Objective
The student will relate new vocabulary to prior knowledge.

Materials
- Header cards
- Word cards
  Write target word on each card. Note: This activity can be used in conjunction with the introduction of new vocabulary.
- Student sheet
  Depending on the number of words, students may need more than one student sheet.
- Dictionary
- Pencil

Activity
Students sort words based on understanding of meaning.
1. Place word cards face down in a stack. Place header cards face up in a row. Provide the student with a dictionary and a student sheet.
2. The student selects the top card and reads the word.
3. Reads headers and decides which one best describes how well the word is known. Places the word card under that header. Note: If unable to read the word, card is placed under the header, Don’t know meaning.
4. Continues until all word cards are placed.
5. Writes the words in the corresponding column and the meaning of the words on the student sheet using dictionary, as needed.
6. Teacher evaluation

Extensions and Adaptations
- Discuss previous experience and knowledge of words with a partner.
- Write sentences or paragraphs using the words on the back of the student sheet.
- Count (e.g., using check marks) number of target word encounters in corresponding column for a week. Record an example of where and how.
Know meaning well and can use the word

Know something about the meaning

Don’t know meaning

Seen or heard the word, but not sure of the meaning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Don't know meaning</th>
<th>Know something about the meaning</th>
<th>Seen or heard the word, but not sure of the meaning</th>
<th>Know meaning well and can use the word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word</td>
<td>Heard it</td>
<td>Said it</td>
<td>Wrote it</td>
<td>Read it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples of where and how:

- Put a check mark for each time you hear the word.
- Put a check mark for each time you write the word.
- Put a check mark for each time you say the word.
- Put a check mark for each time you read the word.