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| Characteristics of a Core Vocabulary | |
| Core Words | **Expanded Core or Fringe Words** |
| Small # of words | **Very large # of words** |
| Used about 80% of the time in daily communication | **Used about 20% of the time in daily communication** |
| Useful across all environments | **Useful across limited environments** |
| Applicable to most topics and environments | **Applicable to limited topics and environments** |
| Contains a variety of parts of speech: pronouns, verbs, descriptors etc. | **Contains mostly proper names/nouns** |
| High frequency of use | **Low frequency of use** |
| Words with more flexibility from different word classes | **Words with less flexibility and limited word classes** |
| Can demonstrate larger variety of communicative functions | **Can demonstrate fewer communicative functions** |
| Allows for more communicative opportunities | **Allows for fewer communicative opportunities** |
| Potential for expanding utterance length | **Less potential for expanding utterance length** |
| Consistency of symbol location | **Random/changing locations or multiple pages to search** |