This research was designed to:

(1) Study the general English vocabulary knowledge of the pre-medical science students at Mahidol University of the academic year 1983.

(2) Determine whether there was any significant difference in this general English vocabulary knowledge between the two groups of these students, one which was admitted by the standard university entrance examinations, and the other by an official selection of the up-country affiliates.

(3) Find out which and how many percentages of the sampled words could be recognized by these students.

The test instrument comprised two test forms which had their vocabularies randomly sampled from O'Shea's General Consolidated List. Each vocabulary taken had already been learned by the students upon graduation from the upper secondary school level. The two test forms were four multiple-choice tests of 95 and 60 questions each, used in daily-life context and scientific English textbook-adapted context respectively.

The try-out of the instrument was conducted four times with four different groups of pre-medical science students at Mahidol University of academic year 1982, whereas the study of this research was done with 182 randomly drawn pre-medical science
students at Mahidol University of academic year 1983.

The scoring, the mean scores earned by the sampled subjects of each group on each test form, and the standard deviation of scores were done by a computer, whereas the variance of the distribution of the difference of the sample means and the Z-value of each test form were calculated by the investigator.

The results of the study were:

(1) Among the 95 vocabulary words in Test Form I, 51 of them, or 53.68%, were recognized by more than 50% of the subjects, whereas among the 60 vocabulary words in Test Form II, 13 of them, or 21.67%, were recognized by more than 50% of the subjects.

(2) While the mean score obtained from Test Form I indicated that the pre-medical science students of Mahidol University of the academic year 1983 recognized more than one-half of the vocabulary of the test form, that from Test Form II showed less.

(3) The two groups of the pre-medical science students of Mahidol University of the academic year 1983 differed from each other in the knowledge of general English vocabulary at the .05 level of significance.
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