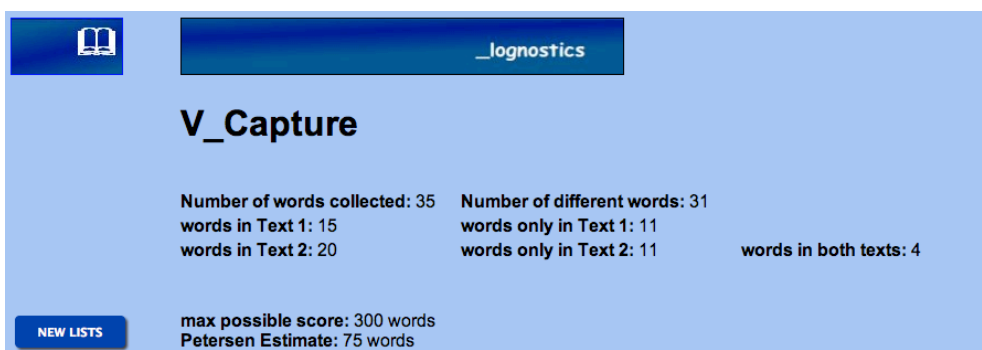# V_Capture v1.0: The Manual
Paul Meara

1. V_Capture computes a Petersen Estimate from two lists of words.

2. The V_Capture work space looks like this:

3. Load the word lists that you want to work with into the V_Capture workspace. You can do this by typing your text directly, or by copying a pre-prepared text into the workspace. Your list should be type lists, not token lists, and you may wish to edit your lists if they are derived from a continuous text.

4. Click the **SUBMIT** button.

5. V_Capture generates a report that looks like the one on the next page.
The report tells you how many words there are in each of the lists, and how many of these words occur in only one of the lists or in both of them.

6. The report also provides you with a Petersen estimate of how many words your Subject has available for this task. For the data shown above, this figure is 75 words. Save the report by copying the data into a new document. Alternatively, you can print the data using your browser's print command.

7. Click the **NEW LISTS** button to work with a new set of lists.

Background reading:

Meara, P.M. and Olmos Alcoy, J.C. (2010) Words as species: An alternative approach to estimating productive vocabulary size. *Reading in a Foreign Language* 22 (1), 222-236.

Olmos Alcoy, J.C. (2013) The Schnabel method: An ecological approach to productive vocabulary size estimation. *International Proceedings of Economic Development and Research* 68 (3), 19-24.

For a more detailed discussion of *V_Capture*, see **PM Meara and I Miralpeix (2017)** *Tools for Researching Vocabulary*. Bristol: Multilingual Matters.