



U.S. Class Vocabulary For International Graduate Students

Check (✓) the terms below that you already are familiar with, and look up the ones you don't know or ask a friend about them.

Verbs

drop a course	grade on a curve	hand in / turn in	be graded down
pass/give back	turn to	get back	lose points
fill in	go over	skip	count
move on	make (obj.) up	hand out / pass out	expression: "All set?"

Nouns

credit	partial credit	full credit	"easy A"	take-home exam
review session	make-up test	make-up policy	study guide	participation points
prerequisite	used textbook	cheat sheet	crib sheet	extra credit

Test yourself: Complete the cloze below. The sentences are not related to each other.

1. TA to students: I will _____ homework within one week of receiving it.
2. Student: Will we _____ if we miss a lab?
3. Student: If I don't understand a homework problem, can I just _____ it and do the next one? Or should I try anyway?
4. TA: Okay, everyone. Please _____ page 113 and look at problem #4.
5. Student: Will there be a _____ before the midterm?

Definitions and answers are at the bottom of the English Resources page below:
<https://teach.ucmerced.edu/EnglishResources>

Your Four-Step Office Hours Guide

1. **Greet** & make brief small talk

Starting with a minute of small talk will help a nervous student feel comfortable and ask you questions.

2. **Find out** what help the student needs

If a student begins by saying they don't understand anything, ask questions to help you find what they actually *do* understand and the reasons for their confusion (they only skimmed the text, perhaps?).



3. **Guide** the student to answers/understanding

You might be asked a lot of questions about the homework; help the students arrive at the answers themselves instead of providing them the answers, which will be tempting. Examples help.

4. **End** the meeting if/when you need to

If one student is taking up a lot of time and others have been waiting, perhaps give the student a practice problem to do and schedule another meeting with him/her. Consider helping in pairs or *small* groups. Always thank students for coming!