Vocabulary - Learn New Words

12:52

Salubrious (n.)
Something that is beneficial to your mind

Learn words with daily reminders.

How many	−	10x	+
Start at	−	9:00 AM	+
End at	−	10:00 PM	+

Continue

12:54

What's your vocabulary level?

Beginner

Intermediate

Advanced

12:55 ᴠ VOCABULARY

ELUCIDATE

(v.) to clarify, explain

(I didn't understand why my friend was so angry with me, so I asked Janine to elucidate her feelings.)

All

12:56

Cancel   Unlock All

Categories

Make your own mix

All ✓	Favorites 🔒
Adjectives 🔒	Nouns 🔒
Verbs 🔒	Spanish Words 🔒

By topic

Society 🔒	Human Body 🔒
People 🔒	Tech & science 🔒
Food 🔒	Travel 🔒

12:56

‹ Vocabulary   Added   Add

Add a new word

Write a word and its definition to re..

Word

| Verb | Noun | Adj. | Adv. |

Save

Q W E R T Y U I O P
A S D F G H J K L
Z X C V B N M
123   space   done
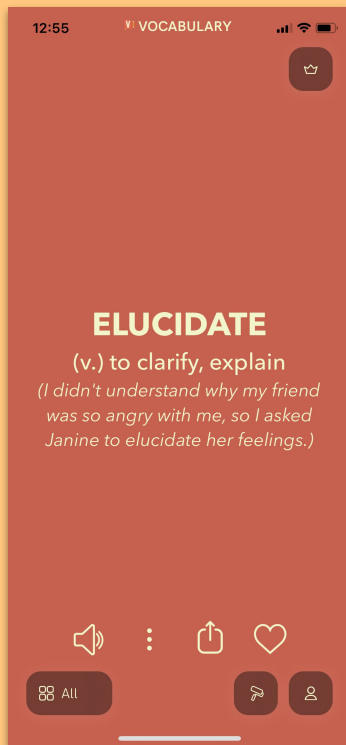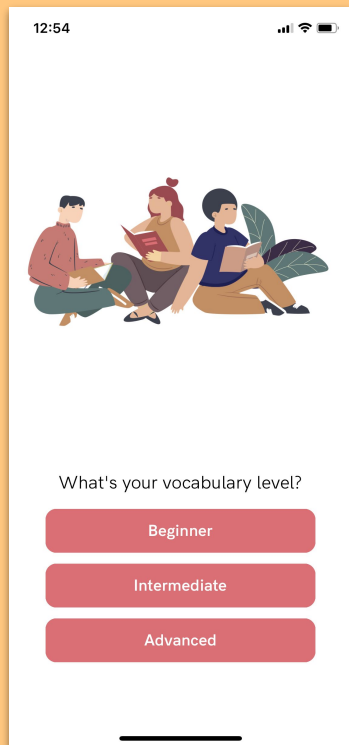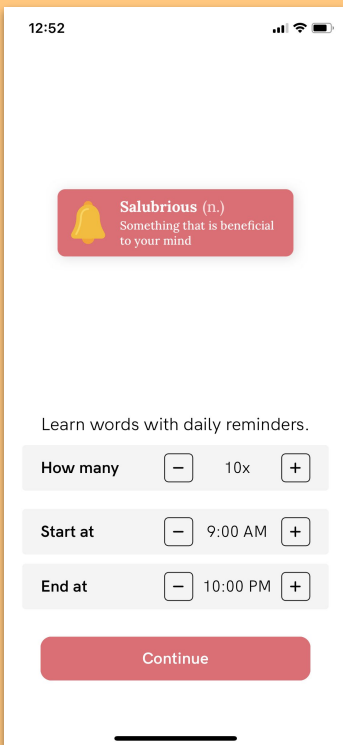
PROS

- Onboarding process is straightforward: no login required, flexibility to decide number of daily reminders and time range to receive these reminders, allows user to personalize vocab to their level.
- Display screen with vocabulary word and definition is intuitive and clean, with icons below to favorite the word, download/share it, dislike the word, and a sound icon to hear the world aloud.
- User's given the choice to change the theme, add their own vocabulary, and unlock different categories of vocabulary through subscription.
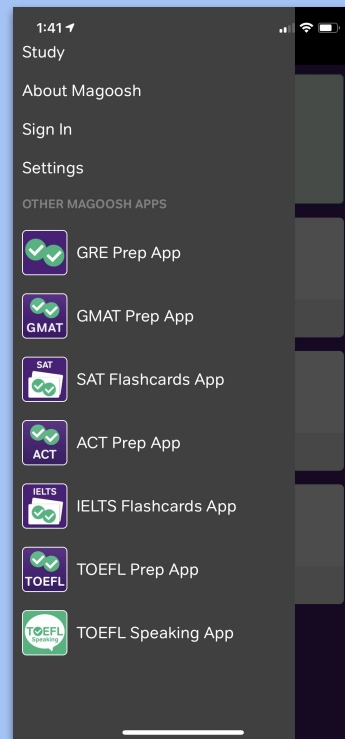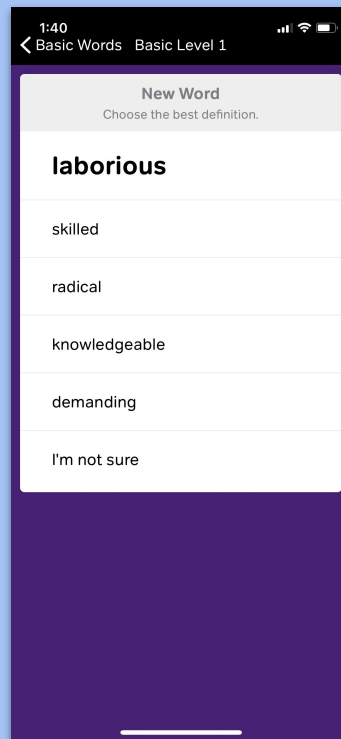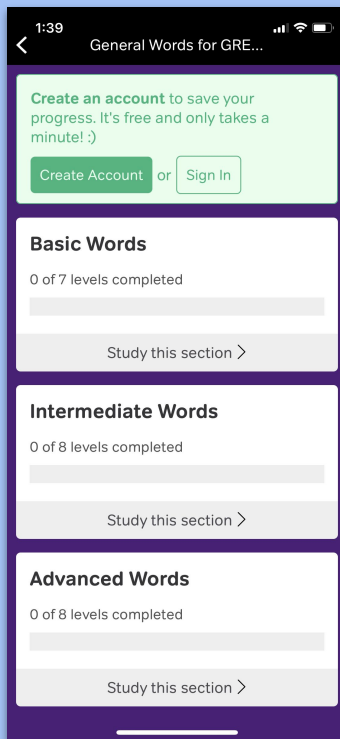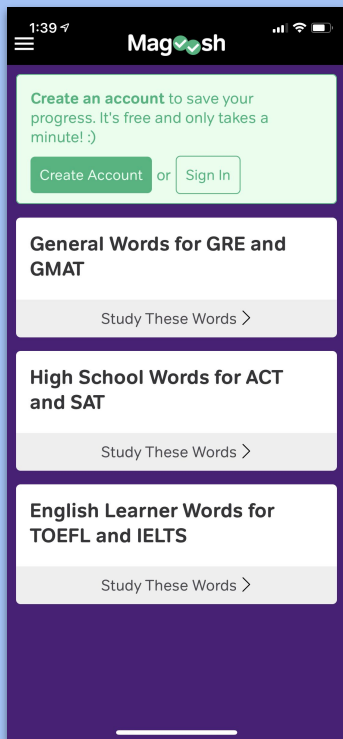
CONS

- Onboarding leads to a subscription wall - which at first glance implies that the user needs to subscribe to use any services, user needs to exit offer to access interface.
- Infinite scroll with no option to categorize or create decks out of words without a subscription.
- No way to quiz yourself and track progress
- Nearly every feature besides the random word scroll requires subscription or to watch an ad for access

SUMMARY

Vocabulary relies on its UI to attract users, but does not really prioritize learning or retention. It is visually effective, makes use of convention through the infinite scroll and like/dislike functions, and allows some personalization of vocabulary level and reminders to review vocabulary on the user's preferred schedule. Navigating the app is intuitive, but there is a pretty overwhelming feeling that the user has to subscribe to have access to any genuinely useful or fun features and the endless scroll through random words and definitions does not facilitate learning. Overall, it seems like Vocabulary has been successful in making their app attractive and relatively easy to understand, but has failed to provide a useful resource for learning new words.

Magoosh - Vocabulary Builder

Screen 1

Magoosh

Vocabulary Builder

Improve your vocabulary with short quizzes each day

Continue >

Screen 2

1:39

☰ Magoosh

Create an account to save your progress. It's free and only takes a minute! :)

Create Account   or   Sign In

General Words for GRE and GMAT

Study These Words >

High School Words for ACT and SAT

Study These Words >

English Learner Words for TOEFL and IELTS

Study These Words >

Screen 3

1:39

< General Words for GRE...

Create an account to save your progress. It's free and only takes a minute! :)

Create Account   or   Sign In

Basic Words

0 of 7 levels completed

Study this section >

Intermediate Words

0 of 8 levels completed

Study this section >

Advanced Words

0 of 8 levels completed

Study this section >

Screen 4

1:40
< Basic Words   Basic Level 1

New Word
Choose the best definition.

laborious

skilled

radical

knowledgeable

demanding

I'm not sure

Screen 5

1:41

Study

About Magoosh

Sign In

Settings

OTHER MAGOOSH APPS

GRE Prep App

GMAT Prep App

SAT Flashcards App

ACT Prep App

IELTS Flashcards App

TOEFL Prep App

TOEFL Speaking App

PROS

- User can test themselves on vocab, save progress with an free account, and get vocabulary catered to a specific test or set of standardized exams they are preparing for.
- Gives recommendations for more Magoosh apps offering specific test prep in sidebar.
- The purpose of the app is clear, there are no confusing features or add-ons.
- Quizzes are short, so users can work at their own pace without feeling overwhelmed with lengthy tests.
- Users have to complete each level in a category before being able to move to the next one, which gives a sense of progress and a learning flow.
- Users can compete against others, making the learning process more fun and community-based

CONS

- The UI is not attractive - clunky and unstreamlined, no immediate access to the home screen after clicking through exercises.
- Requires a sign-in to track progress.
- No onboarding or explanation of the different levels or how to navigate the app.
- Since other Magoosh apps specializing in each type of exam prep in this app are offered, it is unclear why a user would choose to keep this app if they can get the more specialized version for their exam.

SUMMARY

While the Magoosh app is not the most visually appealing vocab learning resource out there, it has a clear mission and utility for test prep. The simplicity of the features and the conventional approach to learning through progressively more difficult levels makes it a valuable app for the audiences it serves. It could be improved by a more modern or streamlined design to feel more 'official' or more exciting to use, and could place more focus on the games and competitions that it offers to have an edge on competition.

Vocab - Learn New Words
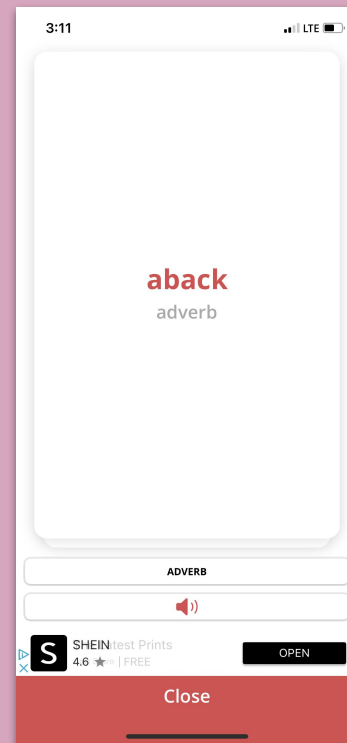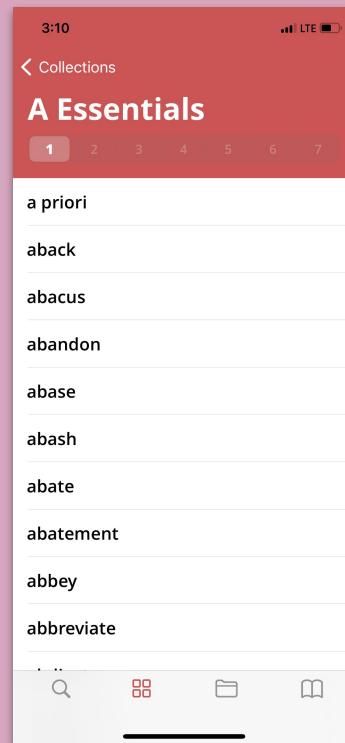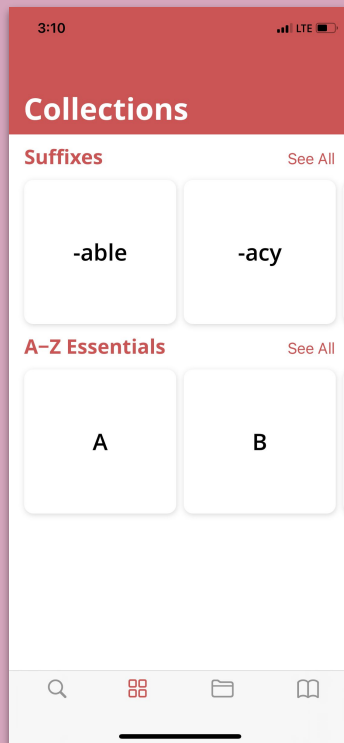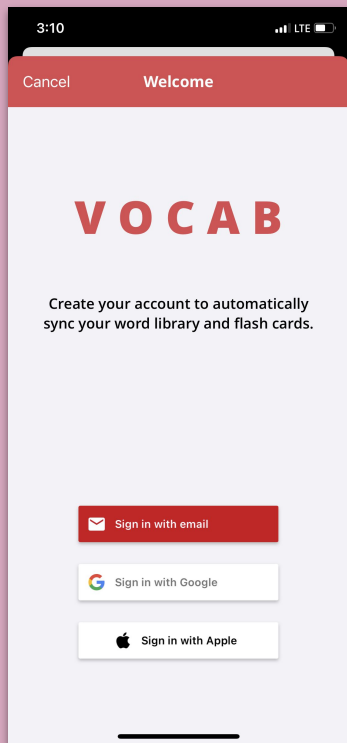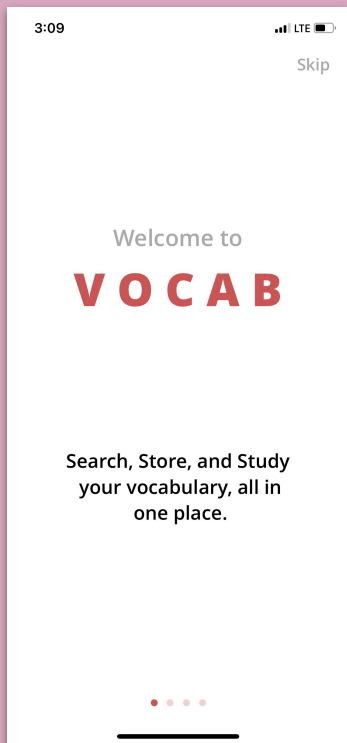
PROS

- Users can create their own decks based on words they would like to learn.
- There is a study function which allows users to test themselves on words they have added to their library or favorited.
- There are a few useful functions, like searching for vocab, collections showing new vocab, and the option to add words to a library to study them.
- The design is simple and the UI is conventional.

CONS

- User has to sign-in to use the app.
- The home screen is a search function, and does not give any suggestions for learning new vocabulary.
- Collections to find new vocabulary are not intuitively organized, like 'A-Z Essentials' which alphabetically sorts words but does not offer more useful categories like 'verbs,' and there are only 2 collections listed.
- Users are only given access to certain words to add to their library, they have to pay for a subscription to add others though there is no intuitive reason why certain words would be inaccessible without a subscription.
- It is not made clear how to favorite a word to put it into the 'favorite' practice category, user has to first add it to their library to favorite it.
- Vocab and suffix displays have a write-in option, but it is unclear what the user is supposed to write and if the user clicks the write-in bar, it is difficult to click out of it.

SUMMARY

The Vocab app feels like an app-in-progress. The UI is simple and generally easy to understand, but isn't particularly exciting or engaging, and there is a lot that could be improved in the functionality of the app. The categorization of vocabulary is flawed and there are some features and flows which feel unnecessary or unhelpful. Overall, it succeeds as a vocabulary learning app in offering a search function for definitions and a study deck for vocab learning, but could be more intuitive and user-friendly for finding and categorizing vocab.