# LEXICON

### THE UNKNOWN WORDS



Sweet Pea Chit-Ba Andrew Sears Gabe Solano



#### ENTRY #1: MAY 18, 2027

Today is my birthday! As of today, I know 750,000 vocabulary words, mommy said she was very happy knowing that I won't be needing to do anything to get the power. Some people don't know as much vocabulary, like Mommy, when she was my age, she only knew 900 vocab words; but, as she grew she earned more money and could buy the words. She knows lots of vocab. Most people struggle with affording new words; some don't have enough money, so they're stuck with only the basic words they have at the beginning.

#### ENTRY #2: MAY 22, 2027

I am very happy with the words that I have been given, it's a lot of words to know. I can save my money for school, shopping, and for my family. I don't want to spend all my money on vocabulary words when I already know a lot, and also why would I want to know more when I already know the basics?

#### ENTRY #3: JUNE 1, 2027

In my world there are three types of groups: we call them the gifted, the average, and the stupid. The gifted people are the ones who know all of the most vocab, the average people are the ones who know half of the words, and the stupids are the ones who only know less than 30 vocab words. My family members are mixed with the people of the gifted and the average, including me who is considered as the gifted.

#### ENTRY #4: JUNE 9, 2027

Today in history I learned that the gifted and average people don't usually hang out with the stupid because it's hard for them to communicate and they're always bashing the gifted and the average people thinking we hate them because they're stupid.

#### ENTRY #5: JUNE 21, 2027

I'm a little bit sad today because I lost my best friend considered to be stupid. Even though she is very funny, friendly and wonderful I couldn't communicate with her properly so we stopped being friends with each other.

#### ENTRY #6: JUNE 22, 2027

Day 1 of trying to get over my friendship breakup. I want to talk about my world. My world is very nice and chill but sometimes it gets very competitive and people sometimes become friends with enemies. I very much dislike that because nowadays people only seem to care about money and power.....

#### ENTRY #7: JUNE 25, 2027

UGHH I don't know what is happening with the world but there is this man in our town who has the most power because he knows all the words and people are constantly fighting with him, trying to have the most power in the world.

Maximillian is a part of the government that people don't like because of how stubborn he is for power. He's so selfish and so mean, even though I'm happy that stupid people can buy more words but Maximillian only cares about himself and the power, nothing else. #cancelMaximillian

#### ENTRY #8: JUNE 25, 2027

In school, we have 3 subjects; math, science, and history. No English of course because our world got divided into 3 different levels of people knowing the different levels of vocabulary. Stupid. My favorite subject is science because we get to do lots of labs and it's fun to combine chemicals. School is not really that fun to be honest because of how long classes are and how boring sometimes school can be. But I'm happy to have a three-day weekend off

#### ENTRY #9: JUNE 26, 2027

Mommy is making me learn Burmese again.... Yeah beside English I also speaks Burmese, not fluently like my parents but a good amount of sentence like greeting people for example; you say " မင်္ဂလာပါ"<sup>1</sup> or "တွေ့ရတာဝမ်းသာပါတယ်<sup>2</sup>". Today I learned a new word which is now my new favortie word because it means equality "တန်းတူ" you pronounce it like "taann-tuun".

#### ENTRY #10: JULY 1, 2027

I forgot to write about my healing journey from the friendship breakup... I guess I'm doing better now, I made new friends at school and they're so COOL. They let me hang out with them after school, we went shopping together, we had lots of sleepovers and even got in trouble together. I love school because of them! Oh, and their names are Jack and Febby :)

#### ENTRY #11: JULY 4, 2027

HI! School is fun and I am totally in love with my tablemate Jamie!!! We're the same age and he's in my math class. I can't believe that because of him I like going to math class now. He's such a motivation.

#### ENTRY #12: JULY 8.2027

<sup>1</sup> Hello

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Nice to meet you

I forgot my textbook at home today and Jamie shared his textbook with me!! AHHHHH! WE WERE SO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER......I'm happy:)

#### ENTRY #13: JULY 9, 2027

Even though I might sound happy writing but our world is not going well.... remember Maximillian? Yeah during April he took the power of the world and this week school doesn't feel like how it's supposed to be anymore. He doesn't understand.....he will never understand because of his selfishness...Why can't he just care more about people who are at school?

#### ENTRY #14 : JULY 9, 2027

This isn't right. I hate you so much Maximillian.

#### ENTRY #15: JULY 10, 2027

We have to take action! Maximillian is NOT a good person! He's destroying our beautiful world, he doesn't care about us, he never did. Power... power that's all he cares about. He doesn't care about any of us, our once beautiful world has become ugly being controlled by Maximillian.

#### ENTRY #16 : JULY 11, 2027

It's time to show the world who Maximillian is. We are coming for you.

#### ENTRY #17: JULY 13, 2027

Tomorrow is the day! The day to break the silence. The day to shout. The day to let go. The day to be brave. The day to end it all.

#### ENTRY #18: JULY 15, 2027

I hate him! I hate Maximillian! Yesterday, our school went to protest where gifted people live, where I live. I got into a lot of trouble with my parents after the protest but it's okay because our school was able to get the attention of the media of Maximillian's evil work.

I know that when people think of protest it's not usually a good sign but we were able to do it peacefully, a lot of yelling of course but no one got hurt. Hopefully, after this protest, people will realize how bad of a person Maximillian is.

#### ENTRY #19 : SEPTEMBER 20, 2027

It has been 2 months since our school protest. We got the media attention and people are finally realizing how bad of a person Maximillian is.

#### ENTRY #20 : DECEMBER 18, 2027

Life is kind of becoming beautiful again. I heard that Maximillian is kind of going downhill but he's still holding on to the power.... I hope it will all end soon. One day I'll be able to be happy with my friends at school.

#### ENTRY #21 : FEBRUARY 20, 2028

I guess I got lazy writing diary entries every day but it's because a lot of crazy things happened. First off Maximillian disappeared into thin air, no one knows where he is or knows if he's even alive. Well, I don't care that much about him but it's really weird that the man of power just disappeared without any trace....

#### ENTRY #22: MARCH 13, 2028

I'm happy. Life is so much better now, so much better than before. Everything went back to normal, people are going back to their jobs and schools.

#### ENTRY #23: MARCH 20, 2028

GUESS WHAT! I'm a big sister now!!!! Life couldn't get any better than this, my little brother is named Nathan Cornelius. He has the cutest chubby cheeks in the world and his little fingers that always grab onto my hair. I feel more mature now that I have to take care of my little brother when my parents are out of town. I hope that he will grow up to be the best person in the world who is strong, caring, nice, and responsible. Oh, and I hope he's fluent in Burmese so my parents won't be disappointed in him. I even learned a few more sentences and some bad words from my grandpa. I learned to say "I love you ", "you're welcome ", "I'm hungry ", "I need help ", and my favorite sentence "ဘေးကင်းပါစေ<sup>3</sup>။"

#### ENTRY #24: MARCH 22, 2028

Hi again.... Remember Jamie? Yeah I got rejected but said we can still be friends and now he's one of my best friends, I still do like him a little but I guess all teenagers go through this, and maybe one day I'll be able to move on. But for now, I guess I will just focus on my school work and applying to colleges, man I'm scared that I won't get into the colleges I applied to but I think I'll be just fine if I do well in class, and get good grades.

-Lily Cornelius

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Be careful out there



#### AUGUST 13, 2027,

#### WORDS: 28,000

They made fun of me...

They always have...

All because of my name, all because I am called "Baby Oil ButterBaugh". I will show them...

I will show all of them.

But how? How will I show them I am not to laugh at?

I have still not thought of that. But I will find a way.

I Must...

#### AUGUST 20, 2027,

#### WORDS: 28,075

I know, I will gain more words.

With these words, I can change my name. And if I change my name, no one will laugh at me, no one will

find me weird.

I might become happy...

But to gain more words I must work hard.

I will need to find a better-paying job, and I must become financially smarter.

I will write something if anything happens.

#### AUGUST 22, 2027,

#### WORDS:28,100

Recently I have been looking into ways to make more money. It turns out that having words makes me a

lot smarter. And If I am smart, I can get more money. And with more money, I can get more words.

I already feel smarter than I was a week ago.

I can't wait to get rich and change my name.

#### AUGUST 29, 2027,

#### WORDS:28,125

I am developing a business to speed up the process.
It will sell things to customers.
I know it is not that original but I hope that it works.
But I still have not come up with a proper name for it.
I will come up with one later I suppose.

#### **SEPTEMBER 3, 2027,**

#### WORDS:28,125

I have come up with the perfect name for my store.

It will be called the Shop Store.

It is in my opinion perfect because it shows what it is in just one single line.

And with the multi-words, someone will be bound to find something inside of it that they could buy.

I will write something down a week after the business opens.

#### **SEPTEMBER 10, 2027,**

#### WORDS:29,200

It turns out that the business is doing very well.

It does not bring as much money as the other stores nearby, but it will hopefully make the progress of getting money for words a lot quicker.

Although I do feel that something might go wrong because usually, something bad happens, It just might be my lucky day.

#### **SEPTEMBER 13, 2027,**

#### WORDS:29,275

So today I met this man

He seems to be a part of the high Stupid class or low Middle class.

But he seems to be quite nice.

For one he did not make fun of my name, and second, he seemed to be quite nice.

I will talk to him next time I see him.

#### **SEPTEMBER 17, 2027,**

#### WORDS:29,375

I say my business is doing very well as of late.

I am making a lot of money from it.

I know that I should use it to buy more words right now, but I am planning to put some of the money

back into the business so that it can approve a lot more.

I believe that doing this will help me change my name a lot easier.

I say that making this will be a good use of my investment money.

#### **SEPTEMBER 21, 2027,**

#### WORDS:29,525

I have seen that man again.

When we were talking he told me that his name is Jimmy.

Jimmy seems like a nice and quiet man.

When I talked to him, he told me that a few months ago a man named Maximilian was recently having a

job shortage causing him to be unable to find that much money.

Ironically I offered him a position inside my shop.

I know that I was going to change my name, but I just felt like doing it.

Oh well if he does good, he does good, If he's terrible I will fire him.

#### **SEPTEMBER 24, 2027,**

#### WORDS:29,800

Progress is going well. Jimmy is keeping up to date with his job. Everything is going up to pace.

You know, hiring Jimmy was a GREAT idea, he has been a help with all of the progress.

Which has led me to a great idea.

If I hire more workers then I can focus on other things. Like another way of making money and learning a little more about the economy to see what else we can sell.

Thank you Jim for the great plan.

#### **SEPTEMBER 28, 2027,**

#### WORDS:30,075

I have decided a farm would make a very good business idea. I can use it to get more money, and then I could see its products in my shop.

It is self-sufficient, and I am going to speed up my progress so much.

I have even come up with a name for it.

I will call it "Farm Land Farm" I am so good with names.

#### **SEPTEMBER 29, 2027,**

#### WORDS:30,400

Okay so apparently I am bad with names.

My employee Jimmy has said that calling the farm "FarmLand Farm" is a bad idea.

But I do not see what the problem is with it. It is simplicity itself.

I like Jimmy and all, but his opinion on naming things is incredibly low.

#### **SEPTEMBER 29, 2027,**

#### WORDS:30,600

The farm has been doing pretty well as of late.

The products are growing at a good speed, and we already have some of them done.

The only problem is that we could use better farming equipment, to speed the progress up. Other than that everything is going smoothly. I think I might want to try hiring a man to help make a tool for the jobs.

#### **OCTOBER 3, 2027,**

#### WORDS:30,950

I have hired a man to make a tool to help with the production of my crops.

He says that the tool will be finished in a week, so I will add another entry on the 10th.

Other than that, progress has been speeding up. I plan on opening another store after the Tool is done.

#### **OCTOBER 10, 2027,**

#### WORDS:31,425

The second Shop Store has been created.

With this new one, I plan on doing the same thing I did with the last one. As that will help me gain more words.

I hope that progress will keep on going smoothly as I know for a fact that something bad is going to happen very soon.

#### **OCTOBER 14, 2027,**

#### WORDS:32,000

Today a man entered my store. At first, I thought he was going to be a normal customer he is considered gifted.

Maximilian was his name if I am correct, so he came up to me and said that he was impressed with the store I had made.

I said thanks, and then we had a very generic conversation.

But then he offered me a deal, where he sponsors my store and buys some of my items. And I gain more money and Words.

Normally I would accept this deal, but I just feel he is wired with how he has come to my store to sponsor me.

So I decided to take the deal but only as a one-time event.

I hope I made the right decision.

#### **OCTOBER 17, 2027,**

#### WORDS:55,000

I must say the sponsor was a pretty good idea since I had gained so many words, that I pretty much reached my goal.

But now that I have all of these words, I do not know what I am going to do with them.

I have been chasing words, for power for so long that I have forgotten what I will do with them.

I could probably change my name, but I do not know what I would make it.

I will use this when I find a better name.

#### **OCTOBER 19, 2027,**

#### WORDS:55,500

Today something crazy happened.

When Jimmy was going home a car crashed into him and he was very injured, and they had to rush him to the hospital.

When I had gotten to the hospital, they told me that Jimmy did not have enough money to pay for the medical bills.

Because of this, I paid for them.

I had not known why I had done this, but I just did it. What's even crazier than that was that I felt good doing that.

I haven't felt like that in a long time.

Because of this, I think I know what I could do with all of this money and words I have gotten.

I will give it back to people to help them with their daily needs, as a way to give back to people.

But to help with this new change, I think I will change my name to Mr. Speak.

## Chapter #3

#### ENTRY 1: FEBRUARY 4TH 2027

I turned 20 today and I can finally put my word count. 800,000 words. Given all these words at 15 I can now have so much power. So much ability to control and shape the world around me and what I believe is right. All at my fingertips. All I must do is slither my way into full control.

#### ENTRY 2: FEBRUARY 18TH 2027

I've already begun to rise the ranks amongst the gifted, those of us with large word counts. Most of the people here have similar beliefs to me that we are better than everyone else and have the right to our power. It is nice being surrounded by like minded people. Today we discussed some plans to make changes to some of the larger industries to cut off some workers so as to not have to expend as much money paying people. This will cause a lot of people to lose their jobs and less people will be able to buy words but honestly the less high worded people the better. The fewer people in our ranks, the less argument and the more control I have. In the end control is what matters.

#### **ENTRY 3: MARCH 1ST 2027**

It's the start of a new month and the gifted are now beginning to get our plan into full effect. We've already gotten into the schooling industry and managed to cut 35% of the workforce. Already we are seeing what we hoped for, a decrease in the amount of people approaching being a part of the gifted. I was responsible for the first move of this initiative so I am now somewhat of a leader amongst the group. Just as I hoped for soon I will have all the say and all the power. I will be in full control and decision making will be all me. Only me. Whatever I want. When I want it.

#### ENTRY 4: MARCH 26TH 2027

We've now cut the amount of jobs available in half. There may be more poverty but it's all worth it. I am getting more and more power. Soon I will be able to implement systems I believe will fix our terrible world. Soon no one will be able to stop me and soon this false reality will no longer be. All will wake up to the truth of reality and what the world truly is. Everything will be better, everyone will have what they desire. They must all first go through this suffering and give in to my power and say. Once they submit to me I will achieve true peace.

#### ENTRY 5: APRIL 14TH 2027

As I've continued my climb in power I have only realized more how much I want to change. The entire world needs change. People go through things that they don't deserve and some are just unlucky and get no words. Having a future decided by how lucky you are in a random given amount of words. Why should one be doomed from the age of 15? It is not fair and I will find a way to change this. No matter how I have to get there. Get to the position where I am in full control of it all.

#### **ENTRY 6: JUNE 1ST 2027**

Two months have passed since I took the position of complete power and all is still going well. As I continue to gain the trust of everyone and my plan is soon to be set into effect so long as all things go undisturbed.

#### ENTRY: 7: JULY 14TH 2027

I'm hearing from my subordinates that there was a protest of some sort at a school today. People are starting to trust me less due to this so my plan will now have to wait. Hopefully this is a one time thing, the last thing I need is to lose the trust of the people. This has put a stop to my planning as I now will be spending my precious time trying to regain the trust of the average and the stupid. Those who are not gifted could never understand.

#### **ENTRY 8: AUGUST 18TH 2027**

It has been about a month since the protest and I'm slowly regaining the trust of the average but the stupid have given me a harder time. Crazy to think that the one's labeled stupid would be the ones who seem to somehow see through me. I must hurry and get them all back on my side to continue my plan and move along with creating a more fair world for all.

#### ENTRY 9: SEPTEMBER 6TH 2027

I am slowly starting to lose the trust of the average again as the stupid begin to corrupt their minds and spread their propaganda about me. I tried to day to hold a speech and set out a road map to try and gain the popular opinion again and it seems to be working but I cannot be too safe so for the next few months I will be doing a lot of people pleasing and menial things to put up a facade and gain the trust of the majority again.

#### **ENTRY 10: OCTOBER 14TH 2027**

Today I decided to visit a local business called "The Shop Store" in an attempt to strike a deal and get some more positivity around my name. Just a small ad campaign type of situation. I also just wanted to support a business that was on a better footing in the public eye. All I could get the owner whose name is, BabyOil ButterBaugh to agree to was to let me put up a few signs and posters giving myself a better name. I do not truly care for this business but he seems successful so I will keep a small eye on this man as he may one day join us in the gifted group.

#### ENTRY 11: NOVEMBER 29TH 2027

I have seen an increase in popularity from the general public since my visit to The Shop Store which is stupendous and soon, hopefully in the new year I will be able to commence with my plan. So long as I remain in my current good standing with the average and the stupid alike everything will go perfectly and no one person or thing will be able to stop me.

#### ENTRY 12: DECEMBER 19TH 2027

I am back to being the "majority party" with the exception of it only being me. It is just me and that is how it will remain, I need no one else, I need no one's help. That's how it has always been, me striving for myself, by myself.

#### **ENTRY 13: JANUARY 10TH 2028**

My plans have started, I have sent my subordinates to every large industry and they are now beginning to make them fall from the inside. Soon I will be the ONLY one in power.

#### **ENTRY 14: JANUARY 14TH 2028**

It is all happening so fast, every industry is already crumbling and I have begun to lose all of my subordinates as well. They all started to see some darkness in my ways or whatever they had to say. Oh well, I never needed them, if anything they were just holding me back. Who cares if they say I am insane or evil? Who are they to tell me that I am wrong? All of this will pay off.

#### **ENTRY 15: JANUARY 21ST 2028**

They are all gone. No one is by my side anymore, I went through with this too fast. It was my mistake, this plan was flawed and I had no clue. The one time things should have been taken slowly they weren't. Now I am here in my office alone. I've put thousands onto the street. What have I done? Things were never supposed to go this poorly. I only wanted to force everyone into submitting to me so I could restart this cursed system. Where did I go wrong?

#### **ENTRY 16: JANUARY 28TH 2028**

Everything has gone to hell, violence has broken out and my actions are all to blame. People have started to rob and steal. All this because I took away everyone's jobs so quickly. I should've planned this out better. Soon they're going to realize it was my doing. What am I going to do? Should I come clean? Should I just sit and wait? If I do that then maybe this can still work and I can fix everything and have all my power. Maybe restore things from the very beginning, lay down a new foundation?

#### ENTRY 17: FEBRUARY 4TH 2028

It's my birthday again. This time I am even more alone than I ever was. No one even pretends to be here for me or celebrates with me. It's just me again. All one like always. I am tired. So much I have done I can't even blame everyone for abandoning me. I guess in the end all the power was not worth it. So with this final entry on my 21st birthday. I take my first and last shot of alcohol. Goodbye and don't forgive me, it was all my decision. It was nice while it lasted... I guess.

-Maximillian

#### Annotations :

Annotation #1 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

A technique I used in this piece was first person point of view. We as a group decided to go with this to make our writing more personal to the character. This helps the reader's understanding of what is going on in the protagonist's mind and how they feel about the world around them. This is seen when I write "I do not truly care for this business but he seems successful so I will keep a small eye on this man as he may one day join us in the gifted group" this is a thought that only the reader and Maximillian know.

Annotation #2 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

Another technique I used is short or abrupt sentences. I made this choice to show frantic thoughts racing through my character's mind and how no one thought was focused on for too long. This helps the reader get a sense of the mental state of the character. This can be seen when I write, "I've put thousands onto the street. What have I done? Things were never supposed to go this poorly. I only wanted to force everyone into submitting to me so I could restart this cursed system. Where did I go wrong?" This is similar to Octavia Butler and her use of short sentences. Although the applications are different the ideas are similar,

Annotation #3 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

A third technique I use in my writing is making the time between entries shorter as my character lost grip of himself. I made this choice as a way to relay how much of an issue this losing of himself is for Maximillian. This also allows the reader to have a better and clever understanding of Maximillian's journaling habits as well as the slipping of his mind. This can be seen when I write, "Entry 14: January 14th 2028... Entry 15: January 21st 2028... Entry 16: January 28th 2028" Annotation #1 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

• In my Baby Oil Butterbaugh section of the story, I have decided that I would use diary entries as the main way of forming paragraphs. I used this because it helps make the reader feel that Baby Oil is his own person with his own life. Because of this when he says Example [I hope I made the right decision.] It makes him feel more real.

Annotation #2 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

• When I was writing, I notice that I formatted my sentences differently, as I made sentences a lot more vertical. An example of this is on entre 8 [I say my business is doing very well as of late.

I am making a lot of money from it.

I know that I should use it to buy more words right now, but I am planning to put some of the money back into the business so that it can approve a lot more.] I have done this to give Baby Oil a little more personality. So it seems like he has a different way of writing.

Annotation #3 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

When I was making Baby Oil's character arc, I wanted to make him gain more power. So for that, I wanted to show how setting up and accomplishing a goal can affect a person. An example of this is in the second to last entre where he feels empty after completing his long and hard goal of gaining more power. I did this to show how having a long-term goal can be good, but it can oftentimes cause a person to feel nothing after doing said thing.

Annotation #1 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

As a group we did a first person point of view because we each have our own character and thought it would be nice to have the reader read our characters diary so they can see more about our character feelings and it feels more personal. We also decided to write in a diary format because it was easier and thought it might be fun for the readers to make them feel like they're in the story and get to know more about the character closely. Just like here when my character said " Even though she is very funny, friendly and wonderful I couldn't communicate with her—" I think from this POV you can see what the character's exact thoughts are instead of having to close reading.

Annotation #2 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

One technique I chose was a different entry for the dairy which was actually inspired by my tablemate Gabe Solano. By this way of writing and the technique it's fun for the reader to read through the story without getting bored, and by having the date on top it makes it easier for the reader to follow the story without getting confused on the date.

Annotation #3 - In 50-100 words, describe a technique you use in this piece. Why did you make that choice, and what impact does it have on the reader's understanding of the story? Make sure to quote a phrase or sentence from your writing. Bonus points for explaining how another author influenced your choice!

One technique I chose was writing in another language and this can help the reader to know more about the character, can speak more than one language or maybe even learn a new language while reading the story. Just like in the story when Lily was talking about how her mom would say certain things in Burmese and she explains it back in English.