**Vocabulary Strategy**

**Vocab Alert**

**Purpose**

* Designed to make students aware of important terms prior to reading a selection.
* Vocab Alert serves as form of self-assessment for students
* Helps set a purpose for their reading
* Serves as an assessment tool for teacher and helps them determine how much vocabulary instruction and practice will be needed.

**Directions**

1. Select the most important terms from the reading selection or fro content-area material. Limit the number to 5-9 words.
2. Prepare a Vocab Alert! Form.
3. Write Vocabulary Alert! On the whiteboard.
4. Students assess their familiarity with each term using the form.
5. Introduce the significance of the terms within the context of the current topic and prepare students for the reading or activity.
6. Students record information about the vocabulary terminology as they read.
7. After reading, review the terms offering further clarification to develop understanding.

**Example:**

**Vocab Alert!**

1 2 3 4 5

Don’t know Sort of Familiar I know

**Vocabulary Terms** Rating

1. Embaro 1 2 3 4 5

Notes taken by student-government restricts trade

1. Treaty 1 2 3 4 5

Notes taken by student- agreement between two nations

1. Nationalism 1 2 3 4 5

Notes taken by student – feeling of strong pride in your country

1. Another term 1 2 3 4 5
2. Another term 1 2 3 4 5

Vocab Alert! Was adapted from *A Handbook of Content Literacy Strategies: 75 Practical Reading and Writing Ideas* (2000) by Elaine Stephens & Jean Brown.

Vocab Alert!

1 2 3 4 5

Don’t know Sort of Familiar I know

Vocabulary Terms Rating

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5