

# Vocabulary Practice Exercises

## Comprehensive Review — Practice Set 2

16 Words • 12 Exercise Types • Source: Dragon Ball Z

*Exercises ordered by difficulty: Easy → Medium → Hard*

January 20, 2026

### Vocabulary Overview

*This practice set covers all NEW vocabulary words from Dragon Ball Z (not included in Practice Set 1).*

Dragon Ball Z (New)	boggling, sluggish, ambush, lurk, shrewd, defiant, grudge, acquainted, ample, outrageous, divert, ponder, stunt, sucker, ominous, pester
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Adjectives	boggling, sluggish, shrewd, defiant, acquainted, ample, outrageous, ominous
Nouns	ambush, grudge, stunt, sucker
Verbs	lurk, divert, ponder, pester, ambush, stunt, sucker

Difficulty Progression Guide
<b>EASY (Exercises 1-3):</b> Recognition, matching, basic recall
<b>MEDIUM (Exercises 4-8):</b> Context application, collocations, comprehension
<b>HARD (Exercises 9-12):</b> Production, analysis, creative usage

## — EASY EXERCISES —

### *Recognition & Matching*

## 1 Exercise 1: Definitions — Match the Word

Match each definition (1-8) with the correct word from the word bank below.

### Word Bank A

boggling    sluggish    ambush    lurk    shrewd    defiant    grudge  
acquainted

1. \_\_\_\_\_ — A feeling of anger or dislike towards somebody because of something bad they have done to you in the past, often lasting a long time.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ — To wait somewhere secretly, especially because you are going to do something bad or illegal.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ — Moving, reacting, or working more slowly than normal and in a way that seems lazy; lacking energy or speed.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ — Openly refusing to obey somebody/something, sometimes in an aggressive way; boldly resisting authority.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ — Causing great surprise, astonishment, or bewilderment; overwhelming or astounding (often in "mind-boggling").
6. \_\_\_\_\_ — Clever at understanding and making judgements about a situation; having or showing good judgement.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ — The act of hiding and waiting for somebody and then making a surprise attack on them.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ — Familiar with something because you have read, seen, or experienced it; having met someone a few times.

### Word Bank B

ample    outrageous    divert    ponder    stunt    sucker    ominous    pester

9. \_\_\_\_\_ — To think about something carefully and thoroughly for a period of time; to consider or reflect deeply.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ — To annoy somebody, especially by asking them something many times; to bother repeatedly.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ — Suggesting that something bad is going to happen in the future; threatening or menacing.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ — To make somebody/something change direction; to take attention away from something.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ — Enough or more than enough; plentiful or generous in quantity, size, or amount.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ — (Slang) A gullible person easily tricked or cheated; to deceive or trick someone.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ — An action displaying spectacular skill or daring; OR to prevent the growth or development of something.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ — Offensive, unacceptable, or shocking; OR very unusual or excessive in a bold way.

## 2 Exercise 2: Synonyms & Antonyms

### Part A: Synonyms

*Match each word (1-8) with its closest synonym from the options.*

1. **shrewd**

- A) naive    B) astute    C) foolish    D) careless

2. **sluggish**

- A) energetic    B) swift    C) lethargic    D) active

3. **ample**

- A) scarce    B) limited    C) abundant    D) insufficient

4. **defiant**

- A) obedient    B) rebellious    C) compliant    D) submissive

5. **ponder**

- A) ignore    B) contemplate    C) forget    D) dismiss

6. **ominous**

- A) cheerful    B) promising    C) threatening    D) bright

7. **lurk**

- A) appear    B) skulk    C) reveal    D) emerge

8. **outrageous**

- A) reasonable    B) moderate    C) scandalous    D) acceptable

### Part B: Antonyms

*Choose the word that is most OPPOSITE in meaning.*

9. **sluggish**

- A) slow    B) brisk    C) lazy    D) tired

10. **ample**

- A) plentiful    B) generous    C) scarce    D) sufficient

11. **defiant**

- A) rebellious    B) bold    C) compliant    D) aggressive

12. **shrewd**

A) clever    B) wise    C) gullible    D) smart

13. **ominous**

A) threatening    B) dark    C) auspicious    D) sinister

14. **acquainted**

A) familiar    B) knowledgeable    C) unfamiliar    D) experienced

### 3 Exercise 3: Word Forms — Complete the Table

*Fill in the missing word forms. Some boxes may have "—" if no common form exists.*

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
(1) _____	ponder	ponderable	ponderously
diversion	(2) _____	diverting	divertingly
defiance	defy	(3) _____	defiantly
shrewdness	—	shrewd	(4) _____
sluggishness	—	(5) _____	sluggishly
(6) _____	acquaint	acquainted	—
ambush	(7) _____	ambushed	—
grudge	grudge	(8) _____	grudgingly
outrage	outrage	(9) _____	outrageously
(10) _____	pester	pestering	—

## — MEDIUM EXERCISES —

### *Application & Context*

#### 4 Exercise 4: Fill in the Blanks — Context Sentences

*Complete each sentence with the most appropriate word from the box. Use each word only once.*

boggling	sluggish	ambush	lurk	shrewd	defiant	grudge
acquainted						

1. The mind-\_\_\_\_\_ complexity of quantum physics can overwhelm even the brightest students.
2. After eating that huge Thanksgiving dinner, I felt heavy and \_\_\_\_\_ for hours.
3. A crocodile was \_\_\_\_\_ing just below the surface, waiting for its prey.
4. The guerrillas set up an \_\_\_\_\_ near the bridge to surprise the enemy convoy.
5. As a \_\_\_\_\_ businesswoman, she always negotiates the best deals for her company.
6. Despite being punished, the teenager remained \_\_\_\_\_ and refused to apologize.
7. She's held a \_\_\_\_\_ against her former friend for over ten years.
8. The new employees should become fully \_\_\_\_\_ with the company's safety procedures.

ample	outrageous	divert	ponder	stunt	sucker	ominous	pester
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9. I need some time to \_\_\_\_\_ over this important decision before giving you an answer.
10. Please stop \_\_\_\_\_ing me with questions while I'm trying to concentrate!
11. Dark clouds gathered overhead, creating an \_\_\_\_\_ atmosphere before the storm.
12. The government tried to \_\_\_\_\_ public attention away from the scandal.

13. There is \_\_\_\_\_ parking space available at the new shopping center.
14. The con artist \_\_\_\_\_ed him into investing in a fake business scheme.
15. Poor nutrition during childhood can \_\_\_\_\_ a person's physical development.
16. These hotel prices are absolutely \_\_\_\_\_! We can't afford to stay here.



## 5 Exercise 5: Collocations — Choose the Best Match

*Select the word that best completes each common collocation.*

1. mind-\_\_\_\_\_   
 A) sluggish B) boggling C) shrewd D) ample
2. bear/hold/harbour a \_\_\_\_\_   
 A) grudge B) stunt C) ambush D) sucker
3. \_\_\_\_\_ in the shadows   
 A) ponder B) divert C) lurk D) pester
4. \_\_\_\_\_ somebody's attention   
 A) lurk B) divert C) grudge D) ambush
5. \_\_\_\_\_ economy/growth/demand   
 A) ominous B) defiant C) sluggish D) shrewd
6. \_\_\_\_\_ businessman/judge   
 A) boggling B) ample C) shrewd D) outrageous
7. \_\_\_\_\_ time/space/parking   
 A) ample B) ominous C) defiant D) sluggish
8. \_\_\_\_\_ prices/behaviour   
 A) shrewd B) ample C) outrageous D) acquainted
9. \_\_\_\_\_ warning/sign/clouds   
 A) boggling B) ominous C) sluggish D) defiant
10. death-defying \_\_\_\_\_   
 A) grudge B) ambush C) stunt D) sucker

## 6 Exercise 6: Dragon Ball Z Scene Comprehension

Read this dialogue inspired by Dragon Ball Z and answer the questions below.

### Scene: The Namek Saga — Vegeta's Warning

**Setting:** Planet Namek. Vegeta has temporarily allied with Gohan and Krillin against Frieza's forces.

**VEGETA:** Don't be such **suckers**. Frieza's men have been **lurking** around these villages for days. They're planning an **ambush**.

**KRILLIN:** How do you know that?

**VEGETA:** Because I'm not **sluggish** like you earthlings. I've been watching. Those **ominous** energy readings from the north? That's Dodoria waiting to strike.

**GOHAN:** But we gave them the Dragon Ball! Why would they attack us now?

**VEGETA:** (*laughs*) You really aren't **acquainted** with how Frieza operates, are you? He holds a **grudge** against anyone who wastes his time. And those prices he demands for mercy? **Outrageous**. He takes everything and gives nothing.

**KRILLIN:** So what do we do?

**VEGETA:** (*crosses arms, defiant*) We don't run. We **divert** their attention. Make them think we're heading east while we circle back. I've had **ample** time to **ponder** this strategy.

**GOHAN:** That's actually... **shrewd**.

**VEGETA:** Don't act so surprised. Now stop **pestering** me with questions and move! The mind-**boggling** power of Frieza's army won't **stunt** my plans for revenge.

### Questions:

1. What word does Vegeta use to describe Gohan and Krillin as easily fooled?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What have Frieza's men been doing around the villages?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How does Vegeta describe himself compared to the "earthlings"?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What word describes Frieza's demands for mercy?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What is Vegeta's plan to escape the ambush?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Find the word that means Vegeta has thought carefully about the strategy.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What adjective describes Vegeta's body language when he says "We don't run"?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What does Gohan call Vegeta's plan, meaning it shows good judgement?

\_\_\_\_\_

## 7 Exercise 7: Register & Formality

*Some vocabulary words are more formal or literary than their common equivalents. Choose the most appropriate word for each context based on formality level.*

### Part A: Formal vs. Informal Contexts

**1. Business presentation to executives:**

"I've had sufficient time to \_\_\_\_\_ the quarterly results."

- A) think about    B) ponder    C) wonder about    D) check out

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Casual text message to a friend:**

"Dude, you totally got \_\_\_\_\_ by that salesman lol"

- A) deceived    B) suckered    C) beguiled    D) misled

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Academic essay on economics:**

"The \_\_\_\_\_ growth in Q3 suggests underlying structural issues."

- A) slow    B) lazy    C) sluggish    D) tired

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Fantasy novel narration:**

"Dark forces \_\_\_\_\_ in the shadows of the ancient fortress."

- A) waited    B) hid    C) lurked    D) stayed

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

### Part B: Word Pairs — When to Use Each

*Explain the difference in register/usage between these pairs:*

**5. ponder vs. think about**

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**6. ample vs. enough**

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7. **defiant** vs. **stubborn**

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8. **ominous** vs. **scary**

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## 8 Exercise 8: Listening Comprehension Prompts

### Instructions for Listening Practice

**Option A:** Have a partner, teacher, or language exchange buddy read these sentences aloud. Write down the vocabulary word you hear.

**Option B:** Use a text-to-speech tool (Google Translate, Natural Reader, etc.) to hear the sentences and practice identifying words by ear.

**Option C:** Record yourself reading these sentences, then listen back after a few days and test your recall.

### Part A: Single Word Identification

*Listen and write the vocabulary word you hear in each sentence.*

1. "The complexity of the human brain is absolutely mind-\_\_\_\_\_."
2. "Someone was \_\_\_\_\_ in the alley behind the restaurant."
3. "She's been holding a \_\_\_\_\_ against him since high school."
4. "The economy has been quite \_\_\_\_\_ this quarter."
5. "He made a \_\_\_\_\_ investment decision that paid off."
6. "There's \_\_\_\_\_ evidence to support the theory."
7. "The sky looked \_\_\_\_\_ before the hurricane hit."
8. "She remained \_\_\_\_\_ despite the pressure to conform."

### Part B: Dictation Practice

*Listen to these full sentences and write them down. Then check your spelling of the vocabulary words.*

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*(Answer: "The guerrillas ambushed the convoy near the mountain pass.")*

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*(Answer: "I need more time to ponder this difficult decision.")*

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*(Answer: "Don't let them sucker you into buying unnecessary insurance.")*

12. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(*Answer: "Are you acquainted with the new safety regulations?"*)

## — HARD EXERCISES —

### *Production & Analysis*

## 9 Exercise 9: Trap Sentences — Spot the Misuse

**Warning:** These sentences contain vocabulary words that *almost* fit but are used incorrectly. Your job is to identify WHY the word doesn't work and suggest a better alternative.

*Each sentence contains a misused vocabulary word. Explain the error and provide a correction.*

1. "I need to **ponder** quickly about what to order for lunch."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. "The cheerful music created an **ominous** atmosphere at the birthday party."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. "After drinking three cups of coffee, I felt very **sluggish** and energetic."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. "She **lurked** openly in the middle of the crowded plaza."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. "He made a **shrewd** decision by investing all his money in a random cryptocurrency without research."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_



6. "The obedient student was very **defiant** and always followed the rules."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. "We had **ample** time—only 30 seconds to complete the entire exam."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

8. "The soldiers launched a surprise **ambush** by marching openly down the main road in broad daylight."

**Error:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why it's wrong:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Better word:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 10 Exercise 10: Error Correction

*Each sentence contains ONE grammatical error related to vocabulary usage. Find and correct it.*

1. After the big lunch, I felt very **sluggishly** and needed a nap.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

2. She has been **lurked** in the online forum for months without posting anything.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

3. The teenager gave her parents a **defiantly** look and stormed out of the room.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

4. He's been holding a **grudging** against his former business partner for years.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

5. The employees should become **acquaint** with the new safety regulations.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

6. We had **amply** time to finish the project before the deadline.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

7. The guerrillas **ambushed on** the convoy near the mountain pass.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

8. She needs more time to **pondering** over the important decision.

Correction: \_\_\_\_\_

## 11 Exercise 11: Translation & Production

### Part A: English to Portuguese

*Translate the following sentences into Portuguese, paying attention to the underlined vocabulary.*

1. The mind-boggling complexity of the universe continues to amaze scientists.
2. She has harboured a grudge against him for years after their argument.
3. The ominous clouds suggested a terrible storm was approaching.
4. He was too shrewd to be taken in by their deceptive sales pitch.
5. The government tried to divert public attention from the scandal.

### Part B: Portuguese to English

*Translate the following sentences into English using the vocabulary from this set.*

6. Ele se sentiu muito lerdo e pesado após a refeição. (Use: sluggish)
7. Os guerrilheiros os emboscaram perto da ponte. (Use: ambush)
8. Eu não a conheço pessoalmente. (Use: acquainted)
9. Há estacionamento gratuito amplo disponível. (Use: ample)
10. Alguém estava à espreita nas sombras. (Use: lurk)

**Part C: Sentence Creation**

*Write original sentences using each word correctly. Include context that demonstrates understanding.*

11. **pester**:

12. **defiant**:

13. **sucker (verb)**:

14. **stunt (noun)**:

15. **outrageous**:

## 12 Exercise 12: Advanced Reading & Analysis

*Read the passage and answer the analytical questions.*

### The Failed Business Deal

Marcus had always considered himself a **shrewd** investor, but this time he had been **suckered** into a terrible deal. The investment opportunity had seemed too good to be true—and it was.

The con artists had been **lurking** in the financial district for months, waiting for wealthy victims. When they approached Marcus, they **diverted** his attention from the obvious red flags by showing him impressive (but fake) financial reports.

At first, Marcus took **ample** time to **ponder** the decision. However, the salespeople began to **pester** him with daily calls, creating a false sense of urgency. The promised returns were so **outrageous**—300% profit in just six months—that anyone less greedy would have been suspicious.

When the truth emerged, Marcus felt **sluggish** and depressed for weeks. The financial loss was **mind-boggling**—over two million dollars gone. Dark, **ominous** thoughts clouded his mind.

His wife still held a **grudge** against the people who had ruined them, while their teenage daughter remained **defiant**, insisting the family would recover. Marcus wasn't so sure. Though **acquainted** with failure from his early business days, nothing had prepared him for this.

### Analytical Questions:

1. How does the author create irony with the word "shrewd" in the opening sentence?
2. The passage uses "lurking" to describe the con artists. What connotation does this create, and how does it foreshadow the outcome?
3. Identify TWO vocabulary words that describe Marcus's emotional/physical state after the scam. How do they reinforce the theme of loss?
4. Compare the reactions of Marcus, his wife, and his daughter. Which vocabulary words characterize each person's response?
5. The word "outrageous" is used to describe the promised returns. Is this usage positive or negative in context? Explain.

## Quick Reference — Vocabulary Set 2

### 16 Words at a Glance

*Tear out or bookmark this page for quick review*

Word	Type	Definition	Portuguese
acquainted	adj	Familiar with; having met someone	familiarizado
ambush	n/v	Surprise attack from hiding; to attack by surprise	emboscada; emboscar
ample	adj	Enough or more than enough; plentiful	amplo, abundante
boggling	adj	Causing astonishment (mind-boggling)	espantoso, alucinante
defiant	adj	Openly refusing to obey; rebellious	desafiante, rebelde
divert	v	To change direction; to distract attention	desviar, distrair
grudge	n	Long-lasting feeling of anger/resentment	rancor, mágoa
lurk	v	To wait secretly, often with bad intent	espreitar, merodear
ominous	adj	Suggesting something bad will happen	ameaçador, sinistro
outrageous	adj	Shocking, offensive; OR excessively bold	ultrajante, exorbitante
pester	v	To annoy by asking repeatedly	importunar, chatear
ponder	v	To think carefully and deeply	ponderar, refletir
shrewd	adj	Clever at judgement; astute	astuto, sagaz
sluggish	adj	Moving slowly; lacking energy	lento, lerdo
stunt	n/v	Daring action; OR to prevent growth	façanha; inibir
sucker	n/v	Gullible person; to trick someone	otário; enganar

## Key Collocations to Remember

- **mind-boggling**
- **sluggish** economy/growth
- **lurk** in the shadows
- **shrewd** businessman
- **defiant** attitude
- hold/bear a **grudge**
- **ample** time/space
- **outrageous** prices
- **ominous** clouds/warning
- **divert** attention
- death-defying **stunt**
- get **suckered** into
- become **acquainted** with
- **ponder** a decision
- **pester** someone with questions
- set up an **ambush**

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## End of Exercises

*Check your answers with the answer key*