

BỘ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO  
TRƯỜNG ĐẠI HỌC QUẢN LÝ VÀ CÔNG NGHỆ HẢI PHÒNG

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# **KHÓA LUẬN TỐT NGHIỆP**

**NGÀNH : NGÔN NGỮ ANH - ANH**

**Sinh viên : Trần Duy Anh**

**Giảng viên hướng dẫn : Dr. Trần Thị Ngọc Liên**

**HẢI PHÒNG 01– 2021**

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
HAI PHONG MANGAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY**

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**GRADUATION PAPPER**

**A STUDY OF TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE  
ENGLISH VOCABULARY FOR ADULTS  
LEARNERS**

**MAJOR: ENGLISH LINGUISTICS**

**Student : Tran Duy Anh  
Supervisor : Dr. Tran Thi Ngoc Lien**

**HẢI PHÒNG 01 – 2021**

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## NHIỆM VỤ ĐỀ TÀI TỐT NGHIỆP

**Sinh viên :** Trần Duy Anh      **Mã SV:** 1412402048

**Lớp :** NA2001

**Ngành :** Ngôn ngữ Anh

**Tên đề tài:** A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners

## NHIỆM VỤ ĐỀ TÀI

**1. Nội dung và các yêu cầu cần giải quyết trong nhiệm vụ đề tài tốt nghiệp.**

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**2. Các tài liệu, số liệu cần thiết.**

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**3. Địa điểm thực tập tốt nghiệp.**

Trung tâm Anh ngữ Popodoo – Quán Toan.

## CÁN BỘ HƯỚNG DẪN ĐỀ TÀI TỐT NGHIỆP

**Họ và tên** : Trần Thị Ngọc Liên

**Học hàm, học vị** : Tiến sĩ

**Cơ quan công tác** : Trường Đại học Quản lý và Công nghệ Hải Phòng

**Nội dung hướng dẫn** : A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners.

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Đã giao nhiệm vụ ĐTTN

*Sinh viên*

Đã nhận nhiệm vụ ĐTTN

*Giảng viên hướng dẫn*

*Hải Phòng, ngày .... tháng ....năm.....*

**TRƯỞNG KHOA**

**CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM**

**Độc lập - Tự do - Hạnh phúc**

**PHIẾU NHẬN XÉT CỦA GIÁNG VIÊN HƯỚNG DẪN TỐT NGHIỆP**

Họ và tên giảng viên: Trần Thị Ngọc Liên

Đơn vị công tác: Khoa ngôn ngữ - Đại học Quản lí và Công Nghệ  
Hải Phòng

Họ và tên sinh viên: Trần Duy Anh Chuyên ngành: Ngôn ngữ Anh

Nội dung hướng dẫn: A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners.

**1. Tinh thần thái độ của sinh viên trong quá trình làm đề tài tốt nghiệp**

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**2. Đánh giá chất lượng của đề án/khóa luận (so với nội dung yêu cầu đã đề ra trong nhiệm vụ Đ.T. T.N trên các mặt lý luận, thực tiễn, tính toán số liệu...)**

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**3. Ý kiến của giảng viên hướng dẫn tốt nghiệp.**

Được bảo vệ  Không được bảo vệ  Điểm hướng dẫn

*Hải Phòng, ngày .... tháng....năm.....*

**Giảng viên hướng dẫn**

*(Ký và ghi rõ họ tên)*

**CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM**

**Độc lập - Tự do - Hạnh phúc**

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**PHIẾU NHẬN XÉT CỦA GIÁO VIÊN CHẤM PHẢN BIỆN**

Họ và tên giảng viên: .....

Đơn vị công tác: .....

Họ và tên sinh viên: Trần Duy Anh Chuyên ngành: Ngôn ngữ Anh

Đề tài tốt nghiệp: A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners.

**1. Phần nhận xét của giáo viên chấm phản biện**

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**2. Những mặt còn hạn chế**

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**3. Ý kiến của giảng viên chấm phản biện**

Được bảo vệ  Không được bảo vệ  Điểm phản biện

*Hải Phòng, ngày ... tháng ... năm .....*

**Giảng viên chấm phản biện**

*(Ký và ghi rõ họ tên)*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1. Rationale.....	1
2. Aims of the study. ....	2
3. Research questions .....	2
4. Scope of the study. ....	3
5. Method of study. ....	3
6. Design of study.....	3
<b>CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW</b> .....	<b>4</b>
2.1. Vocabulary .....	4
2.1.1. Definition.....	4
2.1.2. Importance of English vocabulary. ....	5
2.2. Challenges to improve English for adults. ....	7
2.3. Advantage when adults learning English.....	8
2.3.1. Adults are able to cope with memorising better. ....	8
2.3.2. Adults have a well-developed vocabulary in one or more languages.....	8
2.3.3. Adults have a big social circle. ....	9
2.4. Importance of learning English vocabulary. ....	9
2.5. Techniques to improve vocabulary effectively.....	11
<b>CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY</b> .....	<b>12</b>
3.1. Description of the participants. ....	12
3.2. Description of the setting. ....	13
3.3. Survey questionnaire. ....	13
3.4. The survey questionnaire and the data analysis. ....	15
3.5. The interview.....	23
<b>CHAPTER 4: FINDING AND DISCUSSION</b> .....	<b>27</b>



1. Major finding.....	27
1.1. Findings of the survey questionnaire .....	27
1.2. The findings from the interview.....	28
2. Discussion. ....	29
<b>CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>32</b>
1. Recapitulation.....	32
2. Limitation. ....	32
3. Suggestions for further study. ....	33
<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Appendices .....	36

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Hai Phong, January 2021

*Student*

Tran Duy Anh

# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

## 1. Rationale

At present, no one denies the important of English language as the global language. Clearly, English has become more and more dominant around the world. Obviously, in some countries it is used as the mother tongue and other countries learn English as second language in theirs school and whole society. English is the language of science and technology and there is no doubt that English is language of communication between the people from different cultures. It is also the language of computers that help to integrate the people around the world via Internet technology and e-mail. Needless to say, people who know English can deal with the Internet. For this reason, the need of mastering a foreign language especially English, is becoming more and more necessary. Specially, that is adults people who working with foreign people and foreign company.

As for as we are concerned, studying a language cannot be separated from studying vocabulary. Yet it is true that the vocabulary is the focus of language. It is in words that sound and meaning interlock to allow us to communicate with one another, and it is word that we arrange together to make sentences, conversation, and discourse of all kinds. Besides, vocabulary really plays an important role because it appears in every language skill. Obviously, vocabulary is really important in any language learning.

However, it is not easy to study English vocabulary especially that is adults people. Almost adults people usually face up with some problems in vocabulary specially too old people. In fact, it is extremely hard to remember a new word

with its meaning, spelling and pronunciation, many adults people are usually confused with knowing how can apply grammar into sentences, sometimes, they cannot understand when being opposed to video and audio. Moreover, techniques to teach English for adults people is traditional teaching methods and like primary school, which makes them become fed up and hard to understand with learning English. Therefore, interesting and fit techniques to teach English are necessary to help adults learning English vocabulary better, they also attract them interest on English.

From the above reasons, I have the ambition of presenting some effective techniques to teach English for adults with hope that they will be quickly receptive in English. Due to my English knowledge limitation and the frame of the graduation paper, I would like to choose the research paper entitle: “ A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners”.

## **2. Aims of the study.**

The main goal of my research is to suggest some techniques to teach English vocabulary for adults learners to help them learn English vocabulary more effectively. In order to gain this aim, the specific objectives of the study are:

- To find out what problems adults learners often encounter.
- To figure out the techniques that are suitable for adults learners learn.

## **3. Research questions**

The study was an investigation of improving English vocabulary. It aimed to reveal the real situation of their English vocabulary improving techniques. In order to fulfill the above objectives, the following questions need answering:

- What problems do adults learners often encounter?
- What techniques are suitable for adults learners learn?

#### **4. Scope of the study.**

The study focuses on techniques to improve vocabulary learning for adults learners. This study is conducted on 60 participants who are working for H&T company.

#### **5. Method of study.**

To carry out this method, questionnaires and interviews are used to collect data. The data of survey will help to find out techniques to improve English vocabulary for adult learners in my company (H&T). Data is collected based on their own experiences.

#### **6. Design of study.**

This study consists in four chapters:

Chapter 1 : Introduction

In this chapter, I will introduce rationale, the aim of study, the research, the scope of study, the method of study and design of study.

Chapter 2 : Literature review.

This chapter presents major concepts about vocabulary learning and an overview of adult learners and their difficulties

Chapter 3: Methodology

In this chapter, we will focus on contains survey questionnaire, data analysis as well as methods.

Chapter 4: Finding and discussion

In this chapter, some finding and discussion for further research are stated.

Chapter 4: Conclusion.

This chapter summarises the main points presented in this research with limitation and suggestions for further study being added

## CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1. Vocabulary

“If language structures make up the skeleton of language, then it is vocabulary that provides the vital organs and the flesh”, (Harmer 1993). Ever since language teaching came into its own as a profession in the twentieth century, there have been persistent considerations of vocabulary in whatever approaches and methods are involved in classroom teaching, despite the fact that some approaches or methods do not attach saliency to the role which vocabulary plays. Recently, however, methodologists and linguists have increasingly turning their attention to vocabulary, stressing its importance in language teaching and reassessing some of the ways in which it is taught and learned.

Firstly, to master the techniques of improving vocabulary, especially for adults, it is impossible not to mention the concept of vocabulary.

#### 2.1.1. Definition.

In fact, there are many definitions of vocabulary which can be found in many various resources words in a dictionary and using the words in sentence. Moreover, vocabulary is acquired incidentally through indirect exposure to words and intentionally through explicit instruction in specific instruction in specific words and word-learning strategies. From the book entitled - A course in Language Teaching written by Penny Ur (1990:60) vocabulary is defined - Vocabulary can be defined, roughly, as the words we teach in the foreign language. However, a new item of vocabulary may be more than a single word. For example “foot path”, “railway station”, “forget me not”, which are made up of more than one word but express a single idea. There are also multi-word idioms such as once in a blue moon, where the meaning of the phrase cannot be deduced

from an analysis of the component words. A useful convention is to cover all such cases by talking about vocabulary items rather than words. According to Richard, Platt (1992), vocabulary is a set of lexemes, including single words, compound words and idioms.”(p. 40). Whereas, the Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (1995) offered its own definition. Vocabulary here is simply understood as —the total number of words in a language.”

Nguyen Bang and Nguyen Ba Hoc (2002) considered their following definition of vocabulary as logical. According to them, when the term vocabulary of a language was mentioned, it should be mentioned as consisting of all the words, compounds and idioms used to transmit information on both oral and written communication. In conclusion, it is easy to see that there are many ways to define vocabulary. The way that linguists choose to define vocabulary depends on the way he assesses the importance of the components of each language. Of 14 all the above definitions, the one that Richard and Platt (1992) proposes in the Dictionary of language teaching and applied linguistics is perhaps one of the most widely-accepted definitions since it given us the whole scope of vocabulary.

Here are some main definitions of vocabulary: According to Steven Stalh (2005), it has been said that - Vocabulary knowledge is knowledge, the knowledge of a word not only implies a definition, but also implies how that word first into the world. Vocabulary knowledge is not something that can ever be fully mastered, it is something that expands and deepens over the course of a lifetime. 13 Because instruction in vocabulary involves far more than looking up.

### **2.1.2. Importance of English vocabulary.**

It is impossible to assume the importance of vocabulary in English learning because of different reasons. Partly, it is the key to master English knowledge. On a personal level, a good vocabulary is important in sharpening one’s perception.

Thought and perception, to become fully conscious, must be formulated in words. Thus the more words one has to make fine distinctions among one's own observations or feelings and among things in the world, the more one can become a fully aware and perceptive human being. Not surprisingly, some psychological research studies have validated the hypothesis that vocabulary and mental acuity are interrelated. A good vocabulary is important not only for more precision in thought but also in one's daily affairs, the actions one must perform both on and off the job in ordinary living. Basically, people can relate to other people (love ones, friends, co-workers, society at large) and the rest of the external world (nature) in only two ways: physically and verbally.

Vocabulary plays an important role in combining 4 basic English skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Naturally, when having multiform vocabulary, it is extremely advantageous to develop 4 above skills. For example, if we lack of necessary vocabulary, it will be difficult to express any ideas to others. Therefore, our speaking skill cannot make any progress. Moreover, sometimes it makes confusion among people and lead to many inconvenient situations. Additionally, if it is supposed that you have a poor vocabulary, how can you write a lively and excellent essay or normal paragraphs? Truly, it requires a great number of vocabulary. We have to understand and remember what we have learned to use vocabulary in each situation effectively. Frequently reading comprehension, and thus retention are faulty because of a learner's less than adequate vocabulary. With the lack of vocabulary, it is difficult to communicate with other people confidently. Moreover, it is easy to have misunderstanding in the process of exchanging information. It is hard to express ideas and explain something necessary. Only when having a great number of vocabulary can we make a progress in developing 4 skills. In communication, it is a decisive factor to make us talk with others actively and understand each other quickly. With a poor vocabulary, the free flow of ideas and pen is blocked and dribbles out. With a



good vocabulary, it will be helped to flow, unimpeded. Consider the importance of vocabulary in learning foreign language. The mastery of this element should be ensured and developed. Otherwise the vocabulary mastery of learners as children will be limited and consequence of it is that they will find difficulties in learning the skill of language.

Talking about the importance of vocabulary, the linguist David Wilkins argued that: “without grammar little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed.”

## **2.2. Challenges to improve English for adults.**

Learning a foreign language has some obvious benefits: you can learn about other cultures, improve your job prospects and travel through foreign countries more easily. However, learning a foreign language has some disadvantages, too, such as the cost of language courses and the time it requires. Weighing the costs and benefits can help you decide whether learning a foreign language is the right choice for you.

### **2.2.1. Cost.**

Learning a foreign language can be expensive, especially if you take college courses or pay for private tutoring. It's possible to learn a foreign language from books or computer programs, which often cost less, but practicing speaking with others usually makes learning more fun and effective.

### **2.2.2. Difficulty.**

Learning a foreign language is challenging. Many languages have different systems of grammar, and some languages use a completely different alphabet and different sounds. And learning thousands of new vocabulary words isn't easy, either.

### ***2.2.3. Opportunity Cost.***

The opportunity cost of studying a foreign language is the value of what you could do instead. Studying a foreign language requires a significant investment of your time, effort and money. You could do something else with those resources, such as spend time with your family, improve your math skills, increase your reading speed, study for the SAT, plant a garden, exercise or learn a hobby, such as knitting.

### ***2.2.4. Usefulness.***

Knowing a foreign language isn't useful to some people. For example, if you can't afford to travel or aren't interested in visiting other countries, you might never get to speak the language with natives. In addition, although speaking a foreign language makes traveling more fun, it's easy to get around in many countries while speaking English. Knowing a foreign language is a prized asset in some careers, but it's not helpful for many jobs. And some foreign languages, such as Latin or Ancient Greek, aren't even spoken anymore.

## **2.3. Advantage when adults learning English.**

Learning is a process that never ends throughout the lifetime of one. So if you feel that your English proficiency is insufficient to be on par with the demands of the market, why limit yourself and stop improving? We might always be told that it is going to be difficult for adults to achieve native-like fluency in speaking because it is difficult to change one's accent. But that is not all to a language! English is so much more than the accent itself. If we look closer into it, adults have a greater leverage over children in learning. These are the few reasons why.

### ***2.3.1. Adults are able to cope with memorising better.***

Adults are relatively more disciplined to learn something regularly compared to a child or teenager. They are also able to find patterns that can help them memorize new words and the change of forms in English. Given this, not only can they learn independently, they will also improve much faster if they seek out help from English language schools or English tuition centers.

### ***2.3.2. Adults have a well-developed vocabulary in one or more languages.***

Never thought this would be a bonus for learning English? Well, now you know. When we are learning abstract terms and concepts in English, we could easily borrow the existence of the word or concept from other languages to aid understanding. Adults can relate their existing knowledge of the world to their learning of English very quickly.

### ***2.3.3. Adults have a big social circle.***

What does that have to do with adults learning English? Well, the more people we know, the more we get to practice. The English speaking community is pretty widespread as people speak English all over Singapore. For starters, the language used in conversations might be broken, but we have the practice field ready for us to apply what we have learnt.

## **2.4. Importance of learning English vocabulary.**

Learning a new language as an adult has a series of advantages that are described below:

- Adults have a more developed cognitive system; therefore, it is much easier to understand new things with their greater experience of learning. They have a greater knowledge of themselves and of the learning techniques that work best for them. Thus, an adult is much more efficient at studying a new language.
- Adults have more experience, with which they will be capable of making more associations with vocabulary that they are learning.
- Adults possess a wider vocabulary and a better understanding of concepts. This for example will allow them to understand things more easily and form abstract grammatical constructions.
- There are many possibilities when learning. An adult has a greater motivation for learning, and this will mean that they find fun alternatives to use in order to achieve their aims. They may look for an English course, benefit from the advantages of going on a linguistic immersion programme abroad, read books, or even watch films or series in their original versions.

Learning a new language can become a truly exciting hobby, and moreover, it has important benefits:

- ✓ Increase in Intellectual Development.
- ✓ When learning a new language, you have to try very hard to absorb new sounds, new words and grammatical forms, among many other things. Consequently, you will improve your intellectual performance and increase your capacity to concentrate. In this manner, you will be able to manage yourself in different situations simultaneously.
- ✓ Neurological experts state that there is no better exercise for the brain than keeping it working by learning a new language. Practicing English activates your memory and creates new connections in your brain when changing from one language to another.
- ✓ It Strengthens your Memory.
- ✓ With the effort that is implied when practicing English, remembering sounds, words, and grammatical forms, you end up strengthening your memory.
- ✓ By reinforcing your mental capacity, you can even decrease your chances that in the future, you will suffer from some kind of cognitive deterioration.
- ✓ Improve your “Mental Flexibility” or Neurological Regeneration.
- ✓ By learning a second language, your capacity of neurological regeneration increases. Why? Well it is because during this process of learning a language, all your cognitive functions are working, and by changing from our native language to one that we are learning, we are having to create more neurological connections.
- ✓ A study carried out by University College London concluded that with learning a new language, we acquire greater cognitive speed.

- ✓ Making New Friends.
- ✓ If you have decided to learn English as an adult, another of the advantages is that you will be able to meet new people that are in the same position as yourself.
- ✓ You will be able to share interests and worries during this process, and in time, gain the necessary motivation to continue day after day with practicing the language. There is nothing better than making friends with those who support and share this hobby.( Follow this path with Nathalie Languages ).

## **2.5. Techniques to improve vocabulary effectively**

Knowing how to improve English vocabulary relevant to your English needs is one of the most important skills you can learn if you want to become fluent in English.

When you have an extensive vocabulary repertoire, you are able to express your opinions clearer and in more detail, you feel and sound more confident, you understand natives with greater facility, and others find it easier to comprehend you.

On the other hand, when you lack vocabulary it can make you feel frustrated and insecure about expressing your opinions in English.

In this article, I teach you a 5 step strategy on how to quickly improve English vocabulary for your immediate goals.

- Step 1: Define the Vocabulary You Need.
- Step 2: Learn Vocabulary through Input Skills (Reading and Listening).
- Step 3: Organize and Store the New Vocabulary.
- Step 4: Put the Vocabulary into Practice through Output Skills (Speaking and Writing).
- Step 5: Review the Vocabulary.

## CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

The chapter deals with the method that has been employed for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the study. It also provides some information about the current situation of learning of adults. The researcher analyses the data collected and then come up with certain findings on the improving English vocabulary for adults.

### **3.1. Description of the participants.**

With the aim of completing the research, the researcher will need a group of participants called the population of the study. In this study, people of H&T company in Vietnam will be the population.

The researcher selected 60 people who are working in H&T company. There are 48 female and 12 male and they are not same age so I will distribute them to 3 groups. Group 1 aged from 18 to 24, group 2 aged from 24 to 40 and last group aged more than 40. Each group have 20 people. All of them are staff and they come from QC ( *Quality control* ) and PMC ( *Project management Consultant* ) department. However, their English backgrounds are quite similar because they did not use English for long time, they did not have many chances to practice four English skills. Thus, when entering Company, their English levels were limited and they have to face up with many difficulties in studying. Especially, they have totally recognized their difficulties, knowledge limitation, and the shortage of learning skills, needs and attitudes related to learning English vocabulary, especially specialized English vocabulary, or even the way they use to comprehend specialized English vocabulary in their learning process. All of them graduated from High school and most have experience in studying English. They always try their best to meet the demands of work and learn English. They really

want to improve English vocabulary for their career and some one learn for their privacy reason.

### **3.2. Description of the setting.**

H&T INTELLIGENT CONTROL (VIETNAM) COMPANY LIMITED has located in No. 35 Lot CN8, An Industrial Park, Hong Phong Commune, An Duong District, Hai Phong. In this research it is called H&T Co. for short. This is Chinese Company. Business major of company is producing motors, generators, electric transformers, electric distribution and control equipment. Specifically, they co-produce for companies from Oceania and America. Thus English is very important with staff of company beside Chinese. Therefore, they need to improve their English vocabulary about electronic major. The company always attach special importance to train second language ( Chinese – English ) beside vocational training. It is really important with staff of company if they want to get to higher position. Because if they know Chinese, they just have working in internal of company but if they know English they can working with partner in other country. Company will concern people who know Chinese and English higher finance and will be appointed them to a higher post.

### **3.3. Survey questionnaire.**

The survey questionnaires for adults consist of 8 questions and were delivered to 60 people of H&T company to find information among 8 questions the first part are designed for finding important of English from part II mainly seek for the current techniques of learning English for adults in h&t company and the final part is finding difficult when they learn English. Before asking the learners to do the survey questionnaire, the researcher briefly stated the purpose and significance of the study and clarified any misunderstanding about the survey questions. In the end, there were 60 people participating in giving responses to the survey questionnaire.

The present study uses questionnaire and interview as two instruments to collect quantitative data and qualitative information, to find out the adults learners 's response to the above two questions. And then, based on the analysis of the results of the study, related suggestions for improving English vocabulary for adults learners are proposed accordingly. The brief descriptions of each instrument are present as follows:

➤ ***The survey questionnaire :***

In this study, questionnaires are selected as the important data collection instrument because it provides the data and information about the improving English vocabulary of adults learners at H&T company. Its aim is to do research on adults learners attitudes and expectations about learning English vocabulary.

The questionnaires including **8** questions as follows:

- ❖ First part are designed for finding the important of English.
  - ✓ *The number of volunteer perceived importance of learning English vocabulary.*
  - ✓ *Why do you want to learn and improve English vocabulary.*
  
- ❖ Part two mainly seek for the current techniques of learning English for adults in H&T company.
  - ✓ *Which learning techniques do you often use most and its effectiveness.*
  - ✓ *Which kind of mnemonic do you use to improve your English vocabulary.*
  - ✓ *How much time do you spend on learning English a day.*
  - ✓ *Which materials do you often use to learn English new vocabulary.*
  
- ❖ Third part is difficulties when they learn English
  - ✓ *Which skill is the most difficult.*
  - ✓ *The difficult factors affecting in improving English vocabulary of adults.*



### 3.4. The survey questionnaire and the data analysis.

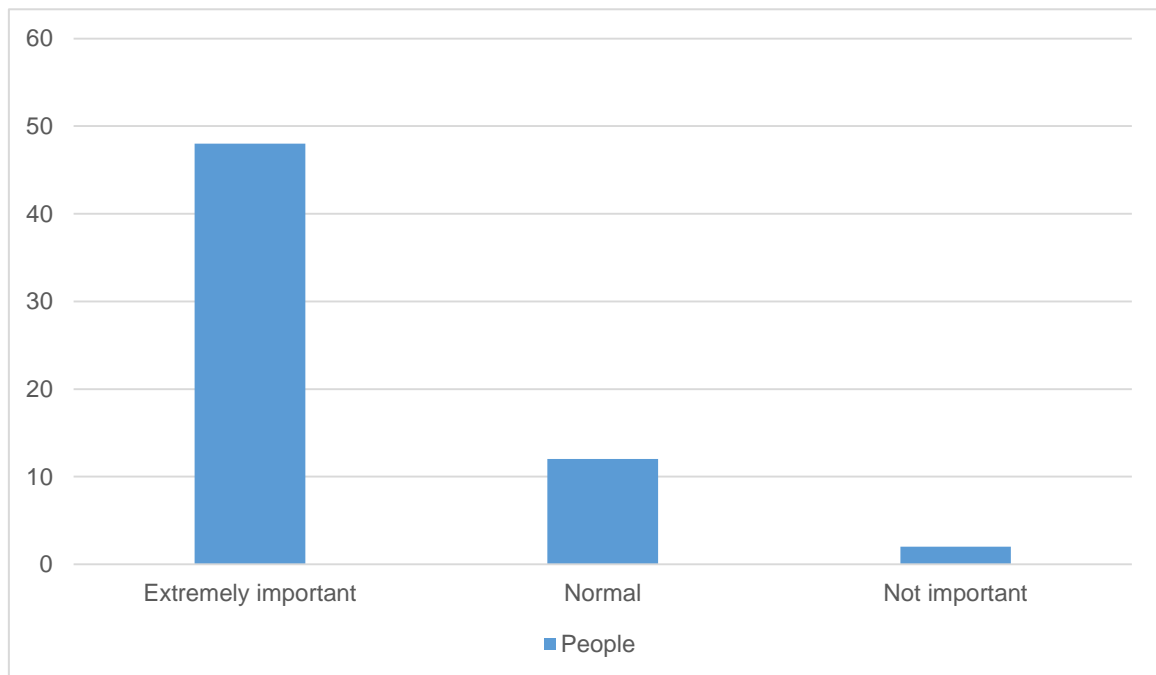
From Table 1 percent of the respondents were female. The majority of people (60%) come from QC department and the last come from PMC.

<b>GENDER</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
<i>Male</i>	12	24%
<i>Female</i>	48	76%
<b>TOTAL</b>	60	100%
<b>Department</b>		
<i>QC</i>	30	50%
<i>PMC</i>	30	50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	60	100%

Table 1: Frequency of using English among male and female workers at H&T Co.

### Question 1. The number of volunteers who perceived importance of learning English vocabulary.

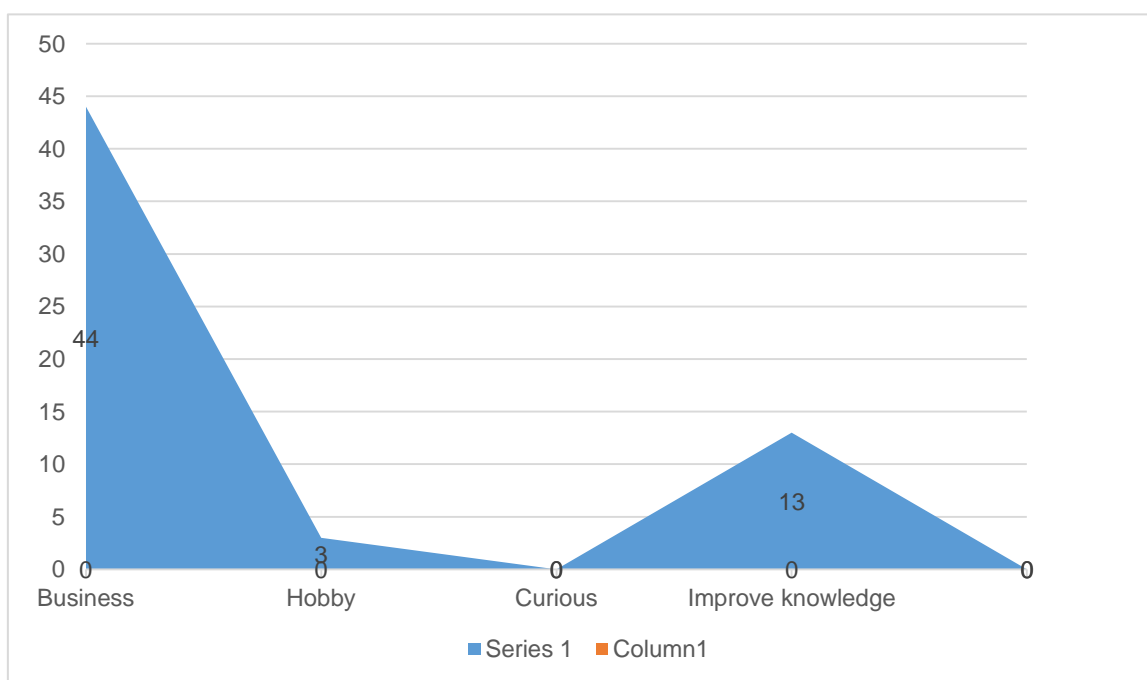
- A. Extremely important
- B. Normal
- C. Not important



As can be seen from pie chart 1, the high people of the respondents (48 people) considered learning English extremely important to them while 12 stated it was normal and 2 of the respondents mentioned was not important. In general, most of people were aware of the importance of learning English in their career. However, some of them did not admit this because they are working in China company. English just is second language after Chinese.

**Question 2. Why do you want to learn and improve English vocabulary?**

- A. Bussiness
- B. Hobby
- C. Curiosity
- D. Improving knowledge

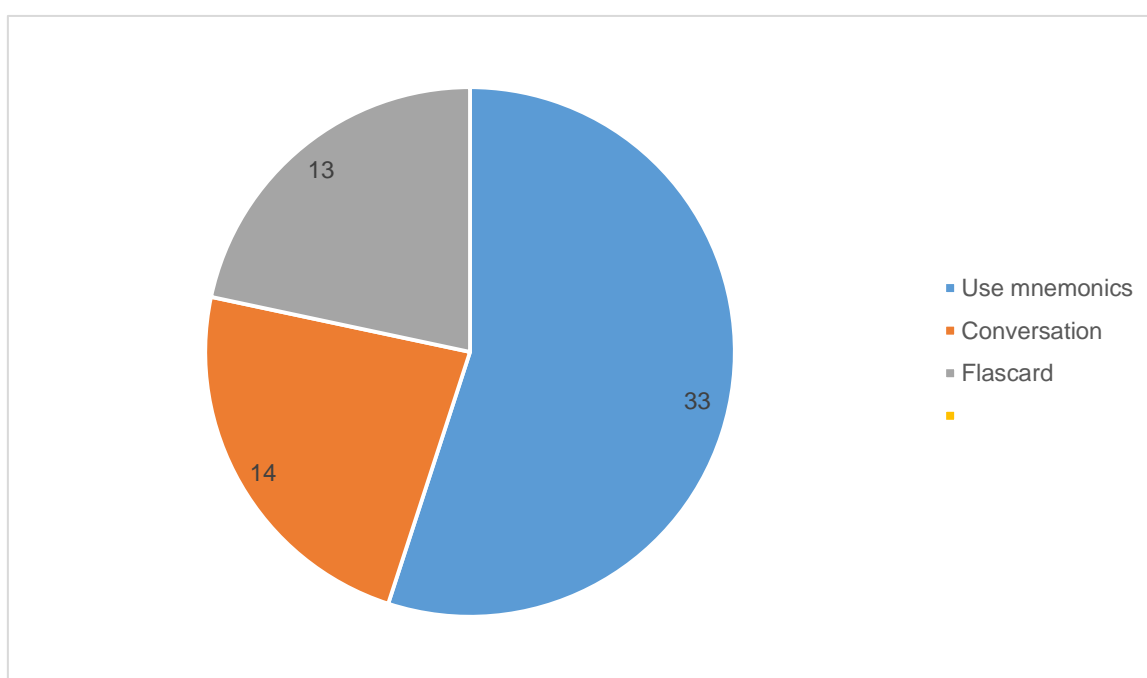


The area chart shows that why it is necessary for adults to learn and improve vocabulary because of above reasons. The majority of adults (33 people) learn vocabulary to help for their career. 13 people of them learn to improve english vocabulary, while the other 4 people of them improve the vocabulary because their hobby . In conclusion, for adults learners, learning vocabulary is really an important and necessary skill to gain their reasonable aims. This area chart shows

that most of adults learners in H&T know that learning English vocabulary skill plays an important role in learning English with a lot of fields in life.

### Question 3. Which learning techniques do you often use?

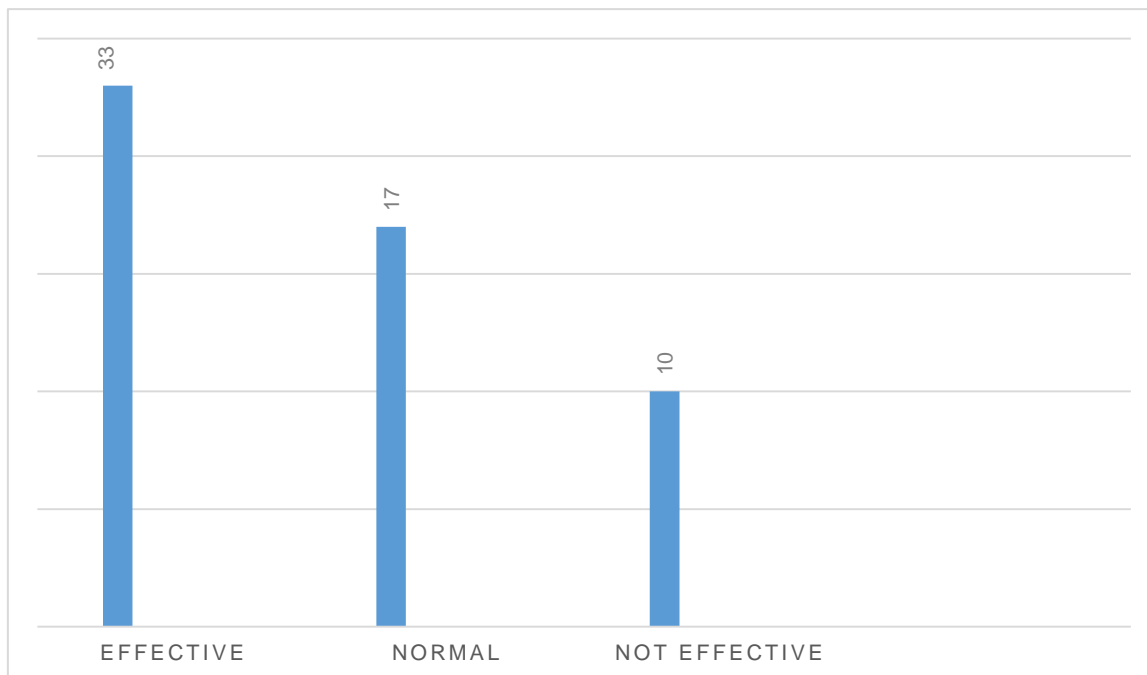
- A. Use mnemonics
- B. Practice using new words in conversation
- C. Use flashcards



As can be seen from the pie chart, the high people of the respondents (14 people) considered learning English through practice using new words in conversation to them while 33 stated using mnemonics it was 13 of the respondents mentioned was using flashcards. In general, most of people were aware of the importance of learning English in their career. However, some of them did not admit this because they are working in China company. English just is second language after Chinese.

**Question 4. What kind of mnemonic do you use to improve your English vocabulary?**

- A. Keep an organised vocabulary notebook.
- B. Using tool app.
- C. Look at the words again after 24 hours, after one week and after one month.



The number of people keeps an organised vocabulary notebook because it is very traditional tip and they feel effective. 17 people think using tool app more effective than notebook, 10 people think just looking is enough.

**Question 5. How much time do you spend on learning English a day?**

1 hours	More than 1 hour	30 minutes	Lack of time
21	7	28	4

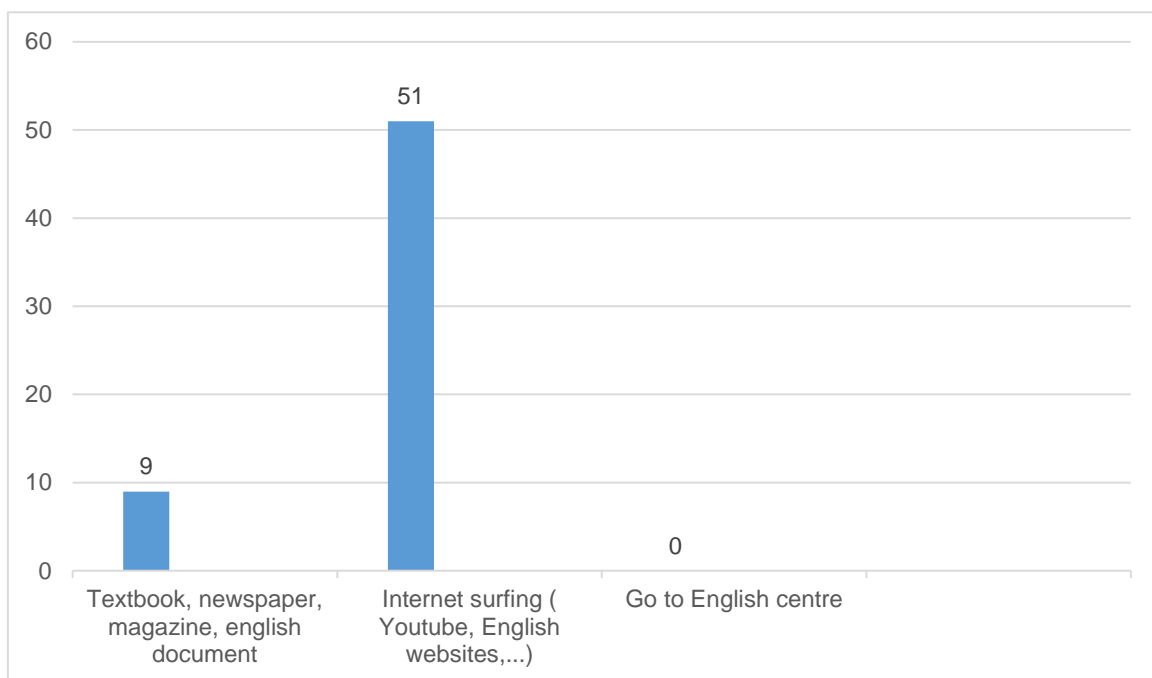
*Table 2: Adults learners' spending time for learning English vocabulary a day.*

It can be seen obviously in the table that improving English vocabulary is very difficult to spend time to learn. A relatively a lot of people of respondents choose

learning 1 hours with 21 people 7 people learn more than 1 hours, 28 people choose 30 minutes and 4 people said they did not have time to study . From the result of questionnaire, it was found that almost all of the people have difficulties in improving English vocabulary because they do not have time to learn. They always need work overtime to earn money and that is required of their job.

**Question 6. Which materials do adults learners often use to learn English new vocabulary?**

- A. Textbook, newspaper, magazine, English document.
- B. Internet
- C. English centre

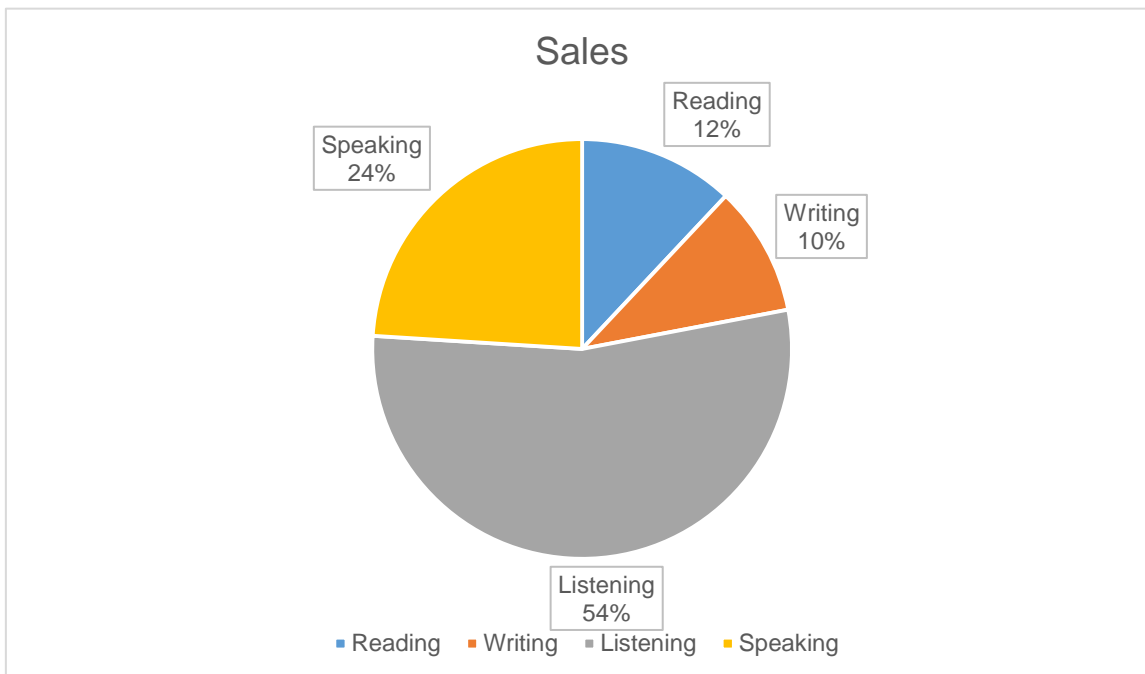


This table shows the frequency of use of adults learners. There are 2 type of techniques which they often use to learn vocabulary. This information also tells us that they often study new words in Internet surfing ( Youtube, English website ) (51 people)..., but they rarely find new vocabulary during textbook or another english document and no one go to English centre to learn . Knowing this also

suggests what type of learning is being done by adults or what they did or did not do to improve their vocabulary.

**Question 7. Which skill is the most difficult for you?**

- A. Reading
- B. Writing
- C. Listening
- D. Speaking

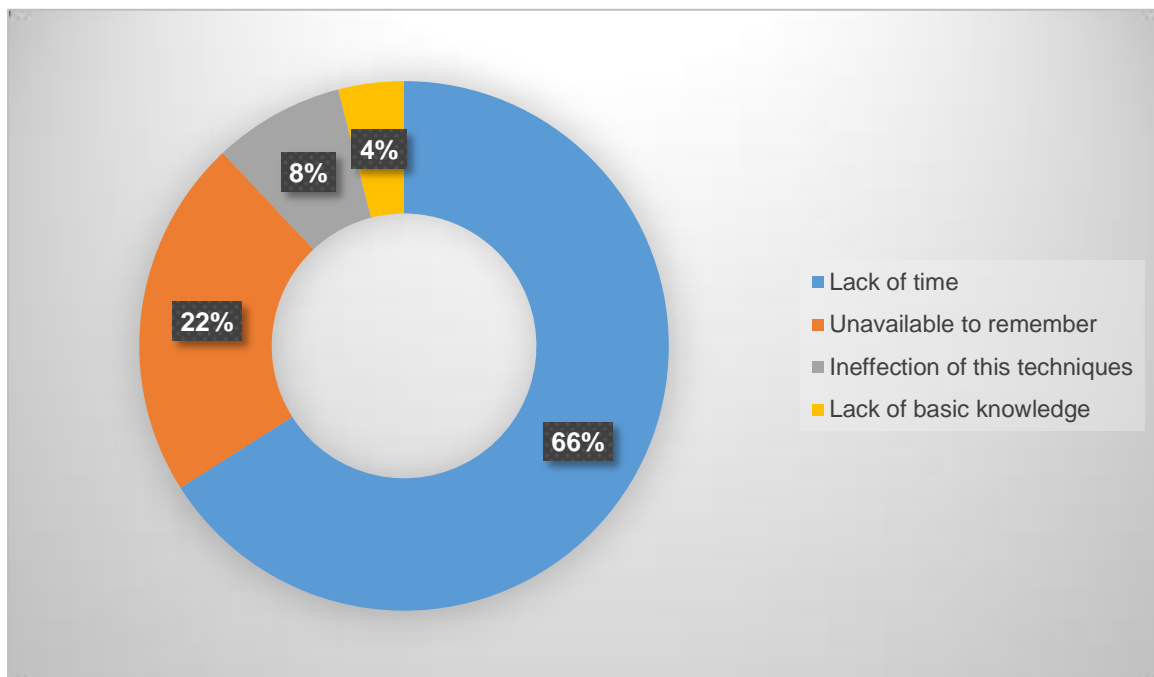


The chart 7 gives us the answer for the fourth question: “ which skill do you think is the most difficult?”. It is very surprising to know that 53% volunteer think Listening is the most difficult skill. , . So, why volenteer suppose listening is the most difficult skill? Some interviewed volunteer said to me that: “ There are so many kinds of speaking or pronunciation which are too difficult for them to listen because the people in company come to different country.

**Question 8. What are the difficult factors affecting your improving English vocabulary?**

- A. Lack of time.
- B. Unavailble to remember.
- C. Ineffection of techniques.

#### D. Lack of basic knowledge



##### - *Lack of time:*

66% people affirm that they do not have time to learn. From family commitments to pressing work deadlines. From social engagements to paying bills. For many of us, free time is one of our most prized possessions, and we value all our time highly. They always need to work in company and they need to overtime 5-6 times per week for many reasons such as earn money, requirement of company.

##### - *Unavailable to remember:*

22% people suppose they can not remember vocabulary. So why is it that they forget vocabulary? Decay theory suggests that unless we use the vocabulary that is stored regularly, it will slowly disappear from our memory. A second theory suggests that information in fact stays in our memory, but we are unable to reach it. Cue-dependent forgetting is an idea based on experiments where subjects found they forgot lists of learnt words but could remember them if they were



given appropriate information to help them recall. With a cue, ('It's a fruit' when they were trying to remember the word 'pear') performance was greatly enhanced.

*- Ineffection of this techniques:*

Some people think this techniques is not good for them. They suppose this techniques waste of their time because they just need communication ( speaking and listening ). They do not want to write of read anything else.

*- Lack of basic knowledge:*

Remember that you must have basic English knowledge here because this is just the techniques to develop and improve your English vocabulary. This techniques can show you how to improve your vocabulary, it can not show you how you can learn English from zero.

### **3.5. The interview.**

To help the surveyed sample improve their English vocabulary, I came up with 5-step suggestions for them to improve their English vocabulary. This part presented the effective methods for problems that adults are suffering from improving English.

#### ***Question 1: How do you define the Vocabulary You Need?***

Most of the surveyed participants say that they choose reading material which is going to interest them, and even better, actually use the vocabulary related to the topic they are reading about in your day-to-day, because using and putting the vocabulary into practice is what makes them remember it. Most of the surveyed participants say that they choose reading material which is going to interest them, and even better, actually use the vocabulary related to the topic they are reading about in your day-to-day, because using and putting the vocabulary into practice is what makes them remember it.

When they read about a topic which is interesting and relevant, they are going to be more engaged. This will increase their chances of remembering the new vocabulary, as well as increasing their motivation to read more. This creates an ongoing cycle of more contact with English, leading to faster improvement.

What is important is that they narrow down your specific need for improving English vocabulary, and focus their practice on that.

***Question 2: What input skills do you master to learn vocabulary?***

Most of the participants answer that these skills are Reading and Listening help them to build vocabulary through a reading source like an article, and then a listening source like a YouTube video.

*As for reading:*

Start by choosing one topic of interest, for example, the American Economy.

Then search for an article about the American economy like this one in The Week.

will find specific Economics terms like ‘GDP – Gross Domestic Product’, ‘recession’ ‘Presidential Election’, ‘long-term interest rates’, etc. Then take note of the new vocabulary (More about this in Step 3).

*In terms of Listening :*

Do another search, but this time for listening material. This could include podcasts or YouTube videos, for example, this video from Fox Business. Just like the article, you will come across lots of vocabulary related to the American Economy. And there is a good chance that some of the vocabulary which you saw in the article will also be in the video. This helps to reinforce the vocabulary because you are seeing it more than once in a slightly different context.

***Question 3: How do you organize and store the new vocabulary?***

The surveyed sample believe that it's useful to have somewhere to store and organize it all, so that can refer back and review it. There are a few different ways they can organize vocabulary. The first is the traditional way which is writing it down in a notebook in the form of organized lists.

Another way for them is to use a spreadsheet, such as Google Sheets. Here they can create unlimited lists and keep on adding to them. Google Sheets are also useful in the way they can access them on an app in their smartphone as well as their computer.

The third option is to use a digital flashcard app, such as Anki, Flashcard Deluxe or Quislet. With all these apps they can create a unique set of flashcards for different vocabulary topics and easily review the new vocabulary through testing themselves

***Question 4: What output skills do you use to improve your vocabulary?***

Their answer mostly is to 'produce' the vocabulary through the 'output' skills (speaking and writing), which have just learned through the input skills (reading and listening).

'Produce' means put into practice. Now the new vocabulary is going to go 'out' of you (Output), whereas before, the vocabulary was coming 'in' to them (Input).

This is a vital step because using the new vocabulary really helps you remember it.

*For the writing*, one option is to write a summary about the topic of the video or article. Another is to write an essay or your own article expressing your opinion about the topic.

The idea is to put to use the vocabulary they have learned, as writing helps you to internalize the vocabulary. Ideally, they should then have an English trainer to have a look and give you feedback.

*For Speaking*, they are going to speak about the topic to a friend, colleague or teacher. If they don't have anybody to speak to, they can practice this on their own, record themselves, then listen back. Just like the writing exercise, they are going to use the topic of the article or video as a base. Speaking exercises include summarising, discussing the topic and expressing their opinion about it. A very effective exercise is to give a presentation about it, using slides. Giving presentations is a great way to remember new vocabulary because through the preparation you will be repeating the vocabulary a lot, which makes it stick. At this point, they have read, listened, written and spoken about the same topic. Imagine how much more prepared they are to speak about this topic now, as opposed to going into this topic without any prior exposure!

***Question 5: How do they review the Vocabulary?***

The answer is they must review it or have contact with it in some way because it is incredible how quickly they can forget vocabulary when stop using it. The reason why Step 4 (Organize New Vocabulary) exists in this strategy for improving their English vocabulary, is to make Step 5 happen. It is difficult to review vocabulary if it isn't stored in an organized way. First of all, choose the way they are going to organize the vocabulary, then decide how they are going to review it.

## CHAPTER 4: FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Major finding.

#### *1.1. Findings of the survey questionnaire*

According to the survey questions, most of people recognize importance of learning English to their career. The survey question can prove this point. English is the language of business and communication worldwide. need to learn English to get the best job or a promotion at work as well as to get higher income.

They would like use to traditional techniques to remember such as Use mnemonics, conversation, Keep an organised vocabulary notebook, etc. But the materials which adults learners often use to learn English new vocabulary is internet because it is really convenient, save and can use it everywhere as well as anytime want.

But, they cannot improve their English because of many reasons. According to the results, the factors that cause problems and of adults in H&T company improving English vocabulary were:

- Lack of time,
- Ability to remember,
- Ineffection of techniques,
- Need more time to rest.

Especially, they do not want to go to English Centre to study because they always need to work in company and they need to overtime 5-6 times per week for many reasons suck as earn money, requirement of company, from family commitments to pressing work deadlines, social engagements to paying bills. For many of us, free time is one of our most prized possessions, and we value all our time highly. Five question of techniques to improve English vocabulary referred below table. To each statement, the participants are also asked to rate on a five point scale with

1 means never or almost never true. 2 stands for usually not true 3 means sometime true for me and 4 represents always or almost true. The aim of this section is checking effect of my techniques with adults learners.

no	Effectiveness of techniques	Number of people
1	never or almost never true	2
2	usually not true	16
3	sometime true	26
4	always or almost true	16

As it has been illustrated in the table, in the number one, "never or almost never true" rank less popular than all of them, which suggested the subjects are all positive with regard to identifying important thing to be learned . Word lists are also popular one which illustrates that most of them have plan to learn in advance.

With regard to number 2, according to above table, it is clearly that a lot of people thinks “usually not true”, they complain that it take too much time and need take a rest after working whole day and overtime. believe that earn money for present also important like learning english for future.

The next is number 3. It is clearly that these techniques have highest rank among all the table. They agree with these techniques and follow this techniques to improve their English vocabulary. But lack of time is also reasons to hamper them learning more.

## 1.2. The findings from the interview.

Most of the surveyed participants say that choose reading material which is going to interest them, and even better, actually use the vocabulary related to the topic are reading about in your day-to-day, because using and putting the vocabulary into practice is what makes them remember it. This will increase your

chances of remembering the new vocabulary, as well as increasing your motivation to read more. This creates an ongoing cycle of more contact with English, leading to faster improvement.

Most of the participants answer that these skills are Reading and Listening. You help to build vocabulary through a reading source like an article, and then a listening source like a YouTube video.

The surveyed sample believe that it's useful to have somewhere to store and organize it all, so that they can refer back and review it. There are a few different ways you can organize vocabulary such as Google sheet, flashcard,...

Speaking and writing are to 'produce' the vocabulary through the 'output' skills (speaking and writing), which you have just learned through the input skills (reading and listening). 'Produce' means put into practice. Now the new vocabulary is going to go 'out' of you (Output), whereas before, the vocabulary was coming 'in' to you (Input). This is a vital step because using the new vocabulary really helps you remember it.

Speaking and writing are to 'produce' the vocabulary through the 'output' skills , 'Produce' means put into practice. Now the new vocabulary is going to go 'out' of you (Output), whereas before, the vocabulary was coming 'in' to you (Input). This is a vital step because using the new vocabulary really helps you remember it.

To retain vocabulary you must review it or have contact with it in some way because it is incredible how quickly we can forget vocabulary when we stop using it. Thus, you must spend time to learn English everyday.

## **2. Discussion.**

In general, Most of people have awareness to study and understand of techniques to improve English vocabulary. Everyone also understand how English important with them.

English is the language of business and communication worldwide. It shows your willingness to go beyond basic business standards. This means that in order to impress your interviewer or boss now, you have to show that you are extremely fluent and competent in both speaking and writing the language.

It will help you to communicate better with your foreign colleagues and boss. Working in an office means teamwork and collaboration. Even if you are an introvert (someone who prefers to spend more time alone), you will have to interact with your colleagues. And that will be difficult if you don't know the language speak very well. It also gives you an edge in other jobs as well.

Similarly, you need to learn English to get the best job or a promotion at work. For that you need superior networking skills. Learning business English helps you to develop both your language and interpersonal (communication) skills. Ultimately, it will help you to adequately express and represent yourself in front of other people.

Finally, it allows you to express yourself in a language that everyone understands. As I mentioned before, English is the “lingua franca” of the world due to Westernization and globalization. So being fluent in English is essentially a survival strategy in today's competitive world. It automatically improves your chances of climbing the corporate ladder.

The way you speak and communicate is also linked to your interpersonal skills, leadership qualities and level of empathy (ability to relate to other people). So mastering the language will help you master all the “soft skills” and “life skills” you need to succeed in the workplace, too!



Whether your motivation is to expand your knowledge of a specific topic, to upskill yourself in your current career or to prepare yourself for a career change, working full time while studying can be challenging

- *Difficult to maintain motivation*

Maintaining a work-life balance can be more difficult when you throw studying into the mix. There will be more distractions and a high demand for constant energy and concentration.

- *Time*

Studying alongside working makes it more likely that it will take longer for you to finish your qualification. When you have deadlines and schedules to stick to, both at work and as part of your course, it can be difficult to keep track of everything at once. Moreover, always need to work in company and need to work overtime a lot.

## **CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION**

### **1. Recapitulation.**

The aims at this study, the study is to suggest some techniques to teach English vocabulary for adults learners in H&T company to help them learn English vocabulary more effectively. To reach what the author aims at this study, the study is divided into four chapters with their own purposes. The first chapter introduces overview of study. The second chapter briefly covers the theories relating to the study. The third chapter presents the research methodology to learning vocabulary techniques study through the questionnaire and interviews. The chapter also helps the author find the answers for two research questions stated in the introduction. This chapter also put forth suggestions to improve techniques of learning specialized English vocabulary techniques for adult

### **2. Limitation.**

Although the study has certain strong points such as collection methods, namely interviews, survey questionnaires for students, due to limited time, lack of sources, the researcher's ability and other unexpected factors, it is obvious that the study has got a number of short-comings.

First of all, due to the limited of time, experience to some extent, just in H&T company which cannot make the results absolutely reliable.

Secondly, due to the limitation of scope of the study, the researcher only focuses on people who are working in H&t company. Therefore, the result of the study

can be generalized. Besides, the researcher could not cover all the aspects of difficulties.

In addition, the techniques suggested in this research are selected from different reliable but limited sources. In spite of the mentioned limitations, I hope that this exploratory research will contribute to the better situation of learning English for adults.

### **3. Suggestions for further study.**

Because of the limitation, this study could not cover all of aspects of the study. Besides, the study only focuses on improving for adults in het company. Moreover, for the further studies, to get better results, the researcher should invite more participants and the data collection method. Together with using survey questionnaires and interviews, observation is also necessary to get more persuasive conclusions. All in all, despite the study can avoid to the limitation, the research has been completed under the guiding of the supervisor and self-effort. Any comments and criticism will be highly appreciated for better further study.



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## Appendices

Appendix: The survey questionnaires “ techniques to improve english vocabular for adults learners ”. This survey questionnaire aims at finding out your attitude and your expectations toward learning English. Your answers will be used for researching purpose of my graduation paper entitled “A study of techniques to improve English vocabulary for adults learners”. Thanks for your help !

### **1. The number of volunteers who perceived importance of learning English vocabulary.**

- A. Extremely important
- B. Normal
- C. Not important

### **2. Why do you want to learn and improve English vocabulary?**

- A. For bussiness
- B. Hobby
- C. Curious
- D. improve knowledge

### **3. Which learning techniques do you often use?**

- A. Use mnemonics
- B. Practice using new words in conversation
- C. Use flashcards

### **4. What kind of mnemonic do you use to improve your English vocabulary?**

- A. Keep an organised vocabulary notebook.
- B. Using tool app.
- C. Look at the words again after 24 hours, after one week and after one month.

**5. How much time do you spend on learning English a day?**

<b>1 hours</b>	<b>More than 1 hour</b>	<b>30 minutes</b>	<b>Lack of time</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>

**6. Which materials do adults learners often use to learn new English vocabulary?**

- A. Textbook, newspaper, magazine, english document.
- B. Internet
- C. English centre

**7. Which skill is the most difficult for you?**

- A. Reading
- B. Writing
- C. Listening
- D. Speaking

**8. What are the difficult factors affecting your improving English vocabulary?**

- Lack of time.
- Unavailble to remember.
- Ineffection of techniques.
- Lack of basic knowledge