

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.*