

## Depth of Oral Language

Oral language is the foundation of comprehension and composition. Developing the breadth of oral language (number of words) and the depth of oral language (e.g., understanding of multiple meanings, figurative expressions, synonyms) is critical to reading success. This chart can be used to demonstrate the idea of words with similar meanings but different intensities. Students can sort these words for “problem” into three piles: big problems, little problems, medium problems.

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1. Multiple meanings
2. Usage
3. Precision
4. Function

<b>glitch</b>	<b>hitch</b>	<b>trial</b>	<b>tribulation</b>	<b>dilemma</b>
<b>catastrophe</b>	<b>disaster</b>	<b>annoyance</b>	<b>tragedy</b>	<b>irritation</b>
<b>calamity</b>	<b>hassle</b>	<b>blip</b>	<b>breakdown</b>	<b>nuisance</b>
<b>misfortune</b>	<b>blow</b>	<b>displeasure</b>	<b>snag</b>	<b>hiccup</b>

