

## The top 500 spoken words

This is a list of the top 500 words in spoken North American English. It is based on a sample of four and a half million words of conversation from the Cambridge English Corpus. The most frequent word, *I*, is at the top of the list.

|    |        |    |         |     |           |
|----|--------|----|---------|-----|-----------|
| 1  | I      | 40 | really  | 79  | see       |
| 2  | and    | 41 | with    | 80  | how       |
| 3  | the    | 42 | he      | 81  | they're   |
| 4  | you    | 43 | one     | 82  | kind      |
| 5  | uh     | 44 | are     | 83  | here      |
| 6  | to     | 45 | this    | 84  | from      |
| 7  | a      | 46 | there   | 85  | did       |
| 8  | that   | 47 | I'm     | 86  | something |
| 9  | it     | 48 | all     | 87  | too       |
| 10 | of     | 49 | if      | 88  | more      |
| 11 | yeah   | 50 | no      | 89  | very      |
| 12 | know   | 51 | get     | 90  | want      |
| 13 | in     | 52 | about   | 91  | little    |
| 14 | like   | 53 | at      | 92  | been      |
| 15 | they   | 54 | out     | 93  | things    |
| 16 | have   | 55 | had     | 94  | an        |
| 17 | so     | 56 | then    | 95  | you're    |
| 18 | was    | 57 | because | 96  | said      |
| 19 | but    | 58 | go      | 97  | there's   |
| 20 | is     | 59 | up      | 98  | I've      |
| 21 | it's   | 60 | she     | 99  | much      |
| 22 | we     | 61 | when    | 100 | where     |
| 23 | huh    | 62 | them    | 101 | two       |
| 24 | just   | 63 | can     | 102 | thing     |
| 25 | oh     | 64 | would   | 103 | her       |
| 26 | do     | 65 | as      | 104 | didn't    |
| 27 | don't  | 66 | me      | 105 | other     |
| 28 | that's | 67 | mean    | 106 | say       |
| 29 | well   | 68 | some    | 107 | back      |
| 30 | for    | 69 | good    | 108 | could     |
| 31 | what   | 70 | got     | 109 | their     |
| 32 | on     | 71 | OK      | 110 | our       |
| 33 | think  | 72 | people  | 111 | guess     |
| 34 | right  | 73 | now     | 112 | yes       |
| 35 | not    | 74 | going   | 113 | way       |
| 36 | um     | 75 | were    | 114 | has       |
| 37 | or     | 76 | lot     | 115 | down      |
| 38 | my     | 77 | your    | 116 | we're     |
| 39 | be     | 78 | time    | 117 | any       |

|     |          |     |            |     |          |
|-----|----------|-----|------------|-----|----------|
| 118 | he's     | 163 | school     | 208 | another  |
| 119 | work     | 164 | look       | 209 | car      |
| 120 | take     | 165 | still      | 210 | true     |
| 121 | even     | 166 | around     | 211 | whole    |
| 122 | those    | 167 | anything   | 212 | whatever |
| 123 | over     | 168 | kids       | 213 | twenty   |
| 124 | probably | 169 | first      | 214 | after    |
| 125 | him      | 170 | does       | 215 | ever     |
| 126 | who      | 171 | need       | 216 | find     |
| 127 | put      | 172 | us         | 217 | care     |
| 128 | years    | 173 | should     | 218 | better   |
| 129 | sure     | 174 | talking    | 219 | hard     |
| 130 | can't    | 175 | last       | 220 | haven't  |
| 131 | pretty   | 176 | thought    | 221 | trying   |
| 132 | gonna    | 177 | doesn't    | 222 | give     |
| 133 | stuff    | 178 | different  | 223 | I'd      |
| 134 | come     | 179 | money      | 224 | problem  |
| 135 | these    | 180 | long       | 225 | else     |
| 136 | by       | 181 | used       | 226 | remember |
| 137 | into     | 182 | getting    | 227 | might    |
| 138 | went     | 183 | same       | 228 | again    |
| 139 | make     | 184 | four       | 229 | pay      |
| 140 | than     | 185 | every      | 230 | try      |
| 141 | year     | 186 | new        | 231 | place    |
| 142 | three    | 187 | everything | 232 | part     |
| 143 | which    | 188 | many       | 233 | let      |
| 144 | home     | 189 | before     | 234 | keep     |
| 145 | will     | 190 | though     | 235 | children |
| 146 | nice     | 191 | most       | 236 | anyway   |
| 147 | never    | 192 | tell       | 237 | came     |
| 148 | only     | 193 | being      | 238 | six      |
| 149 | his      | 194 | bit        | 239 | family   |
| 150 | doing    | 195 | house      | 240 | wasn't   |
| 151 | cause    | 196 | also       | 241 | talk     |
| 152 | off      | 197 | use        | 242 | made     |
| 153 | I'll     | 198 | through    | 243 | hundred  |
| 154 | maybe    | 199 | feel       | 244 | night    |
| 155 | real     | 200 | course     | 245 | call     |
| 156 | why      | 201 | what's     | 246 | saying   |
| 157 | big      | 202 | old        | 247 | dollars  |
| 158 | actually | 203 | done       | 248 | live     |
| 159 | she's    | 204 | sort       | 249 | away     |
| 160 | day      | 205 | great      | 250 | either   |
| 161 | five     | 206 | bad        | 251 | read     |
| 162 | always   | 207 | we've      | 252 | having   |

|     |             |     |           |     |            |
|-----|-------------|-----|-----------|-----|------------|
| 253 | far         | 299 | child     | 345 | help       |
| 254 | watch       | 300 | thirty    | 346 | nothing    |
| 255 | week        | 301 | buy       | 347 | parents    |
| 256 | mhm         | 302 | person    | 348 | room       |
| 257 | quite       | 303 | working   | 349 | today      |
| 258 | enough      | 304 | half      | 350 | makes      |
| 259 | next        | 305 | looking   | 351 | stay       |
| 260 | couple      | 306 | someone   | 352 | mom        |
| 261 | own         | 307 | coming    | 353 | sounds     |
| 262 | wouldn't    | 308 | eight     | 354 | change     |
| 263 | ten         | 309 | love      | 355 | understand |
| 264 | interesting | 310 | everybody | 356 | such       |
| 265 | am          | 311 | able      | 357 | gone       |
| 266 | sometimes   | 312 | we'll     | 358 | system     |
| 267 | bye         | 313 | life      | 359 | comes      |
| 268 | seems       | 314 | may       | 360 | thank      |
| 269 | heard       | 315 | both      | 361 | show       |
| 270 | goes        | 316 | type      | 362 | thousand   |
| 271 | called      | 317 | end       | 363 | left       |
| 272 | point       | 318 | least     | 364 | friends    |
| 273 | ago         | 319 | told      | 365 | class      |
| 274 | while       | 320 | saw       | 366 | already    |
| 275 | fact        | 321 | college   | 367 | eat        |
| 276 | once        | 322 | ones      | 368 | small      |
| 277 | seen        | 323 | almost    | 369 | boy        |
| 278 | wanted      | 324 | since     | 370 | paper      |
| 279 | isn't       | 325 | days      | 371 | world      |
| 280 | start       | 326 | couldn't  | 372 | best       |
| 281 | high        | 327 | gets      | 373 | water      |
| 282 | somebody    | 328 | guys      | 374 | myself     |
| 283 | let's       | 329 | god       | 375 | run        |
| 284 | times       | 330 | country   | 376 | they'll    |
| 285 | guy         | 331 | wait      | 377 | won't      |
| 286 | area        | 332 | yet       | 378 | movie      |
| 287 | fun         | 333 | believe   | 379 | cool       |
| 288 | they've     | 334 | thinking  | 380 | news       |
| 289 | you've      | 335 | funny     | 381 | number     |
| 290 | started     | 336 | state     | 382 | man        |
| 291 | job         | 337 | until     | 383 | basically  |
| 292 | says        | 338 | husband   | 384 | nine       |
| 293 | play        | 339 | idea      | 385 | enjoy      |
| 294 | usually     | 340 | name      | 386 | bought     |
| 295 | wow         | 341 | seven     | 387 | whether    |
| 296 | exactly     | 342 | together  | 388 | especially |
| 297 | took        | 343 | each      | 389 | taking     |
| 298 | few         | 344 | hear      | 390 | sit        |

|     |            |     |            |     |           |
|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|-----------|
| 391 | book       | 428 | knew       | 465 | easy      |
| 392 | fifty      | 429 | pick       | 466 | stop      |
| 393 | months     | 430 | important  | 467 | percent   |
| 394 | women      | 431 | ask        | 468 | hand      |
| 395 | month      | 432 | hour       | 469 | gosh      |
| 396 | found      | 433 | deal       | 470 | top       |
| 397 | side       | 434 | mine       | 471 | cut       |
| 398 | food       | 435 | reason     | 472 | computer  |
| 399 | looks      | 436 | credit     | 473 | tried     |
| 400 | summer     | 437 | dog        | 474 | gotten    |
| 401 | hmm        | 438 | group      | 475 | mind      |
| 402 | fine       | 439 | turn       | 476 | business  |
| 403 | hey        | 440 | making     | 477 | anybody   |
| 404 | student    | 441 | American   | 478 | takes     |
| 405 | agree      | 442 | weeks      | 479 | aren't    |
| 406 | mother     | 443 | certain    | 480 | question  |
| 407 | problems   | 444 | less       | 481 | rather    |
| 408 | city       | 445 | must       | 482 | twelve    |
| 409 | second     | 446 | dad        | 483 | phone     |
| 410 | definitely | 447 | during     | 484 | program   |
| 411 | spend      | 448 | lived      | 485 | without   |
| 412 | happened   | 449 | forty      | 486 | moved     |
| 413 | hours      | 450 | air        | 487 | gave      |
| 414 | war        | 451 | government | 488 | yep       |
| 415 | matter     | 452 | eighty     | 489 | case      |
| 416 | supposed   | 453 | wonderful  | 490 | looked    |
| 417 | worked     | 454 | seem       | 491 | certainly |
| 418 | company    | 455 | wrong      | 492 | talked    |
| 419 | friend     | 456 | young      | 493 | beautiful |
| 420 | set        | 457 | places     | 494 | card      |
| 421 | minutes    | 458 | girl       | 495 | walk      |
| 422 | morning    | 459 | happen     | 496 | married   |
| 423 | between    | 460 | sorry      | 497 | anymore   |
| 424 | music      | 461 | living     | 498 | you'll    |
| 425 | close      | 462 | drive      | 499 | middle    |
| 426 | leave      | 463 | outside    | 500 | tax       |
| 427 | wife       | 464 | bring      |     |           |