

Answer Key

Vocabulary Practice Exercises — Set 3

40 New Words + 5 Review Words • 14 Exercise Types

January 20, 2026

Scoring Summary

Section	Total Points
EASY (Exercises 1-4)	56 points
MEDIUM (Exercises 5-9)	52 points
HARD (Exercises 10-14)	52 points
GRAND TOTAL	160 points

1 Exercise 1: Definitions Matching (20 points)

Answer Key

1. F	6. E	11. J	16. K
2. G	7. T	12. Q	17. M
3. A	8. D	13. O	18. R
4. C	9. I	14. P	19. H
5. S	10. N	15. B	20. L

Detailed Matching:

1. sicken = F (to disgust; cause shock and anger)
2. insidious = G (spreading harm gradually, unnoticed)
3. ensued = A (happened next, as a result)
4. brazen = C (shamelessly bold, without guilt)
5. preposterous = S (absurdly ridiculous)
6. hasten = E (to hurry; to speed something up)
7. loom = T (to appear threatening; seem imminent)
8. foreboding = D (a feeling that something bad will happen)
9. mischievous = I (playfully naughty)
10. cunning = N (cleverly deceitful; crafty)
11. uncanny = J (strangely mysterious; eerily accurate)
12. grievous = Q (very serious — harm, error, injustice)
13. fiendish = O (extremely cruel; devilishly difficult)
14. unquenchable = P (impossible to satisfy)
15. bustling = B (full of busy activity)
16. threshold = K (a doorway; the starting point or limit)
17. fierce = M (aggressively intense; violent)
18. hideous = R (extremely ugly; horrifying)
19. thereby = H (by that means; as a result)
20. nuisance = L (an annoying person or thing)

2 Exercise 2: Synonyms & Antonyms (16 points)

Answer Key

Word	Synonym	Antonym
1. fierce	bold / dangerous	gentle / calm
2. cunning	crafty	honest
3. hideous	disgusting	beautiful / pleasant
4. halt	stop	continue
5. hasten	rush	delay
6. seized	grab	release
7. dicey	dangerous	safe
8. uncanny	eerie	ordinary

Scoring: 1 point per correct answer (16 total)

3 Exercise 3: Word Forms Table (10 points)

Answer Key

Base	Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
sicken	—	sicken	sickening	sickeningly
grip	grip	grip	gripping	—
fierce	fierceness	—	fierce	fiercely
cunning	cunning	—	cunning	cunningly
eager	eagerness	—	eager	eagerly
scatter	scatter	scatter	scattered	—
hasten	haste	hasten	hasty	hastily
foreboding	foreboding	forebode	foreboding	forebodingly
mischievous	mischief	—	mischievous	mischievously
grievous	grievance	grieve	grievous	grievously

Scoring: 1 point per correct blank (10 total)

4 Exercise 4: Quick Recall (10 points)

Answer Key

1. **diaper**
2. **grin**
3. **wayside**
4. **sass**
5. **savory**
6. **canopy**
7. **scum**
8. **threshold**
9. **ruffled**
10. **dizzy**

Teaching Tip

Common errors to watch for:

- "nappy" instead of "diaper" — both are correct (BrE vs AmE), but the exercise uses AmE
- "sassy" instead of "sass" — sassy is the adjective form
- "savvy" instead of "savory" — completely different meanings!

5 Exercise 5: Collocations Challenge (10 points)

Answer Key

1. a) **grievous** — "grievous bodily harm" is a fixed legal term (GBH)
2. b) **halt** — "come to a grinding halt" is a common idiom
3. c) **uncanny** — "uncanny resemblance" is the standard collocation
4. b) **threshold** — "pain threshold" refers to tolerance level
5. b) **lucky** — "lucky break" is the idiom for unexpected fortune
6. c) **unquenchable** — "unquenchable thirst" means impossible to satisfy
7. b) **brazen** — "brazen it out" means face difficulty with shameless confidence
8. c) **foreboding** — "foreboding feeling" is the standard collocation
9. b) **looming** — "looming on the horizon" means appearing threatening
10. b) **thereby** — "thereby reducing" connects action to result (formal)

6 Exercise 6: Media Dialogue Comprehension (10 points)

Answer Key

1. **dicey** — describes the risky, uncertain situation (2 points)
2. **fiendish** and **twisted mind** — describe Cell's cruel intelligence and disturbed thinking (2 points)
3. **threshold** (of greatness) — Goku tells Gohan he's standing on the threshold/edge of greatness (2 points)
4. **"fall by the wayside"** — Cell predicts they will fail/be abandoned (2 points)
5. Any THREE of: **dicey, looming, foreboding, uptight, grievous, ominous, fierce** (2 points)

7 Exercise 7: Register & Formality (10 points)

Answer Key

1. More formal: (i) Key word: **thereby**
Explanation: "Thereby" is a formal adverb connecting cause and effect, while "so" is casual.
2. More formal: (i) Key word: **hastened**
Explanation: "Hasten" is literary/formal; "quickly tried" is everyday speech.
3. More formal: (i) Key word: **grievous**
Explanation: "Grievous bodily harm" is legal terminology; "seriously hurting" is informal.
4. More formal: (ii) Informal word: **dicey**
Explanation: "Dicey" is British slang; "precarious" is formal vocabulary.
5. More formal: (i) Key word: **insidious**
Explanation: "Insidious" is formal/literary; "bad influence" is casual phrasing.

Scoring: 1 point for correct sentence, 1 point for correct key word (10 total)

8 Exercise 8: Listening Comprehension (14 points)

Part A: Sentence Dictation (6 points)

Answer Key

1. A heated argument **ensued** after the referee made a controversial call.
2. She bore an **uncanny** resemblance to her grandmother in old photographs.
3. The **insidious** effects of social media on mental health are being studied.

Scoring: 2 points per sentence (correct spelling of target vocabulary word)

Part B: Word Recognition (8 points)

(Answers kept in Answer Key only as per user request)

Answer Key

1. **cunning**
2. **threshold**
3. **insidious**
4. **safe and sound**

Scoring: 2 points per correct word (8 total)

9 Exercise 9: Spaced Repetition Review (8 points)

Answer Key — Part A (5 points)

1. **ominous**
2. **meddling**
3. **shrewd**
4. **jeopardize**
5. **withstand**

Answer Key — Part B (3 points)

1. ominous (Set 2) is similar to **foreboding** (Set 3)
2. shrewd (Set 2) is similar to **cunning** (Set 3)
3. jeopardize (Set 1) — similar meaning word: **dicey** (describes a risky situation)

10 Exercise 10: Trap Sentences (12 points)

Answer Key

1. Error: **ceased** → Correction: **seized**

Explanation: "Ceased" means "stopped," while "seized" means "took by force/confiscated." The police seized (not ceased) the weapons.

2. Error: **brazing** → Correction: **brazen**

Explanation: "Brazing" is a metalworking term (welding), while "brazen" means shamelessly bold. "Brazen disregard" is the correct collocation.

3. Error: **mischievious** → Correction: **mischievous**

Explanation: Common spelling error. The word has only 3 syllables (MIS-chiv-ous), not 4. No extra "i" before "-ous."

4. Error: **fallen on the wayside** → Correction: **fallen by the wayside**

Explanation: The correct idiom is "fall BY the wayside," not "on." The preposition matters!

5. Error: **therefore** → Correction: **thereby**

Explanation: "Thereby" means "by that means/action" and connects to the preceding gerund. "Therefore" means "for that reason" and is used differently.

6. Error: **scattered together** → Correction: **scattered** (or **gathered together**)

Explanation: "Scatter" means to separate and go in different directions — the opposite of "together." Either remove "together" or change to "gathered."

Scoring: 1 point for identifying error, 1 point for correct correction (12 total)

11 Exercise 11: Error Correction — Full Paragraph (8 points)

Corrected Paragraph

The old mansion had a **hideous** appearance that sickened visitors. Dark clouds were looming over the **building/house** (not threshold), creating an **ominous** atmosphere. The children, being **mischievous**, decided to explore anyway. They had an **uncanny** feeling about the place, but their eager curiosity won over their fear. Inside, the **bustling** sounds of their footsteps echoed through empty halls. When a door suddenly slammed shut, chaos **ensued**. "Let's scatter!" shouted the bravest one. "We need to get out **safe and sound**!"

Error List

1. **hidious** → **hideous**
2. **threshold** → **building/house** (threshold means doorway, not a building)
3. **ominious** → **ominous**
4. **michievous** → **mischievous**
5. **uncanning** → **uncanny**
6. **bustlng** → **bustling**
7. **ensured** → **ensued**
8. **save and sound** → **safe and sound**

Scoring: 1 point per correct identification and correction (8 total)

12 Exercise 12: Translation — Portuguese to English (12 points)

Answer Key

1. *Ele é astuto como uma raposa — nunca confie nele completamente.*
He is as cunning as a fox — never trust him completely.
2. *A situação parecia arriscada, mas chegamos sãos e salvos.*
The situation seemed/looked dicey, but we arrived safe and sound.
3. *Ela teve um pressentimento ruim de que algo terrível iria acontecer.*
She had a (sense of) foreboding that something terrible was going to happen.
4. *O bebê precisa trocar a fralda — está chorando há horas.*
The baby needs a/his diaper changed — he's/she's been crying for hours.
5. *Essas alegações são absolutamente absurdas — não faz sentido nenhum!*
These claims/allegations are absolutely preposterous — it makes no sense!
6. *Os soldados agarraram o prisioneiro antes que ele pudesse escapar.*
The soldiers seized the prisoner before he could escape.

Scoring: 2 points per sentence (1 for correct vocabulary word, 1 for overall correct grammar)

13 Exercise 13: Common Confusion Pairs (8 points)

Answer Key

1. **b) seized** — took by force (ceased = stopped)
2. **b) ensued** — followed as a result (ensured = guaranteed)
3. **b) dicey** — risky (dicy is not a word)
4. **a) brazen** — shameless (brazing = welding metal)
5. **a) canopy** — tree cover (canapé = small appetizer)
6. **a) savory** — salty/spicy, not sweet (savvy = knowledgeable)
7. **b) thereby** — by that means (therefore = for that reason)
8. **a) mischievous** — correct spelling (mischievious = common misspelling)

Teaching Tip

Key Distinctions:

- **ceased/seized**: Ceased = stopped doing; Seized = grabbed/confiscated
- **ensured/ensued**: Ensured = guaranteed; Ensued = followed as result
- **thereby/therefore**: Thereby = by that action; Therefore = for that reason
- **savory/savvy**: Savory = food taste (salty); Savvy = knowledge/skill

14 Exercise 14: Use It or Lose It — Production Prompts (12 points)

Production exercises are assessed subjectively. Award points based on these criteria:

Scoring Rubric

A. Single-Word Prompts (4 points total — 1 point each):

- Word used correctly in context
- Sentence is grammatically correct
- Meaning demonstrates understanding

Sample Answers:

1. *loom*: A financial crisis is looming over the economy.
2. *threshold*: She stood on the threshold of a new career.
3. *thereby*: He exercised daily, thereby improving his health.
4. *unquenchable*: Her unquenchable curiosity led her to explore the world.

Mini-Story Rubric (4 points)

- Uses at least 6 vocabulary words correctly (2 points)
- Story is coherent and appropriate to theme (1 point)
- Words are underlined as instructed (1 point)

Sample Answer:

A foreboding feeling crept over me as I entered the abandoned house. Dark shadows loomed in every corner, and an uncanny silence filled the air. Suddenly, a hideous creature appeared! My heart was seized by terror. Chaos ensued as I turned to run, and I didn't stop until I was safe and sound outside.

Dialogue Rubric (4 points)

- Uses at least 4 vocabulary words correctly (2 points)
- Dialogue format is appropriate (1 point)
- Words are indicated as instructed (1 point)

Sample Answer:

*A: This **bustling** city is overwhelming!*

*B: I know, don't get so **uptight**. Just keep a **grip** on your bag.*

*A: Wait, the traffic has come to a **halt**. What's happening?*

*B: I'm **eager** to find out. Let's go see!*

Final Score Calculation

Exercise	Points	Your Score
EASY SECTION		
1. Definitions Matching	20	_____
2. Synonyms & Antonyms	16	_____
3. Word Forms Table	10	_____
4. Quick Recall	10	_____
<i>Easy Subtotal</i>	<i>56</i>	_____
MEDIUM SECTION		
5. Collocations Challenge	10	_____
6. Media Dialogue	10	_____
7. Register & Formality	10	_____
8. Listening Comprehension	14	_____
9. Spaced Repetition Review	8	_____
<i>Medium Subtotal</i>	<i>52</i>	_____
HARD SECTION		
10. Trap Sentences	12	_____
11. Error Correction	8	_____
12. Translation (PT→EN)	12	_____
13. Confusion Pairs	8	_____
14. Production Prompts	12	_____
<i>Hard Subtotal</i>	<i>52</i>	_____
GRAND TOTAL	160	_____

Performance Bands

144-160 (90%+): **Excellent** — Ready for advanced usage
128-143 (80-89%): **Good** — Review weak areas
112-127 (70-79%): **Satisfactory** — More practice recommended
Below 112 (<70%): **Keep practicing** — Focus on fundamentals

Congratulations on completing Vocabulary Practice Set 3!
Review your errors and focus on words you found challenging.