

Vocabulary Practice Exercises

Comprehensive Review — Practice Set 3

40 New Words + 5 Review Words • 14 Exercise Types • Source: Dragon Ball Z

Exercises ordered by difficulty: Easy → Medium → Hard

January 20, 2026

Quick Reference table with all words is at the end of this document

Vocabulary Overview

This practice set covers all NEW vocabulary words from Dragon Ball Z added since Practice Set 2, plus 5 review words from previous sets for spaced repetition.

DBZ (New)	sicken, insidious, ensued, diaper, wayside, brazen, ruffled, dizzy, preposterous, hasten, loom, tossed, dicey, foreboding, mischievous, seized, canopy, sass, halt, nuisance, uncanny, grievous, grin, savory, fiendish, unquenchable, thereby, cunning, lucky break, bustling, uptight, eager, threshold, grip, fierce, scatter, hideous, safe and sound, scum, twisted mind
Review Words	jeopardize, withstand, meddling, ominous, shrewd

Adjectives	insidious, brazen, ruffled, dizzy, preposterous, dicey, mischievous, uncanny, grievous, savory, fiendish, unquenchable, cunning, bustling, uptight, eager, fierce, hideous
Nouns	diaper, wayside, foreboding, canopy, sass, nuisance, grin, threshold, grip, scum
Verbs	sicken, ensue, hasten, loom, toss, seize, halt, scatter, grip
Adverbs	thereby
Idioms/Expressions	fall by the wayside, safe and sound, lucky break, twisted mind

Difficulty Progression Guide

EASY (Exercises 1-4): Recognition, matching, basic recall

MEDIUM (Exercises 5-9): Context application, collocations, comprehension

HARD (Exercises 10-14): Production, analysis, creative usage

— EASY EXERCISES —*Recognition & Matching*

Exercises 1-4 focus on recognition and basic recall. If you can complete these quickly with 90%+ accuracy, you're ready to move on to Medium exercises.

1 Definitions Matching

Match each word (1-20) with its correct definition (A-T). Write the letter on the line provided.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. sicken _____ | 11. uncanny _____ |
| 2. insidious _____ | 12. grievous _____ |
| 3. ensued _____ | 13. fiendish _____ |
| 4. brazen _____ | 14. unquenchable _____ |
| 5. preposterous _____ | 15. bustling _____ |
| 6. hasten _____ | 16. threshold _____ |
| 7. loom _____ | 17. fierce _____ |
| 8. foreboding _____ | 18. hideous _____ |
| 9. mischievous _____ | 19. thereby _____ |
| 10. cunning _____ | 20. nuisance _____ |
| A. Happened next, as a result | K. A doorway; the starting point or limit |
| B. Full of busy activity | L. An annoying person or thing |
| C. Shamelessly bold, without guilt | M. Aggressively intense; violent |
| D. A feeling that something bad will happen | N. Cleverly deceitful; crafty |
| E. To hurry; to speed something up | O. Extremely cruel; devilishly difficult |
| F. To disgust; cause shock and anger | P. Impossible to satisfy |
| G. Spreading harm gradually, unnoticed | Q. Very serious (harm, error, injustice) |
| H. By that means; as a result | R. Extremely ugly; horrifying |
| I. Playfully naughty | S. Absurdly ridiculous |
| J. Strangely mysterious; eerily accurate | T. To appear threatening; seem imminent |

2 Synonyms & Antonyms

For each word, write *ONE* synonym and *ONE* antonym from the word banks provided.

SYNONYMS Word Bank

crafty calm disgusting dangerous eerie grab throw serious
scatter rush satisfied stop absurd cruel lively bold pleasant

Word	Synonym	Antonym
1. fierce (adj.)	_____	_____
2. cunning (adj.)	_____	_____
3. hideous (adj.)	_____	_____
4. halt (v.)	_____	_____
5. hasten (v.)	_____	_____
6. seized (v.)	_____	_____
7. dicey (adj.)	_____	_____
8. uncanny (adj.)	_____	_____

ANTONYMS Word Bank

honest gentle beautiful continue delay release safe ordinary
satisfiable pleasant calm

3 Word Forms Table

Complete the table with the correct word forms. Some cells may be left blank (use "—") if no common form exists.

Base Word	Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
sicken	—	sicken	_____	sickeningly
grip	grip	_____	gripping	—
fierce	_____	—	fierce	fiercely
cunning	cunning	—	cunning	_____
eager	_____	—	eager	eagerly
scatter	scatter	scatter	_____	—
hasten	haste	hasten	_____	hastily
foreboding	foreboding	forebode	foreboding	_____
mischievous	_____	—	mischievous	mischievously
grievous	grievance	grieve	grievous	_____

4 Quick Recall: Fill the Gaps

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

Word Bank

diaper	canopy	grin	threshold	wayside	sass	scum	savory
			ruffled	dizzy			

- The baby needs a fresh _____ — the old one is wet.
- She couldn't hide her wide _____ when she heard the good news.
- Many ambitious projects have fallen by the _____ due to budget cuts.
- "Don't give me any of your _____!" the teacher warned sternly.
- I prefer _____ snacks like cheese and crackers over sweet desserts.
- The monkey swung through the forest _____, high above the ground.
- Drug dealers are the _____ of the earth.
- She stood nervously on the _____ of the door, hesitant to enter.

9. His feathers were all _____ after the wind blew through his cage.

10. I felt _____ after spinning around too many times.

— MEDIUM EXERCISES —*Application & Context*

Exercises 5-9 require applying vocabulary in context. Focus on collocations, common usage patterns, and comprehension.

5 Collocations Challenge

Choose the word that BEST completes each collocation. Circle your answer.

1. _____ bodily harm (serious physical injury, legal term)

- a) grievous
- b) dicey
- c) fierce
- d) hideous

2. come to a grinding _____

- a) threshold
- b) halt
- c) grip
- d) scatter

3. _____ resemblance (strangely accurate similarity)

- a) cunning
- b) fierce
- c) uncanny
- d) brazen

4. have a low pain _____

- a) wayside
- b) threshold
- c) canopy
- d) grip

5. get a _____ break (unexpected lucky chance)

- a) dicey
- b) lucky
- c) bustling

- d) fierce
6. _____ thirst for knowledge (impossible to satisfy)
- a) eager
 - b) fiendish
 - c) unquenchable
 - d) cunning
7. _____ it out (face difficulty with shameless confidence)
- a) hasten
 - b) brazen
 - c) scatter
 - d) grip
8. a _____ feeling that something was wrong
- a) dizzy
 - b) bustling
 - c) foreboding
 - d) savory
9. a crisis was _____ on the horizon
- a) scattering
 - b) looming
 - c) ensuing
 - d) gripping
10. _____ reducing the risk of heart attack (by that means)
- a) therefore
 - b) thereby
 - c) although
 - d) furthermore

6 Media Dialogue Comprehension

Read the following *Dragon Ball Z* scene and answer the questions below.

Scene: Cell Games Arena — The Z Fighters Face Perfect Cell

NARRATOR: The situation looked **dicey** for the Z Fighters. Perfect Cell stood tall, his power **looming** over them like a dark cloud. A sense of **foreboding** filled the air as everyone realized just how outmatched they truly were.

VEGETA: [with a **mischiefous grin**] You think you're so powerful, Cell? Your **brazen** confidence will be your downfall!

CELL: [laughs] Your words don't **sicken** me, Vegeta. I find your defiance... amusing. But let me **hasten** to add—your pathetic attacks are merely a **nuisance**. They cannot even begin to **jeopardize** my plans.

PICCOLO: [thinking] Cell has an **uncanny** ability to predict our every move. His power is **fiendish**—truly, he has a **twisted mind**. We need to find a way to **halt** him before more **grievous** harm comes to the Earth.

GOKU: [stepping forward] Everyone, **scatter**! Don't let him **seize** the advantage! Gohan, remember—you have an **unquenchable** spirit within you. Trust in your power!

GOHAN: [nervously] But Father, I feel so **uptight**... I'm not sure I can **withstand** his attacks.

GOKU: [placing his hand on Gohan's shoulder] You're standing on the **threshold** of greatness, son. This is your moment. Keep a firm **grip** on your courage, and don't let fear **scatter** your focus. The Earth is **eager** for a hero.

CELL: [impatiently] Enough of this **meddling**! Chaos **ensued** the last time warriors tried to challenge me, and it will happen again. Your **shrewd** tactics won't save you. I am **cunning**, I am perfect, and soon you will all fall by the **wayside**!

NARRATOR: And so the **fierce** battle began, the **bustling** energy of combat filling the arena. Would the Z Fighters emerge **safe and sound**, or would Cell prove that their efforts were utterly **preposterous**? Only time would tell...

Comprehension Questions:

1. What word describes the risky, uncertain situation facing the Z Fighters?

2. Which TWO words describe Cell's cruel intelligence and disturbed thinking?

3. What does Goku tell Gohan he's standing on the edge of?

4. What idiom does Cell use to predict the fighters will fail or be abandoned?

5. Find THREE words in the dialogue that describe negative feelings or situations related to danger/threat.

7 Register & Formality Awareness

Understanding when to use formal vs. informal language is crucial for natural English.

Part A: Choose the more formal option

For each pair of sentences, identify which one is MORE FORMAL. Then, identify the vocabulary word that signals the register.

1. Pair A:

- (i) The meeting was called off, thereby delaying the project by two weeks.
- (ii) The meeting was called off, so the project got pushed back two weeks.

More formal: _____ Key word: _____

2. Pair B:

- (i) She hastened to explain her actions to the committee.
- (ii) She quickly tried to explain her actions to the committee.

More formal: _____ Key word: _____

3. Pair C:

- (i) The defendant was charged with causing grievous bodily harm.
- (ii) The defendant was charged with seriously hurting someone.

More formal: _____ Key word: _____

4. Pair D:

- (i) The whole situation seems pretty dicey to me.
- (ii) The circumstances appear rather precarious.

More formal: _____ Informal word from Set 3: _____

5. Pair E:

- (i) He has an insidious influence on the organization's culture.
- (ii) He's been a bad influence on how things work around here.

More formal: _____ Key word: _____

8 Listening Comprehension

This exercise simulates listening to spoken English. Read aloud or have someone read to you.

Part A: Sentence Dictation

Have someone read each sentence aloud while you write what you hear. Then check your spelling.

Note: The sentences to read aloud are in the Answer Key.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part B: Word Recognition

Listen to the audio descriptions (have someone read them) and write which Set 3 vocabulary word is being described.

Note: The descriptions to read aloud are in the Answer Key.

1. Word: _____

2. Word: _____

3. Word: _____

4. Word: _____

9 Spaced Repetition Review

These words appeared in previous sets. Complete the exercises to reinforce long-term retention.

SPACED REPETITION — Words from Previous Sets

Review Words: jeopardize (Set 1), withstand (Set 1), meddling (Set 1), ominous (Set 2), shrewd (Set 2)

Part A: Fill in the blanks

Fill in the blanks with the correct review word:

1. The dark clouds and distant thunder were an _____ sign of the coming storm.
2. Her constant _____ in other people's affairs made her very unpopular.
3. A _____ businessman knows when to invest and when to hold back.
4. Skipping your medication could _____ your recovery.
5. The ancient walls were built to _____ enemy attacks.

Part B: Similar words

Which Set 3 words are SIMILAR in meaning?

1. *ominous* (Set 2) is similar to _____ (Set 3) — both suggest something bad will happen.
2. *shrewd* (Set 2) is similar to _____ (Set 3) — both describe clever thinking.
3. *jeopardize* (Set 1) means to put at risk. A word with similar meaning from Set 3 describing a risky situation: _____

— HARD EXERCISES —*Production & Analysis*

Exercises 10-14 require production, analysis, and creative application.
These are the most challenging exercises.

10 Trap Sentences — Spot the Error

Each sentence contains ONE vocabulary error (wrong word, wrong form, or misused collocation). Find and correct it.

1. The police ceased the suspect's illegal weapons during the raid.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

2. He showed a brazing disregard for the safety rules, putting everyone at risk.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

3. She has a mischievous smile that always makes people suspicious of her intentions.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

4. Many small businesses have fallen on the wayside due to the economic crisis.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

5. The news of the scandal hastened her departure, therefore ending her political career.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

6. The crowd scattered together when they heard the alarm.

Error: _____ → Correction: _____

Explanation: _____

11 Error Correction — Full Paragraph

The following paragraph contains 8 errors related to Set 3 vocabulary (spelling, word choice, or usage). Find and underline each error, then write the correction below.

The old mansion had a hidious appearance that sickened visitors. Dark clouds were looming over the threshold, creating an ominous atmosphere. The children, being michievous, decided to explore anyway. They had an uncanning feeling about the place, but their eager curiosity won over their fear. Inside, the bustlng sounds of their footsteps echoed through empty halls. When a door suddenly slammed shut, chaos ensured. "Let's scatter!" shouted the bravest one. "We need to get out save and sound!"

Corrections:

1. _____ → _____
2. _____ → _____
3. _____ → _____
4. _____ → _____
5. _____ → _____
6. _____ → _____
7. _____ → _____
8. _____ → _____

12 Translation — Portuguese to English

Translate the following sentences from Portuguese to English, using the appropriate Set 3 vocabulary words.

1. Ele é astuto como uma raposa — nunca confie nele completamente.

2. A situação parecia arriscada, mas chegamos sãos e salvos.

3. Ela teve um pressentimento ruim de que algo terrível iria acontecer.

4. O bebê precisa trocar a fralda — está chorando há horas.

5. Essas alegações são absolutamente absurdas — não faz sentido nenhum!

6. Os soldados agarraram o prisioneiro antes que ele pudesse escapar.

13 Common Confusion Pairs

Choose the correct word for each sentence. Both options are real words, but only one fits the context.

1. The police _____ the illegal shipment at the border.
 - a) ceased
 - b) seized
2. After the announcement, chaos _____.
 - a) ensured
 - b) ensued
3. The situation looks rather _____ — I'm not sure we should proceed.
 - a) dicy
 - b) dicey
4. She showed a _____ disregard for the rules.
 - a) brazen
 - b) brazing
5. The _____ of the rainforest is home to many birds.
 - a) canopy
 - b) canape
6. I prefer _____ breakfast items like eggs and bacon.
 - a) savory
 - b) savvy
7. Regular exercise improves blood flow, _____ reducing the risk of heart disease.
 - a) therefore
 - b) thereby
8. The children were being quite _____, hiding their parents' keys.
 - a) mischievous
 - b) mischiefous

14 Use It or Lose It — Production Prompts

Write original sentences or short paragraphs using the vocabulary words as indicated. Be creative!

Part A: Single-Word Prompts

Write one original sentence for each word:

1. **loom** (verb — something threatening):

2. **threshold** (noun — a starting point or limit):

3. **thereby** (adverb — connecting cause and effect):

4. **unquenchable** (adjective — describing desire or thirst):

Part B: Mini-Story Prompt

Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) about a SCARY EXPERIENCE using at least 6 words from Set 3. Underline each vocabulary word you use.

Suggested words: foreboding, loom, uncanny, hideous, fierce, scatter, seized, ensued, safe and sound

Part C: Dialogue Creation

Write a short dialogue (4-6 exchanges) between two people in a BUSTLING CITY using at least 4 words from Set 3. Indicate the words used.

Suggested words: bustling, eager, halt, nuisance, grip, scatter, uptight, dicey

Quick Reference

Vocabulary Practice Set 3 — 40 Words

Tear these pages out for easy reference during exercises

Frequency: [H] High — [M] Medium — [L] Low

Register: [F] Formal — [C] Casual — [Lit] Literary — [!] Disapproving

Word	Freq	Reg	Core Meaning
sicken	M	F	to disgust; cause shock/anger
insidious	M	F/Lit	spreading harm gradually, unnoticed
ensued	M	F	happened next (as a result)
diaper	H	C	baby's absorbent garment (AmE: diaper, BrE: nappy)
wayside	M	F	roadside; <i>fall by the wayside</i> = fail/be neglected
brazen	M	!	shamelessly bold; without guilt
ruffled	M	C	disturbed; decorated with frills
dizzy	H	C	feeling like spinning; overwhelmed
preposterous	M	F	absurdly ridiculous
hasten	M	F/Lit	hurry; speed up something
loom	M	F/Lit	appear threatening; seem imminent
tossed	H	C	threw lightly; moved restlessly
dicey	M	C	risky; uncertain (BrE slang)
foreboding	M	F/Lit	sense of coming danger
mischiefous	H	C	playfully naughty
seized	H	F/C	grabbed forcefully; captured
canopy	M	F	covering (bed/trees); treetop layer
sass	M	C	rude backtalk; spirited attitude
halt	H	F	stop completely
nuisance	H	C/F	annoying person/thing
uncanny	M	F	strangely mysterious; eerily accurate
grievous	M	F	very serious (harm, error)
grin	H	C	wide smile showing teeth
savory	H	C	salty/spicy (not sweet)
fiendish	M	F/Lit	extremely cruel; devilishly difficult
unquenchable	L	F/Lit	impossible to satisfy
thereby	M	F	by that means; as a result
cunning	M	F/!	cleverly deceitful; crafty
lucky break	M	C	unexpected fortunate chance
bustling	H	C/F	full of busy activity
uptight	M	C	anxious; rigidly conventional
eager	H	C/F	enthusiastically wanting
threshold	H	F	doorway; starting point; limit
grip	H	C/F	firm hold; control; grasp
fierce	H	C/F	aggressively intense; violent
scatter	H	C/F	throw in many directions; disperse

Word	Freq	Reg	Core Meaning
hideous	M	C	extremely ugly; horrifying
safe and sound	H	C	completely unharmed
scum	M	!/C	surface layer; despicable person (strong insult)
twisted mind	M	!	mentally disturbed/perverted thinking

Review Words from Previous Sets (5 words for spaced repetition):

Set 1: *jeopardize, withstand, meddling* **Set 2:** *ominous, shrewd*

Personal Notes

Use these pages to write down additional examples, mnemonics, or personal associations with the vocabulary words.

