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■ 350 of the Most Common TOEFL Vocabulary Words

VOCABULARY

QUIZ BOOK

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TOEFL® Vocabulary Quiz Book

Compiled by Richard J. Lapierre



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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The Test of English as a Foreign Language is a standardized test designed to measure your ability to understand and use English as it is used in a North American university setting. Recent changes to the TOEFL have shifted its focus from how much you know about English to how well you comprehend, speak, and write English.

Whether you are taking the TOEFL iBT, TOEFL CBT, or TOEFL Pencil-and-Paper, Kaplan's TOEFL Vocabulary Quiz Book is perfectly designed to help you learn over 350 important TOEFL vocabulary words. Simply read the vocabulary word and its part of speech on the front of a page to determine whether you know it; on the reverse side, its definition and a sample sentence are offered to be sure that you understand the word's meaning and its correct, idiomatic usage.

These sample sentences are followed by the corresponding noun, verb, adjective, or adverb forms. Thus you learn an average of four or more new words with each entry and augment your grasp of English grammar as well as your vocabulary. Once you've mastered a particular word, clip or fold back the corner of the flashcard so that you can zip by it to the words you still need to study.

The words are organized according to their part of speech: noun, verb, adjective, or adverb. You will notice, however, that they are not alphabetical. This is to help you focus on the individual word, its meaning, and its context. Words listed alphabetically are harder to distinguish and learn because they look and sound alike.

Study the words in any order and start on any page.

Good luck!



trigger verb

volunteer verb triggering, triggered, triggered to cause (something) to happen, to set off A skier on the west side of the mountain triggered an avalanche of cascading snow.

n. trigger

volunteering, volunteered, volunteered to offer to do something, usually without being asked, pressured, or paid When their babysitter canceled at the last minute, I volun-

When their babysitter canceled at the last minute, I **volunteered** to take care of their son.

n. volunteer adj. voluntary adv. voluntarily

predict verb

accompany verb

predicting, predicted, predicted to know what will happen in the future, to foresee Gamblers try to **predict** which horse will win a race. n. prediction, predictability adj. predictable adv. predictably

accompanying, accompanied, accompanied to go or come along with The Secretary of State accompanied the President on his trip. n. accompaniment relax verb

approve verb

relaxing, relaxed, relaxed to become less tense, to slacken A massage will help your muscles to relax. n. relaxation adj. relaxing, relaxed

approving, approved, approved

1. to consent to, to allow, or to endorse; 2. to believe to be correct or good

The treasurer has to approve all expenses.

His parents don't approve of his career choice.

n. approval adj. approving adv. approvingly

restrict verb

violate verb restricting, restricted, restricted to limit, to reduce

Laws restrict the amount of tobacco a person can bring into the country.

n. restriction adj. restrictive adv. restrictively

violating, violated, violated to defy, to disobey By speaking to the press he **violated** our contract. n. violation deny verb

immigrate verb

denying, denied, denied

to dispute the truth of (a statement or fact);
 to reject or refuse (a request)

Her son **denied** that he had dented the car. They **denied** our request for an extension. n. denial adj. deniable

immigrating, immigrated, immigrated to move to a new country

Millions of Italians immigrated to the United States between 1880 and 1915.

n. immigration, immigrant

conform verb

acknowledge verb conforming, conformed, conformed

to follow rules or standards;
 to follow social conventions,
 to fit in

Your new refrigerator should **conform** to energy efficiency standards.

Unlike his free-spirited, artistic sister, he has always tried to conform.

n. conformity, conformist adj. conformist

acknowledging, acknowledged, acknowledged to admit or accept as a fact, to recognize You should acknowledge that your mistakes caused the accident.

n. acknowledgment adj. acknowledged

assemble verb

expose verb

assembling, assembled, assembled
1. to put (something) together; 2. to come together
The engine was assembled from spare parts.
All students will assemble in the cafeteria this afternoon.
n. assembly

exposing, exposed, exposed

to reveal, to uncover;
 to make vulnerable, to put in contact with something dangerous

The journalist **exposed** a bribery scandal in the mayor's office. The **explosion** in the factory exposed workers to dangerous chemicals.

n. exposure, exposé adj. exposed

interpret verb

demonstrate verb

interpreting, interpreted, interpreted to explain or understand the meaning of, to translate *He says that he can interpret people's dreams.*n. interpretation, interpreter adj. interpretive

demonstrating, demonstrated, demonstrated to show, to prove, or to establish (a principle, theory, etc.) with evidence

Research has **demonstrated** that this new medication is five times as effective.

 n. demonstration, demonstrator adj. demonstrable, demonstrative adv. demonstrably, demonstratively adjust verb

diminish verb adjusting, adjusted, adjusted to change or alter (something) slightly in order to improve it, to modify

You may need to adjust your television antenna for better reception.

n. adjustment adj. adjusted

diminishing, diminished, diminished to become less or worse, to decline

His influence in the company diminished after his successor was chosen.

adj. diminished, diminishing

acquire verb

influence verb acquiring, acquired, acquired to obtain or receive, to attain During his year in Berlin he acquired a perfect German accent. n. acquisition

influencing, influenced, influenced to have an effect on, to affect, to impact Current events influenced his recent writing. n. influence adj. influential, influenced

revise verb

absorb verb revising, revised, revised

 to reconsider;
 to improve (a piece of writing, etc.) by changing it

Upon this discovery, astronomers **revised** their definition of a planet.

My teacher told me that if I **revise** the essay I will get a better grade.

n. revision, revisionism adj. revised, revisionary, revisionist

absorbing, absorbed, absorbed to take in or soak up A sponge can **absorb** a lot of liquid. n. absorption adj. absorbed, absorbing

purchase verb

select verb purchasing, purchased, purchased to buy
They are raising money to purchase new computers for the school.

n. purchase, purchaser

selecting, selected, selected to choose

The judges selected five dancers as finalists.

n. selection, selector adj. selective, select adv. selectively

intervene verb

enhance verb intervening, intervened, intervened to become involved in a situation, to interfere A fight broke out during the school dance, but the chaperones intervened before anyone was hurt.

n. intervention adj. intervening

enhancing, enhanced, enhanced to make better, to improve Dressing neatly for a job interview will enhance your likelihood of getting hired.

n. enhancement adj. enhanced

motivate verb

imply verb

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motivating, motivated, motivated to give (a person) a reason or incentive to do something, to encourage or inspire Our coach motivates us to practice harder by setting goals. n. motive, motivation adj. motivated

implying, implied, implied

to suggest that something is true without saying so directly, to insinuate

Although he didn't complain, his reaction implied that he was disappointed.

n. implication adj. implicit, implied

reveal verb

implement verb revealing, revealed, revealed to show, to uncover The curtains were pulled back to reveal a beautiful view. n. revelation adj. revealing

implementing, implemented, implemented to put into effect, to enact We will be **implementing** a new grading system next semester. n. implement, implementation

thrive verb

strive verb thriving, thrived/throve, thrived/thriven to flourish, to do well, to prosper This plant will **thrive** in a warm, wet climate.

striving, strove/strived, striven/strived to try, to attempt or endeavor She **strove** to be a role model for female athletes. n. striver require verb

accelerate verb

requiring, required, required to need or demand Finishing a crossword puzzle requires a lot of patience. n. requirement adj. required

accelerating, accelerated, accelerated to gain speed, to speed up

The gas pedal makes a car accelerate.

n. acceleration

respond verb

reject verb responding, responded, responded to answer; to reply Only half of the people we contacted **responded** to our survey. n. response, respondent, responsiveness adj. responsive

rejecting, rejected, rejected to refuse to accept, to dismiss Very few scientists entirely reject this theory. n. reject, rejection adj. rejected derive verb

invest verb deriving, derived, derived to obtain (something) from a source All of the ingredients in this shampoo are derived from plants. n. derivation, derivative adj. derived, derivative

investing, invested, invested to put money into (stocks, a business, real estate, etc.) in the hope of making a profit He made his fortune by investing in the stock market. n. investment, investor

investigate verb

decline verb

investigating, investigated, investigated to look closely at (something) in order to determine the truth, to examine

The police are **investigating** his connections to organized crime. v. investigation, investigator adj. investigative

declining, declined, declined

1. to become lower or worse, to decrease or diminish; 2. to choose not to do something, to refuse

The price of gold has declined since last year.

I declined their invitation to dinner.

n. decline adj. declining

utilize verb

seek verb utilizing, utilized, utilized to use
Our system utilizes the most advanced technology.
n. utilization, utility

seeking, sought, sought to look for They are **seeking** applicants for a paralegal job. n. seeker

encounter verb

involve verb

encountering, encountered, encountered to meet; to face
The plans for a new shopping mall encountered opposition in the city council.

n. encounter

involving, involved, involved to make (someone) a part of something I don't want to get involved with this; it sounds like a terrible idea.

n. involvement adj. involved

anticipate verb

modify verb anticipating, anticipated, anticipated to expect or look forward to Experts anticipate a major victory by the opposition party in this election.

n. anticipation adj. anticipated, anticipatory

modifying, modified, modified to adapt; to change or adjust She modified her car to run on solar power as well as gasoline. n. modification adj. modified

undergo verb

underlie verb undergoing, underwent, undergone to experience, to be subjected to The website **underwent** a complete remodeling.

underlying, underlay, underlain

to be located beneath;
 to be a cause or reason for something

The layer of rock that **underlies** the earth's crust is called the mantle.

Numerous issues **underlie** the failure of the peace talks. adj. underlying

undertake verb

translate verb

undertaking, undertook, undertaken to attempt, to take on (a task or job); to tackle They are **undertaking** a survey of the surrounding land.

translating, translated, translated to interpret, to express in another language *He is translating the plays of Shakespeare into Spanish. n.* translation, translator

terminate verb

prohibit verb terminating, terminated, terminated to end, to bring or come to a close The landlord terminated our rental agreement, so we have to move.

n. termination

prohibiting, prohibited, prohibited to forbid or ban Smoking is **prohibited** in this building. n. prohibition adj. prohibitive, prohibited

participate verb

discriminate verb participating, participated, participated to take part in, to be involved in All students are required to **participate** in after-school activities. n. participation, participant adj. participatory, participating

discriminating, discriminated, discriminated

to treat differently because of prejudice;
 to detect differences, especially small or subtle ones, to differentiate or distinguish

Universities once discriminated against women and minorities in their admissions practices.

Newborn babies can't **discriminate** between different colors. n. discrimination adj. discriminatory, discriminating

comprise verb

consist verb comprising, comprised, comprised to be made up of, to consist of, to incorporate The United States of America comprises 50 individual states.

consisting, consisted, consisted to be made up (of) A single deck **consists** of 52 playing cards—13 of each suit. vary verb

rely verb varying, varied, varied to change

The town's population varies with the season, as the tourists come and go.

 n. variation, variant, variance, variety adj. various, variable, varied adv. variously, variably

relying, relied, relied to be dependent (on something) I **rely** on the financial aid money to pay for school. n. reliance, reliability adj. reliant, reliable adv. reliably

substitute verb

evaluate verb

substituting, substituted, substituted to replace

The recipe works just as well if you **substitute** oranges for lemons.

n. substitute, substitution

evaluating, evaluated, evaluated to assess, judge, or estimate

An engineer evaluated the condition of the house.

n. evaluation

outgrow noun

appreciate verb

outgrowing, outgrew, outgrown to no longer need or be able to use (something) due to growth or development She used to love this dress but she has outgrown it.

appreciating, appreciated, appreciated to be grateful for I really appreciate your generous help.

n. appreciation adj. appreciative, appreciable adv. appreciatively, appreciably

monitor verb

construct verb

monitoring, monitored, monitored to observe, to keep track of After I got into debt, my parents started monitoring my spending.

n. monitor adj. monitored

constructing, constructed, constructed to build or form

The first rule of essay writing is to construct a convincing argument.

n. construction, construct adj. constructive, constructed

establish verb

conclude verb

establishing, established, established

 to set up (an institution, etc.), to found;
 to show that something is a fact

Yellowstone Park was established in 1872.

The prosecutor can **establish** that the defendant was there at the time of the robbery.

n. establishment adj. established

concluding, concluded, concluded

 to finish, to end;
 to develop a judgment after studying or considering something

The play concludes with a joyful wedding scene.

By the end of the meeting, we had **concluded** that your plan was best.

 n. conclusion adj. conclusive, concluded, concluding adv. conclusively survive verb

recommend verb

surviving, survived, survived to last or live through an event or period of time, to endure Only a few books survived the fire in the library.

n. survival, survivor adj. surviving

recommending, recommended, recommended

1. to advise; 2. to say positive things about, to endorse

The doctor recommended that I avoid salty foods.

My friend recommends this movie.

n. recommendation adj. recommended

scrutinize verb

pollute verb scrutinizing, scrutinized, scrutinized to closely inspect or examine
The results were unexpected, but after scrutinizing the data we determined it was accurate.

n. scrutiny

polluting, polluted, polluted to contaminate or make unclean The river has been **polluted** by chemicals from the factory. n. pollution, pollutant adj. polluted

simulate verb

ensure verb simulating, simulated, simulated to imitate; to mimic Astronauts train in water to **simulate** the experience of weightlessness.

n. simulation, simulator adj. simulated

ensuring, ensured, ensured to make (something) certain; to guarantee Snow tires should be used in the winter to ensure safety on slippery roads.

commence verb

approach verb

commencing, commenced, commenced to begin

Construction of the new chemistry building will commence next week.

n. commencement

approaching, approached, approached to come close to Temperatures approached record highs last summer. n. approach adj. approachable consult verb

distract verb

consulting, consulted, consulted to seek advice or information from You should consult your lawyer before signing a contract.

n. consultation, consultancy, consultant, consulting adj. consultative

distracting, distracted, distracted to divert or take away someone's attention The music is distracting me from my work. n. distraction adj. distracting

enable verb

assess verb

enabling, enabled, enabled to make able or possible A new computer would **enable** us to work faster. n. enabler

assessing, assessed, assessed
To judge the nature, quality, or degree of (something), to
evaluate or appraise
Students were asked to assess the accuracy of information they
found on the Internet.

n. assessment, assessor adj. assessable, assessed

persist verb

devote verb persisting, persisted, persisted to last, to go on, to endure The bad weather is expected to **persist** for another week. n. persistence adj. persistent adv. persistently

devoting, devoted, devoted to commit, to dedicate Gandhi devoted his life to opposing discrimination and oppression.

n. devotion, devotee adj. devoted adv. devotedly

cease verb

doubt verb ceasing, ceased, ceased to end, to conclude, to stop

A treaty was signed last night, and the fighting finally ceased.

n. cessation adj. ceaseless

doubting, doubted, doubted to suspect of being untrue The police have begun to **doubt** his version of events. n. doubt adj. doubtful adv. doubtfully precede verb

unify verb preceding, preceded, preceded to go or come before Twenty policemen on motorcycles preceded the president's limousine. n. precedent, precedence adj. preceding

unifying, unified, unified to bring or come together, to unite East and West Germany were unified in 1990. n. unification, unifier adj. unified, unifying insert verb

deteriorate verb

inserting, inserted, inserted to put (something) into something else To start the program, insert the disk and follow the instructions. n. insertion

deteriorating, deteriorated, deteriorated to grow worse The patient's condition has deteriorated since last night. n. deterioration adj. deteriorating

correspond verb

cooperate verb

corresponding, corresponded, corresponded

to be very similar to something, to match almost exactly;
 to exchange letters

The Greek letter alpha corresponds with the letter "A" in the Roman alphabet.

I have corresponded with her for several months.

n. correspondence, correspondent adj. corresponding

cooperating, cooperated, cooperated to work together in order to accomplish something, to collaborate

The United States and Canada cooperated to fight smuggling over their shared border.

n. cooperation adj. cooperative adv. cooperatively

dominate verb

facilitate verb

dominating, dominated, dominated to exert control over Our basketball team dominated the game. n. domination, dominance adj. dominant

facilitating, facilitated, facilitated to make (something) easier Railroads facilitated the settlement of the midwestern United States.

n. facilitator, facilitation

retain verb

complement verb retaining, retained, retained to keep or hold The town **retains** much of its historic charm. n. retention, retainer adj. retentive

complementing, complemented, complemented to bring out the best in or supply a missing quality to, to be the ideal partner or accompaniment The rich flavor of the wine complemented the steak perfectly. n. complement adj. complementary

compliment

verb

occupy verb

complimenting, complimented, complimented to make a positive comment about, to praise He complimented her excellent taste in music. n. compliment adj. complimentary

occupying, occupied, occupied

to be in (a place or position), to inhabit;
 to engage, employ, or keep busy

They **occupied** the house for months without paying rent. The toy **occupied** the boy for hours.

n. occupancy, occupant, occupier, occupation adj. occupied

manipulate verb

waive verb manipulating, manipulated, manipulated to influence or control

He manipulated his grandmother into leaving him money in her will.

 manipulation, manipulator adj. manipulative, manipulated adv. manipulatively

waiving, waived, waived to give up, to relinquish She waived her right to a lawyer. n. waiver

convince verb

perceive verb

convincing, convinced, convinced to cause (a person) to agree with a statement or opinion, to persuade

I finally convinced him that I was right.

adj. convincing, convinced adv. convincingly

perceiving, perceived, perceived to sense, to be aware of Dogs **perceive** a greater range of sounds than humans can. n. perception adj. perceived, perceptible adv. perceptibly

attribute verb

occur verb attributing, attributed, attributed to give credit or assign responsibility for (something) to a particular person, condition, etc.

He attributes his good health to a low-fat diet and plenty of exercise.

n. attribution adj. attributable, attributed

occurring, occurred, occurred to happen, to take place

The burglary occurred late last night.

n. occurrence

intimidate verb

reinforce verb intimidating, intimidated, intimidated to challenge (a person's) confidence; to make nervous or afraid

His students' knowledge sometimes **intimidates** him. n. intimidation adj. intimidating

reinforcing, reinforced, reinforced to make stronger or more intense He is very close-minded; he only reads books that reinforce his own beliefs.

n. reinforcement adj. reinforced

pursue verb

concentrate verb pursuing, pursued, pursued to follow or chase after The dogs **pursued** the fox through the field. n. pursuit, pursuer

concentrating, concentrated, concentrated to focus, to direct one's attention to My teacher suggested that I concentrate on improving my writing.

n. concentration

ignore verb

detect verb ignoring, ignored, ignored to pay no attention to Whenever my little brother annoyed me, my mother just told me to **ignore** him. adj. ignored

detecting, detected, detected to sense or discover something, to discern, to identify I detected some uncertainty in her voice as she answered. n. detection, detective, detector adj. detectable adv. detectably expand verb

clarify verb expanding, expanded, expanded to move apart or outwards so as to take up more space, to grow

In the 1920s, scientists discovered that the universe is **expanding**. n. expansion, expansionism adj. expansive, expanding

clarifying, clarified, clarified to make something clearer or easier to understand, to explain The candidate had to clarify his statements about environmental policy.

n. clarification, clarity adj. clarified

compare verb

react verb comparing, compared, compared to make note of differences and similarities between (two things)

They compared the two cars to see which was the better deal. n. comparison adj. comparable adv. comparably

reacting, reacted, reacted to act in response to, to respond How did your mother react when you told her you were getting married?

n. reaction adj. reactionary, reactive

convey verb

combine verb

conveying, conveyed, conveyed

1. to communicate or express; 2. to transport

She tried to convey the seriousness of the situation, but they didn't seem to grasp it.

The boxes were conveyed to Boston by train.

n. conveyance

combining, combined, combined to put together; to blend Text messaging combines the convenience of e-mail with the speed of a phone call. n. combination adj. combined

distribute verb

promote verb distributing, distributed, distributed to give out, to divide among a group We distributed the money evenly among the group. n. distribution, distributor adj. distributional

promoting, promoted, promoted

 to support or publicize;
 to raise (someone) to a higher grade or position

Actors often go on television talk shows to **promote** their new movies.

Jay worked very hard at school, hoping he would be **promoted**.

n. promotion, promoter

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consume

verb

distort

verb

consuming, consumed, consumed

1. to buy or use up; 2. to eat or drink

Americans consume 25 percent of the world's oil.

He consumed the entire pie in under ten minutes.

n. consumer, consumption adj. consuming

distorting, distorted, distorted to depict something inaccurately That mirror distorts your image so that you look taller than you are.

n. distortion adj. distorted

eliminate verb

injure verb eliminating, eliminated, eliminated to get rid of, to remove or exclude

First he became a vegetarian; now he is trying to eliminate milk from his diet.

n. elimination

injuring, injured, injured to hurt She was badly **injured** in a skiing accident. n. injury adj. injurious, injured adv. injuriously deplete verb

transform verb depleting, depleted, depleted to use up Some critics worry that we are rapidly depleting the world's oil supply.

n. depletion

transforming, transformed, transformed to change dramatically

The discovery of penicillin transformed the way doctors treat infections.

n. transformation

permit verb

justify verb permitting, permitted, permitted to allow

The police refused to permit the protest.

n. permission, permit adj. permitted, permissive adv. permissively

justifying, justified, justified to show or claim that (something) is right or reasonable He tried to justify his theft by claiming the money was owed to him.

n. justification adj. justifiable, justified adv. justifiably

fluctuate verb

deviate verb fluctuating, fluctuated, fluctuated to vary frequently and irregularly, to vacillate The temperature has been **fluctuating** a lot recently, so I wasn't sure if I should wear a coat.

n. fluctuation adj. fluctuating

deviating, deviated, deviated to differ or stray from an established standard or course, to vary or diverge

The final version of the building **deviated** only slightly from the original plan.

n. deviation, deviant adj. deviant

export verb

import verb exporting, exported, exported to send something out of the country, usually for sale Their business exports dairy products to Europe. n. exporter, export, exporting adj. exported

importing, imported, imported to bring something into the country, usually for sale *He imports* wine from Europe.

n. importer, import, importing adj. imported

regulate verb

provide verb regulating, regulated, regulated to control, especially by making rules, to supervise The government regulates the sale of certain medicines. n. regulation, regulator adj. regulatory, regulated

providing, provided, provided to supply
The local bakery **provided** cakes for our bake sale.
n. provision, provider

qualify verb

succeed verb qualifying, qualified, qualified to meet requirements, to be or become eligible By winning the game they qualified for the national tournament.

n. qualification, qualifier adj. qualified, qualifying

succeeding, succeeded, succeeded to achieve a goal He finally **succeeded** in getting his novel published. n. success adj. successful adv. successfully

remove verb

commit verb removing, removed, removed to take (something) off or away You must **remove** the peel before eating a banana. n. removal adj. removable

committing, committed, committed

to promise to do something, to pledge;
 to carry out (a crime, etc.)

We **committed** to working here until the end of the summer. I never thought I could commit murder.

n. commitment adj. committed

generate verb

focus verb generating, generated, generated to produce, to create Her latest movie has **generated** a lot of controversy.

focusing, focused, focused to direct one's attention to, to concentrate We need to focus on the problem of water pollution before it is too late.

n. focus adj. focused

identify verb

persuade verb identifying, identified, identified to determine who or what a person or thing is, to recognize She identified him as the man who tried to sell her a stolen watch.

n. identity, identification adj. identifiable, identified

persuading, persuaded, persuaded to convince

I was planning to stay here over the vacation, but my parents **persuaded** me to come home instead.

n. persuasion adj. persuasive adv. persuasively

organize verb

tolerate verb organizing, organized, organized

1. to put in order; 2. to arrange

I must organize my desk so I can find things more easily.

They are organizing a concert to benefit local charities.

n. organization, organizer adj. organized

tolerating, tolerated, tolerated to allow or endure

My boss doesn't tolerate lateness.

n. tolerance adj. tolerant, tolerable adv. tolerantly, tolerably

guarantee verb

contribute verb guaranteeing, guaranteed, guaranteed to promise or ensure Can you guarantee that this program will work on my computer? n. guarantee adj. guaranteed

contributing, contributed, contributed to give or donate

All of the parents were asked to contribute twenty dollars for new soccer uniforms.

n. contribution, contributor adj. contributed, contributing

coincide verb

contradict verb coinciding, coincided, coincided to happen at the same time Her visit coincided with the annual Folk Music Festival. n. coincidence adj. coincidental adv. coincidentally

contradicting, contradicted, contradicted to oppose or challenge (a person or statement), to dispute He contradicted your version of the story. n. contradiction adj. contradictory recover verb

perpetuate verb recovering, recovered, recovered to improve after experiencing a decline The economy recovered quickly after the recent recession. n. recovery adj. recoverable

perpetuating, perpetuated, perpetuated to cause (something) to last indefinitely, to sustain Advertisements like these **perpetuate** sexism in our society. n. perpetuity adj. perpetual adv. perpetually

exclude verb

estimate verb excluding, excluded, excluded to leave out, to omit The boys were excluded from the game.

n. exclusion adj. exclusionary, exclusive, excluded adv. exclusively

estimating, estimated, estimated to make an educated guess

We estimate that next year's profits will be 20 percent higher.

n. estimate, estimation adj. estimated

legislate verb

indicate verb legislating, legislated, legislated to make law Congress legislated a federal minimum wage in 1938. n. legislation, legislator, legislature adj. legislative adv. legislatively

indicating, indicated, indicated to show or suggest Your test scores indicate exceptional talent in math. n. indication, indicator adj. indicative

daunt verb

founder verb daunting, daunted, daunted to discourage; to intimidate She tried hard not to let the enormity of the situation daunt her. adj. daunting, daunted

foundering, foundered, foundered to sink; to fall helplessly

After colliding with the jagged rock, the ship foundered, forcing the crew to abandon it.

adj. foundering

goad verb

riddle verb goading, goaded, goaded to prod or urge Denise **goaded** her sister Leigh into running the marathon with her.

riddling, riddled, riddled to make many holes in; permeate The gunfire **riddled** the helicopter with thousands of holes. nettle verb

ply verb nettling, nettled, nettled to irritate I don't particularly like having blue hair—I just do it to **nettle** my parents.

plying, plied, plied to use diligently; to engage; to join together The weaver **plied** the fibers together to make a blanket. edit verb

straightforward adjective editing, edited, edited to change and improve a piece of writing Your manuscript is strong, but it needs to be edited. n. editor, edition adj. editorial adv. editorially

uncomplicated, simple

An effective speech will be **straightforward** and have a clear point.

n. straightforwardness adv. straightforwardly

preliminary adjective

valuable adjective coming before or done in preparation for something Before starting the program, you will need to take a **preliminary** course.

n. preliminary

of great worth, expensive

The discs contained very valuable information.

v. value n. value adj. valued

reluctant adjective

subtle adjective unwilling; not eager

She got the scholarship, but she is reluctant to move abroad.

n. reluctance adv. reluctantly

delicate or understated, not obvious

Though garlic can be overpowering, in this recipe it is quite

subtle.

n. subtlety adv. subtly

vague adjective

consistent adjective unclear, imprecise, not specific I don't remember exactly what he looked like, but I have a vague memory.

n. vagueness adv. vaguely

1. unchanging, stable; 2. compatible, in line with To train your dog you must be consistent about disciplining him.

The results of the blood test were consistent with the diagnosis. n. consistency adv. consistently

equivalent adjective

valid adjective equal

One gallon is equivalent to four quarts.

n. equivalent, equivalence, equivalency adv. equivalently

acceptable as true; reasonable, convincing;
 legally binding or effective; legitimate

She made a very **valid** point about the risks of this investment. He will leave the country soon, because his visa is only **valid** until next week.

v. validate n. validity, validation adj. validated adv. validly

widespread adjective

rigid adjective affecting or existing in a large area; extensive; general The storm caused widespread damage, with flooding in six states.

hard, stiff, unyielding
There is a **rigid** dress code at his new school that forbids jeans
and sneakers.
n. rigidity adv. rigidly

ultimate adjective

abstract adjective 1. eventual, final; 2. ideal, best

Her musical career started badly, but her talent and dedication ensured ultimate success.

This is the **ultimate** chocolate brownie: rich and chewy. n. ultimate, ultimatum adv. ultimately

based on ideas or general concepts rather than physical reality or specific events

This aspect of economics seems very **abstract**, but it has important real-life applications.

n. abstraction, abstract adv. abstractly

ignorant adjective

extensive adjective lacking in knowledge, unaware, uneducated

He knows a lot about most sports, but when it comes to hockey
he is completely **ignorant**.

n. ignorance, ignoramus adv. ignorantly

wide-reaching, broad, substantial She has **extensive** experience with a variety of computer systems.

v. extend n. extent adv. extensively

universal adjective

positive adjective applying to all people or situations

Fear of the unknown is a universal human trait.

n. universality adv. universally

good, not negative
The new rules should have a **positive** effect on safety.
adv. positively

visible adjective

essential adjective able to be seen

The fish were **visible** through the clear water.

n. visibility adv. visibly

absolutely necessary, crucial Good water is **essential** for making good tea. n. essence adv. essentially

enormous adjective

domestic adjective immensely large; huge

The fossil is an **enormous** footprint that may have been made by a dinosaur.

n. enormity adv. enormously

1. relating to the home or housework; 2. existing, originating or taking place within a particular country Women and men today are likely to share the burden of **domes**-tic tasks.

Voters tend to be more interested in **domestic** issues than in foreign affairs.

n. domesticity, domestic adv. domestically

final adjective

accurate adjective

last

Tomorrow is the **final** day of classes for the fall semester. v. finalize n. finality, finalization, final adv. finally

perfectly correct, without errors

He always checks his bill before paying to make sure it is accurate.

n. accuracy adv. accurately







strict, demanding

Hospitals must maintain **rigorous** standards of cleanliness.

n. rigor adv. rigorously

extremely intense, meaningful or thoughtful He has a **profound** understanding of the plight of the poor. n. profundity adv. profoundly

coherent adjective

passive adjective logical, reasonable and consistent

To get an A on a paper, you need to have a coherent argument
and support it with facts.

n. coherence adv. coherently

not actively participating, inactive They weren't involved in the vandalism; they were just **passive** witnesses.

n. passivity adv. passively

conceivable adjective

adequate adjective able to be thought of, imaginable

We used every conceivable method to raise money for the project.

v. conceive adv. conceivably

of as much quantity or quality as is needed, sufficient, enough The climbers left base camp with adequate supplies for a threeday journey.

n. adequacy adv. adequately

rapid adjective

sufficient adjective fast, quick

The ambulance crew has to provide a **rapid** response in emergencies.

n. rapidity adv. rapidly

enough

The oxygen in the tank is **sufficient** for a one-hour dive. v. suffice n. sufficiency adv. sufficiently









compatible adjective

medical adjective



automatic adjective

familiar adjective





main, major, most important or significant
Taxes were one of the **primary** reasons that the American colonies declared independence.
n. primacy adj. prime adv. primarily

nervous, worried that something bad will happen He is **apprehensive** about the interview. n. apprehensiveness adv. apprehensively

mature adjective

annual adjective fully grown; aged; adult

He has become much more mature since he went away to college.

v. mature n. maturity, maturation

occurring once each year; yearly
I'm taking my car to the mechanic for its annual inspection.
adv. annually

isolated adjective

mental adjective solitary, alone The cabin was completely isolated in the middle of the forest. v. isolate n. isolation, isolationism

relating to the mind, intellectual or psychological Her strange behavior led doctors to suspect she was suffering from a mental illness.

n. mentality adv. mentally





prior adjective

remarkable adjective



beneficial adjective

infinite adjective good, having a positive effect
Vitamin A is said to be beneficial for the eyes.

n. benefit adv. beneficially

endless, limitless, innumerable, so great as to be impossible to measure or count

The universe is so immensely large that many consider it to be **infinite**.

n. infinity adv. infinitely

unique adjective

secure adjective





readily obtained, possible to get
This chair is available in six different colors.
n. availability

able to do something, competent

Many scientists still doubt that apes are capable of using complex language.

n. capability

normal adjective

integral adjective



comprehensive

adjective

objective adjective complete, thorough
With this comprehensive collection of recipes you'll never need
another cookbook.
adv. comprehensively

unbiased; unprejudiced

We need an **objective** judge to tell us whose singing is better.

n. objectivity adv. objectively

temporary adjective

significant adjective



maximum adjective

minimum adjective of the greatest possible amount or degree, most I got a ticket for driving over the maximum speed. v. maximize n. maximum, maximization adj. maximal adv. maximally

of the least possible amount or degree They set a **minimum** GPA of 3.5 for applicants to the honors program.

v. minimize n. minimum, minimization adj. minimal adv. minimally

considerable adjective

ethnic adjective great in amount or extent, sizable, substantial, significant The first European colonists in North America faced considerable hardships during the cold winter months. adv. considerably

cultural, united or defined by culture, tradition, or nationality
The event was intended to promote understanding between
members of different ethnic groups.
n. ethnicity adv. ethnically



allowed by or relating to the law, lawful Alcoholic beverages were banned in the United States from 1919 until 1933, when prohibition ended and they became **legal** again.

v. legalize n. legalization, legality adj. legalized adv. legally

prior

Do you have any **previous** experience?

adv. previously



characteristic, special, unique

Asparagus has a distinctive taste.

n. distinction adj. distinct adv. distinctively, distinctly

opposite, contradictory, conflicting

No matter what I say, you always argue the contrary position.

n. contrary adv. contrarily



unlikely to change or shift, secure

It is best for children to grow up in **stable** homes.

v. stabilize n. stability, stabilization adv. stably

impossible to prevent, unavoidable

He was a dangerous driver, and it was inevitable that he would

eventually get into an accident.

n. inevitability adv. inevitably

obvious adjective

mutual adjective



brief adjective

fundamental adjective



random adjective

rational adjective without order or organization

The seating assignments were random.

n. random, randomness adv. randomly

consistent with logic and reason, reasonable, logical A good judge must be **rational**, and not easily swayed by emotion.

v. rationalize n. rationality, rationalization, rationalist adv. rationally

similar adjective

incredible adjective





strongest or most prevalent, foremost, main, primary
The cake is supposed to be chocolate mocha, but the **predomi- nant** flavor is coffee.

v. predominate n. predominance adv. predominantly

legally responsible

Parents are liable for damage caused by their children.

n. liability

identical adjective

neutral adjective exactly the same

We hoped the other airline would be cheaper, but the ticket prices were identical.

adv. identically

belonging to neither of two opposing categories, impartial, unaffiliated

I am liberal, but my brother is conservative, so to avoid offending either of us my mother tries to be politically **neutral**. v. neutralize n. neutrality, neutralization adj. neutralized adv. neutrally

appropriate adjective

global adjective







deceptive adjective

intrinsic adjective



contemporary adjective

complex adjective existing or happening at the same time; contemporaneous;
 existing or happening in the present, modern
 his childhood was contemporary with the First World War.
 Their house is filled with fashionable contemporary furniture.
 contemporary

difficult to understand, complicated

The problem was too complex to be solved in a single meeting.

n. complexity



extremely important, indispensable

The helicopter is delivering crucial supplies to a remote hospital.

n. crux adv. crucially

situated between two stages, in the middle Before moving on to the advanced class, I am going to try the intermediate level. glib adj

stoic adj said in an insincere manner; offhand, casual The slimy politician managed to continue gaining supporters because he was a glib speaker.

indifferent to or unaffected by emotions

While most of the mourners wept, the dead woman's husband kept up a stoic, unemotional facade.

potential noun

overview noun ability or promise

Her coach thinks she has the **potential** to be a world-class athlete.

adv. potentially

a general survey
This book offers an **overview** of the major developments in
astronomy since the time of Galileo.



plural: phenomena something that exists or occurs, especially something remarkable, an occurrence, a wonder The annual migration of the monarch butterflies is an incredible natural phenomenon.

adj. phenomenal adv. phenomenally

the base that something is built on; basis; underpinning Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection is the foundation of modern biology.

adj. foundational



facts that support a theory or assertion

Although many believed she was guilty, there wasn't enough

evidence to prosecute her for the crime.

adj. evident, evidential, evidenced adv. evidently

a choice or possibility

There are several different options for getting Internet access.

adj. optional adv. optionally

insight noun

logic noun understanding or appreciation

This book gave me greater insight into modern politics.

adj. insightful adv. insightfully

reason; rational thinking

The problem has to be solved with logic.

n. logician adj. logical adv. logically

statistic noun

publication noun information derived from numerical analysis

The latest **statistics** show an increase in the rate of population growth.

n. statistician adj. statistical adv. statistically

 the act of publishing a text;
 a published book, journal, magazine, etc.

He is excited about the **publication** of his first novel. She has written articles for several different **publications**. error noun

method noun a mistake
This report contains an unacceptable number of errors.
v. err adj. erroneous adv. erroneously

a way of doing something, a technique

They are developing a new method for learning to read music.

n. methodology adj. methodical, methodological adv. methodically; methodologically

revolution noun

commerce noun 1. a circular movement, a rotation or turn; 2. a dramatic change, especially the overthrow of a government Earth completes a revolution around the sun every 365¼ days. The American Revolution overthrew an English colonial government; the French Revolution unseated a native ruling class. v. revolve, revolutionize n. revolutionary, revolt adj. revolutionary

economic activity, trade, business

The new policies are supposed to encourage commerce by helping small businesses.
adj. commercial adv. commercially

administration noun

conflict noun the group of people responsible for managing a company, government, etc.; management; 2. the act of administering The proposal has to be approved by the University administration.

She is going to business school to get a degree in administration.

v. administer, administrate n. administrator adj. administrative adv. administratively

a state or incident of disagreement or hostility, a clash There is often a **conflict** between one's personal desires and the best interest of society.

v. conflict adj. conflicting, conflicted

partner noun

innovation noun

one who shares an activity, business, etc. She's looking for a new tennis partner. n. partnership

a new way of doing something, an invention The VCR was a major **innovation** in the way people watched films.

v. innovate n. innovator adj. innovative adv. innovatively

finance noun

behavior noun



prerequisite noun

phase noun





knowledge and good judgment based on experience; good sense

The decision demonstrated her wisdom. adj. wise adv. wisely

a person seeking a position, especially a person running for election to public office She is one of three candidates for Governor. status noun

ideology noun importance in relation to others, rank

People often judge the social **status** of others based on the way
they dress.

a strong and rigid system of belief; dogma

The Communist ideology was very influential during the twentieth century.

n. ideologue adj. ideological adv. ideologically

location noun

controversy noun a position or site, a place
They still haven't found a good location for their new restaurant.
v. locate adj. located

intense public disagreement about something, a debate A controversy arose over the school's new science curriculum. adj. controversial adv. controversially



a reward for doing something

To attract new members, the gym is offering incentives such as
free yoga classes.

a result

The outcome of the election was a surprise to everyone.

proficiency noun

instance noun ability, skill, competence
Before studying abroad, students are expected to achieve basic
proficiency in a foreign language.
adj. proficient adv. proficiently

an example of an action or phenomenon; an occurrence; an occasion

It was just one more instance of personal failure.

gender noun

concept noun the sex (male or female) of a person Discrimination based on gender is illegal. adj. gendered

an idea, especially one that is abstract and general As an introduction, she explained the major concepts that would be covered in the class. v. conceptualize n. conception, conceptualization adj. concep-

tual, conceptualized adv. conceptually

diversity noun

leeway noun



resource

noun

proof noun

a stock of information, skill, money, etc., that can be used to make or accomplish something Do you have enough resources to carry out this project? adj. resourceful

evidence showing that a statement or fact is true, verification New customers are required to show **proof** that they live in the neighborhood.

opportunity

noun

alternative noun a chance to do something

The recital will give her an opportunity to demonstrate her talent.

ent.

adj. opportune adv. opportunely

any of multiple options, another possibility
Whole grains such as barley are exciting and healthy alternatives to pasta.
adj. alternative adv. alternatively

majority noun

minority noun the largest part of a whole, over half The majority of Americans prefer coffee to tea.

a small part of a whole, less than half;
 a member of a group that accounts for less than half of a population
 Atheists are a minority in the United States.
 The company is recruiting minorities for positions on its board of directors.

talent noun

data noun



media noun

narrative noun singular: medium
the news and entertainment outlets such as the press, television, radio, and film
The politician was unhappy with the way he had been depicted in the media.

a story, an account of connected events

The Odyssey is a long narrative in the form of a poem.

v. narrate n. narration adj. narrative adv. narratively





duration noun

expert noun the length of time that something lasts

Please remain seated for the duration of the flight.

a person who has special knowledge or experience in a particular field

The museum called in an **expert** to determine if the painting was a forgery.

n. expertise adj. expert adv. expertly













trend noun

function noun





a remark that expresses an observation or opinion

We never had a chance to give our comments on the proposal.

v. comment n. commentary, commentator

a speech intended to teach something

Are you going to Professor Smith's lecture on the Cold War?

v. lecture n. lecturer

emphasis

noun

analysis noun plural: *emphases* special attention, stress, prominence The new laws put **emphasis** on protecting the environment. v. emphasize adj. emphatic adv. emphatically

plural: analyses
a detailed interpretation of information
An analysis of the test results showed gradual improvement in math scores.

n. analyst v. analyze adj. analytical, analyzed adv. analytically

hypothesis

noun

circumstance

noun

plural: hypotheses
an unproven theory, especially a scientific one
Her hypothesis was that the mice eating the special diet would
grow twice as fast.
v. hypothesize adj. hypothetical adv. hypothetically

a condition or fact that affects an event or creates a situation The room was cold and dark, and she hadn't slept the night before; it is difficult to take a test under those circumstances. adj. circumstantial

strategy noun

tradition noun



regime

noun

target noun



era noun

authority noun



generation noun

hierarchy noun





money that is paid to a person or company; salary; earnings If she gets promoted, her **income** will increase substantially.

a belief that is not based on proof
Historians must be careful not to make assumptions about the
past based on today's values.
v. assume adj. assumed

priority noun

summary noun something considered to be of the highest importance We will eventually paint the house, but right now our **priority** is to finish the roof.
v. prioritize n. prioritization

a short description of the content of a longer piece of writing, film, etc.

We were asked to write a one-page **summary** of the book. v. summarize n. summarization adj. summarized







income; money that is earned

The store has had much higher revenues this year.

the way something looks
It is a beautiful old house, but the broken windows ruin its
appearance.

v. appear adj. apparent adv. apparently

climate noun

research noun weather conditions over a long period of time; the environment

Scientists are studying the forces causing changes in the climate. adj. climatic

intensive study of a particular topic She is doing research on local history. v. research n. researcher impact noun

challenge noun an impression, an effect
The film had a great **impact** on me; I was really moved.
v. impact adj. impacted

a difficult task or undertaking;
 a questioning of authority
 The marathon is a challenge even for experienced runners.
 Impressionist paintings were seen as a challenge to traditional artistic standards.

v. challenge n. challenger adj. challenging, challenged





sequence

noun

exception

noun





a subject for study or discussion

The topic of her paper is animal life in rainforests.

adj. topical adv. topically

an idea that forms the foundation of a theory or of a system of morality

The **principle** of equality is an important part of true democracy. adj. principled



blessing, something to be thankful for Dirk realized that his new coworker's computer skills would be a real **boon** to the company.

noisy dispute

When the players discovered that the other team was cheating, a violent **fracas** ensued.









nevertheless adverb

initially adverb in spite of that, nonetheless Educational opportunities for women were limited in the nineteenth century; **nevertheless**, women contributed to that era's scientific accomplishments.

in the beginning, to begin with, at the start

The cost of owning a car turned out to be much higher than we

initially expected.

adj. initial



in addition, additionally, moreover She likes the biology program at that university, and furthermore, they offered her a scholarship.

on the whole, in general Sally's Pizza has great crust, but I think Pepe's pizza is better overall.

likewise adverb

approximately adverb similarly; in the same way; also I couldn't afford to fly home, and a train ticket was likewise beyond my means.

close to but not precisely, nearly, about Approximately 5 percent of Americans commute to work using public transportation.

v. approximate n. approximation adj. approximate, approximated

hence adverb

via adverb as a result, therefore, consequently Filtering the water in the aquarium will make it cleaner and hence healthier for your fish.

by way of We flew back from Los Angeles **via** Chicago.

eventually adverb

recently adverb



chiefly adverb

thereby adverb mostly, mainly, primarily

The book focuses chiefly on social history.

in this way; as a result of this He came in second in the race and thereby earned a spot on the national team.



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