# Vocabulary systems

**Navot Laufer** 



#### Grammar vs. Vocabulary

logical systematic arbitrary chaotic



### The Jabberwocky

by Lewis Carroll



'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves Did gyre and gimble in the wabe; All mimsy were the borogoves, And the mome raths outgrabe.





## What it means to know a word

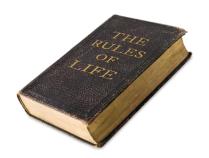
What is means (meanings)
What it sounds like
What it looks like
How it is used
When and with whom it can be used

Cultural connotations



### Vocabulary – Our Mental Word Warehouse

What if instead of words, I had small objects like books or tennis balls?







Source: Amazon.com

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ushWi\_b1Crg



## Our brain – our data management system

- Inspiration from industry
- Industry inspired by research of human brain

### Lean Management

- Developed by Toyota
- •Defines efficiency and actions needed in order to reach maximum productivity
- •Used in: automotive industry, manufacturing, logistics, services, public sector & education





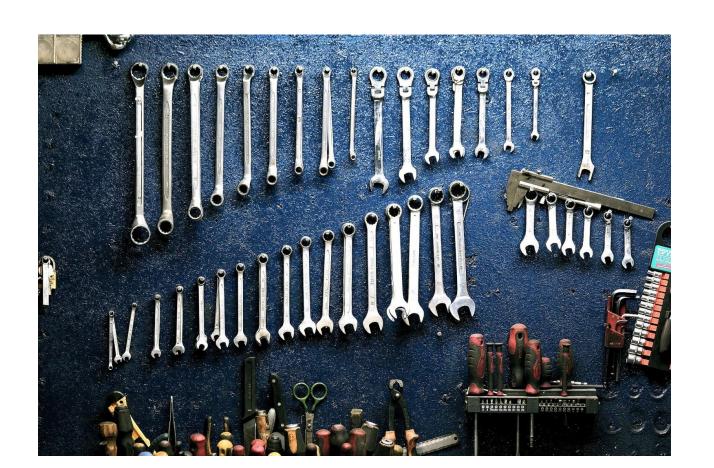
### **5S**

(5 steps to increase efficiency)

#2:put in order



# Make it easy to find and pick up items (words)





#### Prefixes, suffixes & roots

prefixes

unhappy reform unhelpful

impossible

roots

(carry the 'main' meaning)

happy form

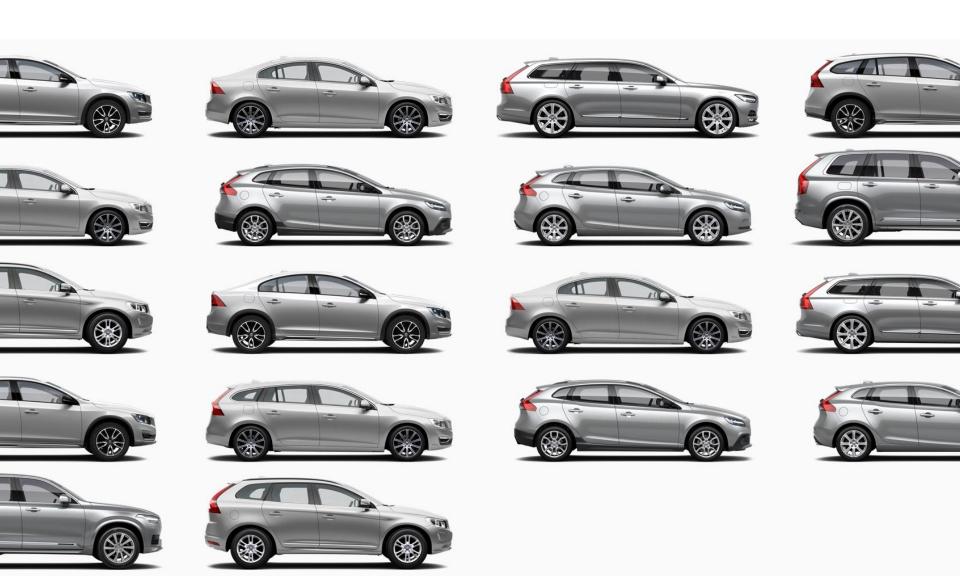
help

possible

suffixes

happiness formal helpless









Prevent loss and waste of time by arranging work in such a way that all tools (words) are in close proximity.





Source: Ikea.cz



#### Delexicalised verbs

•Make, take, get, go....

Very little meaning



- •To come into possession of; receive or earn
  - -He got a bicycle for christmas
- to bring or fetch
  - -would you get me that picher?
- •to contract or be affected by
  - -he got a chill at the picnic
- to capture or seize
  - -the police finally got him
- •to become or cause to become or act as specified
  - -to get a window open, get one's hair cut, get wet
- to succeed in going, coming, leaving, etc
  - -get off the bus
- to manage or contrive
  - -how did you get to be captain?
- to make ready or prepare
  - -to get a meal, get something done
- to hear, notice, or understand
  - -I didn't get your meaning
- to come (to) or arrive (at)
  - -we got home safely, to get to London
- to catch or enter
  - -to get a train
- to reach by calculation
  - -add 2 and 2 and you will get 4



# How do we know which meaning?

facebook

Facebook vám pomáhá navázat kontakt s
lidmi ve vašem životě a sdílet s nimi své
příspěvky.



Source facebook.com

#### Context

He got a bicycle for christmas we got home safely

he got a chill at the picnic

# Arrange all items (words) so that they can be easily selected for use

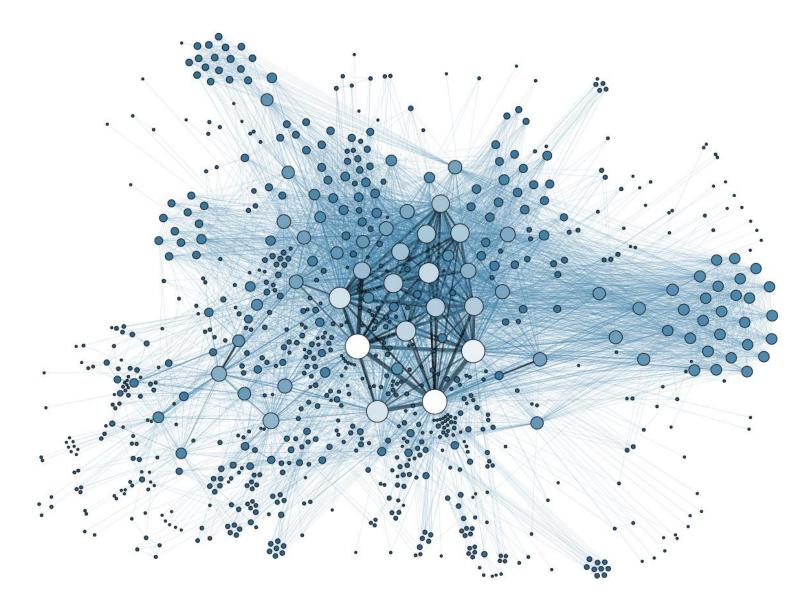


#### Thematic word lists

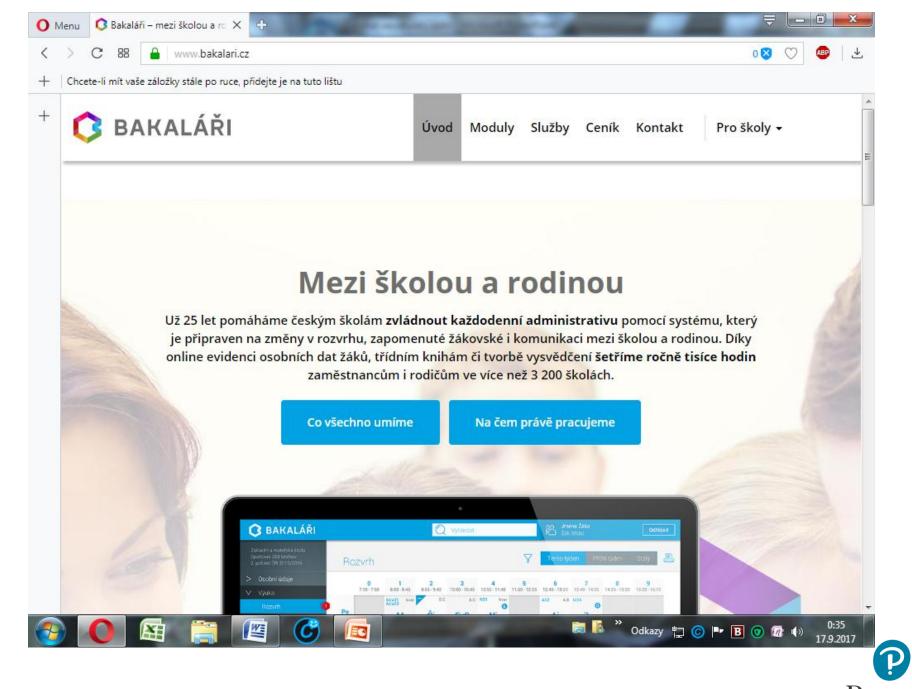
fruit	farming equiptment	basic verbs
apple	tractor	walk
bannana	hoe	get
pear	harrow	drive
strawberry	frontend loader	eat

## **Apple**

fruit	pies	trees	Technology companies
apple	shepherd's	larch	Apple
banana	Lemon	walnut	Amazon
orange	apple	oak	Google
		apple	







Place components according to their uses, with the frequently used components (words) nearest to the workplace



### Collocations and chunking

```
Apple -
sweet, red; eat, bite; pie, tree
Jump –
up, down; try to; off, on
```

Less than a blink of a/an second eye

A fraction of a/an eye second



# Breadth of vocabulary vs. Depth of vocabulary

Teach more words or teach more about words?



# We need a strong system.

# Vocabulary is best learned if we respect the natural way our brain works

## Thank you for your attention!

Navot Laufer navot.laufer@scioskola.cz

