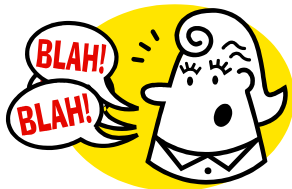
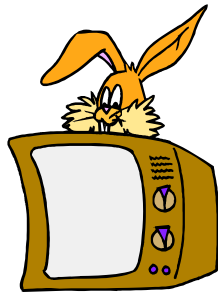


Rank of “Rare” Words in Spoken & Written Language

Source: adapted from
Anderson, Watson,
and Fielding, 1998



Communication Medium	Rank of Median Word	Rare Words per 1000
Children’s Books	627	30.9
Comic Books	867	53.5
Adult Books	1058	52.7
Popular Magazines	1399	65.7
Newspapers	1690	68.3
Scientific Articles	4389	128.0
<i>Mr. Rogers/Sesame</i>	413	2.0
Prime Time TV	490	22.7
Cartoon Shows	598	30.8
Expert Witness	1008	28.4
College Graduate	496	17.3

Frequency Ranking of 86,741 word forms where the word “the” ranks #1 in usage, “pass” ranks #1,000, “vibrate” ranks #5,000, “shrimp” ranks #9,000, and “amplifier” ranks #16,000.