rate.*

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