

VOCABULARY

Formal & Informal Vocabulary

Formal Vocabulary:

Formal vocabulary refers to words and expressions used in official, academic, or professional contexts. These words often convey a sense of seriousness, respect, and politeness. They are typically used in written communications like reports, business letters, academic papers, and speeches. Formal vocabulary tends to avoid contractions, colloquialisms, and slang.

- **Examples:** commence (start), terminate (end), inquire (ask), request (ask for), purchase (buy).

Informal Vocabulary:

Informal vocabulary includes words and expressions that are used in casual or everyday conversations. This type of language is more relaxed and conversational, often including slang, idioms, and colloquial phrases. It is commonly used among friends, family, or in less formal settings. Informal vocabulary is more direct and may include contractions and more relaxed phrasing.

- **Examples:** start (commence), end (terminate), ask (inquire), buy (purchase), let (permit).

In short:

- **Formal vocabulary** is appropriate for serious and professional contexts.
- **Informal vocabulary** is suitable for casual, relaxed conversations.

Here's a comparison between **formal** and **informal** vocabulary, which can help in understanding the tone and context where each is appropriate.

Formal vs Informal Vocabulary:

<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Commence	Start
Terminate	End
Request	Ask
Require	Need
Obtain	Get
Assist	Help

<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Demonstrate	Show
Purchase	Buy
Investigate	Look into
Inform	Tell
Apologize	Say sorry
Difficult	Hard
Reside	Live
Permit	Let
Children	Kids
Inquire	Ask
Encounter	Meet
Sufficient	Enough
Subsequently	Afterward
Approximately	About

Key Differences:

1. **Usage Context:** Formal vocabulary is generally used in professional, academic, or serious contexts, while informal vocabulary is common in casual conversations, with friends, or in relaxed settings.
2. **Tone:** Formal words lend a sense of professionalism, distance, or seriousness, whereas informal words sound more friendly and direct.