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# ESSENTIAL WORDS FOR THE TOEFL®

**4TH EDITION**

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- More than 500 need-to-know words with definitions and examples used in sentences
- Practice exercises to build English word power with answer keys
- Valuable advice using a dictionary and a thesaurus to expand your English vocabulary
- TOEFL iBT Reading section practice test with answer key and score conversion table

## CHAPTER 1

# GETTING TO KNOW THE TOEFL

### WHAT IS THE TOEFL?

The TOEFL is a comprehensive English language examination required by more than 3,000 colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, and other parts of the world. In addition, foreign born professionals frequently need a TOEFL score for certification to practice their profession in the United States or Canada.

The TOEFL is a timed test that consists of the three sections listed here.

	THE TOEFL	
Section 1	Listening Comprehension	50 questions 35 minutes
Part A	Statements	20 questions
Part B	Short Dialogs	15 questions
Part C	Minitalks and Extended Conversations	15 questions
Section 2		
	Structure and Written Expression	40 questions
	Structure	25 minutes
	Written Expression	15 questions
		25 questions
Section 3	Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension	60 questions
		45 minutes
	Vocabulary	30 questions
	Reading Comprehension	30 questions

### SECTION 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

This section of the TOEFL test your ability to understand spoken American English. You will hear taped conversations to which you will make responses. Part A and B contain samples of informal American English. Idiomatic expressions and two-word verbs are common in these parts.

#### Single Statement

In Part A you will hear a single statement made by a man or a woman. In your test booklet, there are four sentences. You must choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the one you heard.

YOU WILL HEAR:

To get to the post office, cross the street, go three blocks, and you'll see it right on the corner.

YOU WILL SEE:

- (A) The post office is right on the corner.
- (B) The post office is at the next corner.
- (C) The post office has a cross near it.
- (D) The post office is three blocks away.

The correct choice is, which most closely gives the same meaning as the sentence you heard. It is important for you to know that if similar sounding words or the same words appear in an answer choice, that answer choice is seldom correct.

#### Short Dialogs

Part B contains short dialogs followed by a question about what the people said in their conversation. Generally, key information is found in the second speaker's sentence. You will need to understand the meaning of the conversation and also the context, such as the time or place in which it could occur. The correct choice directly answers the question.

YOU WILL HEAR:

(Man Did you get to go shopping last night? (Woman) They'd already locked the doors by the time

I got there.

(Man) What does the woman mean?

YOU WILL SEE:

- (A) She arrived in time to shop.
- (B) She was too late.
- (C) She locked the doors.
- (D) She had to buy the door.

The correct choice is. Since the doors were locked when she arrived, she could not have gone shopping. Note that the other choices use words heard in the conversation. Choices that contain such words are usually not correct.

### **Extended Conversation / Minitalks**

In Part C you will hear an extended conversation or a minitalk. The English in this section is generally more formal and academic, typical of English conversation or lectures that take place in a university or college setting. After each conversation or minitalk, there are between four and eight spoken questions about its content. Choose your answer from among the four choices that appear in your test book-let. Look at the example here.

YOU WILL HERE:

Man: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to this tour of one of the nation's most important cities, Chicago. Before we begin, I'd like to give you some background information that will make the tour more enjoyable for you. The city was founded in 1837. Its strategic location on Lake Michigan quickly made it the center of commerce for the Midwest section of the country. It is currently the third largest metropolitan area in the United States. The city's site is generally level, built mostly on glacial plain. The narrow Chicago River extends one mile inland from Lake Michigan, where it splits, dividing the city into North, West, and South sides. Chicago's weather is subject to rapid changes, but generally the climate is cold and windy in the winter, and hot and humid in the summer.

Woman: What gave Chicago an advantage over other Midwest cities?

YOU WILL SEE:

- (A) Its level site.
- (B) Its location on Lake Michigan.
- (C) Its large population.
- (D) Its location along the Chicago River.

According to the minitalk, would be the correct choice. Remember that you will not have a written copy of the speaker's talk or conversation and you will only hear it once. You must concentrate on details, such as names, dates, and the main idea of the selection that you hear. Do not read the choices as you listen to the talk. Listen care-fully and try to remember what you hear.

## **SECTION 2: STRUCTURE AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION**

This section contains two types of questions, both designed to test your ability to recognize correct style and grammar in written English. The sentences are academic; ones that you typically find in college level texts, journals, and encyclopedias. The sentence topics include the social sciences, physical and life sciences, and the humanities.

### **Structure**

The structure questions test your ability to recognize correct structure and word order. These questions consist of a sentence with one or more words missing. You must make the choice that best completes the sentence. Here is an example of this type of question.

YOU WILL SEE:

\_\_\_\_\_ a short time after the Civil War, Atlanta has become the principal center of transportation, commerce, and finance in the southeastern United States.

- (A) While rebuilt
- (B) It was rebuilt
- (C) Rebuilt
- (D) When rebuilt

The correct choice is (C). The other choices make the sentence incorrect or awkward.

### **Written Expression**

The written expression questions test your ability to recognize errors in grammar or expression. These questions consist of complete sentences with four underlined words or phrases. You must identify the underlined part of the sentence that needs to be changed in order to make the sentence correct. An example follows.

YOU WILL SEE:

The Navajo Indians have displayed a marked ability

A B

to incorporate aspects of other cultures into a changing,

C

flexibility lifestyle

D

The correct choice is (D). Flexibility, a noun, appears where an adjective must appear. In addition to inappropriate parts of speech, be sure to check for missing words and extra words that are inappropriate for the context.

## **SECTION 3: VOCABULARY AND READING COMPREHENSION**

Good reading skills and an ample vocabulary are keys to doing well on all sections of the TOEFL. This section of the TOEFL specifically tests these skills. Many TOEFL test takers complain that they do not have enough time to carefully answer all questions in this section. It is very important that you follow the instructions in this book so that you will use all the allotted time to your advantage.

### **Vocabulary**

The first questions on this section will test your English vocabulary. There are 30 academic sentences, each containing an underlined word. You must choose the word that has the same meaning from among the four choices. Here's an example.

YOU WILL SEE:

The United States has instituted a set of forest conservation measures to maintain forest land.

(A) accepted

(B) published

(C) established

(D) suggested

The word that is closest in meaning to the tested word, *instituted*, is choice (C). Further hints for vocabulary questions can be found in Chapter 2.

### **Reading Comprehension**

Your ability to read and understand college level reading material is tested on this part of the TOEFL. You will find five or six reading passages, each followed by four to seven questions. You must work quickly and efficiently. Here is a sample passage.

YOU WILL SEE:

A lens has one or more curved surfaces that refract or bend, light rays passing through it to form an image on a surface beyond the lens. Examples of such surfaces are the retina of the eye or a movie screen. The distance from the lens to the focal plane is known as focal length. In cameras, telescopes, and similar devices, the lens is turned on a screw-thread mounting to adjust the focal length. This action allows focusing of images of objects at various distances. In the human eye, focal length is adjusted by muscles that alter the lens curvature. Light rays of different colors are bent by varying degrees as they pass through a curved surface. This causes a distortion of the image, known as chromatic aberration. In cameras, sharp images are obtained by arranging two or more lenses so that the aberration of one cancels out the aberration of another. Such an arrangement of lenses is called an achromatic lens.

QUESTION:

According to the passage, what is focal length?

(A) A curved surface that refracts light.

(B) The distance from the focal plane to the lens.

(C) Adjustment by the muscles that alters lens curvature.

(D) The degree that light rays of different colors are bent by the lens.

This is a factual question. The information needed to answer this question is directly stated in the text. Choice (B) is the correct answer. Some questions will ask you to draw conclusions based on material in the passage, other will ask about the main idea of a selection. Some may even ask what information does not appear in the passage.

### **THE TEST OF WRITTEN ENGLISH**

Most TOEFL test sessions now require the Test of Written English. The TWE will test your ability to respond to topics that you may find on typical college level writing assignments. It will test your ability to

express yourself as well as your organizational skills . The score on this test is reported separately and is not used to determine your TOEFL score.

### **SOME HELPFUL HINTS**

On all parts of the TOEFL, be sure to answer every question. If you must guess, choose choice (B) or (C) since they are slightly more likely to be the correct choice than (A) or (D).

Watch your time! Be sure to wear a watch and be aware of the time you have remaining in each section. Do not waste time reading directions or example in your test booklet. You should become familiar with these before you take the test. When you are told to begin, go directly to the first question. When time has expired on a section, you may not return to it. Work quickly and accurately. If it seems obvious that you will not finish a section within the time limit, guess or choose answer (B) or (C) in order to complete the section.

Prepare yourself for the test. In addition to this book, Barron's How to Prepare for the TOEFL provides you with practical hints, tapes with sample questions, model test, and a grammar review to help you maximize your TOEFL score.

## UNDERSTANDING THE TOEFL: Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Section

Developing a good English vocabulary is the most important way to prepare for the vocabulary you will see on the TOEFL. In addition to developing a good English vocabulary, it is very important to know the kind of vocabulary you will see on the TOEFL and to understand how it is tested.

Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension make up Section 3 of the TOEFL. This section contains 30 vocabulary questions and 30 reading comprehension questions. Remember that your general vocabulary is tested in all sections of the TOEFL. However, it is in this section of the TOEFL where your knowledge of specific vocabulary is tested.

You will have 45 minutes to complete this section of the TOEFL. Many test takers report that they do not have enough time to complete the reading comprehension questions, so you should work quickly in order to complete the vocabulary questions as soon as you can. If you follow the strategies in this book you will have more time to complete the Reading Comprehension section of the TOEFL.

### **The Vocabulary Question**

Vocabulary questions are written in a formal, academic style, typical of most college or university level texts and journals. The topics of these sentences are those that a first-year college student in North America would be likely to encounter. The topics come from such areas as the natural sciences, business, liberal arts, and the social sciences. Many sentences contain references to North American places and personalities. Others will refer to historical events and may include dates. It is important for you to understand that your knowledge of these areas is never tested on the TOEFL. You do not have to be familiar with the content of the sentences to be successful on this section of the TOEFL.

Each TOEFL vocabulary question consists of a single sentence followed by four choices. These choices are marked by letters (A), (B), (C), (D). Most sentences have one word underlined, and less frequently, some sentences may have a phrase underlined. You must identify the word among the choices that has the same or similar meaning as the under-lined word or phrase in the question. These words are called synonyms. Let's examine a sample question.

Many organisms change their role in habitats from one season to another

- (A) diet
- (B) size
- (C) color
- (D) function

This question is typical of the Vocabulary section. The topic is from the natural sciences and the sentence contains a single underlined word. The correct answer is (D) function. Function is a synonym for role. As in this example, the word you select is the one that best matches the meaning of the underlined word. Note that all four of the choices make sense in the sentence. Vocabulary questions are written so that the con-text of the sentence seldom helps you to determine the meaning of the word. Therefore, you must understand the vocabulary to select the correct choice

### **Strategies**

Remember that your reading comprehension skills are not tested on this section of the test. Therefore you should not waste time reading the sentences. Simply look at the underlined word and choose its synonym from among the four choices. This strategy will save you time and prevent

frustration.

You must choose the word that maintains the original meaning of the sentence. Be prepared for unfamiliar vocabulary presented in unfamiliar contexts, but do not waste time reading the sentences to determine the word's meaning. You will need this time for the Reading Comprehension section. If you do not know the word tested or can't determine its synonym, choose (B) or (C) as your answer. On the TOEFL, (B) and (C) answers tend to be used slightly more than (A) and (D). Also remember that answer choices that contain the same prefix or suffix or are pronounced like the underlined word are seldom the correct answers. Examine the following question.

Swallows are among the most agile passerine birds.

- (A) Idle
- (B) swift
- (C) fragile
- (D) frail

Note that choices (A) and (C), idle and fragile, have sounds similar to agile. Such words are not usually the correct choice. Such words are often used to distract you. Unless you are sure of the answer do not choose these words.

Let's see how to use our strategy with a sample item. Look at the sentence and look immediately to the underlined word. Do not read any other words in the sentence. Read the four choices and make your selection.

The spider wasp has a slender body with smokey or yellowish wings.

- (A) tiny
- (B) long
- (C) thin
- (D) dark

The following is an illustration of how you should read the sentences.

+++ ++ +++ + +++++ +++ + slender +++++ +++++ ++++++ ++  
+++++' +++ ++++++

- (A) tiny
- (B) long
- (C) thin
- (D) dark

You should pay attention only to the underlined word and the choices that follow. If you know the meaning of the word and recognize the synonym, there is no need to read the sentence. If you do not know the meaning of the underlined word, you must make an educated guess about its synonym. The context will not usually help you to determine the correct choice. All of the choices from this example fit into the sentence.

The spider wasp has a tiny body with smokey or yellowish wings.

The spider wasp has a long body with smokey or yellowish wings.

The spider wasp has a thin body with smokey or yellowish wings.

The spider wasp has a dark body with smokey or yellowish wings.

These sentences show that the context does not help you determine the meaning of the underlined word. If you cannot decide on the answer, read the sentence. It may help you to remember any previous experience you have had with the word. If not, guess, and continue to the next question.

### **STRATEGIES TO REMEMBER**

- Do not waste time reading the sentences. Immediately look for the underlined word and search for a synonym among the answer choices.
- The sentence will not help you understand the meaning of the underlined word.
- Analyze words quickly. Don't spend too much time studying word roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

- Work quickly, but carefully. Conserve time for the second part of Section 3. Try to spend only 30 seconds on each question.
- Words that contain similar sounds and spelling are usually not correct answers.
- Always answer every question. If you must guess, choose (B) or (C) as your answer.



## IMPROVING YOUR TOEFL VOCABULARY

### **READ A LOT**

One of the best ways to build your vocabulary is to read authentic English language material. You should read material that a college student would read. Examples of such material are newspapers, college textbooks, encyclopedia articles, magazines, and academic books. Any material that has an academic theme will help you get used to the kinds of words and the style of writing you will find on the TOEFL. Reading articles on a variety of topics of interest to you will help you develop your vocabulary.

### **MAKE FLASH CARDS**

As you read, you will find new words that you will want to learn. One good way to learn words is to make flash cards. Use small cards made of thick paper, like index cards. The cards should be small enough to fit in your pocket. On one side write the new word, then on the back write a synonym for the word. You may also want to note the meaning of the word. Review these cards as often as you can, perhaps with a friend who is preparing for the TOEFL.

You will be able to build a large "sight vocabulary" by using this method. Do not be concerned if you are unable to actually use these words in conversation you have in English. With time, they will become a part of your active vocabulary. Your ability to use new words is not as important as your ability to recognize new words and their meanings.

### **MAKE WORD LISTS**

Another good way to learn new words is to make word lists. Many students use a small notebook for this purpose. When you discover a new word, add it to a list of words to be learned. On one side of the page, list the new word. To the right of the new word, write a synonym for it. Study the words by covering the synonym, looking at the new word, and recalling the synonym. It is also useful to reverse the process so that you practice both the new word and the synonym.

### **LEARN WORDS FROM OLD TOEFL**

Learn words that have been tested on previous TOEFLs. The under-lined words on previous TOEFL tests are sometimes tested again, but they frequently appear among the four choices presented as synonyms for new words that are tested. You can find words to put on your flash cards or word lists on any TOEFL tests that you may have. TOEFL tests can be found in the TOEFL test kits available from the Educational Testing Service.

### **LEARN THE WORDS IN THIS BOOK**

Include all of the words listed in this book on your cards and lists. These words have been carefully selected, and many will appear on the TOEFL. Pay special attention to the list of 450 words in Chapter 6.

You should learn prefixes, suffixes, and word roots. For a list of them, see Chapter 4. Suggestions for studying word roots, suffixes, and pre-fixes can be found in that chapter.

### **LEARN TO USE A THESAURUS**

Become familiar with a thesaurus. A thesaurus is a dictionary of synonyms. When you find a word that you don't know, look it up in the thesaurus. Note a synonym for the word on a card or a word list. If you find a synonym but still don't know the meaning of the word, look it up in an English language dictionary. If you can't find the word in the thesaurus, it will not be tested on the TOEFL. The TOEFL tests only those words that have a variety of synonyms. For more information about the use of a thesaurus, see Chapter 5.

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## **VOCABULARY BUILDING STRATEGIES**

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- Read often. Choose material that is written for college level readers.
- Make flash cards of new words with synonyms and practice them often.
- Make word lists of new words with synonyms and practice them often.
- Learn words that have been tested on previous TOEFLs.
- Learn word roots, prefixes, and suffixes found in Chapter 4. Study the key list of 450 words in Chapter 6 of this book.

# BUILDING YOUR VOCABULARY

## DEVELOPING WORD ATTACK SKILLS

When readers find an unfamiliar word in a sentence, they are some-times able to determine its meaning by reading the other words in the sentence. The other words give the context that allows readers to make an educated guess about the meaning of an unfamiliar word. However, we already know that on TOEFL vocabulary questions all of the possible answers fit into the context of the sentence. Therefore, the success you will have on this part of the TOEFL, depend upon whether you can determine word meanings by examining the word being tested, not by studying the context. In this chapter, you will learn how to determine the meaning of a word by studying its parts.

Many English words consist of more than one part. Let's examine three important parts you should know in order to improve your vocabulary.

### Word Roots

Many words in English contain Latin and Greek roots. These roots convey the basic meaning of the word and they occur repeatedly through out the language. Knowing these roots will help you determine the meaning of words with which you are not familiar. Below is a list of common roots and their general meanings.

Learning these roots will help you recognize the basic meaning of hundreds of English words. Let's look at the word manufacture. Manufacture is a combination of two root words, manu and fact. Using the list of roots, we can see that manu means "hand" and fact means "make" or "do". Therefore, we can infer the meaning "make by hand".

Let's look at another example, biography. Again, using the list of roots, we see that bio means "life" and graph "write". Therefore, we can conclude that the word biography relates to the "writing of a life" or the written story of a person's life.

Root	Meaning	Example
belli	war	rebellion
biblio	book	bibliography
bio	life	biology
cosm	order	microcosm
cycl	circle	cyclone
dic	two	dichotomy
dict	word	dictate
duc	carry, lead	conductive
duct	carry, lead	conduct
fac	do, make	facsimile
fact	do, make	manufacture
fect	do, make	perfect
form	shape	uniform
fort	strong	fortify
geo	earth	geography
gram	write	telegram
graph	write	autograph
homo	same	homophone
log	speech, study of	dialog
logy	speech, study of	analogy
man	hand	manage

manu	hand	manual
mater	mother, home	maternity
matri	mother, home	matriarch
medi	middle	mediocre
miss	send	dismiss
mit	send	submit
multi	many	multiply
nom	name	nominate
nym	name	synonym
pater	father	paternal
pathy	feeling, suffering	sympathy
patri	father	patriarch
ped	foot	pedal
port	carry	transport
scend	climb	ascend
scrib	write	scribble
script	written language	postscript
secut	follow	consecutive
sent	feel	consent
sequ	follow	subsequently
tact	touch	contact
tempor	time	contemporary
tract	pull, draw out	attractive
vene	assemble, meet	convene
vent	come, go	advent
vers	turn	reverse
vert	turn	convert
voc	voice, call	vocal
vok	voice, call	revoke
volu	turn, roll	convoluted
volve	turn, roll	involve

### *How to Study Word Roots*

There are several ways to study word roots. One effective way is to make a flash card for each one. On this card write the root and a word containing the root. Also, write the meaning of the root and a synonym for the example word on the back of the card. As you practice with the cards, first identify the meaning of the root, then the word containing the root, Next, give a synonym for that word. As you study the roots, set aside those you have learned and concentrate only on those roots and synonyms that you have not learned. Save all of the cards for review.

Make word lists. When you read English material, make lists of words that contain the roots you have studied in this section of the book. Identify the root and look up the word in a thesaurus. Write the meaning of the root and a synonym of the word. This method will help you identify root words and synonyms on the TOEFL.

### **Prefixes**

Prefixes are the second important part of words. A prefix is a part of a word that is attached to the beginning of a word root. A prefix adds meaning to the base word or word root. Thus, if you know the meaning of the prefix, you will be better prepared to determine the meaning of the word. Knowing both prefixes and word roots will unlock the meaning of thousands of English words.

There are many prefixes in English. The following list contains some of the most common prefixes found on the TOEFL.

Let's examine the word contact. We can determine from the list of prefixes that con means "with". Upon further examination of the word, we see the word root tact means "touch". Without knowing

the exact meaning of the word, we can guess that the word is related to "touch" and "with". Indeed, contact means communication with another person. Referring to the root words and prefixes in this chapter we can ascertain that autobiography means "self, life, and write", or the story of a person's life written by that same person.

You can approach your study of prefixes with the same method you are using to learn word roots. Make a flash card for each of the prefixes. On this card write the prefix and a word containing the prefix. Write the meaning of the prefix and a synonym for the example word on the back of the card. As you practice with the cards, first identify the

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ante	before	anterior
anti	against, not in favor	anticipate
auto	self	autonomous
bi	two	bisect
circum	circle, around	circumvent
co	with, together	coherent
col	with, together	collect
corn	with, together	complex
con	with, together	condense
de	down, reverse	decline
dis	no, not	disregard
e	out, from	emit
ex	out, from	export
im	no, not	improper
in	not	inactive
inter	between, among	interact
it	no, not	irrelevant
micro	small, tiny	microscopic
mis	wrong, bad, not	mistake
mono	one	monotone
non	not	nonsense
post	after	postpone
pre	before	preconception
prim	first	primary
pro	for, in favor of	promote
re	again	recover
sub	under	submit
sup	under	supposition
trans	across, over	transmit
tri	three	triple
ultra	excessive	ultrasonic
un	no, not	undeniable
uni	one	unique

Make word lists. When you read English material, make lists of words that contain the prefixes you recognize. Identify the prefix and look up the word in a thesaurus. Write the meaning of the prefix and a synonym for the word on your lists. This method will help you identify words with prefixes and synonyms on the TOEFL.

### **Suffixes**

The final word part is the suffix. A suffix is added to the end of a word. Similar to a prefix, a suffix adds meaning to the root word. However, the meaning is often grammatical, telling us the tense or the function of the word; seldom does it change the actual meaning of the word in the way that

prefixes do. Suffixes are attached to verbs, nouns, adverbs, and adjectives. There are not many suffixes on this part of the TOEFL, and you may already know many of them from your grammar study. Nevertheless, you should become familiar with all the English suffixes in the list here.

## ADJECTIVE SUFFIXES

Suffix	Meaning	Example
able	capable of	affordable
ant	tendency to	dominant
alive	tendency to	innovative
ent	tendency to	persistent
etic	relating to	sympathetic
ful	full of	harmful
ible	capable	discernible
ical	relating to	identical
less	without	harmless
ous	full of	famous
ry	occupation	ministry
some	tendency to	bothersome
y	a quality of being	arbitrary

## NOUN SUFFIXES

Suffix	Meaning	Example
ary	place	library
ation	process	population
cule	small	minuscule
dom	state of being	wisdom
er	one who does	teacher
hood	state of being	manhood
ist	one who does	geologist
ly	like, similar to	manly
ment	state of being	contentment
ness	state of being	happiness
ous	full of	enormous
ry	occupation	dentistry
ship	state of being	citizenship

## ADVERB SUFFIXES

Suffix	Meaning	Example
ly	the way	predictably
ways	the way	sideways
wise	the way	otherwise

## VERB SUFFIXES

Suffix	Meaning	Example
ade	action or process	persuade
ate	to make	accentuate
en	to make	broaden
ish	action or process	flourish
ize	to make	emphasize

## IMPORTANT VOCABULARY BUILDING TOOLS

### THE DICTIONARY

For students of English as a second language, a good English dictionary is essential. It is a source of valuable information and if it is used correctly, the dictionary will serve as a useful tool toward your goal of English fluency.

There are many types of dictionaries that a student may consider, including collegiate learner's, unabridged, and bilingual dictionaries.

For more advanced students, collegiate or college dictionaries are preferred. In addition to the standard word entries, collegiate dictionaries often contain sections with abbreviations, foreign expressions used in English, and biographical listings. Some also contain geographical listings.

Learner's dictionaries are highly recommended. This type of dictionary is written specifically for students of English as a foreign language. Definitions are written in clear, easy to understand English. These dictionaries often anticipate learners' questions with special explanatory sections. They also use a standard phonetic alphabet to indicate pronunciation of entries.

Unabridged dictionaries are the most comprehensive, but are not practical for second language learners because of their size and detail. These dictionaries are often found in the reference sections of libraries on special tables to accommodate their size and weight. An unabridged dictionary is an excellent source for determining the historical development of words, examples of sentences that demonstrate proper usage, antonyms, and synonyms.

A bilingual dictionary, which contains words both in your native language and in English, should be avoided. Often these dictionaries are incomplete and give only basic native language equivalent words. These words are frequently out of date or inappropriate for the context of the sentence in which you want to use the unknown words; thus entries in bilingual dictionaries can be misleading and can actually cause you to make mistakes. It is worthwhile for English language students to switch to a learner's dictionary as soon as possible, or to use it in conjunction with a bilingual dictionary. You will find that your vocabulary will increase faster by using an English language dictionary.

### What You Can Learn

A dictionary gives you the information required to choose the best word for your needs. A typical dictionary entry contains the correct spelling of a word, followed by the word written in a phonetic alphabet, which shows how to pronounce it. The word is separated by syllables. These help you determine where to separate it at the end of a line when writing. Following the phonetic spelling of the word, its part of speech is indicated. The meanings of the word are given in a numerical order, sometimes followed by a sentence that shows the proper use of the word. While many modern dictionaries list the meanings of words from the most common and current meaning to the oldest meaning, some list their definitions from the earliest meaning to the latest meaning. Therefore, before you choose a definition, you should read all the meaning of the entry, then choose the one that meets your needs. Some dictionaries provide synonyms, or words with the same general meaning, and antonyms, words that have the opposite meaning. Some dictionaries give the derivation, an historical development of the word that follows a word back through different languages to its origin.

English language dictionaries contain entries listed in alphabetical order, that is, in an A to Z order. Two guide words appear at the top of each page in a dictionary. When the book is open, the word on the left page is the first entry of the two pages; the word on the right page indicates the last entry on the two pages. You can use these guide words to determine if the word you are looking up is contained among those entries on the two pages.

max • i • mum (mak's a -ma m) n. pl. -mums or -ma (-ma) Abbr. max. 1.a. The greatest possible quantity or degree. b. The greatest quantity or degree reached or recorded; the upper limit of

variation. c. The time or period during which the highest point or degree is attained. 2. An upper limit permitted by law or other authority. 3. Astronomy. a. The moment when a variable star is most brilliant. b. The magnitude of the star at such a moment. 4. Mathematics. a. The greatest value assumed by a function over a given interval. b. The largest number in a set.— maximum adj. Abbr. max. 1. Having or being the greatest quantity or the highest degree that has been or can be attained: maximum temperature. 2. Of, relating to, or marking up a maximum: a maximum number in a series. [Latin, from neuter of maximus, greatest.]

As we see, the entry is for the word maximum. By examining the word entry, we can determine that it contains three syllables, each syllable being separated by the mark • : max • i • mum. The word is followed by a phonetic spelling of the word inside parentheses, (mak' sa - ma m). At the bottom of every page of the dictionary, you will find a pronunciation key that will give you the speech sounds of the symbols. After the pronunciation, you will find a part of speech label. Here are the traditional speech labels found in most dictionaries.

WORD LABELS			
abbr.	abbreviation	n.	Noun
adj.	adjective	pl.	plural
adv.	adverb	prep.	preposition
ant. ..	antonym	pron.	pronoun
arch.	archaic	sing.	singular
conj.	conjunction	syn.	synonym
interj.	interjection	tr.	transitive
intr.	intransitive	v.	Verb
mod.	modifier		

Following the pronunciation entry for the word maximum, an n. and the plural forms (identified by the abbreviation pl.) pl.-mums, or - ma appear. According to the labels, these abbreviations mean that the word is a noun and its plural can be formed two ways: by replacing the last syllable mum with mums (maximums) or ma (maxima). The plural forms are followed by the abbreviation of the word, identified by abbr. max. Each definition of the word is marked by a number.

In many dictionaries, the order of the definitions reflects the frequency of use of each meanings of the word . The definitions that follow the first definition reflect more specialized uses . Your dictionary will explain the order in which the meanings are presented. When the numbered definition has closely related meanings , they are marked with 1.a., b., and c. as in the example shown. Also note that words with specialized definitions in academic disciplines are identified. In the sample entry, there are two specialized uses of the word maximum, one in Astronomy, 3.a. and b., and another in Mathematics, 4.a., and b. After all meanings of the noun form are defined, the entry continues with the definition of the adjective form. The last item of the entry gives the derivation, or word origin, inside brackets[.]

Please note that several styles of usage are normally indicated in a dictionary entry. These styles are typically identified in the following ways:

Nonstandard-	Words that do not belong to any standard educated speech
Informal	- Words that are often used in conversation and seldom in formal writing
Slang	- Usually a highly informal word that is often figurative in use . Its meaning is usually short lived
Vulgar	- A word that is taboo or not socially acceptable in most circumstances
Obsolete	- A word that is no longer in common usage
Archaic	- A word that was in common usage, but is now rarely used
Rare	- Words that have never been common in the language



British	- Words that are in common usage in British English
Regional	- Words that are used in a limited geographical area

## THE THESAURUS

A thesaurus is a collection of words with similar meanings, usually presented in alphabetical order. These words are called synonyms. A thesaurus is useful when you want to change a word to another word with a similar meaning. The entries in a thesaurus typically contain the synonyms in most frequent to least frequent occurrence. In a modern thesaurus, guide words also appear at the tops of pages. They function the same way as guide words in dictionaries, indicating the first and last words of the pages. All words on the page appear in alphabetical order. Not all words have synonyms, yet almost all words on the TOEFL are words with many synonyms. Therefore, regular use of a thesaurus will build your vocabulary and help you prepare for the TOEFL.

Most of the same word labels used in dictionaries appear in a thesaurus. Many entries do not specify the difference between adjective and adverb, since the same forms can often appear both as adjectives or adverbs. The abbreviation mod. is used to mark such a word. Let's examine an entry for the word maximum.

maximum, mod. -Syn. supreme, highest, greatest; see best 1. maximum, n.-Syn. supremacy, height, pinnacle, preeminence, culmination, matchlessness, preponderance, apex, peak, greatest number, highest degree, summit, nonpareil; see also climax: Ant. minimum\*, foot, bottom.

There are two entries for this word. The abbreviation mod. in the first entry indicates that the word could be used as a modifier of other words. Following this, syn. indicates that synonyms for the word follow. At the end of the listing appears the suggestion see best 1. This suggestion refers us to the first entry for the word best if we wish to see more words with meanings related to *maximum*.

The second entry gives the synonyms for the noun form of the word. The n. indicates that the word is used as a noun, and syn. indicates that synonyms follow. This entry also refers the reader to the word *climax* for additional words related to *maximum*. At the end of the entry, antonyms, marked with the label *ant.*, are listed.

The dictionary and thesaurus are two powerful learning tools that you should have for reference. They are essential for a good vocabulary building program.

## CHAPTER 6

# THE ESSENTIAL TOEFL VOCABULARY

This chapter contains 30 lessons. Each lesson contains entries for 15 key TOEFL words. After these entries, there are 10 matching exercises. At the end of each lesson, there are five TOEFL-like vocabulary questions that contain all of the words in each lesson. The TOEFL-like questions are an excellent vocabulary review as well as thorough preparation for the vocabulary section of the TOEFL.

You should study the lessons in order. For example, after studying lesson 1, go directly to lesson 2. The book is designed to provide systematic review of words in previous lessons. By studying the lessons out of order you will be defeating the purpose of the review system.

Let's examine a sample entry to see the kinds of information you will learn.

<b>intricate</b>	adj. having many parts; finely detailed
adv. intricately	syn. complex
n. intricacy	
<u>The intricate design of the vase made it a valuable piece for her collection.</u>	
<u>I cannot begin to understand all of the intricacies of modern automobile motors.</u>	

The entry features the word intricate. Directly under the word, you will find other forms of the same word. These words have the same general meaning; they represent the different parts of speech of the word. For each of the forms, the part of speech is given. The following abbreviations for parts of speech are used in the word entries.

adj.		adjective
adv.		adverb
conj.		conjunction
v.		verb
n.		noun

In the case of intricate, the adjective form, adj., is presented as the key word. Other forms of the entry, intricately and intricacy, are listed below the main entry.

The key word is then defined in clear, easy to understand English. In this example, we see that intricate means something having many parts or something that is finely detailed.

Under the definition you will find a synonym for the key word. The synonym is a word that has the same or a similar meaning and it is marked with the letters syn. In the example above, the synonym given for intricate is complex.

Below the synonym, there are two sentences that show the usage of two different forms of the word. The sentences are rich in context; that is, the words surrounding the key word tend to support and clarify the meaning of the key word. Let's look at the two sentences in the example.

The intricate design of the vase made it a valuable piece for her collection.

I cannot begin to understand all of the intricacies of modern automobile motors.

The key word will always appear in the first sentence. The key word sentence is followed by a second sentence illustrating the use of one of the related words, but with a different part of speech. If no related words are given, then the second sentence serves as another illustration of the meaning of the key word.

Some word forms are not included in the entries. These are words that are not in common usage and not likely to appear on the TOEFL.

The word entries provide you with all the information you need to build a powerful TOEFL vocabulary.

## **STUDYING THE WORD ENTRIES**

In order to study vocabulary efficiently, you must have a study plan and follow it carefully. The following plan has been useful to many students who are building their TOEFL vocabulary. Plan to spend at least an hour studying the words in each lesson of this book. Do not study words that you already know.

### *Read*

First, read the 15 entries of the lesson carefully, including the definition, different forms, synonym, and example sentences. It is important for you to associate the key word with its meaning and synonym. These are the three most important parts of the word entry.

### *Reread*

Next, read each word entry again. Look up unfamiliar words that appear in the example sentences. This time when you study the entry, cover the key word, then look at the meaning and its synonym. Then identify the key word. When you are able to identify the key word, reverse the process by identifying the covered synonym. Finally, cover everything in the entry, except the meaning, and identify the key word and its synonym.

### *Find the Synonyms*

You are now ready for the matching exercise at the end of the word list. Let's look at a typical matching question.

1. intricate  
(A) functional  
(B) complex  
(C) predominant  
(D) inordinate

The purpose of the question is to test your knowledge of synonyms, a key skill for the TOEFL. You will see four choices. In this example, you must choose the synonym for the word intricate. The correct answer is , complex. Nearly all the words that appear as answer choices are key words introduced in the same and previous lessons. Check your answers by referring to the Answer Key at the back of this book.

You are now ready to test your skill on actual TOEFL-like questions. Let's look at the following test question.

The intricate design of the building's facade is typical of buildings of the nineteenth century.

- (A) functional  
(B) accurate  
(C) standard  
(D) complex

This test question is typical of the questions on the vocabulary section of the TOEFL. You must choose the word that has the same or similar meaning as the underlined word in the sentence. Most TOEFL questions do not use the word in a sentence context that will help you with word meaning. Therefore, as we learned in Chapter 2, you will probably not be able to determine the meaning of the word by reading the sentence. Look directly at the underlined word and do not read the sentence. Look for its synonym among the four choices. The correct answer is , complex. Most of the answer choices for the test questions at the end of each lesson are key words introduced in that lesson.

### *Make Flash Cards*

After you have studied the 15 words and their synonyms, and have completed the practice exercises, make flash cards. On one side of the card, write the key word and its related forms. On the other side of the card, write its synonym. Review these cards several times during the weeks before your TOEFL test session. If you are preparing for a specific TOEFL test date, make a study schedule based on how much time you have before the TOEFL. For example, if you have six weeks before your test date, plan to study five lessons each week.

Be sure that you organize your cards. It is suggested that you organize your cards by alphabetical order of the synonyms or by the lesson number. Keep two groups of cards: one group for the words

you have learned, and the second group for those words you need to learn. Re-view the second group more often than the first group of words that you already know.

As your vocabulary grows, return to the exercises and test questions in each lesson.

By following this study plan you will be better prepared for the important day when you hear the words You may now open your TOEFL test booklet ".

Now begin Lesson 1 following the directions you have just read.

## CHAPTER 7

# THE PRACTICE TESTS GENERAL DIRECTIONS

Essential Words for the TOEFL provides you with two TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests on the pages that follow. After you have studied the vocabulary lessons in this book, take both of the tests on separate days.

When taking each test, circle the correct answer in your book. Allow yourself no more than 15 minutes to take each test. Although on an official TOEFL you will be given 45 minutes to complete Section 3 of the test, you should complete the vocabulary items in less than 15 minutes, in order to give yourself ample time to answer the longer Reading Comprehension items. Thus, allow yourself no more than 15 minutes to complete each of the Practice Tests that follow.

After you take each test, score it using the answer key provided on page 197 of this book. For each item you answer incorrectly, look up the word tested in this book. Try to understand why you made the mistake so you won't make it again. If necessary, look up the tested word or the options in your English dictionary. This will provide you with additional information on the meaning of the word in different contexts and perhaps other ex-ample sentences demonstrating its usage.

For information on interpreting your performance and converting it to the TOEFL scale, follow the directions in Scoring Your TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests, at the end of this Chapter. Now take the TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Test 1.

## TOEFL VOCABULARY PRACTICE TEST 1

1. It is evident that animals played a predominant role in the world of the upper Paleolithic Period.  
(A) hazardous  
(B) principal  
(C) minuscule  
(D) misunderstood
2. Some experts believe that the functions of the print media will be replaced by audio or visual media.  
(A) distribution  
(B) influences  
(C) roles  
(D) popularity
3. A central issue in probability is predicting the value of a future observation.  
(A) recording  
(B) interpreting  
(C) observing  
(D) foretelling
4. The modern world is inundated with competing propaganda and counterpropaganda.  
(A) balanced  
(B) sustained  
(C) overwhelmed  
(D) contaminated
5. The expansion of public services has caused concern that the civil service branches are becoming autonomous powers.  
(A) independent  
(B) advanced  
(C) superior  
(D) perilous
6. A deep rock tunnel between Washington, D.C. and Boston that employs an entirely new type of rapid conveyance is receiving serious consideration from civil planners.  
(A) an outlandishly  
(B) a comparatively  
(C) an intrinsically  
(D) a completely
7. Women's magazines reflect the changing view of women's role in society.  
(A) distort  
(B) show  
(C) accentuate  
(D) promote
8. Courtship is a widespread prelude to mating among modern reptiles.  
(A) a tedious  
(B) an uncontrolled  
(C) a common  
(D) an essential
9. The elimination of carbon dioxide is a necessary process in all animals.  
(A) rejection  
(B) accumulation  
(C) deletion  
(D) production
10. In contrast to traditional rhetoric, modern rhetoric has shifted its focus to the audience or

reader.

- (A) intensified
- (B) narrowed
- (C) maintained
- (D) altered

11. The enormous rigid plates that make up the outer shell of the Earth continually move relative to one another.
  - (A) vast
  - (B) ancient
  - (C) dense
  - (D) deep
12. The process of eutrophication involves a sharp increase in the concentration of phosphorus and nitrogen and promotes the growth of algae.
  - (A) conceals
  - (B) boosts
  - (C) disrupts
  - (D) halts
13. Evidence that harmful effects may result from small amounts of radiation has prompted concern about low level irradiation from various sources.
  - (A) minimized
  - (B) exaggerate
  - (C) generated
  - (D) sustained
14. Large sponges often harbor smaller organisms.
  - (A) shelter
  - (B) reject
  - (C) avoid
  - (D) consume
15. Most varieties of squash were cultivated by American Indian civilizations.
  - (A) bartered
  - (B) grown
  - (C) eaten
  - (D) gathered
16. The sugar maple grows to a height of 120 feet and has a dense crown of leaves that turns bright red in the fall.
  - (A) vibrant
  - (B) thick
  - (C) remarkable
  - (D) large
17. The sumacs grown for landscape use display a graceful style with spectacular fall colors and colorful fruit clusters.
  - (A) elude
  - (B) maintain
  - (C) develop
  - (D) exhibit
18. Tadpoles typically dwell at the bottom of bodies of fresh water.
  - (A) swim
  - (B) feed
  - (C) live
  - (D) reproduce
19. John Quincy Adams was a conspicuous opponent of the expansion of slavery.
  - (A) consistent

- (B) noticeable
  - (C) distinguished
  - (D) formidable
20. The Indian civilizations of Alabama spanned over 10,000 years.
- (A) declined
  - (B) developed
  - (C) covered
  - (D) prospered
21. The banana is a gigantic herb that springs from an underground stem to form false trunks up (3) to 20 feet high.
- (A) an immense
  - (B) a striking
  - (C) an attractive
  - (D) a plentiful
22. The evolution of agriculture in the early years of the twentieth century was characterized by the partial mechanization of the sowing and reaping processes.
- (A) created
  - (B) enriched
  - (C) accelerated
  - (D) typified
23. One of the most striking aspects of Indian cultures was the production of ceremonial costumes and ornaments worn during religious rituals.
- (A) absurd
  - (B) remarkable
  - (C) arbitrary
  - (D) spontaneous
24. The innovative use of iron and steel in construction represented an important advancement in the building industry of the 1800s.
- (A) improvement
  - (B) element
  - (C) influence
  - (D) occasion
25. Professional interior design assignments are typically complex endeavors that begin with an interview with the client.
- (A) personal
  - (B) intricate
  - (C) orderly
  - (D) gratifying
26. In antiquity, mosaics were made of uncut pebbles of uniform size.
- (A) consistent
  - (B) ideal
  - (C) moderate
  - (D) minuscule
27. All organisms must obtain nutrients from the environment in order to sustain themselves.
- (A) isolate
  - (B) harvest
  - (C) acquire
  - (D) digest
28. Sauropods are distinguished by their body form as well as their enormous size.
- (A) limited
  - (B) overwhelmed
  - (C) allocated



(D) identified

29. The predominant unit of drawing is the line.

(A) smallest

(B) resilient

(C) principal

(D) dramatic

30. The primary task of the kidney is to maintain the volume and composition of bodily fluids

(2).

(A) preserve

(B) distribute

(C) assimilate

(D) condense

## TOEFL VOCABULARY PRACTICE TEST 2

1. The vital laws of geologic succession were not fully understood until the end of the eighteenth century.  
(A) erratic  
(B) complex  
(C) legitimate  
(D) indispensable
2. It is a familiar phenomenon that an object released above the Earth's surface accelerates toward the Earth.  
(A) positioned.  
(B) freed  
(C) transported  
(D) observed
3. The Earth's magnetic fields have been investigated with increasing accuracy for over one hundred years.  
(A) probed  
(B) dissected  
(C) attracted  
(D) repelled
4. In 1835, James Espy began extensive studies of storms from which he developed a theory to explain their sources of energy.  
(A) documented  
(B) Precise  
(C) crucial  
(D) comprehensive
5. One of the most beneficial effects of the automobile has been to permit nearly everyone in the automotive countries to travel for recreation.  
(A) adverse  
(B) advantageous  
(C) fundamental  
(D) practical
6. A major shift in propulsion technology during the postwar period caused the world to adopt jet propulsion as the power source for military and passenger aircraft.  
(A) expansion  
(B) advance  
(C) switch  
(D) discovery
7. Throughout the nineteenth century, a succession of improvements in textile machinery steadily increased the volume of cloth and garment production.  
(A) attractiveness  
(B) refinement  
(C) quantity  
(D) caliber
8. The human environment, in the biological sense, is chiefly a hostile one.  
(A) mostly  
(B) actually  
(C) normally  
(D) partially
9. All of the outer surfaces of the human body are covered with microorganisms that are potentially harmful.  
(A) intolerable  
(B) annoying

- (C) intrusive
  - (D) unhealthy
10. One remarkable form of communication among insects is the dance language of the honeybee.
- (A) substantial
  - (B) exceptional
  - (C) mysterious
  - (D) tangible
11. The celebrated beauty of Maine's landscape and the character of its people have given the state a stature beyond its political and economic importance.
- (A) renowned
  - (B) appealing
  - (C) incredible
  - (D) scenic
12. In the United Nations, controversies generated by political differences are generally settled by compromise.
- (A) exaggerated
  - (B) created
  - (C) enhanced
  - (D) eroded
13. The United States sustains an economic life that is more diversified than any other on Earth.
- (A) accelerated
  - (B) distinct
  - (C) impressive
  - (D) varied
14. Remains of ancient people dating to 9000 B.C. have been found in the state of Ohio.
- (A) indigenous
  - (B) frail
  - (C) early
  - (D) conserved
15. Hawaii is economically vigorous, with extensive agriculture and manufacturing, and is a Pacific Basin transportation and cultural center.
- (A) advantaged
  - (B) dependable
  - (C) involved
  - (D) strong
16. The unique nature of viruses requires careful study to determine how they develop in host cells.
- (A) rage
  - (B) vague
  - (C) resilient
  - (D) intriguing
17. Active volcanoes are scattered over the area of the Earth known as the Ring of Fire.
- (A) feared
  - (B) discovered
  - (C) distributed
  - (D) grouped
18. Theodore Roosevelt regarded vaudeville as an amusing North American pastime.
- (A) abusive
  - (B) interesting
  - (C) enriching

- (D) archaic
19. Most migrant workers move in a well-established pattern according to the season of the regions where they work.
- (A) area  
(B) way  
(C) group  
(D) habit
20. The standard definition of writing highlights the fact that writing is in principle the representation of language rather than a direct representation of thought.
- (A) mentions  
(B) conceals  
(C) emphasizes  
(D) distorts
21. An intensification of internal stress and conflict among social, racial, and ideological groups has had profound effects on education in the twentieth century.
- (A) disruptive  
(B) significant  
(C) unavoidable  
(D) debilitating
22. Visible light is the most familiar form of electromagnetic radiation (4).
- (A) perceivable  
(B) blinding  
(C) dim  
(D) measurable
23. Emotions influence the way humans conceive and interpret the world around them.
- (A) modify  
(B) mirror  
(C) clarify  
(D) overcome
24. All great encyclopedia makers have tried to objectively present (1) an accurate picture of civilization.
- (A) an acceptable  
(B) a balanced  
(C) an enlightening  
(D) a worthwhile
25. Conservative groups and artists in Hollywood have never been able to sustain a beneficial lasting relationship.
- (A) gratifying  
(B) enduring  
(C) worthwhile  
(D) reliable
26. A primary exception to the steady abandonment of windmills was their resurgence in rural areas for pumping water from wells.
- (A) unmistakable  
(B) wanton  
(C) unhealthy  
(D) constant
27. Equality, human rights, and justice are prominent issues that came from the United States' civil rights movement of the 1960s.
- (A) contemporary  
(B) nominal  
(C) conspicuous

(D) unique

28. The typical symphony orchestra has evolved gradually since the late eighteenth century.

(A) haphazardly

(B) scarcely

(C) steadily

(D) logically

29. The fire salamander takes its name from an old belief that it could withstand flames.

(A) survive

(B) extinguish

(C) elude

(D) reduce

30. Satellite images show tropical depressions as brilliant white masses of clouds.

(A) powerful

(B) vast

(C) radiant

(D) elaborate

## ANSWERS TO TOEFL VOCABULARY TESTS

### Practice Test 1

1.B	11.A	21.A
2.C	12.B	22.D
3.D	13.C	23.B
4.C	14.A	24.A
5.A	15.B	25.B
6.D	16.B	26.A
7.B	17.D	27.C
8.C	18.C	28.D
9.C	19.B	29.C
10.D	20.C	30.A

### Practice Test 2

1.D	11.A	21.B
2.B	12.B	22.A
3.A	13.D	23.C
4.D	14.C	24.B
5.B	15.D	25.B
6.C	16.A	26.D
7.C	17.C	27.C
8.A	18.B	28.C
9.D	19.B	29.A
10.B	20.C	30.C

### Scoring Your TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests

Essential Words for the TOEFL contains two TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests. These tests are provided so that you may determine what effect the study of this book has had on your knowledge of TOEFL vocabulary and on your ability to answer vocabulary questions in the TOEFL format. The tests will also provide you with a fairly accurate estimate of how you would do on Section 3 of the TOEFL, if that section consisted of Vocabulary questions alone.\*

To score your TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests, follow the procedures described below.

Find the key (list of correct answers) that corresponds to the TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Test that you took. The key to both tests is located at the top of this page.

Score each test using the key. Place a C next to each correct answer in the book.

Count the number of correct answers and write that number in the space called Number Right below.

Test	Number Right	Scaled Score
1	-----	-----
2	-----	-----
Average		

Now for Test 1, multiply the number of correct answers by 1.47.

Remember Section 3 consists of 30 vocabulary items and 30 reading comprehension items. Thus, your performance on the vocabulary items will contribute 50 percent of your score on this section. The other 50 percent is determined by your performance on reading comprehension items.

Add 23 to the product. You may round off to the nearest whole number. Write this number on the line that corresponds to the Scaled Score for Test 1.

Follow the same procedures for Test 2 and determine your Scaled Score for Test 2.

Now add the Number Right scores for Test 1 and Test 2 and divide the sum by 2. Place this number on the line that corresponds to the Average Number Right

To determine your Average Scaled Score, add the two Scaled Scores together and divide the total by 2. Place this number (the average of the two Scaled Scores) on the line that corresponds to the Average Scaled Score.

Now let's practice these procedures in order to verify that you are following them correctly.

Suppose on Test 1 you answered 21 questions correctly, and on Test 2 you answered 24 items correctly. For Test 1, your calculations would look as follows.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 21 \\
 \times 1.47 \\
 \hline
 30.87
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{then} + \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 30.87 \\
 23 \\
 \hline
 53.87
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{or } 54$$

Now follow the procedure on your own for the Test 2 Number Right score of 24.

Your Scaled Score for Test 2 should be 58.28, for which the nearest whole number is 58. The average of these two scaled scores is 56. Your Average Scaled Score on Test 1 and 2 is the best estimate of how you would perform on Section 3 of the TOEFL, if it consisted of vocabulary items alone. This is because the Average Scaled Score is based on a larger sample of vocabulary items than is either Test 1 or Test 2 alone.

When you take the TOEFL at an official administration, if your score on Section 3 is different from your Average Scaled Score on these TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests, the difference is probably due to your performance on the reading comprehension items in this section.

# Essential Words for the TOEFL





## **LESSON 1**

abroad    abrupt    acceptable    acclaim    actually    adverse  
advice    attractive    autonomous    disapproval    disruptive  
haphazardly    ideal    persistent    wide

---

**abroad** *adv.* to or in another country  
*Syn.* overseas, internationally

Louis Armstrong often traveled abroad.  
Living abroad can be an educational experience.

**abrupt** *adj.* quick, without warning  
*Syn.* sudden  
*adv.* abruptly  
*n.* abruptness

There was an abrupt change in the weather.  
After the incident everyone left abruptly.

**acceptable** *adj.* allowable or satisfactory  
*Syn.* permissible  
*v.* accept  
*adv.* acceptably  
*n.* acceptability  
*adj.* accepting

The idea was acceptable to everyone.  
The registrar accepted more applicants than he should have.

**acclaim** *n.* enthusiastic approval, applause  
*adj.* acclaimed  
*Syn.* praise  
*n.* acclamation

Isaac Stem has won acclaim abroad.  
Acclaimed authors often win Pulitzer Prizes.

**actually** *adv.* being in existence, real or factual  
*adj.* actual  
*Syn.* truly  
They were actually very good soccer players.  
The actual time allotted to complete the test is two hours.

**adverse** *adj.* displeasing, objectionable, or bad  
*Syn.* unfavorable  
*adv.* adversely  
*n.* adversity  
*n.* adversary

Adverse weather conditions made it difficult to play the game.  
His indecision adversely affected his job performance.

**advice** *n.* a recommendation given by someone not

v. advise associated with the problem or situation  
adj. advisable *Syn.* suggestion  
n. advisability

Good advice is hard to find.

It is not advisable to stay up late the night before a test.

**attractive** *adj.* calling attention to, pleasing, creating interest,  
v. attract pretty  
n. attraction *Syn.* appealing  
n. attractiveness

adv. attractively

The idea of working four, 10-hour work days was attractive to the employees.

The major attraction of the show was a speech by the president.

**ideal** *adj.* having no flaw or mistake, excellent  
adv. ideally *Syn.* perfect  
n. ideal

The beach is an ideal place to relax.

Candidates for the job should ideally have five years experience in similar positions.

**persistent** *adj.* continuous, refusing to give up, firm in action or  
decision  
v. persist *n.* persistence  
adv. persistently *Syn.* constant

The attorney's persistent questioning weakened the witness.

Her persistence earned her a spot on the team.

**wide** *adj.* extending over a large area  
adv. widely *Syn.* broad  
n. wideness

Pine forests are found over a wide area of the Pacific Northwest.

The senator has traveled widely.

**autonomous** *adj.* by itself, with no association  
adv. autonomously *Syn.* independent

Mexico became an autonomous state in 1817.

Although working closely with the government, all businesses function autonomously.

**disapproval** *n.* the act of disagreeing, not giving approval  
v. disapprove  
adv. disapprovingly *Syn.* objection

Their disapproval of the plan caused the experiment to be abandoned.

The students disapproved of the plan of study.

**disruptive***adj.* causing confusion and interruption

v. disrupt

Syn. disturbing

n. disruption

adv. disruptively

Frequent questions during lectures can be disruptive.The storm caused a disruption in bus service.**haphazardly***adv.* having no order or pattern, by chance

adj. haphazard

Syn. arbitrarily, carelessly

n. haphazardness

It was obvious that the house was built haphazardly.

Susan completed the assignment in a haphazard way.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                                       |                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. widely<br>(A) broadly<br>(B) abroad<br>(C) secretly<br>(D) truly                   | 6. haphazardly<br>(A) suddenly<br>(B) secretly<br>(C) carelessly<br>(D) constantly       |
| 2. autonomous<br>(A) independent<br>(B) sudden<br>(C) international<br>(D) abrupt     | 7. constant<br>(A) disruption<br>(B) acceptable<br>(C) abrupt<br>(D) persistent          |
| 3. advice<br>(A) acclaim<br>(B) attention<br>(C) suggestion<br>(D) praise             | 8. perfect<br>(A) attractive<br>(B) ideal<br>(C) actual<br>(D) abrupt                    |
| 4. attractive<br>(A) appealing<br>(B) adverse<br>(C) arbitrary<br>(D) perfect         | 9. unfavorably<br>(A) attractively<br>(B) haphazardly<br>(C) acceptably<br>(D) adversely |
| 5. disapproval<br>(A) attraction<br>(B) attention<br>(C) objection<br>(D) persistence | 10. disturbing<br>(A) perfect<br>(B) disruptive<br>(C) persistent<br>(D) attractive      |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. As a government official, Benjamin Franklin often traveled abroad.
  - (A) widely
  - (B) secretly
  - (C) alone
  - (D) overseas
2. American poet James Merrily received critical acclaim for his work entitled Jim's Book.
  - (A) advice
  - (B) disapproval
  - (C) praise
  - (D) attention
3. A revolution in women's fashion during the second half of the twentieth century made trousers acceptable for almost all activities.
  - (A) available
  - (B) permissible
  - (C) attractive
  - (D) ideal
4. No fan, electric or otherwise, actually cools the air.
  - (A) truly
  - (B) haphazardly
  - (C) persistently
  - (D) continuously
5. The climate of Chicago is subject to abrupt changes of weather.
  - (A) sudden
  - (B) extreme
  - (C) adverse
  - (D) disruptive

## LESSON 2

advanced	advantage	advent	agile	albeit	allow
appealing	celebrated	contemporary		distribute	
encourage	energetic	frail	refine	worthwhile	

---

**advanced** *adj.* ahead of current thought or practice forward thinking, new

v. advance

n. advancement *Syn.* progressive

Advanced technology is changing the world.

His advancement to captain came unexpectedly.

**advantage** *n.* something that may help one to be successful or to gain something

adv. advantageously

adj. advantageous

*Syn.* benefit

Is there any advantage in arriving early?

He was advantageously born into a rich family.

**advent** *n.* the coming or appearance of something  
*Syn.* arrival

With the advent of computers, many tasks have been made easier.

The newspapers announced the advent of the concert season.

**agile** *adj.* able to move in a quick and easy way  
*Syn.* nimble

adv. agilely

n. agility

n. agility

Deer are very agile animals.

She moved agilely across the stage.

**albeit** *conj.* in spite of the facts, regardless of the fact  
*Syn.* although

His trip was successful, albeit tiring.

Albeit difficult at times, speaking another language is rewarding.

**allow** v. to agree to let something happen, not to interfere with an action

n. allowance

adj. allowable

adv. allowable

*Syn.* permit

Arthur's natural agility will allow him to excel in sports.

The extra money allowed us to stay abroad another day.

**appealing**

v. appeal  
n. appeal  
adv. appealingly

*adj.* attractive or interesting, able to move feelings  
*Syn.* alluring

Working abroad is appealing to many people.

Through his speeches, the candidate appealed to the voters.

**celebrated**

*adj.* acclaimed, well-known, and popular  
*Syn.* renown

The celebrated pianist will give a concert this weekend.

San Francisco is celebrated for its multicultural makeup.

**contemporary**

n. contemporary

*adj.* modern, up-to-date; also a person living at the same time as another person  
*Syn.* current

Contemporary architecture makes very good use of space.

Cervantes was a contemporary of Shakespeare.

**distribute**

n. distribution

v. to divide among people or to give out  
*Syn.* dispense

Many publishers distribute their newspapers directly to homes in their area.

The distribution of seeds is very quick with this new machine.

**encourage**

n. encouragement  
adj. encouraging  
adv. encouragingly

v. to give courage or hope to someone  
*Syn.* inspire

Even though the runner finished second, he was encouraged by his performance.

His teacher gave him the encouragement that he needed to learn the material.

**energetic**

n. energy  
adv. energetically

*adj.* full of life, action, or power  
*Syn.* vigorous

Sam hasn't been as energetic as he usually is.

There's a lot of energy in these batteries.

**frail**

n. frailty

*adj.* weak in health or in body  
*Syn.* fragile

The frail wings of the newborn bird could not lift it off the ground.

One of the frailties of human beings is laziness.

**refine**

n. refinement  
adj. refined

v. to make pure, to improve  
*Syn.* perfect (v.)

Factories must to refine oil before it can be used as fuel.



A squirt of lime juice is the perfect refinement to cola.

**worthwhile**

*adj.* value in doing something

*Syn.* rewarding

It was worthwhile waiting 10 hours in line for the tickets.

It's worthwhile to prepare for the TOEFL.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                                |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. inspire<br>(A) celebrate<br>(B) attract<br>(C) encourage<br>(D) appeal      | 6. renown<br>(A) unknown<br>(B) celebrated<br>(C) adverse<br>(D) disapprove         |
| 2. advantage<br>(A) benefit<br>(B) persistence<br>(C) nimbleness<br>(D) allure | 7. worthwhile<br>(A) rewarding<br>(B) acceptable<br>(C) agile<br>(D) permitted      |
| 3. fragile<br>(A) modern<br>(B) famous<br>(C) allowable<br>(D) frail           | 8. vigorous<br>(A) attractive<br>(B) beautiful<br>(C) energetic<br>(D) advantageous |
| 4. contemporary<br>(A) timing<br>(B) current<br>(C) well-known<br>(D) perfect  | 9. refine<br>(A) persist<br>(B) value<br>(C) perfect<br>(D) divide                  |
| 5. appealing<br>(A) refined<br>(B) encouraging<br>(C) alluring<br>(D) popular  | 10. distribute<br>(A) disappoint<br>(B) disrupt<br>(C) discourage<br>(D) dispense   |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Swallows are among the most agile passerine birds.

- (A) energetic
- (B) frail
- (C) beautiful
- (D) nimble

2. Shrimping in Mississippi's tidal areas is not allowed during the summer months.

- (A) worthwhile
- (B) permitted
- (C) encouraged
- (D) appealing

3. With the advent of cable television and the use of satellites for broadcasting, television reception improved.

- (A) arrival
- (B) refinement
- (C) distribution
- (D) advantage

4. Most tadpoles are vegetarians, albeit those of some species are carnivorous.

- (A) although
- (B) simply
- (C) supposedly
- (D) since

5. Advanced scientific disciplines like solar cell technology and genetic engineering are exploding with possibilities.

- (A) valued
- (B) celebrated
- (C) new
- (D) appealing

## **LESSON 3**

alter   analyze   ancient   annoying   anticipate  
conform   defect   enrich   intensify   intolerable  
observe   ongoing   propose   restore   vital

---

**alter** v. to change or make different

v. altered  
n. alteration  
adj. alterable  
adv. alterably

*Syn.* modify

I Will the starlit alter its course and miss the coast?

Gloria hasn't altered her plans to return to school.

**analyze** v. to study something carefully, to separate

n. analyzed  
n. analysis

into parts for study

*Syn.* examine

Scientists must analyze problems thoroughly.

Analysis of the substance confirms the presence of nitrogen.

**ancient** *adj.* something from a long time ago, very old.

*Syn.* old

Archaeologists analyze ancient civilizations.

Dave found an ancient Roman coin.

**annoying** *adj.* a slight bother, disturbing to a person

n. annoyance  
v. annoy  
adv. annoyingly

*Syn.* bothersome

Mosquitoes can be an annoying part of a vacation at the beach.

She annoyed her parents by coming home late.

**anticipate** v. to think about or prepare for something ahead of  
adj. anticipatory time

n. anticipation *Syn.* predict

No one can anticipate the results of the games.

They planned their vacation with anticipation.

**conform** v. to follow established rules or patterns of  
n. conformity behavior

n. conformist *Syn.* adapt

You must conform to the rules or leave the club.

She has always been a conformist.

**detect** v. to find out, to observe something  
n. detection *Syn.* notice  
n. detective

He detected a smile on his girlfriend's face.  
They are the best detectives on the police force.

**enrich** v. to make rich, to make something of  
n. enrichment greater value  
adj. enriching *Syn.* enhance

The fine arts enrich our lives.  
The discovery of oil was an enrichment for the country.

**intensify** v. to make stronger in feeling or quality  
n. intensity *Syn.* heighten

adj. intense  
adj. intensive  
adv. intensely  
adv. intensively  
The importance of the test will sometimes intensify the nervousness of the students.  
The chess match was played with great intensity.

**intolerable** *adj.* difficult or painful to experience, not  
n. intolerance able to accept different ways of thought  
adv. intolerably or behavior  
adv. intolerantly  
adj. intolerant *Syn.* unbearable  
Any opposition to the rules is intolerable.  
His boss was intolerant of his tardiness.

**observe** v. to see and watch carefully, to examine  
n. observation *Syn.* notice  
n. observer  
adj. observant  
adj. observable

Human beings like to observe the behavior of monkeys.  
I made the observation that you are not happy.

**ongoing** *adj.* continuing  
*Syn.* current

The tutoring project is an ongoing program of the school.  
Maintaining roads is an ongoing job.

**propose** v. to suggest or plan to do something  
n. proposal *Syn.* suggest  
n. proposition  
adj. proposed

The governor is going to propose new taxes.  
Her proposal was well accepted.

**restore** v. to give back or bring back something; to  
n. restoration return to the original condition  
adj. restored *Syn.* revitalize  
He restored my confidence in him.  
It is a beautiful restoration of the old table.

**vital** *adj.* of great importance, full of life  
n. vitality *Syn.* indispensable  
adv. vitally  
Money is vital to the success of the program.  
His intense vitality was easily observable.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                          |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. indispensable<br>(A) abrupt<br>(B) abroad<br>(C) vital<br>(D) frail   | 6. observe<br>(A) alter<br>(B) notice<br>(C) anticipate<br>(D) modify               |
| 2. restore<br>(A) appeal<br>(B) revitalize<br>(C) attract<br>(D) disrupt | 7. intense<br>(A) strong<br>(B) intolerant<br>(C) vitally<br>(D) allowable          |
| 3. conform<br>(A) annoy<br>(B) divide<br>(C) encourage<br>(D) adapt      | 8. enrich<br>(A) alter<br>(B) dispense<br>(C) disrupt<br>(D) enhance                |
| 4. notice<br>(A) observe<br>(B) refine<br>(C) distribute<br>(D) analyze  | 9. unbearable<br>(A) inspiring<br>(B) unfavorable<br>(C) intolerable<br>(D) ancient |
| 5. current<br>(A) energetic<br>(B) ideal<br>(C) ongoing<br>(D) intense   | 10. proposal<br>(A) question<br>(B) attention<br>(C) benefit<br>(D) suggestion      |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase

1. The composition of heavenly bodies can be discovered by analyzing the light they emit.

- (A) detecting
- (B) examining
- (C) intensifying
- (D) observing

2. In 1985, the Coca-Cola Company altered the secret formula of the drink's ingredients.

- (A) modified
- (B) proposed
- (C) enriched
- (D) restored

3. Aside from simply being annoying, loud noises can permanently damage the ear.

- (A) unwelcome
- (B) bothersome
- (C) detected
- (D) intolerable

4. Building construction is an ancient human activity.

- (A) an old
- (B) a vital
- (C) an ongoing
- (D) a contemporary

5. Manitoba's leaders anticipated the changing economic environment during the early part of the twentieth century.

- (A) welcomed
- (B) predicted
- (C) made use of
- (D) conformed to



## **LESSON 4**

ambiguous    apparent    arbitrary    assert    astounding  
astute    authorize    deceptively    determined    elicit  
forbid    petition    relinquish    resilient    tempt

---

**ambiguous** *adj.* of unclear meaning, something that can be understood in more than one way

*adv.* ambiguously

*n.* ambiguity

*Syn.* vague

The men received an ambiguous message from their boss.

His letter was full of ambiguities.

**apparent** *adj.* to be clear in meaning or open to view, easily understood

*adv.* apparently

*Syn.* visible

It was apparent that he needed to rest.

No one apparently knew to solve the problem.

**arbitrary** *adj.* an action or decision made with little thought, order, or reason

*adv.* arbitrarily

*n.* arbitrariness

*Syn.* haphazard

Her choice of clothing seemed arbitrary.

The teacher arbitrarily decided to give the class a test.

**assert** *n.* to express or defend oneself strongly, to state positively

*adv.* assertively

*n.* assertiveness

*n.* assertion

*Syn.* declare

*adj.* assertive

The government asserted its control over the banking system.

The company president is an assertive individual.

**astounding** *adj.* very surprising

*v.* astound

*Syn.* astonishing

*adv.* astoundingly

The scientists made an astounding discovery.

The fans were astounded by their team's success.

**astute** *adj.* very intelligent, smart, clever

*adj.* astutely

*n.* astuteness

*Syn.* perceptive

He was an astute worker, finishing in half the time it took the others to finish.

They astutely determined that there would be no chance to finish on time.

**authorize** v. to give permission or power to do something  
adj. authorized  
n. authority

*Syn.* empower

Only authorized employees are allowed in the laboratory.

The dean has the authority to resolve academic problem of students.

**deceptively** *adv.* to make someone think that something is true or good when it is false or bad  
adj. deceptive  
v. deceive  
n. deception  
*Syn.* misleadingly

The magician deceptively made the rabbit disappear.

Richard deceived Joe about the cost of the coat.

**determined** *adj.* to be strong in one's opinion, to be firm in conviction  
n. determination  
v. determine  
*Syn.* resolute

They were determined to go to graduate school.

The judge determined that the man was lying.

**elicit** v. to get the facts, to draw out, to evoke  
n. elicitation  
*Syn.* extract

A lawyer will elicit all the facts necessary to prove her case.

Elicitation of the truth can be difficult at times.

**forbid** v. to command not to do something  
adj. forbidden  
adj. forbidding  
adv. forbiddingly  
to have a dangerous look, bad feeling  
*Syn.* ban

His father will forbid him to use the car.

The cave looks forbidding let's not go in.

**petition** v. to make a request  
n. petition  
*Syn.* appeal

Canada petitioned the United Nations to consider its case.

The student's petition was denied.

**relinquish** v. to give up control  
n. relinquishment  
*Syn.* abdicate

The troubled executive relinquished his control of the company.

The relinquishment of his claim to the building will allow the building to be sold.

**resilient** *adj.* strong enough to recover from difficulty or

adv. resiliently

disease

n. resilience

*Syn.* tenacious

She has a resilient personality and will soon feel better.

The doctor was surprised by his patient's resilience.

**tempt**

v. to make it attractive to do something

adv. temptingly

wrong

n. temptation

adj. tempting

*Syn.* entice

The idea of getting rich quickly tempted him to invest his life savings.

Desserts are more tempting when one is on a diet.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                                    |                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. appeal<br>(A) detect<br>(B) assert<br>(C) petition<br>(D) allow                 | a. misleadingly<br>(A) abruptly<br>(B) deceptively<br>(C) progressively<br>(D) truly |
| 2. astounding<br>(A) celebrated<br>(B) astonishing<br>(C) visible<br>(D) energetic | 7. resolute<br>(A) determined<br>(B) perfect<br>(C) renown<br>(D) perceptive         |
| 3. ban<br>(A) forbid<br>(B) empower<br>(C) intensify<br>(D) restore                | 8. resilient<br>(A) bothersome<br>(B) vital<br>(C) unbearable<br>(D) tenacious       |
| 4. elicit<br>(A) declare<br>(B) authorize<br>(C) conform<br>(D) extract            | 9. tempt<br>(A) entice<br>(B) divide<br>(C) discourage<br>(D) notice                 |
| 5. abdicate<br>(A) relinquish<br>(B) alter<br>(C) encourage<br>(D) heighten        | 10. vague<br>(A) intolerable<br>(B) adverse<br>(C) beautiful<br>(D) ambiguous        |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Not until 1946 did the world chess governing body, FIDE, assert its control over international championship play.

- (A) declare
- (B) relinquish
- (C) petition
- (D) decrease

2. All classifications of human societies and cultures are arbitrary.

- (A) useful
- (B) haphazard
- (C) insufficient
- (D) ambiguous

3. Paul Newman's apparently effortless acting skill has enabled him to play a variety of characters.

- (A) seemingly
- (B) extremely
- (C) visibly
- (D) deceptively

4. The Monroe Doctrine authorized the United States to intervene in the affairs of Latin American countries in case of foreign invasion.

- (A) empowered
- (B) forbade
- (C) elicited
- (D) tempted

5. J. Edgar Hoover was an astute professional who served as director of the FBI for 48 years.

- (A) perceptive
- (B) resilient
- (C) astounding
- (D) determined

## LESSON 5

amaze    baffle    bear    block    blur    brilliant  
caution    challenge    delicate    enhance    intrigue  
persuade    replace    shed    unique

<b>amaze</b>	<i>v.</i> to fill with great surprise
<i>adv.</i> amazingly	<i>Syn.</i> astonish
<i>n.</i> amazement	
<i>adj.</i> amazing	

I was amazed that I received an A on the calculus test.  
The actor gave an amazing performance.

<b>baffle</b>	v. to confuse to a point at which no
adj. baffling	progress can be made
n. bafflement	<i>Syn.</i> puzzle

The causes of many harmful diseases have baffled doctors for centuries.  
That was a baffling question.

<b>bear</b>	v. to produce, to carry; to show; to endure
adj. bearably	
adj. bearable	<i>Syn.</i> yield

This orchard bears many fine harvests of apples.  
Although stock prices declined, losses have been bearable for most investors.

<b>block</b>	v. to prevent movement progress, or success
n. blockage	
adj. blocked	<i>Syn.</i> obstruct

The government blocked the sale of the airline.  
The streets were flooded due to a blockage in the pipes.

<b>blur</b>	v. to make something difficult to see
adj. blurred	<i>Syn.</i> cloud
n. blur	

The rain blurred everyone's view of the valley.  
The whole accident is just a blur in my mine.

<b>brilliant</b>	<i>adj.</i> intensely bright or colorful, intelligent
adv. brilliantly	<i>Syn.</i> radiant
n. brilliance	

Einstein was a brilliant thinker.  
She brilliantly produced a solution to the problem.

**caution** v. to alert someone of danger, the act of

adj. cautious                      taking care of, or paying attention to,  
adj. cautionary                   something  
adv. cautiously  
n. caution                      *Syn.* warn

The office cautioned the motorist to slow down.

They entered into the negotiations cautiously.

**challenge**                      *n.* an invitation to complete, something that  
adj. challenging                   demands competitive action or much thought  
v. challenge                      *Syn.* dare

Finishing the 26-mile race was a challenge for most of the participants.

It was a challenging math problem.

**delicate**                      *adj.* needing careful treatment, sensitive,  
adv. delicately                   easily broken  
                                         *Syn.* fragile

Because of its controversial nature, it was a challenge to discuss such a delicate issue in public.

You must handle the antique delicately.

**enhance**                      *v.* to increase in a positive way, such as in  
n. enhancement                   value, power, or beauty  
adj. enhanced                      *Syn.* strengthen

Passing the exam should enhance your chances of being admitted to college.

The computer enhanced our productivity.

**intrigue**                      *a.* to interest greatly  
adj. intriguing                      *Syn.* fascinate  
adv. intriguingly  
n. intrigue

He was intrigued by the acclaim that he received.

The intriguing question baffled historians.

**persuade**                      *v.* to change a belief or behavior by  
adv. persuasively                   argument or reason  
adj. persuasive                      *Syn.* convince  
n. persuasion

They couldn't persuade their critics to see their point of view.

John presented a persuasive argument for his salary increase.

**replace**                      *v.* to change for another thing; to take  
adj. replaceable                   the place of  
n. replacement                   *Syn.* substitute

They have replaced all of the old office equipment.

The new employee was the replacement for Mr. Topper, who retired last month.

**shed**

*v.* to throw off naturally, to give out

*Syn.* discard

In order to grow, crabs must shed their shells.

The experiments shed no new information on the cause of the disease.

**unique**

*adj.* to be the only one of a kind; special

*adv.* uniquely

*Syn.* rare

*n.* uniqueness

He was presented with a unique opportunity to attend the conference.

His style of writing is uniquely his own.



## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                                |                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. confront<br>(A) astonish<br>(B) challenge<br>(C) petition<br>(D) forbid     | 6. convince<br>(A) assert<br>(B) persuade<br>(C) restore<br>(D) yield         |
| 2. obstruct<br>(A) warn<br>(B) tempt<br>(C) enhance<br>(D) block               | 7. Rare<br>(A) determined<br>(B) ideal<br>(C) vague<br>(D) unique             |
| 3. intrigue<br>(A) fascinate<br>(B) elicit<br>(C) intensify<br>(D) enrich      | 8. shed<br>(A) discard<br>(B) refine<br>(C) alter<br>(D) cloud                |
| 4. substitute<br>(A) advantage<br>(B) replacement<br>(C) blockage<br>(D) frail | 9. enhance<br>(A) entice<br>(B) strengthen<br>(C) relinquish<br>(D) encourage |
| 5. delicate<br>(A) ambiguous<br>(B) vital<br>(C) fragile<br>(D) resilient      | 10. puzzled<br>(A) advanced<br>(B) assertive<br>(C) baffled<br>(D) astute     |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Custer was cautioned by his advisors not to underestimate the strength of his opponent.

- (A) challenged
- (B) persuaded
- (C) known
- (D) warned

2. Bright feathers have been used for ornamentation since early times.

- (A) Long
- (B) Unique
- (C) Delicate
- (D) Brilliant

3. Telescopic images from outer space are often blurred by atmospheric conditions.

- (A) clouded
- (B) limited
- (C) enhanced
- (D) blocked

4. The narrow, green-grey leaves of the sweet alyssum are untoothed and usually bear many silvery hairs.

- (A) carry
- (B) yield
- (C) replace
- (D) hide

5. For many years, scientists were baffled by the small size of the atom.

- (A) amazed
- (B) limited
- (C) puzzled
- (D) fascinated

## LESSON 6

■ chiefly ■ coarse ■ commonplace ■ comparatively ■ complex  
■ conventional ■ curious ■ exceedingly ■ exclusively ■ immense  
■ indeed ■ rigid ■ routinely ■ sufficiently ■ visibly

---

**chiefly** *adv.* most importantly or most commonly  
*adj.* chief *Syn.* mostly  
Houses are made chiefly of wood products.  
Corn is the chief crop of the Midwest.

**coarse** *adj.* not fine or smooth, not delicate  
*adv.* coarsely *Syn.* rough  
*n.* coarseness  
Sandpaper is an extremely coarse material.  
Wool clothing has certain coarseness in texture.

**commonplace** *adj.* ordinary  
*Syn.* frequent  
Soon it will be commonplace to see the person to whom you are talking on the phone.  
Female lawyers are commonplace in the United States.

**comparatively** *adv.* being measured or judged by comparison  
*adj.* comparative *Syn.* relatively  
*v.* compare  
*n.* comparison  
It was comparatively easy for him to learn baseball because he had been a cricket player.  
If you compare algebra and trigonometry, you'll discover that algebra is less complex.

**complex** *adj.* difficult to understand or explain;  
*n.* complexity *having many parts*  
*Syn.* complicated  
The businessmen astutely approached the complex production problem.  
The universe has a complexity beyond comprehension.

**conventional** *adj.* following accepted rules or standards  
*adv.* conventionally *Syn.* traditional  
*n.* convention  
Professor Canfield agreed with the conventional theory about the origin of the Basque language.  
To become integrated into a society, you must learn the conventions of that society.

**curious** *adj.* odd or strange; eager to learn  
*adv.* curiously *Syn.* peculiar

n. curiosity

A curious object was discovered in the remains.

Sally was curiously interested in the history of Alaska.

**exceedingly**

*adv.* very; to an unusual degree

v. exceed

*Syn.* extremely

n. excess

adj. excessive

*adv.* excessively

In tropical zones, it is exceedingly hot and humid.

It is not safe to exceed the speed limit.

**exclusively**

*adv.* no one else; nothing else; not shared with others

adj. exclusive

n. exclusion

*Syn.* restrictively

v. exclude

This room is used exclusively by the faculty.

They excluded everyone under age 21 from the contest.

**immense**

*adj.* extremely large

*adv.* immensely

*Syn.* massive

n. immensity

From the mountaintop you can see the immense valley.

She was immensely interested in the idea of teaching a foreign language.

**indeed**

*adv.* certainly; really (used to make a statement stronger)

*Syn.* truly

Did he indeed go to the infirmary.

It is very hot indeed.

**rigid**

*adj.* not easy to bend; firm, inflexible

*adv.* rigidly

*Syn.* stiff

The teacher was very rigid in his ideas about class attendance.

He adhered rigidly to his opinions about marriage.

**routinely**

*adv.* regularly, usually done

adj. routine

*Syn.* ordinarily

n. routine

She routinely gets a physical examination.

It is routine for students to become homesick at times.

**sufficiently**

*adv.* enough, in a satisfying manner

n. sufficiency

*Syn.* adequately

adj. sufficient

v. suffice

Jenny is sufficiently mature to make her own decisions.

Her income is sufficient for her needs.

**visibly**

adj. visible

n. vision\*

v. view

adj. visionary\*

*adv.* can be seen

\* power of imagination or wisdom,  
especially with regard to the future

*Syn.* noticeably

Ken was visibly upset about his performance evaluation.

Stars are more visible on a clear fall evening.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. stiff  
(A) delicate  
(B) agile  
(C) rigid  
(D) astute

2. traditional  
(A) arbitrary  
(B) astounding  
(C) conventional  
(D) frequent

3. indeed  
(A) truly  
(B) albeit  
(C) abroad  
(D) only

4. curious  
(A) apparent  
(B) brilliant  
(C) peculiar  
(D) enhanced

5. adequately  
(A) sufficiently  
(B) deceptively  
(C) intensely  
(D) amazingly

6. immense  
(A) abrupt  
(B) massive  
(C) ongoing  
(D) complicated

7. exceedingly  
(A) resiliently  
(B) extremely  
(C) assertively  
(D) resolutely

8. visibly  
(A) noticeably  
(B) frequently  
(C) persuasively  
(D) encouragingly

9. ordinarily  
(A) restrictively  
(B) coarsely  
(C) cautiously  
(D) routinely

10. restrictively  
(A) exclusively  
(B) adversely  
(C) roughly  
(D) relatively

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Water is easily the most complex of all the familiar substances that are single chemical compounds.

- (A) conventional
- (B) curious
- (C) valuable
- (D) complicated

2. Contrary to popular opinion, the origin of the circus is comparatively recent, having little in common with ancient Roman circuses.

- (A) apparently
- (B) relatively
- (C) exceedingly
- (D) sufficiently

3. The cotton gin was commonplace on many nineteenth-century farms.

- (A) often required
- (B) sorely needed
- (C) frequently seen
- (D) visibly absent

4. Under the microscope, cultivated silk fibers look coarse.

- (A) rough
- (B) rigid
- (C) delicate
- (D) immense

5. The sweet potato is chiefly grown in the southern United States.

- (A) exclusively
- (B) mostly
- (C) rarely
- (D) successfully

## LESSON 7

■ appropriate ■ clarify ■ conceal ■ confirm ■ constantly  
■ convenient ■ core ■ critical ■ distort ■ diverse  
■ prosperous ■ purposefully ■ reveal ■ scarcely ■ theoretically

---

**appropriate** *adj.* correct or good for the purpose  
n. appropriateness *Syn.* proper  
adv. appropriately

It is not appropriate to cheat on tests.

She was dressed appropriately in a suit for the job interview.

**clarify** *v.* to make more easily understood, to  
n. clarification make clear  
*Syn.* explain

Chapter 2 in the textbook clarifies the process of osmosis.

A clarification of the government's position on this matter is necessary.

**conceal** *v.* to prevent from being seen or discovered  
n. concealment *Syn.* hide

The students concealed their feelings about the course.

His concealment of the evidence made his case more difficult to prove.

**confirm** *v.* to make certain, given support  
adj. confirmed *Syn.* prove  
n. confirmation

The director confirmed that the meeting would be on the tenth.

We have just received confirmation of your reservation on the flight to Los Angeles.

**constantly** *adv.* in an unchanging manner; happening all  
adj. constant the time  
*Syn.* continually

Philosophy constantly questions the nature of human existence.

The speed of light is constant at 186,000 miles a second.

**convenient** *adj.* easy to reach, near; suitable to one's needs  
adv. conveniently *Syn.* practical  
n. convenience

The student union is convenient to the physical sciences building.

For the convenience of the student body, the library is located in a central location.

**core** *adj.* the central or most important part  
n. core *Syn.* chief

The core of the curriculum consists of courses that are required of all students.

They are loyal to the core.



**critical**

v. critique  
n. criticism  
n. critic

adv. critically

*adj.* very serious or requiring careful judgment; finding fault  
*Syn.* dangerous

It is critical to follow the directions for the experiment exactly as the instructor indicates.

The runner accepted criticism from his coach very well.

**distort**

adj. distorted  
n. distortion

*v.* to change from the original shape or condition, usually in an unnatural way  
*Syn.* deform

Time and space are distorted when traveling at the speed of light.

Distortion of the image from a microscope can be caused by low light.

**diverse**

adv. diversely  
n. diversity  
v. diversify

*adj.* various; distinct from others  
*Syn.* Different

Freud had many diverse interests in psychology.

The diversity of life forms on Earth makes zoology an interesting area of study.

**prosperous**

adv. prosperously  
v. prosper  
n. prosperity

*adj.* successful, wealthy  
*Syn.* thriving

In the early 1900s, San Francisco was a prosperous city.

Bacteria prosper under the proper conditions.

**purposefully**

adj. purposeful  
adv. purposely  
n. purpose

*adv.* done for a special reason  
*Syn.* deliberately

The course syllabus was designed purposefully to be easy to follow.

He was authorized to spend the money for business purposes.

**reveal**

adv. revealingly  
adj. revealing  
n. revelation

*v.* to uncover, to expose  
*Syn.* disclose

The president revealed some of his ideas before he gave his speech.

The report made some revelations about the nature of the conflict.

**scarcely**

adj. scarce

*adv.* almost not  
*Syn.* hardly

n. scarcity

The woman scarcely spoke a word of English.

Due to a scarcity of water, a rationing plan was established.

**theoretically**

*adv.* according to a reasoned, but not

*adj.* theoretical

proven, point of view

n. theory

*Syn.* hypothetically

v. theorize

His argument was theoretically appealing but not realistic.

Leonardo da Vinci theorized that the Earth was not the center of the universe.

## Matching

Choose the synonym.

1. deform

- (A) hide
- (B) distort
- (C) amaze
- (D) block

2. scarcely

- (A) delicately
- (B) visibly
- (C) continually
- (D) hardly

3. proper

- (A) appropriate
- (B) practical
- (C) rigid
- (D) complex

4. clarify

- (A) shed
- (B) enhance
- (C) explain
- (D) elicit

5. dangerous

- (A) chief
- (B) deceptive
- (C) critical
- (D) routine

6. thriving

- (A) prosperous
- (B) resilient
- (C) convenient
- (D) tolerable

7. purposefully

- (A) comparatively
- (B) deliberately
- (C) constantly
- (D) sufficiently

8. different

- (A) noticeable
- (B) diverse
- (C) conventional
- (D) curious

9. hypothetically

- (A) exceedingly
- (B) haphazardly
- (C) theoretically
- (D) routinely

10. reveal

- (A) disclose
- (B) baffle
- (C) conceal
- (D) confirm

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the under-lined word or phrase.

1. Industrial cities appeared after the full development of industrial capitalism in the core nation-states of the eighteenth century.

- (A) chief
- (B) prosperous
- (C) smallest
- (D) diverse

2. For calculating a calendar, it is convenient to use the tropical solar year.

- (A) practical
- (B) critical
- (C) necessary
- (D) appropriate

3. All things consist of atoms and molecules that are constantly in motion.

- (A) definitely
- (B) always
- (C) hardly
- (D) uniquely

4. Fossil evidence confirms that the ancient cuttlefish has existed in its present form for more than 20 million years.

- (A) proves
- (B) suggests
- (C) clarifies
- (D) reveals

5. The first swimsuit concealed the shape of the human body.

- (A) hid
- (B) flattered
- (C) distorted
- (D) revealed

## LESSON 8

■ accelerate ■ crack ■ create ■ creep ■ crush ■ cultivate  
■ dictate ■ distinguish ■ flaw ■ harvest  
■ mirror ■ obtain ■ particle ■ settle ■ transport

---

### **accelerate**

v. to go faster  
n. acceleration  
n. accelerator  
*Syn.* hasten

The action of molecules accelerates when they are heated.  
The poor condition of the motor made acceleration difficult.

### **crack**

n. a thin opening caused by breaking, a flaw  
v. crack  
*Syn.* fracture

Cracks in the ice allowed for fishing.  
The wall cracked due to poor construction.

### **create**

v. to make something new  
adj. creative  
adv. creatively  
n. creation  
n. creator  
n. creativity  
n. creativeness  
*Syn.* produce

Thomas Edison created numerous inventions.  
Jonas Salk was an extremely creative scientist.

### **creep**

v. to move slowly and quietly close to the ground; to begin to happen  
adj. creeping  
*Syn.* crawl

Some mistakes are beginning to creep into his work.  
Ivy is a creeping variety of plant.

### **crush**

v. to press together so as to completely distort the shape or nature of the object  
adj. crushing  
n. crush  
*Syn.* grind

The machine crushes corn to produce corn meal.  
Passage of the legislation was a crushing blow to the president's program.

### **cultivate**

v. to plant and raise a crop; to encourage growth of a relationship or friendship  
adj. cultivated  
n. cultivation  
*Syn.* grow

The professionals had common interests that allowed them to cultivate a working relationship with each other.  
The cultivation of diverse crops in pre-Columbian America is well documented.

**dictate** v. to state demands with the power to enforce  
adj. dictatorial *Syn.* impose  
n. dictator

The workers were not in a position to dictate demands to management.  
His boss resembled a dictator.

**distinguish** v. to hear, see, or recognize differences  
adj. distinguishable *Syn.* discriminate  
adj. distinguished  
adj. distinguishing

Some people cannot distinguish colors well.  
Anteaters are distinguished by their long noses.

**flaw** n. a small sign of damage that makes an  
adj. flawed item imperfect  
*Syn.* defect

There is a flaw in his theory.  
They noticed that the contract was flawed.

**harvest** n. the act of collecting a crop; the crops  
adj. harvested gathered  
v. harvest *Syn.* gather

The United States had a comparatively good grain harvest this year.  
They were able to harvest the crop before the rain.

**mirror** v. to show, as in a mirror  
n. mirror *Syn.* reflect

The results of the study mirror public opinion.  
The strength of the economy is mirrored in the standard of living of the people.

**obtain** v. to gain or secure something  
adj. obtainable *Syn.* gain

The university obtained a new particle accelerator.  
The painting by Whistler was not obtainable.

**particle** n. a very small piece of something  
*Syn.* fragment

Particles of dust can destroy electronic instruments.  
Small particles of matter hold the keys to understanding the origin of life.

**settle** v. to establish a home; to resolve a  
adj. settled disagreement  
n. settlement *Syn.* colonize

People arriving from the south settled in California.

The lawyers settled their differences and came to an agreement.

**transport**

v. to move from one place to another

adj. transportable

*Syn.* carry

adj. transported

n. transportation

Flying is not always the fastest way to transport passengers to their destination.

The transportation expenses of products increase their final cost.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. flaw  
(A) particle  
(B) agile  
(C) defect  
(D) creation

2. dictate  
(A) transport  
(B) create  
(C) grow  
(D) impose

3. hasten  
(A) crawl  
(B) crush  
(C) conceal  
(D) accelerate

4. crop  
(A) harvest  
(B) advice  
(C) mirror  
(D) settlement

5. fragment  
(A) authorization  
(B) particle  
(C) cultivation  
(D) advantage

6. transport  
(A) reveal  
(B) carry  
(C) clarify  
(D) restore

7. obtain  
(A) gain  
(B) allow  
(C) baffle  
(D) assert

8. discriminate  
(A) enhance  
(B) persuade  
(C) distinguish  
(D) distort

9. reflect  
(A) mirror  
(B) confirm  
(C) produce  
(D) grind

10. colonize  
(A) crawl  
(B) cultivate  
(C) replace  
(D) settle



## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the under-lined word or phrase.

1. Corn and soybeans are cultivated on Maryland's eastern shore.  
(A) grown  
(B) found  
(C) cooked  
(D) acquired
2. Querns have been used for centuries to crush grains.  
(A) harvest  
(B) transport  
(C) grind  
(D) distinguish
3. Rows of suction-like tube feet enable the starfish to creep along the ocean floor.  
(A) crawl  
(B) feed  
(C) race  
(D) settle
4. In the 1930s, the poor business environment created a lack of confidence in the economy.  
(A) dictated  
(B) produced  
(C) mirrored  
(D) accelerated
5. The vivid colors of the opal are produced by impurities or small cracks in the stone.  
(A) particles  
(B) fractures  
(C) flaws  
(D) dents

## LESSON 9

■ accurate ■ classify ■ currency ■ deep ■ dense  
■ depend on ■ dim ■ display ■ exports ■ gigantic  
■ impressive ■ lasting ■ treasury ■ uniform ■ vibrant

---

### accurate

adv. accurately  
n. accuracy

*adj.* careful and exact

*Syn.* precise

She was able to make accurate observations with the new telescope.  
Experiments must be conducted with accuracy.

### classify

adj. classified  
n. classification

*v.* to place into groups according to type

*Syn.* arrange

Biologists classify life forms into many phyla.  
The library's catalog is a classification of books in the library.

### currency

*n.* monetary unit

*Syn.* money

The purchase must be paid for in the national currency.  
The French currency is gaining strength.

### deep

adv. deeply  
n. depth  
*v.* deepen

*adj.* far below the surface; complete understanding

*Syn.* thorough

Lake Baikal is the deepest lake in the world.  
The depth of his understanding of math is remarkable.

### dense

adv. densely  
n. density

*adj.* closely packed or crowded, difficult to see through

*Syn.* thick

The boating accident was caused by the dense fog.  
Hong Kong is one of the most densely populated cities in the world.

### depend on

adv. dependably  
adj. dependable  
n. dependence  
n. dependency  
n. dependent

*v.* to count on; to be supported by

*Syn.* trust

The farmers depend on rain to produce a good harvest.  
His dependency on alcohol destroyed his marriage.

**dim** *adj.* not bright or clear  
adv. dimly *Syn.* faint  
v. dim  
n. dimness

The light was too dim for studying.  
The stars dimly lit the evening sky.

**display** v. to show, reveal  
n. display *Syn.* exhibit  
The model displayed the details of the human hand.  
The candidate's display of anger was unfortunate.

**exports** n. products sold abroad  
adj. exported *Syn.* foreign sales  
v. export  
Until recently the United States' exports exceeded its imports.  
Exported goods are usually high in quality.

**gigantic** *adj.* very large  
adv. gigantically *Syn.* enormous  
Reaching the Moon was a gigantic step in space exploration for mankind.  
New methods of farming offer gigantic advantages over the old methods.

**impressive** *adj.* causing admiration because of an  
adv. impressively object's importance, size, or quality  
v. impress *Syn.* imposing  
n. impression  
Lincoln's power of persuasion was impressive.  
Everyone left with a good impression of the play.

**lasting** *adj.* forever, without end  
v. last *Syn.* enduring  
Kennedy left a lasting impression on the people who heard his inaugural address.  
The introduction of robots will have a lasting effect on industry.

**treasury** n. the agency that controls and spends  
adj. treasured money; a collection of valued things  
v. treasure *Syn.* bank  
The treasury was under pressure to lower interest rates.  
Encyclopedias are a treasury of information.

**uniform** *adj.* every part being the same.  
adv. uniformly *Syn.* consistent  
n. uniformity  
Bread has a uniform texture.

The grades on the test were uniformly poor.

**vibrant**

adv. vibrantly

n. vibrancy

*adj.* lively, powerful, full of action, bright

*Syn.* brilliant

His vibrant personality made him well liked by everyone.

The vibrancy of the city is attractive to many individuals.

## **MATCHING**

Choose the synonym.

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. enormous      | 6. uniform     |
| (A) prosperous   | (A) rigid      |
| (B) appropriate  | (B) diverse    |
| (C) gigantic     | (C) complex    |
| (D) classified   | (D) consistent |
| <br>             |                |
| 2. foreign sales | 7. bank        |
| (A) flaws        | (A) fragment   |
| (B) money        | (B) treasury   |
| (C) treasury     | (C) settle     |
| (D) exports      | (D) advent     |
| <br>             |                |
| 3. vibrant       | 8. lasting     |
| (A) brilliant    | (A) enduring   |
| (B) critical     | (B) enriching  |
| (C) paint        | (C) energetic  |
| (D) deep         | (D) enhancing  |
| <br>             |                |
| 4. depend on     | 9. precise     |
| (A) distort      | (A) accurate   |
| (B) trust        | (B) gigantic   |
| (C) settle       | (C) thick      |
| (D) conceal      | (D) prosperous |
| <br>             |                |
| 5. imposing      | 10. classify   |
| (A) impressive   | (A) trust      |
| (B) creative     | (B) learn      |
| (C) intriguing   | (C) create     |
| (D) ambiguous    | (D) arrange    |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the under-lined word or phrase.

1. In the field of artificial intelligence, scientists study methods for developing computer programs that display aspects of intelligent behavior.

- (A) exhibit
- (B) classify
- (C) depend on
- (D) conform to

2. The dim appearance of the Milky Way results from the combined light of stars too far away to be seen with the naked eye.

- (A) faint
- (B) unique
- (C) immense
- (D) curious

3. Thistle plants have dense heads of small, pink or purple flowers.

- (A) gigantic
- (B) fragile
- (C) thick
- (D) vibrant

4. No deep understanding of the solar system can be achieved without an appreciation of the basic properties of the Sun.

- (A) accurate
- (B) lasting
- (C) thorough
- (D) uniform

5. The value of a nation's currency normally fluctuates, depending upon the strength of its economy and its trade balance.

- (A) exports
- (B) money
- (C) products
- (D) treasury

## LESSON 10

■ distinct ■ dominant ■ dormant ■ drab ■ dramatic  
■ elaborate ■ exceptional ■ hazardous ■ minuscule ■ prime  
■ rudimentary ■ sensitive ■ superficial ■ terrifying ■ vigorous

---

### **distinct**

adv. distinctly  
adj. distinctive  
n. distinct

*adj.* clearly noticed; different

*Syn.* definite

There was a distinct aroma of coffee in the restaurant.

The two theories are distinctly different from each other.

### **dominant**

adv. dominantly  
v. dominate  
n. domination

*adj.* primary or principal; having or exercising control over something

*Syn.* major

The dominant life forms of the paleozoic era lived in the water.

The skyscraper dominated the skyline.

### **dormant**

n. dormitory

*adj.* not growing or producing; asleep

*Syn.* inactive

The volcano had been dormant for hundreds of years before the eruption last month.

The seniors live in the new dormitory.

### **drab**

adv. drably  
n. drabness

*adj.* lacking color; uninteresting, boring

*Syn.* colorless

Their clothing was quite drab.

The drabness of the desert made driving less interesting.

### **dramatic**

adv. dramatically  
n. drama  
v. dramatize

*adj.* something that captures the imagination; exciting

*Syn.* emotional

The dramatic finish to the game left us speechless.

The hurricane dramatically changed the coastline.

### **elaborate**

adv. elaborately  
v. elaborate  
n. elaboration

*adj.* something with a large number of parts; full of details

*Syn.* complex

An elaborate headdress indicated rank within the Aztec community.

His elaboration of the issue was quite thorough.

**exceptional** *adj.* unusual in a positive way  
adv. exceptionally *Syn.* phenomenal  
The orchestra's performance was exceptional.  
The North Star is exceptionally bright.

**hazardous** *adj.* very risky, unsafe  
adv. hazardously *Syn.* dangerous  
n. hazard  
Handling flammable liquids is hazardous.  
There are many hazards involved with starting a business.

**minuscule** *adj.* of little consequence; very small  
adj. minute *Syn.* tiny  
n. minitia  
The sale of the building had a minuscule effect on the profits of the corporation.  
Some leaves are covered with minute hairs.

**prime** v. to make ready;  
adj. primed \* first in importance or in time  
adj. prime\*  
n. prime *Syn.* prepare  
The directors primed the actors before the performance.  
Mozart passed away in the prime of his life.

**rudimentary** *adj.* simple; not complex  
n. rudiment *Syn.* basic  
He has a rudimentary knowledge of computers.  
The rudiments of grammar are taught in all English classes.

**sensitive** *adj.* easily affected  
adv. sensitively *Syn.* delicate  
n. sensitivity  
Film varies according to its sensitivity to light.  
This equipment is very sensitive to changes in temperature.

**superficial** *adj.* simple; not deep; near the surface  
adv. superficially *Syn.* shallow  
The inspector determined that the crack in the bridge was only superficial.  
You should not try to answer the question superficially.

**terrifying** *adj.* filled with fear  
adv. terrifyingly *Syn.* frightening  
v. terrify  
To be in a violent storm is a terrifying experience.



They are terrified by dogs.

**vigorous**

*adj.* powerful, full of action

*adv.* vigorously

*Syn.* strong

*n.* vigor

His vigorous defense of the issues impressed everyone.

He approached his work with vigor.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. exceptional  
(A) dominant  
(B) dense  
(C) phenomenal  
(D) acceptable

2. terrify  
(A) distort  
(B) frighten  
(C) challenge  
(D) settle

3. prepare  
(A) create  
(B) display  
(C) depend  
(D) prime

4. delicate  
(A) vibrant  
(B) distinct  
(C) diverse  
(D) sensitive

5. dangerous  
(A) hazardous  
(B) rigid  
(C) commonplace  
(D) intolerable

6. elaborate  
(A) gigantic  
(B) impressive  
(C) complex  
(D) dramatic

7. minuscule  
(A) tiny  
(B) dim  
(C) drab  
(D) major

8. superficial  
(A) emotional  
(B) lasting  
(C) shallow  
(D) curious

9. rudimentary  
(A) dormant  
(B) ideal  
(C) basic  
(D) arbitrary

10. vigorous  
(A) dominant  
(B) convenient  
(C) uniform  
(D) strong

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Because much collective behavior is dramatic and unpredictable, theories of such behavior are more evaluative than analytic.

- (A) hazardous
- (B) unexpected
- (C) terrifying
- (D) emotional

2. In contrast to their springtime nuptial plumage, many songbirds revert to a drab plumage during the winter.

- (A) sensitive
- (B) elaborate
- (C) different
- (D) colorless

3. A seed is dormant at the time it is shed by its parent.

- (A) primed
- (B) inactive
- (C) minuscule
- (D) harvested

4. The newspaper strip and the comic book represent the dominant graphic mythology of the twentieth century.

- (A) major
- (B) magical
- (C) familiar
- (D) routine

5. The vast majority of animals exhibit a distinct symmetrical form.

- (A) definite
- (B) superficial
- (C) familiar
- (D) rudimentary

## **LESSON 11**

■ amenity ■ destroy ■ disperse ■ dwelling ■ element  
■ elementary ■ eliminate ■ emphasize ■ encircle ■ erratic  
■ exaggerate ■ mention ■ pier ■ prevalent ■ release

---

**amenity** *n.* something that makes life easier or more enjoyable  
*Syn.* convenience

She had all the amenities of home when she went camping.  
One expects many amenities at a five-star hotel.

**destroy** *v.* to put an end to the existence of something  
*Syn.* ruin  
*adj.* destructive  
*adv.* destructively  
*n.* destructiveness  
*n.* destruction  
*n.* destroyer

The factory was destroyed by the fire.  
The destruction of the old landmark was opposed by a concerned group of citizens.

**disperse** *v.* to cause to move in many different directions  
*adj.* dispersed  
*Syn.* circulate

The high winds and rain dispersed the crowd.  
After the hurricane, dispersed belongings cluttered the street.

**dwelling** *n.* where people live  
*Syn.* house  
*n.* dweller  
*v.* dwell

Cave-like dwellings have been discovered throughout the world.  
City dwellers often have trouble adjusting to life in the country.

**element** *n.* a part of the whole  
*n.* element\*  
*adj.* elemental  
*Syn.* component

City dwellers are out of their element in the country.  
Hard work and perseverance are the basic elements of success.

**elementary** *adj.* simple in structure, easy to do  
*Syn.* primary

The solution to the problem was actually quite elementary.  
You must take Elementary Physics before you can enroll in the advanced course.

**eliminate** v. to remove, free oneself of something  
n. elimination  
adj. eliminated *Syn.* delete  
Mistakes must be eliminated before you hand in a term paper.  
The elimination of the runner from the race was decided by the judge.

**emphasize** v. to show that something is especially important or exceptional  
adj. emphatic  
n. emphasis  
adv. emphatically *Syn.* highlight  
The professor emphasized certain aspects of the historical period.  
When asked if they would like to leave class early, the students answered with an emphatic "yes".

**encircle** v. to make a circle around  
adj. encircled *Syn.* surround  
The players encircled their coach after winning the big game.  
The encircled celebrity actually became afraid of her fans.

**erratic** *adj.* no regular pattern in thinking or movement; changeable without reason  
adv. erratically *Syn.* inconsistent  
The artist's paintings have an erratic quality, some being excellent, and others mediocre.  
The unstable chemical reacted erratically.

**exaggerate** v. to make something more than what it is  
adj. exaggerated *Syn.* overstate  
n. exaggeration  
The federal government exaggerated the success of its programs.  
To say that his business is successful would be an exaggeration.

**mention** v. to say; relate in written form  
adj. mentioned *Syn.* remark  
n. mention  
Theater-goers often mention that they enjoy watching movies on a large screen.  
The book mentioned today was included in the bibliography that was handed out in class last week.

**pier** n. a place where boats arrive to take on or unload cargo and passengers  
*Syn.* dock  
The submarine arrived at the pier on time.  
The goods were unloaded onto the pier.

**prevalent***adj.* existing widely or commonly

n. prevalence

*Syn.* commonplace

Comfortable trade winds are prevalent in the Caribbean islands.

There is a prevalence of disease where poor sanitation conditions exist.

**release***v.* to allow to come out; to give freedom

n. release

*Syn.* free

A new movie was just released.

The release of the records was expected today.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. amenity  
(A) advice  
(B) convenience  
(C) element  
(D) emphasis

2. ruin  
(A) destroy  
(B) conform  
(C) forbid  
(D) baffle

3. mention  
(A) surround  
(B) remark  
(C) assert  
(D) clarify

4. emphasize  
(A) frighten  
(B) highlight  
(C) delete  
(D) persuade

5. exaggerate  
(A) impress  
(B) dominate  
(C) elaborate  
(D) overstate

6. disperse  
(A) circulate  
(B) classify  
(C) distort  
(D) encircle

7. release  
(A) free  
(B) replace  
(C) settle  
(D) block

8. inconsistent  
(A) destructive  
(B) emphatic  
(C) circulated  
(D) erratic

9. commonplace  
(A) elementary  
(B) rudimentary  
(C) prevalent  
(D) uniform

10. pier  
(A) depth  
(B) crack  
(C) dock  
(D) prime

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Kapok is made from the silky fibers that encircle the seeds of the tropical silk-cotton tree.

- (A) release
- (B) destroy
- (C) surround
- (D) circulate

2. Evidence suggests that the rumor process eliminates the most improbable accounts of an event.

- (A) elicits
- (B) deletes
- (C) emphasizes
- (D) exaggerates

3. The most elementary type of convection can be explained by the fact that heat rises.

- (A) Mentioned
- (B) erratic
- (C) prevalent
- (D) primary

4. The thermostat is an element in some types of fire detection devices.

- (A) a problem
- (B) an amenity
- (C) a component
- (D) an advantage

5. Poorly constructed dwellings cannot withstand severe storms.

- (A) Houses
- (B) piers
- (C) boats
- (D) roads



## **LESSON 12**

■ benefit ■ blind ■ broaden ■ burgeon ■ conspicuously  
■ demand ■ endorse ■ enormous ■ entirely ■ erode  
■ evaporate ■ recover ■ reportedly ■ shift ■ suffer

---

**benefit** v. to be useful or helpful  
adv. beneficially *Syn.* assist  
adj. beneficial  
n. benefit  
n. beneficiary

Use of solar power will benefit all mankind.  
It is extremely beneficial to prepare for a test.

**blind** *adj.* unable to see or understand, to conceal;  
adv. blindly showing poor judgment or understanding  
n. blindness *Syn.* unaware

They were blind to the fact that they had little chance to succeed.  
He went into the job blindly, with no previous experience.

**broaden** v. to make larger or greater  
adv. broadly *Syn.* enlarge  
adj. broad  
n. breadth

Education will broaden your opportunities to land a good job.  
The breadth of his knowledge is impressive.

**burgeon** v. grow at a fast pace  
adj. burgeoning *Syn.* thrive  
The burgeoning population of major cities is creating a demand for more services.  
His talent as a pianist burgeoned at the age of 14.

**conspicuously** *adv.* attracting attention  
adj. conspicuous *Syn.* noticeably  
His name was conspicuously absent from the list of winners.  
The attorneys were conspicuous for their aggressive manner in the courtroom.

**demand** v. to ask for something in a strong way  
adv. demandingly *Syn.* insist  
adj. demanding  
n. demand

She demanded to know the truth.  
The employees' demands for better working conditions caused the work stoppage.

**endorse** v. to express approval  
n. endorsement *Syn.* support

The union endorsed the new contract.

The president's endorsement of the project guaranteed its funding.

**enormous** *adj.* very large  
*adv.* enormously *Syn.* Tremendous  
n. enormity

His enormous wealth allows him to contribute to many charities.

A diet with many fruits and vegetables is enormously beneficial to the body.

**entirely** *adv.* completely  
*adj.* entire *Syn.* Thoroughly  
n. entirety

They are entirely right about the economy.

The president released the speech in its entirety before the news conference.

**erode** v. to wear away, disappear slowly  
n. erosion *Syn.* deteriorate

The senator's support is eroding because of his unpopular positions on the major issues.

It took millions of years of erosion for nature to form the Grand Canyon.

**evaporate** v. to vanish  
n. evaporation *Syn.* disappear

The chances of the two sides reaching an agreement have evaporated.

The evaporation of the funds was unexplainable.

**recover** v. to get back; to have something returned  
*adj.* recovered *Syn.* retrieve  
*adj.* recoverable  
n. recovery

The NASA team was unable to recover the space capsule.

The recovered objects had not been damaged.

**reportedly** *adv.* to know by report; unconfirmed; supposedly  
*adj.* reported *Syn.* Rumored  
v. report  
n. report

The students reportedly sent a representative, but she has not arrived yet.

The reported tornado has not been confirmed.

**shift** n. change in position or direction  
*adj.* shifting *Syn.* Switch  
v. shift

adj. shifty

The shift in the wind was helpful to the sailors.

Earthquakes are caused by shifting in layers of earth along faults.

**Suffer**

adj. suffering

n. suffering

n. sufferer

v. to experience difficulty; to worsen in  
quality; to experience pain

*Syn.* endure

The old man suffers from loss of memory.

Many families experience the suffering of difficult economic times.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                                                                                        |                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. benefit<br>(A) prosper<br>(B) demand<br>(C) assist<br>(D) distinguish               | 6. endure<br>(A) suffer<br>(B) erode<br>(C) release<br>(D) disappear            |
| 2. noticeably<br>(A) constantly<br>(B) enormously<br>(C) conspicuously<br>(D) broadly  | 7. broaden<br>(A) impress<br>(B) elicit<br>(C) reveal<br>(D) enlarge            |
| 3. rumored<br>(A) routinely<br>(B) purposefully<br>(C) comparatively<br>(D) reportedly | 8. switch<br>(A) enrich<br>(B) shift<br>(C) propose<br>(D) support              |
| 4. blind<br>(A) oblivious<br>(B) visible<br>(C) sensitive<br>(D) shifting              | 9. retrieve<br>(A) recover<br>(B) deteriorate<br>(C) disperse<br>(D) relinquish |
| 5. thrive<br>(A) exaggerate<br>(B) burgeon<br>(C) dominate<br>(D) endorse              | 10. insist<br>(A) demand<br>(B) mention<br>(C) disperse<br>(D) intrigue         |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the under-lined word or phrase.

1. The candidate's support evaporated after the announcement of his program reached the newspapers and televisions news programs.

- (A) burgeoned
- (B) suffered
- (C) broadened
- (D) disappeared

2. The president's popularity has eroded since the publication of a recent newspaper article.

- (A) recovered
- (B) shifted
- (C) intensified
- (D) deteriorated

3. The natural forest vegetation has entirely disappeared from the landscape.

- (A) slowly
- (B) reportedly
- (C) completely
- (D) conspicuously

4. Lightning is electricity that is discharged as an enormous spark, hitting the closest spot on the ground.

- (A) a mighty
- (B) a tremendous
- (C) a blinding
- (D) a terrifying

5. The trade unions worked hard for an agreement that would be endorsed by their members.

- (A) demanded by
- (B) supported by
- (C) attractive to
- (D) of benefit to

## LESSON 13

■ dignitary ■ crucial ■ elude ■ evident ■ exhaust  
■ extensive ■ extremely ■ face ■ facet ■ hero  
■ inaccessible ■ obviously ■ predictably ■ solve ■ suitable

---

**dignitary** *n.* a very important or famous person, usually associated with a high position in government  
*Syn.* notable

Every dignitary in Washington was invited to the wedding.  
All of the high ranking dignitaries attended the economic summit.

**crucial** *adj.* of great importance; extremely necessary  
*adv.* crucially *Syn.* critical  
Favorable weather is crucial to a good harvest.  
Having all the information necessary to make a good decision is crucially important.

**elude** *v.* to escape in a tricky way  
*adj.* elusive *Syn.* evade  
*n.* elusiveness  
The criminal has eluded the police for months.  
Success has been elusive for the team.

**Evident** *adj.* easy to see, usually because of some proof  
*adv.* evidently *Syn.* apparent  
*n.* evidence  
It is evident that you are not feeling.  
All the evidences point to the presence of hydrogen.

**exhaust** *v.* to use completely; to expend all energy;  
*adv.* exhaustively *very thorough*  
*adj.* exhaustive *Syn.* deplete  
*adj.* exhausting  
*adj.* exhausted  
*n.* exhaustion  
They exhausted their energy in 10 minutes.  
The exhaustive report was acclaimed by everyone.

**extensive** *adj.* large in area or number  
*adv.* extensively *\*to offer; to make longer.*  
*v.* extend\* *\*\* an extending; an additional part*  
*n.* extension *Syn.* comprehensive  
The extensive snowfall caused problems throughout the city.  
The professor extended a warm welcome to the new student.

**extremely***adv.* very; to the very end, the highest extent

adj. extreme

*Syn.* highly

adj. extremist

n. extreme

n. extremist

When the concert was canceled, some customers became extremely upset.

He will go to any extreme to get what he wants.

**face***v.* to be in the presence of an oppose*Syn.* confront

The mountain climbers faced grave danger on the cliff.

He finds it difficult to face his problems.

**Facet***n.* element or component

adj. faceted

*Syn.* aspect

The proposal had many beneficial facets.

It was a multi faceted problem that challenged the entire student body.

**hero***n.* a person remembered for an act of goodness or bravery*adv.* heroically

adj. heroic

*Syn.* idoln. heroine (*female*)

n. heroics

He is a hero in the eyes of his admirers.

They gave a heroic effort to no avail.

**inaccessible***adj.* something that cannot be reached or communicated with

n. inaccessibility

*adv.* inaccessibly*Syn.* remote

The summit of the mountain was inaccessible.

The dignitary's inaccessibility frustrated the reporter.

**obviously***adv.* in a clear, easy to understand way

adj. obvious

*Syn.* evidently

It had obviously rained.

It was obvious that he had not practiced his oral report.

**Predictably***adv.* in a way that foretells future events

adj. predictable

*Syn.* expectedly

v. predict

n. prediction

She predictably forgot to do her assignment.

The government's predictions were accurate.

**Solve***v.* to find the answer

n. solution

*Syn.* resolve

They solved the problem in a way that benefited the entire neighborhood.

The solution to the problem was elusive.

**Suitable**

*adj.* appropriate, correct; convenient

*adv.* suitably

*Syn.* appropriate

*v.* suit

Her dress was not suitable for the occasion.

The agreement suits all the members of the negotiating team.



## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. Solve  
(A) restore  
(B) resolve  
(C) confront  
(D) exhaust

2. Critical  
(A) prevalent  
(B) elusive  
(C) prime  
(D) crucial

3. Predictably  
(A) extremely  
(B) expectedly  
(C) conspicuously  
(D) extensively

4. Hero  
(A) idol  
(B) amenity  
(C) benefit  
(D) mention

5. Inaccessible  
(A) depleted  
(B) apparent  
(C) remote  
(D) enormous

6. Elude  
(A) erode  
(B) evade  
(C) endorse  
(D) enrich

7. Extensive  
(A) sensitive  
(B) impressive  
(C) comprehensive  
(D) disruptive

8. Celebrity  
(A) treasury  
(B) dignitary  
(C) element  
(D) dweller

9. Evidently  
(A) routinely  
(B) entirely  
(C) exceptionally  
(D) obviously

10. suitable  
(A) appropriate  
(B) annoying  
(C) ambiguous  
(D) astute

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Exacting standards and rigorous early training are evident where dance has become an art performed before an audience.

- (A) Emphasized
- (B) Suitable
- (C) Crucial
- (D) Apparent

2. It is known from past experience that ore deposits can be exhausted.

- (A) Depleted
- (B) Extensive
- (C) Elusive
- (D) Inaccessible

3. A preference for a certain color is and extremely personal matter.

- (A) A highly
- (B) An annoyingly
- (C) A fairly
- (D) An obviously

4. Once the English colonies became independent state, they faced the problem of giving themselves a fresh political organization.

- (A) eluded
- (B) solved
- (C) confronted
- (D) Anticipated

5. Pop art aimed to portray all facets of modern culture.

- (A) Heroes
- (B) Celebrities
- (C) Problems
- (D) Aspects

## LESSON 14

■ ample ■ arid ■ avoid ■ defy ■ enact ■ even ■ feign  
■ fertile ■ freshly ■ function ■ fundamental  
■ indiscriminate ■ selective ■ spacious ■ withstand

---

### ample

*adj.* more than enough  
*adv.* amply *Syn.* sufficient

There is ample evidence that the young man was speeding when the accident occurred.

She was amply paid for the work she completed.

### arid

*adj.* having little rain or water  
*Syn.* dry

The area known as the Sahara Desert is one of the most arid place in the world. The valley on the leeward side of the mountain was extremely arid.

### avoid

*v.* to miss or keep away from  
*adj.* avoidable *Syn.* avert  
*n.* avoidance

She could not avoid letting her feelings show.

The incident would have been avoidable if he had told the truth.

### defy

*v.* to show little fear or regard for rules or established norms; to challenge  
*adv.* defyingly  
*adj.* defying *Syn.* resist

I defy you to find that book in the library's collection.

The circus performer demonstrated her death - defying routine.

### enact

*v.* to pass a law  
*adj.* enacted *Syn.* Legislate  
*n.* enactment

Congress enacted the legislation during its last session.

The enactment of the laws was in the hands of the Senate.

### even

*adj.* regular, smooth; in equal parts  
*adv.* evenly *Syn.* Equitable  
*n.* evenness

The sound isn't even turn up the left speaker.

The profits were divided evenly among the investors.

### feign

*v.* to pretend, make believe  
*adj.* feigned *Syn.* simulate

She feigned illness when it was time to visit the dentist.

Her unhappiness was feigned.

**fertile**

v. fertilize  
n. fertility  
n. fertilizer

*adj.* able to produce abundantly

*Syn.* Rich

The delta areas of rivers are known for their fertile soil.

Fertilizers are used on crops to increase yields.

**freshly**

*adj.* fresh

v. freshen

n. freshness

*adv.* caught or produced not long ago

*Syn.* recently

Freshly harvested produce is hard to find in the winter months.

The product's freshness depends on an efficient transportation system to bring it to market.

**function**

*adv.* functionally

*adj.* functional

v. function

*n.* the normal purpose of something

*Syn.* Role

It is the function of the director to organize and lead the department.

Most appliances cannot function without electricity.

**fundamental**

*adv.* fundamentally

*adj.* a primary or basic element

*Syn.* essential

The student government promised fundamental changes in the registration process.

He is fundamentally strong in his area of expertise.

**indiscriminate**

*adv.* indiscriminately

*adj.* not chosen carefully; unplanned

*Syn.* arbitrary

The indiscriminate arrangement of the products made the store confusing.

The book's chapters seem to be organized indiscriminately.

**selective**

*adv.* selectively

*adj.* select

v. select

n. selection

n. selectivity

*adj.* carefully chosen

*Syn.* discriminating

They were very selective when they chose the members of the academic team.

He selected Spanish as his language class.

**spacious**

*adj.* spaciouly

n. space

n. spaciousness

*adj.* having a lot of room

*Syn.* expansive

The spacious plains of the Midwest make up the nation's breadbasket.

A vacuum is an empty space.

withstand

v. to fight without surrender; to persist

*Syn.* survive

She cannot withstand the pressures of her job.

The old building withstood the terrible storm.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. Sufficient  
(A) Crucial  
(B) Essential  
(C) Ample  
(D) Extensive

2. Survive  
(A) Erode  
(B) Weaken  
(C) Elude  
(D) Withstand

3. Defy  
(A) Resist  
(B) Demand  
(C) Simulate  
(D) Discriminate

4. Indiscriminate  
(A) Predictable  
(B) Arbitrary  
(C) Functional  
(D) Constant

5. Arid  
(A) dry  
(B) Fertile  
(C) Fresh  
(D) Drab

6. Avoid  
(A) Avert  
(B) Amaze  
(C) Assert  
(D) Allow

7. Selective  
(A) Inaccessible  
(B) Rich  
(C) Recent  
(D) Discriminating

8. Even  
(A) Fundamental  
(B) Erratic  
(C) Evident  
(D) Equitable

9. Spacious  
(A) Sensitive  
(B) Superficial  
(C) Minuscule  
(D) Expansive

10. legislate  
(A) Enact  
(B) Feign  
(C) Solve  
(D) Exhaust

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The Constitution of the United defines the fundamental rights of its citizens.

- (A) Essential
- (B) Selective
- (C) Enacted
- (D) Ample

2. Many organisms change their function from one season to another.

- (A) Diet
- (B) size
- (C) Role
- (D) Shape

3. Freshly cut wood must be completely dry before it can be used for construction.

- (A) Evenly
- (B) Haphazardly
- (C) Coarsely
- (D) Recently

4. Due to large deposits of debris left by glaciers, the midwestern plain of the United States is an extremely fertile area for farming.

- (A) Level
- (B) Rich
- (C) Spacious
- (D) Arid

5. When threatened, the opossum often feigns death.

- (A) Simulates
- (B) Withstands
- (C) Avoids
- (D) Confronts

## LESSON 15

■ durable ■ favor ■ gain ■ generate ■ halt ■ handle  
■ harbor ■ harmful ■ insignificant ■ mysterious  
■ perilous ■ postpone ■ promote ■ reject ■ substantial

---

### **durable**

n. durability

n. duration

*adj.* something that lasts a long time

\* time during which something lasts

*Syn.* sturdy

It was a durable refrigerator, but it finally broke.

The durability of tires is a key factor in determining their quality.

### **favor**

adv. favorably

adj. favorable

adj. favorite

n. favor

*v.* to prefer

\* advantageous

*Syn.* support

The supervisor favored the first of the two plans.

The weather was favorable for the contest.

### **gain**

adj. gainful

n. gain

*n.* to obtain something needed or useful; to increase the amount of something

*Syn.* attain

He gained a lot of experience working as a volunteer.

His gain in knowledge was impressive.

### **generate**

adj. generated

n. generation

n. generator

*v.* to produce

*Syn.* create

The appearance of the dance troupe generated a lot of excitement.

The generator provides power to the building during a blackout.

### **halt**

adv. haltingly

adj. halting

n. halt

*v.* to stop or discontinue

*Syn.* stop

Bus service to the city was halted due to poor road conditions.

The supervisor put a halt to the tardiness of the employees.

### **handle**

n. handle

*v.* to deal with or control

*Syn.* manage

They handled themselves very well given the circumstances.

The president's handling of the crisis was widely applauded.



**harbor** v. to give protection; not to express a desire or opinion, usually bad  
*Syn.* shelter

He harbors ill feelings for her.  
They harbored the political refugee in their home.

**harmful** *adj.* something that causes pain or damage  
*Syn.* unhealthy  
adv. harmfully  
v. harm  
n. harm

Excessive radiation is harmful to the body.  
Bleach harms certain fabrics.

**insignificant** *adj.* not important; of little value  
*Syn.* Meaningless  
adv. insignificantly  
n. insignificance

The amount of rainfall this summer has been insignificantly.  
The insignificance of his comment became apparent with the passing of time.

**mysterious** *adj.* not easily understood or figured out  
*Syn.* baffling  
adv. mysteriously  
n. mystery  
n. mysteriousness

He had a mysterious effect on everyone who heard him speak.  
The man's disappearance was a mystery.

**perilous** *adj.* threatening or risky; harmful  
*Syn.* Dangerous  
adv. perilously  
n. peril

It is perilous to exceed the speed limit.  
There are ample perils in the sport of mountain climbing.

**postpone** v. reschedule at a later time; put off  
*Syn.* delay  
n. postponement

The teacher postponed the lab experiment.  
The postponement of the fight for three hours was unavoidable.

**promote** v. to encourage or advertise; to elevate in rank or grade  
*Syn.* boost  
n. promoter  
n. promotion

Many nations promote tourism to lure foreign currency.  
The customers responded favorably to the half-price promotion.

**reject** v. to refuse  
*Syn.* refuse  
n. rejection

The insurance company rejected the claim.

The rejection of his work was difficult for him to understand.

**substantial**

adv. substantial

adj. substantive

*adj.* important; strongly made; of value

*Syn.* significant

The discovery of a vaccine for smallpox was a substantial medical achievement.

This substantive article will change your opinion of rock music.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. favor

- (A) manage
- (B) support
- (C) feign
- (D) conform

2. halt

- (A) evaporate
- (B) avoid
- (C) defy
- (D) stop

3. postpone

- (A) attain
- (B) delay
- (C) harbor
- (D) elude

4. durable

- (A) ample
- (B) crucial
- (C) dominant
- (D) sturdy

5. create

- (A) generate
- (B) gain
- (C) release
- (D) solve

6. substantial

- (A) haphazard
- (B) diverse
- (C) significant
- (D) perilous

7. promote

- (A) shelter
- (B) boost
- (C) harm
- (D) face

8. mysterious

- (A) unhealthy
- (B) dangerous
- (C) dramatic
- (D) baffling

9. insignificant

- (A) meaningless
- (B) rudimentary
- (C) vigorous
- (D) spacious

10. refuse

- (A) recover
- (B) exhaust
- (C) reject
- (D) withstand

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Lindbergh's flight across the Atlantic was extremely perilous.  
(A) Exhausting  
(B) Expensive  
(C) Dangerous  
(D) Effective
2. Some toxic contaminants in urban water supplies have been found to occur in harmful amounts.  
(A) Substantial  
(B) Unhealthy  
(C) Insignificant  
(D) Mysterious
3. Presumably desolate desert and tundra areas actually harbor many forms of life.  
(A) Favor  
(B) Halt  
(C) Generate  
(D) Shelter
4. Modern commercial practice relies to a growing extent on arbitration to handle disputes.  
(A) Avoid  
(B) Manage  
(C) Postpone  
(D) Intensify
5. Martin Luther King gained recognition for his use of nonviolent methods.  
(A) Earned  
(B) Rejected  
(C) Enhanced  
(D) Promoted

## LESSON 16

■ conscientious ■ convey ■ encompass ■ expansion ■ heighten  
■ highlight ■ inadvertently ■ inevitable ■ infancy ■ miraculously  
■ retrieve ■ systematically ■ unlikely ■ unwarranted ■ zenith

---

### conscientious

adv. conscientiously

*adj.* showing serious purpose; one who works carefully and with enthusiasm  
*Syn.* meticulous

She is a conscientious representative of the student body.

They approached the task conscientiously.

### convey

*v.* to make something known to others; to communicate

*Syn.* communicate

The manager of the store conveyed his displeasure directly to the workers.

He was able to convey his message to the audience with ease.

### encompass

*v.* to surround completely; to envelop

*Syn.* include

Her plan of the study encompasses every aspect of computer science.

The course encompasses all the literature of the nineteenth century.

### expansion

*adj.* expandable

*v.* expand

*n.* expansion

*n.* the act of making larger

*Syn.* growth

Expansion occurs when matter is heated.

The laboratory is expanding its capacity to produce computer chips.

### heighten

*adj.* heightened

*n.* height

*v.* to cause to become greater

*Syn.* intensify

A very successful interview can heighten a candidate's chances to get a job.

The public was in a heightened state of nervousness as the hurricane approached.

### highlight

*n.* highlight

*v.* to emphasize the part of a greater whole

*Syn.* emphasize

The manual highlights basic operation of the videotape player.

The final goal was the highlight of the game.

### inadvertently

*adj.* inadvertent

*adv.* by accident; without paying attention; unexpectedly

*Syn.* carelessly

The reporters had inadvertently failed to include the name of one of the dignitaries.

His inadvertent calculation caused him to derive the wrong answer.

**inevitable** *adj.* something that cannot be prevented  
adv. inevitably from happening  
n. inevitability *Syn.* unavoidable

When two weather systems meet, unsettled weather conditions are inevitable.  
The inevitability of the outcome made the challenge less exciting.

**infancy** *n.* in the beginning stages of development  
adj. infantile *Syn.* beginning  
n. infant

The new theory is in its infancy and will be thoroughly tested by its critics.  
Certain head injuries can cause infantile behavior.

**miraculously** *adv.* caused by something that cannot be  
adj. miraculous explained by the laws of nature.  
n. miracle *Syn.* astonishingly

Miraculously, he was unharmed after being hit by lightning.  
Given the extent of her injuries, it is almost a miracle that she is still alive.

retrieve *v.* to find and bring back  
adj. retrieve *Syn.* recover  
n. retrieval

Will Detroit retrieve its status as the car manufacturing center of the world?  
This computerized information retrieval system is the most up-to-date system available.

**systematically** *adv.* done according to a plan  
adj. systematic *Syn.* methodically  
n. system

The plan was developed systematically by a team of experts.  
Systematic changes in foreign policy have been proposed.

**unlikely** *adj.* not probable  
*Syn.* doubtful

Rain is unlikely during the summer.  
It is unlikely that he will want to attend the conference.

**unwarranted** *adj.* without good reason or cause; inappropriate  
*Syn.* unjustified

His negative reaction was unwarranted.  
The motorist felt that the ticket for the infraction was unwarranted.

**zenith** *n.* the highest point

*Syn.* apex

He reached the zenith of his profession at a very young age.

The publication of the book represented the zenith of his career.

## **MATCHING**

Choose the synonym.

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. convey           | 6. encompass      |
| (A) intensify       | (A) emphasize     |
| (B) promote         | (B) gain          |
| (C) communicate     | (C) heighten      |
| (D) solve           | (D) include       |
| <br>                |                   |
| 2. unlikely         | 7. apex           |
| (A) suitable        | (A) facet         |
| (B) persistent      | (B) zenith        |
| (C) doubtful        | (C) pier          |
| (D) inevitable      | (D) flaw          |
| <br>                |                   |
| 3. growth           | 8. systematically |
| (A) expansion       | (A) unexpectedly  |
| (B) function        | (B) persuasively  |
| (C) highlight       | (C) astoundingly  |
| (D) recover         | (D) methodically  |
| <br>                |                   |
| 4. meticulously     | 9. unwarranted    |
| (A) haphazardly     | (A) insignificant |
| (B) conscientiously | (B) unjustified   |
| (C) inadvertently   | (C) unacceptable  |
| (D) conspicuously   | (D) unappealing   |
| <br>                |                   |
| 5. retrieve         | 10. miraculously  |
| (A) generate        | (A) exceedingly   |
| (B) recover         | (B) astonishingly |
| (C) accelerate      | (C) theoretically |
| (D) broaden         | (D) appropriately |



## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Great technological advances were made during the infancy of the United States' industrial growth.  
(A) Zenith  
(B) Expansion  
(C) Beginning  
(D) Recovery
2. Many cross-cultural communication difficulties can be attributed to inevitable blunders in behavior or speech.  
(A) Unwarranted  
(B) Unlikely  
(C) Unavoidable  
(D) Unpleasant
3. Teflon was inadvertently discovered by two scientists who were working with synthetic resins.  
(A) Unexpectedly  
(B) Miraculously  
(C) Systematically  
(D) Conscientiously
4. The sport of basketball highlights the athletic qualities of endurance, agility, and skill.  
(A) Demands  
(B) Encompasses  
(C) Emphasizes  
(D) Develops
5. Daniel Webster applied the oratorical skill he had mastered as a lawyer to heighten his appeal for an end to slavery.  
(A) Intensify  
(B) Convey  
(C) Retrieve  
(D) Popularize

## LESSON 17

■ agitate ■ confidential ■ delighted ■ discreetly ■ documented  
■ gradually ■ influence ■ inordinate ■ instantly ■ intentionally  
■ intrinsic ■ inundate ■ involve ■ nominal ■ presumably

---

### agitate

n. agitation  
n. agitator

v. to shake or move; to cause worry  
*Syn.* disturb

The fact that she had not arrived by midnight agitated her parents.  
He was known as a political agitator.

### confidential

v. confide  
adj. confidential  
adv. confidentially  
n. confidant

*adj.* to be said or written in secret  
*Syn.* secret

We were told that the information is strictly confidential.  
She confided to me that she had always wanted to be a movie star.

### delighted

adv. delightfully  
adj. delightful  
n. delight

*adj.* to be satisfied; very happy  
*Syn.* elated

He was delighted with the result of the experiment.  
It was a delightful afternoon.

### discreetly

adj. discreet  
n. discretion

*adv.* in a careful, polite manner  
*Syn.* cautiously

The teacher discreetly told the parents about her problems.  
You can count on me to be discreet.

### documented

adj. documentary  
v. document  
n. documentation

*adj.* proven with written evidence  
*Syn.* proven

He had documented proof that the bank had made an error.  
The car's documentation was in order.

### gradually

adj. gradual

*adv.* slowly but surely  
*Syn.* steadily

The bay has gradually deteriorated over the years.  
There has been a gradual change in the climate over the past decade.

### influence

v. to have an effect on a person's point of view

adj. influential                      or behavior; to change the course of events  
n. influence                      *Syn.* affect

He was unable to influence his friend's decision.

The drought was due to the influence of a warm water current called "el nino".

**inordinate**                      *adj.* a large amount or quality; more than  
adv. inordinately                      reasonable  
                                                 *Syn.* excessive

The airlines had to cancel an inordinate number of flights due to the fog.

There was an inordinately large number of whales off the coast.

**instantly**                      *adv.* happening immediately; in a short  
adj. instantaneous                      period of time  
adj. instant                      *Syn.* immediately  
n. instant

The computer finished the job instantly.

It happened in an instant.

**intentionally**                      *adv.* with definite purpose and planning  
adj. intentional                      *Syn.* deliberately  
n. intention  
n. intent

The machine was left on intentionally.

Her action was an indication of her good intentions.

**intrinsic**                      *adj.* belonging to the essential nature of  
adv. intrinsically                      something  
                                                 *Syn.* inherent

A penny has little intrinsic value.

The forests of the Northwest are intrinsically rich in natural resources.

**inundate**                      v. to flood  
n. inundation                      *Syn.* overwhelm

The radio stations were inundated with reports of a severe traffic accident.

The foundation experienced an inundation of requests for money.

**involve**                      v. to become concerned with or connected to  
adj. involved                      *Syn.* include  
n. involvement

She involved herself in many activities to meet new friends.

His involvement in right-wing politics is well documented.

**nominal**                      *adj.* very small; in form but not in substance  
adv. nominally                      *Syn.* moderate

The office building was sold at a nominal price.

She was nominally successful as an actress.

**presumably**

adj. presumable

v. presume

n. presumption

*adv.* reported but not confirmed

*Syn.* supposedly

The old wreck was presumably located to the southwest of Florida.

I presume that you have been camping before.

## **MATCHING**

Choose the synonym.

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. influence        | 6. discreetly     |
| (A) affect          | (A) obviously     |
| (B) include         | (B) cautiously    |
| (C) gain            | (C) unlikely      |
| (D) overwhelm       | (D) deceptively   |
| <br>                |                   |
| 2. secretly         | 7. agitate        |
| (A) conscientiously | (A) heighten      |
| (B) confidentially  | (B) reject        |
| (C) comparatively   | (C) inundate      |
| (D) constantly      | (D) disturb       |
| <br>                |                   |
| 3. documented       | 8. steadily       |
| (A) proven          | (A) evenly        |
| (B) intrinsic       | (B) uniquely      |
| (C) substantial     | (C) intentionally |
| (D) durable         | (D) immediately   |
| <br>                |                   |
| 4. nominal          | 9. presumably     |
| (A) moderate        | (A) supposedly    |
| (B) inherent        | (B) actually      |
| (C) inevitable      | (C) obviously     |
| (D) harmful         | (D) instantly     |
| <br>                |                   |
| 5. excessive        | 10. delighted     |
| (A) impressive      | (A) involved      |
| (B) lasting         | (B) elated        |
| (C) deliberate      | (C) overwhelm     |
| (D) inordinate      | (D) highlight     |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Modes of suggestion are usually verbal or visual and sometimes may involve the other senses.

- (A) Enhance
- (B) Influence
- (C) Include
- (D) Disrupt

2. After the War of the Worlds broadcast, law enforcement agencies were inundated by the numerous inquiries they received.

- (A) Agitated
- (B) Overwhelm
- (C) Astonished
- (D) Delighted

3. Nowadays coins lack intrinsic value and bills can no longer be converted to gold.

- (A) Inherent
- (B) Nominal
- (C) Documented
- (D) Inordinate

4. Because their presence can upset normal markets, some products with commercial potential are intentionally kept off the market-place.

- (A) Confidentially
- (B) Constantly
- (C) Arbitrarily
- (D) Deliberately

5. Anaximander argued that human beings are so helpless at birth that they would almost instantly die if put into the world on their own.

- (A) Gradually
- (B) Presumably
- (C) Immediately
- (D) Discreetly

## LESSON 18

■ absurd ■ abuse ■ allocation ■ balanced ■ conservation  
■ fallacious ■ feasible ■ lack ■ limber ■ means  
■ narrow ■ preconception ■ robust ■ steady ■ swift

---

### **absurd**

adv. absurdly

n. absurdity

*adj.* clearly false, without reason

*Syn.* ridiculous

Confidentially, I think his suggestion is absurd.

They are absurdly irrational about the issue.

### **abuse**

adv. abusively

adj. abusive

v. abuse

*n.* the act of using or treating things in an incorrect way

*Syn.* misuse

The constant abuse of the environment will have grave consequences in the future.

He received an abusive letter from an irate citizen.

### **allocation**

adj. allocated

v. allocate

*n.* a share; a part set aside for a special purpose; an assignment of portions

*Syn.* distribution

His allocation of materials was gradually used up.

Allocating office space in the building was a difficult task.

### **balanced**

v. balance

n. balance

*adj.* a state where everything is of the same size or weight; an element on one side

that counters an equal element on the other

*Syn.* equalized

He made a balanced presentation of both points of view.

The museum contains a pleasant balance of paintings from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

### **conservation**

v. conserve

n. conservative\*

n. conservationist

n. conservatism\*

*n.* the act of using carefully; setting aside for future use

\* favoring traditional values

*Syn.* preservation

Conservation of forest land is the primary objective of the National Forest Service.

The Republican party is generally known to be more conservative than the Democratic party.

### **fallacious**

adv. fallaciously

n. fallacy

*adj.* having errors

*Syn.* incorrect

Her fallacious argument could not be defended.  
It is a fallacy to think that money will bring you happiness.

**feasible** *adj.* able to be done  
*adv.* feasibly *Syn.* possible  
*n.* feasibility

It is a feasible design for the high-rise building.  
Before they begin the project, a study must be done of its feasibility.

**lack** *n.* a need for; an insufficient amount  
*v.* lack *Syn.* shortage

There was an inordinate lack of rain last fall.  
The mathematician lacked communication skills.

**limber** *adj.* to be stretched, easily shaped  
*Syn.* flexible

The dancer has a limber body.  
She was able to make the limber movements that are required of gymnasts.

**means** *n.* ways  
*Syn.* methods

He was told to finish the job by any means available to him.  
The most convenient means of communicating with someone is by phone.

**narrow** *adj.* small from one side to the other; limited  
*adv.* narrowly *Syn.* thin  
*n.* narrowness

The canal was extremely narrow.  
The driver narrowly escaped injury when his car went off the road.

**preconception** *n.* an opinion formed in advance without  
*adj.* preconceived *experience or knowledge of something*  
*v.* preconceive *Syn.* bias

It is difficult to overcome preconceptions if we are not open to new ideas.  
His preconceived notions about Los Angeles disappeared after he visited the city.

**robust** *adj.* showing good health; in good shape  
*adv.* robustly *Syn.* energetic  
*n.* robustness

The robust economy is expected to continue growing quickly.  
The new product is selling robustly.

**steady** *adj.* firm; in a fixed position; without change;  
*adv.* steadily *reliable, dependable*  
*v.* steady



n. steadiness

*Syn.* constant

Steady growth is projected for companies involved in genetic engineering.

The secretary has steadily earned respect for her work.

**swift**

*adj.* quick

adv. swiftly

*Syn.* fast

n. swiftness

The contestants were swift thinkers.

They swiftly agreed with the conclusion of the report.

## **MATCHING**

Choose the synonym.

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Preconception | 6. Distribution   |
| (A) Expansion    | (A) Shortage      |
| (B) Bias         | (B) Allocation    |
| (C) Function     | (C) Methods       |
| (D) Disapproval  | (D) Disapproval   |
| 2. Steady        | 7. Fallacious     |
| (A) Constant     | (A) Inordinate    |
| (B) Ample        | (B) Incorrect     |
| (C) Arid         | (C) Unwarranted   |
| (D) Nominal      | (D) Inevitable    |
| 3. Robust        | 8. Conservation   |
| (A) Energetic    | (A) Preservation  |
| (B) Flexible     | (B) Exportation   |
| (C) Narrow       | (C) Agitation     |
| (D) Ridiculous   | (D) Documentation |
| 4. Fast          | 9. Feasible       |
| (A) Swift        | (A) Absurd        |
| (B) Spacious     | (B) Possible      |
| (C) Intrinsic    | (C) Limber        |
| (D) Vital        | (D) Selective     |
| 5. Balanced      | 10. Abuse         |
| (A) Rigid        | (A) Involve       |
| (B) Documented   | (B) Agitate       |
| (C) Fundamental  | (C) Misuse        |
| (D) Equalized    | (D) Disperse      |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. In a television receiver, a narrow beam of electrons bombards the back of a screen in a scanning motion.  
(A) Steady  
(B) Balanced  
(C) Thin  
(D) Negative
2. There are many means of converting mechanical energy into thermal energy.  
(A) Descriptions  
(B) Methods  
(C) Theories  
(D) Benefits
3. Many delegates to the First Continental Congress felt that it would have been absurd not to give a forceful response to England's closing of the port of Boston.  
(A) Ridiculous  
(B) Difficult  
(C) Feasible  
(D) Incorrect
4. Gymnasts perform athletic feats that require a well-toned, limber body.  
(A) Flexible  
(B) Slender  
(C) Tiny  
(D) Strong
5. The lack of water has been a major factor in industrial growth.  
(A) Use  
(B) Abuse  
(C) Shortage  
(D) Distribution

## **LESSON 19**

■ antiquated ■ coherent ■ develop ■ fabricate  
■ investigation ■ normally ■ notice ■ notion ■ novel  
■ opposition ■ record ■ relate ■ suspect ■ unbiased ■ varied

---

**antiquated** *adj.* too old to be presently useful; outmoded  
n. antique *Syn.* old-fashioned  
This antiquated machinery breaks down too frequently.  
Their home is filled with antique furniture.

**coherent** *adj.* well reasoned; ideas that are clearly  
presented  
*adv.* coherently  
*v.* cohere  
n. coherence  
*\* sticking together as a group*  
*adj.* cohesive\* *Syn.* logical  
n. cohesion

It was a well-balanced, coherent presentation.  
There was a cohesive feeling among the new works.

**develop** *v.* to grow; to increase; to become more  
complete  
*adj.* developing  
n. development  
n. developer *Syn.* evolve

The management team developed the idea over a period of years.  
The country's prospects for rapid development depend on approval of the free trade agreement.

**fabricate** *v.* to make up, usually with an intent to fool or trick;  
to lie  
*adj.* fabricated  
n. fabrication *Syn.* invent  
The executive fabricated the story about the merger.  
His alibi is the weakest fabrication I have ever heard.

**investigation** *n.* a careful examination in order to determine  
facts  
*adj.* investigative  
*v.* investigate  
n. investigator *Syn.* probe

The comprehensive investigation of the bank revealed no illegal activity.  
Some members of the Senate wanted to appoint a special investigator.

**normally** *adv.* commonly, usually  
*adj.* normal *Syn.* typically  
*v.* normalize  
n. normalization

n. norm

It is normally quite cold this time of the year.

The new treaty leads to a normalization of relations between the two countries.

**notice**

v. to sense; to be aware

adv. noticeably

*Syn.* observe

adj. noticeable

n. notice

The doctor noticed a small fracture in the patient's finger.

The weather was noticeably cooler.

**notion**

n. an idea, belief, or opinion

*Syn.* concept

She has the notion that she wants to become an architect.

Some outlandish notions about the origin of the solar system have been disproved.

**novel**

adj. something unusual, uncommon; new

*Syn.* original

The physicist had some novel ideas about traveling at the speed of light.

The novel suggestions were implemented.

**opposition**

n. the state of acting against; not being in

adj. oppositional

agreement

adj. oppositionary

*Syn.* resistance

v. oppose

The students voiced their opposition to the rise in tuition.

The government opposed price controls.

**record**

v. to make a written or oral notation; to copy

adj. recorded

*Syn.* register

n. record

n. recording

n. recorder

The coldest temperatures in the United States have been recorded at International Falls, Minnesota.

Many businesses are using recordings to answer consumer questions.

**relate**

v. to tell; to show a connection between two things

adj. related

n. relation

*Syn.* communicate

n. relationship

Although they did not agree with the plan, they did not relate their opposition to it.

What is the relationship between supply and demand?

**suspect**

v. to think that something is true, but

adj. suspected                      having no proof  
n. suspicion  
n. suspect                      *Syn.* speculate

He suspected that the substance was not present in the compound.  
I have a suspicion that he will want to participate in the investigation.

**unbiased**                      *adj.* with no preconceptions  
                                         *Syn.* objective

Her unbiased analysis of the problem allowed her to find the solution more rapidly.  
Here is unbiased proof that nitrogen exists in this compound.

**varied**                      *adj.* being of many different types  
*Syn.* diverse  
adv. variably  
adj. variable  
adj. various  
v. vary  
n. variant  
n. variety  
n. variation  
n. variability

The class expressed varied opinions about the movie.  
There are various ways to solve the problem.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. fabricate      | 6. register       |
| (A) observe       | (A) harbor        |
| (B) invent        | (B) notice        |
| (C) agitate       | (C) encompass     |
| (D) convey        | (D) record        |
| 2. coherent       | 7. probe          |
| (A) novel         | (A) expansion     |
| (B) original      | (B) means         |
| (C) logical       | (C) investigation |
| (D) robust        | (D) abuse         |
| 3. resistance     | 8. communicate    |
| (A) opposition    | (A) inundate      |
| (B) preservation  | (B) allocate      |
| (C) preconception | (C) relate        |
| (D) allocation    | (D) oppose        |
| 4. evolve         | 9. suspect        |
| (A) develop       | (A) select        |
| (B) elude         | (B) confide       |
| (C) involve       | (C) speculate     |
| (D) influence     | (D) bias          |
| 5. varied         | 10. unbiased      |
| (A) diverse       | (A) antiquated    |
| (B) feasible      | (B) postponed     |
| (C) hazardous     | (C) exhausted     |
| (D) nominal       | (D) objective     |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The fire salamander is so called because of an antiquated belief that it could withstand fire.

- (A) a well-developed
- (B) an old-fashioned
- (C) a carefully fabricated
- (D) a widely held

2. Because of his novel approaches to scientific problem, Edison was able to patent dozens of inventions.

- (A) original
- (B) varied
- (C) coherent
- (D) unbiased

3. The classical economic theory explaining consumer behavior is built on the notion of marginal utility.

- (A) investigation
- (B) concept
- (C) effectiveness
- (D) opposition

4. In deep water, tidal waves are so long and so slight that ships seldom notice their presence.

- (A) suspect
- (B) relate
- (C) record
- (D) observe

5. The human adult heart is normally the size of a clenched fist and weighs about 300 grams.

- (A) roughly
- (B) actually
- (C) scarcely
- (D) typically



## LESSON 20

■ accentuate ■ disguise ■ finance ■ initiate ■ innovative  
■ narrate ■ nevertheless ■ occasionally ■ omit ■ outlandish  
■ overcome ■ partially ■ pass ■ portray ■ submit

---

### accentuate

adj. accentuated  
n. accentuation

v. to highlight; to give more importance to  
*Syn.* emphasize

The colorful dress accentuated the joy of the occasion.

The supervisor accentuated her preference for hard-working employees during the performance appraisal.

### disguise

adj. disguised  
n. disguise

v. to hide the usual appearance of something  
*Syn.* conceal

It is hard to disguise the fact that business is slow.

Everyone saw through his disguise.

### finance

adv. financially  
adj. financial  
v. financed  
n. finance  
n. finances

v. to provide money  
*Syn.* fund

The art exhibition was financed by a private foundation.

The college was financially independent.

### initiate

adj. initiated  
n. initiation  
n. initiative

v. to begin; to establish; to take decisive action without help

*Syn.* launch

The newcomer initiated the long citizenship process.

Their work shows a lot of initiative.

### Innovative

n. innovator  
n. innovation

*adj.* something newly introduced; creative  
*Syn.* creative

This innovative project is worthy of support.

There have been many innovations in the field of genetic engineering.

### narrate

adj. narrative  
n. narrative  
n. narration  
n. narrator

v. to tell a story; relate  
*Syn.* relate

Walter Cronkite narrated the documentary film.  
Her fabricated narrative generated a lot of excitement.

**nevertheless** *conj.* in spite of that  
*Syn.* nonetheless  
She was quite sick; nevertheless, she attended all of her classes.  
His project was flawed; nevertheless it won second prize.

**occasionally** *adv.* now and then; once in a while  
*adj.* occasional *Syn.* sometimes  
*n.* occasion  
Extreme heat occasionally causes health problems.  
They were very fine students who, on occasion, experienced problems with pop quizzes.

**omit** *v.* to leave out, not include  
*adj.* omitted *Syn.* neglect  
*n.* omission  
He inadvertently omitted some important data from the report.  
His paper had several notable omissions.

**outlandish** *adj.* strange and unpleasant; beyond accepted norms  
*adv.* outlandishly *Syn.* bizarre  
His outlandish dens demonstrated his creativity.  
Rebellious youth in many countries dress outlandishly.

**overcome** *v.* to defeat, fight with success; to take control of an individual  
*Syn.* conquer  
The young woman was overcome with emotion when she learned she had won a scholarship.  
The family overcame many obstacles to purchase the house.

**partially** *adv.* a part of the whole; incomplete  
*adv.* partly *Syn.* somewhat  
*adj.* partial  
*n.* part  
The clerk was only partially responsible for the error.  
The business venture was only a partial success.

**pass** *v.* to accept formally by vote  
*adj.* passable *Syn.* approve  
*n.* passage  
The proposed amendment passed unanimously.  
The passage of the resolution is in doubt.

**portray**

n. portrayal

v. to represent; to act

*Syn.* depictThe girl portrayed an orphan.The book's portrayal of Mozart as a calm, mature individual is absurd.**submit**

n. submission

v. to turn in, offer for evaluation

*Syn.* proposeThe architects had to submit plans reflecting the new specifications.The submission of the application must be made by February 13.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. Launch  
(A) Overcome  
(B) Initiate  
(C) Persuade  
(D) Investigate

2. Occasionally  
(A) Suitably  
(B) Outlandishly  
(C) Partially  
(D) Sometimes

3. Submit  
(A) Approve  
(B) Propose  
(C) Omit  
(D) Develop

4. Creative  
(A) Fallacious  
(B) Coherent  
(C) Innovative  
(D) Conspicuous

5. Finance  
(A) Fund  
(B) Develop  
(C) Fabricate  
(D) Oppose

6. Relate  
(A) Restore  
(B) Record  
(C) Narrate  
(D) Balance

7. Nevertheless  
(A) Nonetheless  
(B) Albeit  
(C) Although  
(D) Presumably

8. Disguise  
(A) Delight  
(B) Neglect  
(C) Feign  
(D) Conceal

9. Emphasize  
(A) Accentuate  
(B) Conquer  
(C) Suspect  
(D) Select

10. Portray  
(A) Refine  
(B) Depict  
(C) Pass  
(D) Abuse

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. President Ford was a frequent opponent of inflationary spending measures passed by Congress.

- (A) Approved
- (B) Submitted
- (C) Financed
- (D) Initiated

2. The evolution of life on Earth may be partially typical of the evolution of life on many other planets.

- (A) Somewhat
- (B) Exceptionally
- (C) Nevertheless
- (D) Occasionally

3. Sword swallowers must first overcome their fear of projecting the sharp sword down their throat.

- (A) Disguise
- (B) Conquer
- (C) Treat
- (D) Accentuate

4. The popular singer Madonna is known for her songs with outlandish lyrics.

- (A) Innovative
- (B) Bizarre
- (C) Relaxing
- (D) Melodical

5. Many nature films omit information about the breeding, parenting, and fishing behavior of the Pel fishing owl.

- (A) Portray
- (B) Contribute
- (C) Neglect
- (D) Narrate

## LESSON 21

■ decline ■ gather ■ motion ■ partisan ■ pattern  
■ phenomena ■ philanthropic ■ placid ■ plentiful  
■ reaction ■ rhythm ■ scenic ■ shallow ■ sheltered ■ vanishing

---

**decline** v. to move from good to bad, or from much to little, to refuse  
n. decline *Syn.* decrease

The old man's health has declined since he retired.  
Serious communicable diseases are on the decline in most parts of the world.

**gather** v. to collect  
n. gathering *Syn.* collect

He carefully gathered his thoughts just before the interview.  
A gathering of citizens developed outside the courthouse.

**motion** n. the state of changing one's position  
v. motion\* \* to direct by moving  
*Syn.* movement

The motion of the flame was hypnotic.  
They motioned her to leave the area.

**partisan** *adj.* strongly supporting a group or point of view  
*Syn.* biased

Partisan political infighting caused Congress's influence to decline.  
His views reflected his partisan bias.

**pattern** n. a regular, repeated arrangement or action  
*adj.* patterned *Syn.* habit  
v. pattern

The bright pattern of the monarch butterfly distracts its predators.  
The new stadium was patterned after the old traditional ballparks.

**Phenomena** n. natural events or facts; strange or notable happenings  
*adv.* phenomenally *Syn.* events  
*adj.* phenomenal  
n. phenomenon

Rain showers are almost unknown phenomena in the Atacama Desert of Chile.  
The musician's phenomenal performance was applauded by the critics.

**philanthropic** *adj.* a feeling of love for people, usually *resulting* in financial aid to worthy causes  
n. philanthropist *Syn.* humanitarian  
n. philanthropy

The philanthropic work of the foundation benefits all sectors of society.

His philanthropy is recognized around the world.

**placid**

adv. placidly

*adj.* quiet, not easily upset

*Syn.* calm

The placid nature of her personality made her easy to work with.

The waves moved placidly toward shore.

**plentiful**

adv. plentifully

n. plenty

*adj.* more than sufficient

*Syn.* abundant

Examples of Miro's art plentiful.

A balanced diet normally provides plenty of the necessary vitamins.

**reaction**

adv. reactively

adj. reactive

v. react

adj. reactionary

*n.* a reply; a change that occurs when substances are mixed

*Syn.* response

When chlorine and ammonia are mixed, the chemical reaction causes chlorine gas.

They reacted to the report by making some swift changes in management.

**rhythm**

adv. rhythmically

adj. rhythmic

*n.* a regular pattern, usually in music

*Syn.* pulse

The rhythm of the rain hitting the roof put him to sleep.

She noticed the rhythmic beating of her heart as the moment of truth arrived.

**scenic**

adv. scenically

n. scenery

n. scene

*adj.* concerning pleasant natural surroundings

*Syn.* picturesque

The scenic route to the summit is much more interesting than the fastest route.

The scenery in rural Japan is impressive.

**shallow**

adv. shallowly

n. shallowness

*adj.* not far from top to bottom

*Syn.* superficial

Estuaries are typically shallow bodies of water.

The result of their research demonstrated the shallowness of the hypothesis.

**sheltered**

v. shelter

n. shelter

*adj.* protected from harmful elements;  
isolated from reality

*Syn.* protected

She has led a sheltered life since her parents have done everything for her.

Everyone looked for shelter from the blazing sun.

**vanishing**

v. *vanish*

*adj.* going out of sight

*Syn.* disappearing

The red squirrel is a vanishing species that needs a protected habitat to survive.

No one knows with certainty what caused the dinosaurs to vanish from the face of the earth.



## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. picturesque

- (A) scenic
- (B) calm
- (C) outlandish
- (D) fertile

2. partisan

- (A) patterned
- (B) bizarre
- (C) abundant
- (D) biased

3. decrease

- (A) disguise
- (B) decline
- (C) omit
- (D) halt

4. disappear

- (A) vary
- (B) vanish
- (C) reject
- (D) fabricate

5. shallow

- (A) swift
- (B) substantial
- (C) placid
- (D) superficial

6. gather

- (A) broaden
- (B) collect
- (C) distribute
- (D) enhance

7. reaction

- (A) allocation
- (B) investigation
- (C) response
- (D) means

8. motion

- (A) innovation
- (B) narration
- (C) reaction
- (D) movement

9. protected

- (A) plentiful
- (B) phenomenal
- (C) sheltered
- (D) passable

10. rhythm

- (A) pulse
- (B) pattern
- (C) function
- (D) notion

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Mollusks, crustaceans, and fish are plentiful in the Chesapeake Bay.  
(A) vanishing  
(B) abundant  
(C) gathered  
(D) declining
  2. The coast of California is marked by a rugged mountain range and placid bays.  
(A) calm  
(B) scenic  
(C) sheltered  
(D) shallow
  3. The Carnegie Foundation is one of the major philanthropic organizations in the United States.  
(A) partisan  
(B) governmental  
(C) humanitarian  
(D) international
  4. From the beginning of the twentieth century, dance phenomena became extremely prolific and colorful.  
(A) rhythm  
(B) fashion  
(C) events  
(D) expression
- B. Mollusks have a wide range of locomotory patterns.  
(A) Habits  
(B) Motions  
(C) Controls  
(D) Reactions

## **LESSON 22**

■ account ■ archaic ■ hasten ■ hue ■ illustration  
■ inactive ■ intricate ■ magnitude ■ oblige ■ overlook  
■ poll ■ position ■ practical ■ predominant ■ prompt

---

**account** *n.* a report of an event; money kept in a bank; a statement of something used or received, usually a financial report  
*adj.* accountable  
*v.* account  
*n.* accounting  
*n.* accountant *Syn.* story

His account of the incident varied from that of the other witnesses.  
We need an accounting of all the money that was spent.

**archaic** *adj.* very old, old-fashioned; no longer used  
*Syn.* ancient

These archaic methods of farming must be brought up to date.  
His speech was full of archaic expressions.

**hasten** *v.* to cause to go faster; move forward more quickly  
*adv.* hastily  
*adj.* hasty *Syn.* accelerate  
*n.* hastiness

After notifying his family of the accident, he hastened to add that he had not been hurt.  
You should not make important decisions hastily.

**hue** *n.* color  
*Syn.* color

The hue of the sunset was beautiful.  
The hue of the room gave it a warm feeling.

**illustration** *n.* a visual image, typically used to explain  
*adj.* illustrated *Syn.* picture  
*adj.* illustrative  
*v.* illustrate  
*n.* illustrator

The illustration makes the process of condensation more understandable.  
This experiment illustrates how certain chemicals can react violently when combined.

**inactive** *adj.* not moving; not involved  
*n.* inaction *Syn.* idle  
*n.* inactivity

The virus remains inactive for a long period of time.  
Her inaction has caused her to miss many opportunities to advance her career.

**intricate** *adj.* having many parts; finely detailed  
*adv.* intricately *Syn.* complex  
*n.* intricacy

The intricate design of the vase made it a valuable piece for her collection.  
I cannot begin to understand all of the intricacies of modern automobile motors.

**magnitude** *n.* of great size or importance  
*adv.* magnificently *\* to increase*  
*adj.* magnificent *Syn.* dimension  
*v.* magnify  
*n.* magnification

The magnitude of shock waves determines the damage that occurs during an earthquake.  
The invention of the telephone was a magnificent achievement for mankind.

**oblige** *v.* to have to do something  
*adv.* obligingly *Syn.* require  
*adj.* obliging  
*adj.* obligatory  
*n.* obligation

She obliged her friend to choose a new lab partner.  
Payment of the student activity fee was obligatory.

**overlook** *v.* to ignore or neglect  
*adj.* overlooked *Syn.* disregard  
Scientists must not overlook any aspect of experimental procedure.  
The overlooked error raised his score on the test.

**Poll** *n.* questionnaire; a vote of public opinion  
*n.* polling  
*n.* pollster *Syn.* survey  
The poll indicated that conservation of the environment was the number one issue with college students.  
The pollster asked the questions in a nonpartisan manner.

**position** *n.* place where something can be found; job  
*Syn.* location  
He held a very high position in the firm.  
The position of aircraft wings causes the lift that allows the plane to leave the ground.

**practical** *adj.* convenient or effective  
*n.* practicality *Syn.* functional  
Her ambitious plan was not very practical.  
Three fundamental issues in measurement are reliability, validity, and practicality.

**predominant***adj.* the most noticeable or powerful element*adv.* predominantly*Syn.* principal*v.* predominate*n.* predominance

The predominant export of the Middle East is petroleum.

Many cities in the southwest are predominantly hispanic.

**prompt***v.* to cause something to happen; to do*adv.* promptly

quickly; to be on time

*n.* promptness*Syn.* induce

His emotional plea prompted the director to give him a second chance.

Promptness is an important factor in many societies.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. intricate  
(A) functional  
(B) complex  
(C) predominant  
(D) inordinate

2. disregard  
(A) overcome  
(B) disperse  
(C) decline  
(D) overlook

3. idle  
(A) initiated  
(B) inundated  
(C) inactive  
(D) intrinsic

4. archaic  
(A) plentiful  
(B) ancient  
(C) placid  
(D) absurd

5. hasten  
(A) accelerate  
(B) shelter  
(C) heighten  
(D) generate

6. picture  
(A) position  
(B) zenith  
(C) preconception  
(D) illustration

7. size  
(A) allocation  
(B) magnitude  
(C) expand  
(D) advent

8. color  
(A) hue  
(B) illustration  
(C) facet  
(D) scenery

9. require  
(A) survey  
(B) induce  
(C) oblige  
(D) relinquish

10. account  
(A) currency  
(B) poll  
(C) treasury  
(D) story

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The production of steel and the mining of coal are the predominant industries of Pennsylvania.

- (A) principal
- (B) inactive
- (C) archaic
- (D) overlooked

2. Curiosity prompted Leonardo da Vinci to become the world's greatest designer.

- (A) hastened
- (B) defied
- (C) induced
- (D) obliged

3. The first practical calendar was developed by the Egyptians.

- (A) functional
- (B) accurate
- (C) standard
- (D) intricate

4. In order to detect the position of a particle, light must be reflected from it.

- (A) hue
- (B) location
- (C) magnitude
- (D) existence

5. In a recent newspaper poll, the compact disc was mentioned as the most popular medium of recorded music.

- (A) survey
- (B) account
- (C) illustration
- (D) convention

## LESSON 23

■ analogous ■ approximately ■ compel ■ formidable ■ intrusive  
■ periodically ■ prone ■ prophetic ■ proportions ■ readily ■ reliably  
■ reluctantly ■ renown ■ sacrifice ■ triumph

---

### **analogous**

n. analogy

*adj.* alike in some way

*Syn.* similar to

The action of light waves is analogous to the action of sound waves.

The analogy between the behavior of the bacteria in the lab and in the human body is not clear.

### **approximately**

*adj.* approximate

*v.* approximate

*n.* approximation

*adv.* almost correct; not exact

*Syn.* around

There are approximately 100 billion galaxies in the universe.

The results of this study approximate those of a previous study.

### **compel**

*adv.* compellingly

*adj.* compelling

*v.* to make something happen by necessity

or force

*Syn.* obliged

The representatives were compelled to vote in favor of the legislation despite their personal opposition to it.

The lawyer's plea was made in a compelling manner.

### **formidable**

*adv.* formidably

*adj.* difficult; causing worry or fear

*Syn.* overwhelming

Their formidable opponents gave no sign of weakness.

The man's voice echoed formidably throughout the hallway.

### **intrusive**

*adj.* intrusively

*v.* intrude

*n.* intrusion

*n.* intruder

*adj.* the state of being inside or upon something when not desired to be there by others

*Syn.* annoying

The intrusive bacteria caused his condition to worsen.

The intrusion of the hazardous gas made it difficult to live in the house.

### **periodically**

*adj.* periodic

*adj.* periodical

*n.* periodical\*

*adv.* happening repeatedly, occurring at regular intervals

\* Something published at regular intervals

*Syn.* sometimes

Some materials periodically demonstrate unusual behavior when frozen.

She has periodic desires to get a job.



**prone** *adj.* likely to do something  
*Syn.* inclined to

Most liquids are prone to contract when frozen.  
She is prone to study hard the night before her tests.

**prophetic** *adj.* correctly telling about future events  
*Syn.* predictive  
*adv.* prophetically  
*v.* prophesy  
*n.* prophecy  
*n.* prophet

His prophetic power were investigated by a team of psychologists.  
The brilliant student fulfilled his teacher's prophecy that he would be a successful doctor.

**proportions** *n.* relationship of size or importance when compared to another object or person.  
*Syn.* dimensions  
*adv.* proportionally  
*adj.* proportional  
*adj.* proportionate  
*adv.* proportionately

The goal of establishing a space station will take a team effort of major proportions.  
The pilot's salary is proportional to that of pilots of other airlines.

**readily** *adv.* willingly; easily  
*Syn.* freely  
*adj.* ready  
*v.* ready  
*n.* readiness

The workers readily complained about the food in the cafeteria.  
Her readiness to cooperate was an important factor in the investigation.

**reliably** *adv.* in a trusted way  
*Syn.* dependably  
*adj.* reliable  
*adj.* reliant  
*v.* rely  
*n.* reliability  
*n.* reliance

An appliance must perform its task reliably to be popular with consumers.  
Satellite photos show the smallest details with great reliability.

**reluctantly** *adv.* unwillingly  
*Syn.* hesitatingly  
*adj.* reluctant  
*n.* reluctance

Although not completely satisfied with the contract, the officials reluctantly agreed to sign it.  
The electrician was reluctant to estimate the cost of the repair work.

**renown***n.* fame*adj.* renowned*Syn.* prominence

This school is of great renown.

The renowned conductor made a guest appearance at the concert.

**sacrifice***v.* to give up something of value for the common good*adj.* sacrificial*Syn.* concession*n.* sacrifice

He sacrificed his day off to help clean up the neighborhood.

She made sacrifices in order to be able to attend the university.

**triumph***n.* a victory; a success*adv.* triumphantly*Syn.* achievement*adj.* triumphant*adj.* triumphal*v.* triumph

His career was characterized by one triumph after another.

He triumphed over all of his difficulties.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. intrusive  
(A) inactive  
(B) intricate  
(C) predictive  
(D) annoying

2. obliged  
(A) distorted  
(B) dependable  
(C) compelled  
(D) settled

3. sacrifice  
(A) reliance  
(B) proportion  
(C) concession  
(D) recovery

4. formidable  
(A) predictive  
(B) overwhelming  
(C) functional  
(D) practical

5. similar to  
(A) unlike  
(B) analogous  
(C) archaic  
(D) prone

6. around  
(A) obviously  
(B) likely  
(C) entirely  
(D) approximately

7. hesitatingly  
(A) reluctantly  
(B) readily  
(C) compellingly  
(D) practically

8. achievements  
(A) triumphs  
(B) phenomena  
(C) dimensions  
(D) approximation

9. sometimes  
(A) routinely  
(B) actually  
(C) periodically  
(D) gradually

10. renown  
(A) domination  
(B) prophecy  
(C) prominence  
(D) position

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Growth rings in a log are often so clearly visible that they can reliably indicate age.

- (A) periodically
- (B) dependably
- (C) approximately
- (D) ordinarily

2. Organic compounds often contain special groups of atoms, called functional groups, that readily undergo chemical reaction.

- (A) freely
- (B) reluctantly
- (C) repeatedly
- (D) occasionally

3. The construction of the Saint Lawrence seaway was an undertaking of great proportions.

- (A) triumphs
- (B) renown
- (C) dimensions
- (D) sacrifice

4. Folklore holds that mermaids are natural beings who have prophetic powers.

- (A) formidable
- (B) intrusive
- (C) predictive
- (D) analogous

5. Faced with the numerous problems brought on by the new industrial age, wage earners were prone to solve their problems through organization.

- (A) fortunate
- (B) compelled
- (C) cautioned
- (D) inclined

## LESSON 24

■ affordable ■ contaminated ■ discernible ■ flourishing ■ maintain  
■ mediocre ■ negligible ■ parallel ■ peculiar ■ potent ■ remarkable  
■ scattered ■ solid ■ somewhat ■ tedious

---

### **affordable**

adv. affordably

v. afford

*adj.* able to be done, usually refers to something you can do without damage or loss

*Syn.* economical

The new dictionary is quite affordable.

He could afford the house because of current low interest rates.

### **contaminated**

v. contaminate

n. contamination

*adj.* to make something impure by adding something dirty or a poisonous substance

*Syn.* pollute

This contaminated water supply must be closed to the public.

Bacteria and insects are frequently agents of food contamination.

### **discernible**

adv. discernibly

v. discern

n. discernment

*adj.* noticeable; easily seen

*Syn.* detectable

A feeling of anxiety was discernible among the members of the team.

The new student was unable to discern the humor of the teacher's joke.

### **flourishing**

v. flourish

*adj.* active and growing; healthy

*Syn.* thriving

Small flourishing companies would be harmed by an increase in the minimum wage.

A young mind will flourish with the proper guidance.

### **maintain**

n. maintenance

v. to support; to keep in good condition

*Syn.* preserve

The building had to be renovated because it was not well maintained.

Proper maintenance of a car's engine will preserve its performance and value.

### **mediocre**

n. mediocrity

*adj.* of average quality; not good or bad

*Syn.* average

This is a mediocre research report.

The mediocrity of his work was disappointing.

### **negligible**

adv. negligibly

adj. neglected

*adj.* hardly noticeable; scarcely detectable

\* to ignore; to give little attention

*Syn.* insignificant

adj. neglectful\*  
adj. negligent\*  
n. neglect\*  
n. negligence\*

The presence of the first person singular in the poem was almost negligible.  
His negligence caused him to lose all of the work he had done on the computer.

**parallel** *adj.* being almost of the same type or time;  
v. parallel comparable  
n. parallel *Syn.* similar

We have lead parallel lives.  
Her background parallels mine.

**peculiar** *adj.* unusual; uncommon  
adv. peculiarly *Syn.* strange  
n. peculiarity

This plastic has a peculiar texture.  
The puffin has many peculiarities not shared by other birds.

**potent** *adj.* very strong  
*Syn.* powerful

He gave a potent speech at the convention.  
The venom of the coral snake is extremely potent.

**remarkable** *adj.* worthy of mention; uncommon  
adv. remarkably *Syn.* exceptional  
The invention of the radio was a remarkable achievement.  
The actor was remarkably calm before his performance.

**scattered** *adj.* to be spread out or separated widely  
v. scatter *Syn.* dispersed  
Hurricane Andrew left debris scattered throughout Miami.  
The crowd scattered when it began to rain heavily.

**solid** *adj.* having good quality, being well made;  
adv. solidly firm; not a gas or liquid  
v. solidify *Syn.* steady  
n. solidification

The lawyer for the defense portrayed his client as a man of solid integrity.  
The union attempted to solidify its position in the workplace.

**somewhat** *adj.* a little  
*Syn.* slight

They feel somewhat tired after the mile run.  
Buying food at a convenience store can be somewhat expensive.

**tedious**

adv. tediously

n. tedium

*adj.* long and tiring

*Syn.* monotonous

The tedious lecture bored most of the audience.

Some people become frustrated by the tedium of daily living.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. discernible  
(A) exceptional  
(B) detectable  
(C) solid  
(D) negligent

2. average  
(A) ample  
(B) approximate  
(C) slight  
(D) mediocre

3. preserve  
(A) maintain  
(B) disperse  
(C) contaminate  
(D) compel

4. potent  
(A) powerful  
(B) reliable  
(C) firm  
(D) durable

5. affordable  
(A) remarkable  
(B) formidable  
(C) economical  
(D) proportional

6. similar  
(A) prophetic  
(B) substantial  
(C) parallel  
(D) varied

7. strange  
(A) peculiar  
(B) vanishing  
(C) somewhat  
(D) renowned

8. negligible  
(A) exceptional  
(B) intricate  
(C) insignificant  
(D) scattered

9. thriving  
(A) flourishing  
(B) vanishing  
(C) polluting  
(D) astounding

10. monotonous  
(A) ambiguous  
(B) hazardous  
(C) prosperous  
(D) tedious



## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. There is a somewhat random character to the evolutionary process.  
(A) potent  
(B) unique  
(C) slight  
(D) peculiar
2. Mankind has made solid progress in the eradication of many harmful illnesses.  
(A) sluggish  
(B) negligible  
(C) mediocre  
(D) substantial
3. The inner harbor of Baltimore was once a contaminated part of the city.  
(A) an affordable  
(B) a polluted  
(C) a secure  
(D) a flourishing
4. The Inuit live in scattered settlements throughout the northern reaches of Canada.  
(A) well-maintained  
(B) very primitive  
(C) highly organized  
(D) widely dispersed
5. The history of human thought on the nature of the cosmos offers a number of remarkable lessons.  
(A) inspiring  
(B) identical  
(C) exceptional  
(D) enlightening

## LESSON 25

■ briefly ■ circulate ■ consistently ■ exhibit ■ found ■ improperly  
■ impulsively ■ infrequently ■ isolated ■ overtly ■ profoundly  
■ sharply ■ situated ■ subsequently ■ unmistakable

---

### briefly

adj. brief  
n. brevity

*adv.* short, usually in time

*Syn.* concisely

The visiting professor spoke briefly at the faculty meeting.

Solar eclipses are brief moments when the Earth and Moon cross the Sun's fixed position in the solar system.

### circulate

adj. circulatory  
n. circulation

*v.* to cause to move along a fixed path; to move freely

*Syn.* distribute

The news of the president's visit circulated quickly throughout the city.

A dollar bill remains in circulation for approximately one and a half years.

### consistently

adj. consistent  
*v.* consist  
n. consistency

*adv.* without changing; keeping the same principles, ideas, or quality

*Syn.* dependably

The temperature must be maintained consistently at 75° centigrade.

The policy of the government concerning unemployment has been consistent.

### exhibit

n. exhibit  
n. exhibition  
n. exhibitor

*v.* to show or demonstrate

*Syn.* display

The compound exhibits the qualities of an acid.

It was the best exhibition of talent that I have ever seen.

### found

n. foundation\*  
n. founder

*v.* to establish, start up

\* a philanthropic organization

*Syn.* establish

The wealthy woman founded a hospital in her home town.

The foundation maintained a number of philanthropic activities.

### improperly

adj. improper  
n. impropriety

*adv.* not following established rules; not desirable

*Syn.* inappropriately

The disappointing outcome was a result of an improperly prepared petri dish.

There was an impropriety with the way the funds were spent.

**impulsively** *adv.* acting without thinking  
adj. impulsive *Syn.* capriciously  
n. impulse  
n. impulsiveness

She reacted impulsively to the loud noise.

Many shoppers buy items on impulse.

**infrequently** *adj.* almost never  
adj. infrequent *Syn.* rarely  
n. infrequency

Tornadoes occur infrequently in the eastern part of the United States.

Deserts are characterized by their infrequent rainfall.

**isolated** *adj.* kept separated from others  
v. isolate *Syn.* secluded  
n. isolation

The failure of the communications system left the towns isolated.

The doctors were unable to isolate the cause of the epidemic.

**overtly** *adv.* in a way clearly seen; not done secretly  
adj. overt *Syn.* openly

He overtly disregarded the regulations.

Her overt attempt to take control of the discussion failed.

**profoundly** *adv.* in a deep way; showing deep knowledge  
adj. profound of a subject  
n. profundity *Syn.* significantly

Everyone was profoundly impressed by the news reports.

The Nobel Prize is a profound recognition of outstanding achievement.

**sharply** *adv.* showing sensitivity or quick thinking;  
adj. sharp showing a quick change in direction  
v. sharpen *Syn.* quickly  
n. sharpness

Car prices rose sharply over the past year.

There was a sharp change in the humidity after the storm.

**situated** *adj.* being found in a certain place  
n. situation\* \* a current condition  
v. situate *Syn.* located

The resort town of Cancun is situated in the northern part of the Yucatan Peninsula.

They found themselves in a very difficult situation.

**subsequently** *adv.* following; coming after something  
adj. subsequent *Syn.* afterwards

The public applauded the president's actions, and subsequently his ratings in the polls improved.

This report, and all subsequent reports, must be written in the appropriate style.

**unmistakable**

*adj.* clearly able to be determined

*adj.* unmistakably

*Syn.* indisputable

The markings of the insect provided an unmistakable identification of the species.

It is unmistakably clear that the report must be finished by noon.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. consistently

- (A) dependably
- (B) significantly
- (C) readily
- (D) extremely

2. capriciously

- (A) impulsively
- (B) profoundly
- (C) reluctantly
- (D) scarcely

3. subsequently

- (A) unmistakably
- (B) around
- (C) swiftly
- (D) afterwards

4. circulated

- (A) sharpened
- (B) distributed
- (C) maintained
- (D) encircled

5. briefly

- (A) rarely
- (B) reliably
- (C) concisely
- (D) severely

6. exhibited

- (A) displayed
- (B) founded
- (C) located
- (D) highlighted

7. overtly

- (A) entirely
- (B) openly
- (C) evenly
- (D) actually

8. inappropriately

- (A) disapprovingly
- (B) approximately
- (C) improperly
- (D) unintentionally

9. secluded

- (A) situated
- (B) isolated
- (C) established
- (D) shifted

10. indisputably

- (A) severely
- (B) infrequently
- (C) significantly
- (D) unmistakably

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The colossal Statue of Liberty is situated in New York Harbor on a small island park within sight of Ellis Island.

- (A) visited
- (B) exhibited
- (C) isolated
- (D) located

2. Astrology contends that the position of constellations at the moment of your birth profoundly influences your future.

- (A) subsequently
- (B) significantly
- (C) unmistakably
- (D) consistently

3. After doubling the wages of his employees, Henry Ford was sharply criticized for his action.

- (A) severely
- (B) overtly
- (C) impulsively
- (D) improperly

4. Most species of birds walk long distances infrequently.

- (A) rarely
- (B) briefly
- (C) selectively
- (D) continually

5. The major American comic publishing houses were founded during the early nineteenth century.

- (A) altered
- (B) circulated
- (C) criticized
- (D) established

## LESSON 26

■ chaotic ■ characteristic ■ controversial ■ exemplify  
■ gratifying ■ interpret ■ launch ■ legitimate ■ particular  
■ radiant ■ ridge ■ span ■ spontaneous ■ stream ■ striking

---

**chaotic** *adj.* being in complete disorder and confusion  
n. chaos *Syn.* disorganized

The traffic in Seoul is often chaotic.

There was complete chaos when the world champions arrived at the airport.

**characteristic** *adj.* an easily recognized quality of something  
adv. characteristically *Syn.* typical  
v. characterize  
n. characteristic  
n. characterization

The markings on that butterfly are characteristic of the monarch butterfly.

I would characterize him as a diligent professional.

**controversial** *adj.* something that causes disagreement or  
v. controversially argument.  
n. controversy *Syn.* debatable

The governor made a controversial decision to raise taxes.

The controversy was caused by the proposal to build an airport in the area.

**exemplify** v. to give an example  
adj. exemplary *Syn.* symbolize  
The recent downturn in the housing industry exemplifies the poor economic conditions.  
Her exemplary academic achievement is representative of most students at this institution.

**gratifying** *adj.* giving pleasure or a feeling of  
adv. gratefully accomplishment; showing thanks  
adj. grateful  
v. gratify *Syn.* satisfying  
n. gratification  
n. gratefulness

Studying abroad can be a very gratifying experience.

She was grateful for all the work he had done for her.

**interpret** v. to understand the meaning of something  
n. interpreter *Syn.* clarify  
n. interpretation  
v. interpreting

The ambiguous speech was very difficult to interpret.  
Their interpretation of the story generated some interesting discussion.

**launch** v. to cause something to begin  
n. launch *Syn.* initiate  
n. launching

The company launched a new program to attract more clients.  
The launching of the first Soviet satellite, Sputnik, created concern among the American public.

**legitimate** *adj.* reasonable, lawful  
adv. legitimately *Syn.* authentic  
n. legitimacy

The engineer had a legitimate reason for changing the design of the building.  
The legitimacy of the theory has yet to be determined.

**particular** *adj.* a certain way or thing; unusual; hard to please  
adv. particularly\* \* especially  
*Syn.* specific

The speaker has a particular way of persuading his audience.  
That group of workers is particularly difficult to satisfy.

**radiant** *adj.* sending out in all directions, especially  
adv. radiantly heat or light  
n. radiance *Syn.* bright  
n. radiation  
n. radiator

The actor's radiant smile captivated the audience.  
The radiance of the fire prevented the firefighters from entering the house.

**ridge** *n.* the top of a mountain range; a raised part of any surface  
*Syn.* crest

A bald eagle stood on the ridge of the tall office building.  
The mountain ridge was heavily forested.

**span** v. the length of time or distance from one  
n. span limit to the other; to cross  
*Syn.* cover

The old man's life spanned two centuries.  
The span of the bridge is three miles.

**spontaneous** *adj.* unplanned; uncontrolled  
adv. spontaneously *Syn.* instinctive  
n. spontaneity



The spontaneous combustion inside the cylinder creates the power of the motor.  
The crowd reacted spontaneously to the danger.

**stream** *n.* a natural flow of something; a pouring out  
v. stream *Syn.* river

There was a constant stream of information coming from the White House.  
Water streamed from the dam as workers attempted to make the repairs.

**striking** *adj.* drawing special attention to  
adv. strikingly *Syn.* remarkable

His striking proposal saved the company from bankruptcy.  
That was a strikingly convincing argument that the speaker delivered.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. gratifying  
(A) spontaneous  
(B) thriving  
(C) satisfying  
(D) analogous

2. disorganized  
(A) disrupted  
(B) chaotic  
(C) instinctive  
(D) discernible

3. controversial  
(A) conventional  
(B) intolerable  
(C) consistent  
(D) debatable

4. launch  
(A) initiate  
(B) isolate  
(C) compel  
(D) stream

5. typical  
(A) practical  
(B) parallel  
(C) characteristic  
(D) mediocre

6. symbolize  
(A) radiate  
(B) exemplify  
(C) span  
(D) synthesize

7. legitimate  
(A) peculiar  
(B) authentic  
(C) sharp  
(D) subsequent

8. ridge  
(A) crest  
(B) current  
(C) stream  
(D) radiance

9. interpret  
(A) specify  
(B) investigate  
(C) clarify  
(D) initiate

10. radiant  
(A) covered  
(B) bright  
(C) potent  
(D) tedious

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Streams were always a problem for stagecoach drivers.  
(A) rivers  
(B) storms  
(C) ridges  
(D) bandits
2. Quebec is a striking example of the challenges produced when two diverse groups of people live together.  
(A) controversial  
(B) characteristic  
(C) legitimate  
(D) remarkable
3. Crowd behavior is characterized as a spontaneous collective reaction to a publicly observed event.  
(A) a chaotic  
(B) a gratifying  
(C) an instinctive  
(D) an uninterrupted
4. Some languages do not contain separate words for particular colors.  
(A) all  
(B) radiant  
(C) uncommon  
(D) specific
5. Joseph Haydn was undoubtedly the most prolific of all symphony writers, and his works spanned what has been called the Classical era.  
(A) exemplified  
(B) covered  
(C) launched  
(D) interpreted

## LESSON 27

■ aptly ■ demonstration ■ ingredients ■ involuntarily ■ marvel  
■ measurable ■ moderate ■ odd ■ reflection ■ supposedly  
■ sustained ■ symbols ■ synthesis ■ tangible ■ tightly

---

### aptly

adj. apt  
n. aptness

*adv.* having a tendency to do something;  
likely  
*Syn.* appropriately

It was an aptly timed remark.

Emotional problems are apt to damage personal relationships.

### demonstration

*adv.* demonstrably  
v. demonstrate  
adj. demonstrative\*  
adj. demonstrable

*n.* a show or exhibit  
\* overtly showing emotion

*Syn.* display

The demonstration clarified the procedure for everyone.

The lawyer was demonstrative in making his impassioned plea before the jury.

### ingredients

*n.* things combined to make something; the contents  
of something  
*Syn.* elements

The ingredients of the product are kept secret.

Good style, punctuation and grammar are important ingredients of a good essay.

### involuntarily

adj. involuntary

*adv.* in an unthinking manner; not chosen  
*Syn.* automatically

He involuntarily agreed to work overtime.

Reflexes are involuntary reactions to external stimuli.

### marvel

*adv.* marvelously  
adj. marvelous

*n.* something that surprises or impresses  
*Syn.* wonder

The Great Wall of China is one of the world's marvels.

The weather was marvelous for an afternoon get-together in the park.

### measurable

*adv.* measurably  
v. measure  
n. measurement

*adj.* able to determine how much or how many  
*Syn.* assessable

Some personal characteristics, such as good teaching, are hardly measurable.

A yardstick is used to measure lengths up to three feet.

### moderate

*adj.* not too much, not too little

adv. moderately                      \* to reduce  
v. moderate\*  
n. moderation                      *Syn.* medium

She made the best of her moderate dancing ability.  
The Broadway play was moderately successful.

**odd**                                      *adj.* unusual  
adv. oddly                              *Syn.* strange  
n. oddity

It is odd to find a person who speaks many languages.  
The moon rock is an oddity available at the museum for all to view.

**reflection**                              *n.* a picture or element cast back  
*adj.* reflected                              *Syn.* image  
v. reflect

His bright smile was a reflection of his satisfaction.  
In order to perceive something visually, light must be reflected from the object's surface.

**supposedly**                              *adv.* according to reports or hearsay; widely  
*adj.* supposed                              believed or accepted  
v. suppose                              *Syn.* presumably  
n. supposition

The new trains can supposedly reach speeds of 150 miles per hour.  
The stockbroker's supposition is that the economy will improve.

**sustained**                              *adj.* continuing in a constant way; remaining  
v. sustain                              strong  
*adj.* sustenance                              *Syn.* consistent

Sustained rainfall is the only hope they have for relief from the drought.  
The trees could not sustain the attack of the locusts.

**symbols**                                      *n.* a sign or object that represents something  
adv. symbolically                              or somebody marks  
*adj.* symbolic                              *Syn.* marks  
v. symbolize

The strange symbols found in Egyptian tombs have intrigued historians for centuries.  
I think this painting symbolizes the universal themes of humanity.

**synthesis**                                      *n.* the mixing of separate things to form a  
adv. synthetically\*                              whole  
*adj.* synthetic\*                              \* not made by nature  
v. synthesize                              *Syn.* combination

The language of Papiamentu is a synthesis of Dutch and native Indian languages of Curacao.

Vitamins are synthetically produced.

**tangible**

*adj.* real; that which can be felt

*adv.* tangibly

*Syn.* concrete

*n.* tangibility

The work of a teacher seldom produces tangible results until years after a student has graduated.

The solution to this problem can be tangibly demonstrated.

**tightly**

*adv.* being fixed in place; close; leaving no freedom

*adj.* tight

*v.* tighten

*n.* tightness

*Syn.* firmly

The shirt fits too tightly.

The government is tightening the regulations on the use of seat belts.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. marvel  
(A) ridge  
(B) chaos  
(C) wonder  
(D) combination

2. display  
(A) disperse  
(B) decline  
(C) disguise  
(D) demonstration

3. oddly  
(A) symbolically  
(B) presumably  
(C) tightly  
(D) strangely

4. appropriately  
(A) supposedly  
(B) aptly  
(C) tangibly  
(D) durably

5. moderate  
(A) sustained  
(B) medium  
(C) sharp  
(D) periodic

6. involuntary  
(A) infrequent  
(B) substantial  
(C) automatic  
(D) immeasurable

7. elements  
(A) ingredients  
(B) measurements  
(C) marks  
(D) spans

8. assessable  
(A) tangible  
(B) legitimate  
(C) accountable  
(D) measurable

9. reflection  
(A) image  
(B) synthesis  
(C) solid  
(D) tightness

10. tangible  
(A) firm  
(B) consistent  
(C) concrete  
(D) tedious

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Any insect landing on the Venus flytrap touches trigger hairs that cause the trap to close tightly.

- (A) quickly
- (B) mercilessly
- (C) firmly
- (D) involuntarily

2. The cultural life of New Orleans is a synthesis of contributions by both blacks and whites.

- (A) product
- (B) demonstration
- (C) reflection
- (D) combination

3. The Twin Towers are familiar symbols of the New York City sky-line.

- (A) buildings
- (B) landmarks
- (C) marvels
- (D) ingredients

4. Sustained industrial growth and strong consumer spending must be present in order for an economy to grow.

- (A) tangible
- (B) consistent
- (C) moderate
- (D) measurable

5. The Sweetwater River was supposedly named by General William Ashley in 1823 because its water tasted sweet to his trappers.

- (A) presumably
- (B) oddly
- (C) aptly
- (D) predictably



## LESSON 28

■ aggravating ■ amusement ■ conceivably ■ convert ■ curative  
■ debilitating ■ deplete ■ finite ■ perceive ■ security  
■ toxic ■ tranquility ■ trap ■ undeniably ■ underestimated

---

### **aggravating**

n. aggravation  
v. aggravate

*adj.* making worse; annoying  
*Syn.* irritating

The aggravating delay was caused by road repairs.

The shortage of work aggravated the crisis in the small town.

### **amusement**

adv. amusingly  
adj. amusing  
v. amuse

*n.* something that holds interest and is enjoyable

*Syn.* diversion

We listened in amusement as he tried to convince his friend to lend him \$50.

His amusing comment made everyone laugh.

### **conceivably**

adj. conceivable  
v. conceive

*adv.* feasibly; believable  
*Syn.* possibly

They could conceivably earn first place with their science project.

It is conceivable that humans will travel to distant planets one day.

### **convert**

adj. convertible  
n. conversion

*v.* to change from one form or state to another  
*Syn.* alter

When boiled, liquids convert to gases.

The conversion from Fahrenheit to centigrade can be easily made.

### **curative**

n. cure

*adj.* being able to restore to good condition  
*Syn.* healing.

The curative properties of certain plants have been well documented.

There is no simple cure for the ills of society.

### **debilitating**

v. debilitate  
n. debility

*adj.* weakening  
*Syn.* weakening

The lack of investment savings has a debilitating effect on the economy.

The patient's debility restricted him to the room.

### **deplete**

adj. depleted  
n. depletion

*v.* to use up; to reduce greatly  
*Syn.* consume

She depleted all of her savings to buy the word processor.

The depletion of the Earth's oil reserves poses a threat to our current style of life.

**finite**

*adj.* of a certain amount; having an end; not infinite

*Syn.* limited

There were a finite number of explanations for the unusual reactions.

Is there a finite number of stars in the universe?

**perceive**

*v.* to sense; to become aware of

*adv.* perceptibly

*Syn.* observe

*adj.* perceivable

*adj.* perceptive

*adv.* perceptively

*n.* perception

We perceive major differences between the two political parties.

Porpoises are very perceptive mammals.

**security**

*n.* the feeling of freedom from danger,

*adv.* securely

doubt, or worry

*adj.* secure

*Syn.* safety

*v.* secure

Her sense of security increased as her grades improved.

We secured all of the doors of the lab before leaving.

**toxic**

*adj.* harmful; capable of being fatal

*n.* toxicity

*Syn.* poisonous

Disposal of toxic wastes is an ongoing problem.

This product has the highest toxicity of any known to science.

**tranquility**

*n.* calm; quietness

*adv.* tranquilly

*Syn.* peacefulness

*adj.* tranquil

*v.* tranquilize

The tranquility of the lake at sunrise inspired a profound sense of well-being.

His tranquil manner of expression made us all feel more secure.

**trap**

*v.* to catch and hold onto, usually by trickery;

*adj.* trapped

deceived

*n.* trap

*Syn.* retain

I was trapped into paying for the meal.

The trapped animals were released after being tagged by the wildlife conservationists.

**undeniably**

*adv.* clearly true

*adj.* undeniable

*Syn.* absolutely

Of all the planets in our solar system, Earth is undeniably the most conducive to supporting life.

It is undeniable that he has skill, but he needs to show more initiative.

**underestimated**

v. underestimate

*adj.* guessed lower than the actual quality or quantity

*Syn.* miscalculated

The underestimated demand for tickets made the theater manager plan better for the next performance.

The treasurer underestimated the cost of the new furniture.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. curative  
(A) healing  
(B) gratifying  
(C) toxic  
(D) conceivable

2. limited  
(A) sustained  
(B) ample  
(C) finite  
(D) approximate

3. amusement  
(A) peacefulness  
(B) demonstration  
(C) diversion  
(D) marvel

4. security  
(A) power  
(B) safety  
(C) trap  
(D) cure

5. debilitating  
(A) convincing  
(B) formidable  
(C) accelerating  
(D) weakening

6. aggravate  
(A) irritate  
(B) convert  
(C) isolate  
(D) initiate

7. conceivably  
(A) absolutely  
(B) aptly  
(C) possibly  
(D) tranquilly

8. alter  
(A) sustain  
(B) launch  
(C) detect  
(D) convert

9. depleted  
(A) retained  
(B) consumed  
(C) polluted  
(D) inundated

10. perceive  
(A) deny  
(B) miscalculate  
(C) observe  
(D) estimate

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Underestimated tax revenues caused the severe budget crunches that plagued local governments during the early 1970s.

- (A) depleted
- (B) finite
- (C) disappointing
- (D) miscalculated

2. Casey Stengel was undeniably one of the most successful coaches in the history of baseball.

- (A) absolutely
- (B) unexpectedly
- (C) conceivably
- (D) likely

3. The power of the sun is trapped by the leaves of plants and used to produce food by a process called photosynthesis.

- (A) perceived
- (B) reflected
- (C) retained
- (D) converted

4. Some people find tranquility when they are far away from the hustle and bustle of city life.

- (A) peacefulness
- (B) amusement
- (C) fulfillment
- (D) security

5. All Cnidarians have the potential to affect human physiology owing to the toxic nature of their nematocysts.

- (A) curative
- (B) debilitating
- (C) poisonous
- (D) aggravating

## LESSON 29

■ acknowledge ■ acquire ■ assimilate ■ assortment ■ caliber  
■ condensed ■ contradictory ■ disregard ■ precious ■ prominent  
■ requisite ■ unravel ■ vague ■ vast ■ volume

---

### **acknowledge**

n. acknowledgment

adj. acknowledged

v. to know, remember, and accept the  
existence of something

*Syn.* recognize

The foreman acknowledged the fact that there had been a mistake in the design of the house.

The promotion he received was an acknowledgment of his excellent work.

### **acquire**

adj. acquisitive

n. acquisition

v. to gain or come to possess

*Syn.* obtain

He acquired two beautiful paintings during his visit to Taipei.

The office's most recent acquisition was a new photocopier.

### **assimilate**

n. assimilation

v. to become a part of

*Syn.* incorporate

The United States of America has assimilated people from all parts of the world.

Assimilation of a new cultural environment can be difficult.

### **assortment**

adj. assorted

n. a variety

*Syn.* selection

You have an assortment of elective courses from which to choose.

He bought a box of assorted books at the book fair.

### **caliber**

n. the standard of; the degree of goodness

*Syn.* quality

The high caliber of her work earned her a raise in pay.

Only parts of the highest caliber can be used to make repairs on the spacecraft.

### **condensed**

v. condense

adj. made smaller; shortened; merged

*Syn.* summarized

This is a condensed version of the original research report.

Try to condense the two chapters into one.

### **contradictory**

v. contradict

n. contradiction

adj. not agreeing with the facts or previous

statements made on the subject; declared wrong

*Syn.* inconsistent

It is contradictory to say that you know French after only studying it for three months.

The expert contradicted himself during his presentation.

**disregard** v. to pay no attention  
n. disregard *Syn.* ignore

They disregarded the no parking signs and were ticketed by the police.

His disregard of the lab instructions caused him to make many errors.

**precious** *adj.* having much monetary or sentimental value;  
beautiful  
*Syn.* cherished

This golden ring is my most precious possession.

The precious stone was one of a kind.

**prominent** *adj.* famous; having a high position  
adv. prominently *Syn.* renowned  
n. prominence

Their talent for locating oil deposits made them prominent geologists in the corporation.

He gained prominence through his television appearances.

**requisite** *adj.* needed for a specific purpose  
v. require \* a formal request  
n. requirement *Syn.* demanded  
n. requisition\*  
v. requisition

Here is the list of requisite courses for the master's degree in biology.

The project team made a requisition for a new set of reference books.

**unravel** v. to organize; to make clear  
n. unraveling *Syn.* separate

The detective was not able to unravel the mystery of the missing money.

The unraveling of the Soviet Union took place in the span of a few months.

**vague** *adj.* not clear; ambiguous  
adv. vaguely *Syn.* unclear  
n. vagueness

She only has vague memories of her childhood.

The vagueness of his directions caused us to get lost.

**vast** *adj.* very much; very large  
adv. vastly *Syn.* huge

I have noticed a vast improvement in your English vocabulary.

Unfortunately, the water quality has deteriorated vastly since my last visit here.

**volume** *n.* the amount of something contained in a space

adv. voluminously\*

\* holding a lot

adj. voluminous

*Syn.* quantity

The volume of information that a computer diskette can hold is astounding.

This voluminous report will erase your doubt about the financial condition of the company.



## MATCHING

Choose the synonym

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. caliber      | 6. precious       |
| (A) volume      | (A) cherished     |
| (B) marvel      | (B) substantive   |
| (C) quality     | (C) vague         |
| (D) acclaim     | (D) tangible      |
| 2. ignore       | 7. condensed      |
| (A) disregard   | (A) summarized    |
| (B) separate    | (B) emphasized    |
| (C) deplete     | (C) legitimized   |
| (D) withstand   | (D) authorized    |
| 3. acknowledged | 8. assimilate     |
| (A) exaggerated | (A) illustrate    |
| (B) recognized  | (B) incorporate   |
| (C) exemplified | (C) investigate   |
| (D) accentuated | (D) isolate       |
| 4. assortment   | 9. renown         |
| (A) assertion   | (A) reaction      |
| (B) selection   | (B) vast          |
| (C) pattern     | (C) prominent     |
| (D) ingredient  | (D) requisite     |
| 5. obtain       | 10. contradictory |
| (A) acquire     | (A) ambiguous     |
| (B) unravel     | (B) requisite     |
| (C) demand      | (C) inconsistent  |
| (D) perceive    | (D) disregarded   |

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The volume of music contained in the archives of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers is extraordinary.  
(A) sound  
(B) quantity  
(C) caliber  
(D) assortment
2. Technical curricula are requisite in a wide range of fields.  
(A) assimilated  
(B) promoted  
(C) demanded  
(D) acquired
3. Pioneers traveling to the west found a vast treasury of natural resources.  
(A) a prominent  
(B) a precious  
(C) an elaborate  
(D) a huge
4. Evidence concerning the origins of the native people living in the coastal areas of western Canada is vague.  
(A) contradictory  
(B) abundant  
(C) acknowledged  
(D) unclear
5. History consists of a complex weave of social, cultural, and economic forces that are not easily unraveled.  
(A) separated  
(B) disregarded  
(C) illustrated  
(D) condensed

## LESSON 30

■ charisma ■ clever ■ convince ■ endure ■ forfeit  
■ precarious ■ severe ■ sporadic ■ superior ■ wanton  
■ weak ■ widespread ■ wisdom ■ witticism ■ woo

---

### charisma

adj. charismatic

*n.* a special quality that endears other people  
to the person who has this quality  
*Syn.* appeal

She has a charisma that no other candidate possesses.

John F. Kennedy was known for his charismatic personality.

### clever

adv. cleverly

*n.* cleverness

*adj.* intelligent; resourceful

*Syn.* astute

Everyone appreciated their clever idea.

His cleverness enabled him to rise quickly in the organization.

### convince

adv. convincingly

adj. convincing

*v.* to make someone see things your way

*Syn.* persuade

They could not convince the girls to go to the dance with them.

The video made a convincing argument for the recycling of paper and plastic materials.

### endure

adj. endurable

adj. enduring

*n.* endurance

*v.* to last; to suffer pain

*Syn.* persevere

How he is able to endure living next to the airport is beyond my comprehension.

The endurance displayed by the athlete gave evidence of his rigorous training.

### forfeit

*n.* forfeit

*v.* to give up; to have something taken away,  
usually by rule or regulation

*Syn.* relinquish

Usually you must forfeit your native country's citizenship to become a citizen of another country.

The forfeit occurred because not enough players showed up.

### precarious

adv. precariously

*adj.* not safe, firm, or steady

*Syn.* hazardous

The diver put himself in a precarious situation among the sharks.

The cup was positioned precariously on the edge of the table.

### severe

*adj.* extreme; harmful

v. severely  
n. severity

*Syn.* intense

The weather service issued a severe storm warning for most of Michigan.  
The severity of his condition will not be known until the test results are studied.

**sporadic**

*adj.* not consistent; irregular

adv. sporadically

*Syn.* erratic

The radio communications were subject to sporadic sunspot interference.  
Violent storms occur sporadically in the southwest.

**superior**

*adj.* excellent quality; above all the rest

n. superiority

*Syn.* exceptional

This is a superior fossil of a trilobite.  
The restaurant's superiority was established shortly after it opened.

**wanton**

*adj.* done without thought or consideration

adv. wantonly

*Syn.* senseless

Her wanton disregard of the rules was unexplainable.  
The jealous man was wantonly impolite to the winner.

**weak**

*adj.* not strong; incapable

adv. weakly

*Syn.* ineffective

v. weaken

n. weakness

The weak light was inadequate for reading.  
Most people have at least one area of weakness.

**widespread**

*adj.* found everywhere

*Syn.* extensive

There is a widespread rumor that there will be no class next Thursday.  
The political influence of the developed countries of the world is widespread.

**wisdom**

*n.* knowledge and understanding

adv. wisely

*Syn.* insight

adj. wise

It is often said that wisdom is the product of experience.  
It was a wise decision for you to buy a car.

**witticism**

*n.* a joke; a funny story

adv. wittily

*Syn.* humor

adj. witty

n. wit

n. wittiness

His witticisms captivated the audience.  
Mark Twain was famous for his sharp wit.

**woo**

v. to make efforts to attain or gain something

*Syn.* attract

The directors tried to woo the support of the union.

The opponents of the proposed highway wooed nearby residents to defend their position.

## MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. astute  
(A) acknowledge  
(B) extensive  
(C) clever  
(D) weak

2. sporadic  
(A) prophetic  
(B) intrinsic  
(C) erratic  
(D) archaic

3. relinquish  
(A) recover  
(B) disperse  
(C) forfeit  
(D) deplete

4. persevering  
(A) enduring  
(B) ineffective  
(C) secure  
(D) sincere

5. superior  
(A) prosperous  
(B) sustained  
(C) superficial  
(D) exceptional

6. appeal  
(A) wit  
(B) charisma  
(C) impression  
(D) wisdom

7. precarious  
(A) peculiar  
(B) dangerous  
(C) widespread  
(D) aggravating

8. persuade  
(A) convince  
(B) conform  
(C) confirm  
(D) conceal

9. wisdom  
(A) acceleration  
(B) insight  
(C) caution  
(D) marvel

10. intense  
(A) instant  
(B) hazardous  
(C) severe  
(D) robust

## TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Politicians often woo voters by proposing sweeping reforms of governmental policy.

- (A) forfeit
- (B) attract
- (C) convince
- (D) deceive

2. Davy Crockett was well known for his witticisms and story telling skills.

- (A) humor
- (B) charisma
- (C) endurance
- (D) wisdom

3. When widespread thunderstorms occur, the sky is commonly overcast with many intermingled layers of clouds of various types.

- (A) severe
- (B) powerful
- (C) extensive
- (D) hazardous

4. Although jellyfish move by jet propulsion, most are weak swimmers.

- (A) ineffective
- (B) clever
- (C) superior
- (D) impressive

5. The disappearance of tropical rain forests is a direct result of wanton disregard of this valuable resource by mankind.

- (A) precarious
- (B) sporadic
- (C) senseless
- (D) troubling

# ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

## LESSON 1

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.A 2.A 3.C 4.A 5.C 1.D 2.C 3.B 4.A 5.A  
6.C 7.D 8.B 9.D 10.B

## LESSON 2

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.A 3.D 4.B 5.C 1.D 2.B 3.A 4.A 5.C  
6.B 7.A 8.C 9.C 10.D

## LESSON 3

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.B 3.D 4.A 5.C 1.B 2.A 3.B 4.A 5.B  
6.B 7.A 8.D 9.C 10.D

## LESSON 4

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.B 3.A 4.D 5.A 1.A 2.B 3.A 4.A 5.A  
6.B 7.A 8.D 9.A 10.D

## LESSON 5

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.C 1.D 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.C  
6.B 7.D 8.A 9.B 10.C

## LESSON 6

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.C 3.A 4.C 5.A 1.D 2.B 3.C 4.A 5.B  
6.B 7.B 8.A 9.D 10.A

## LESSON 7

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.U 3.A 4.C 5.C 1.A 2.A 3.B 4.D 5.A  
6.A 7.B 8.B 9.C 10.A

## LESSON 8

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.D 3.D 4.A 5.B 1.A 2.C 3.A 4.B 5.B  
6.B 7.A 8.C 9.A 10.D

## LESSON 9

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.A 1.A 2.A 3.C 4.C 5.B  
6.D 7.B 8.A 9.A 10.D

## LESSON 10

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.B 3.A 4.D 5.A 1.D 2.D 3.B 4.A 5.A  
6.C 7.A 8.C 9.C 10.D

## LESSON 11

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.A 3.B 4.B 5.D 1.C 2.B 3.D 4.C 5.A  
6.A 7.A 8.D 9.C 10.C

## LESSON 12

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.C 3.D 4.A 5.B 1.D 2.D 3.C 4.B 5.B  
6.A 7.D 8.B 9.A 10.A

## LESSON 13

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.B 4.A 5.C 1.D 2.A 3.A 4.C 5.D  
6.B 7.C 8.B 9.D 10.A

## LESSON 14

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.A 1.A 2.C 3.D 4.B 5.A  
6.A 7.D 8.D 9.D 10.A

## LESSON 15

### MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.B 4.D 5.A 1.C 2.B 3.D 4.B 5.A  
6.C 7.B 8.D 9.A 10.C



LESSON 16

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.C 3.A 4.B 5.B 1.C 2.C 3.A 4.C 5.A

6.D 7.B 8.D 9.B 10.B

LESSON 17

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.A 2.B 3.A 4.A 5.D 1.C 2.B 3.A 4.D 5.C

6.B 7.D 8.A 9.A 10.B

LESSON 18

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.A 3.A 4.A 5.D 1.C 2.B 3.A 4.A 5.C

6.B 7.B 8.A 9.B 10.C

LESSON 19

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.C 3.A 4.A 5.A 1.B 2.A 3.B 4.D 5.D

6.D 7.C 8.C 9.C 10.D

LESSON 20

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.B 4.C 5.A 1.A 2.A 3.B 4.B 5.C

6.C 7.A 8.D 9.A 10.B

LESSON 21

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.A 2.D 3.B 4.B 5.D 1.B 2.A 3.D 4.C 5.A

6.B 7.C 8.D 9.C 10.B

LESSON 22

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.C 4.B 5.A 1.A 2.C 3.A 4.B 5.A

6.D 7.B 8.A 9.C 10.D

LESSON 23

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.D 2.C 3.C 4.B 5.B 1.B 2.A 3.C 4.C 5.D

6.D 7.A 8.A 9.C 10.C

LESSON 24

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.B 2.D 3.A 4.A 5.C 1.C 2.D 3.B 4.D 5.C

6.C 7.A 8.C 9.A 10.D

LESSON 25

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.A 2.A 3.D 4.B 5.C 1.D 2.B 3.A 4.A 5.D

6.A 7.B 8.C 9.B 10.D

LESSON 26

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.B 3.D 4.A 5.C 1.A 2.D 3.C 4.D 5.B

6.B 7.B 8.A 9.C 10.B

LESSON 27

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.D 3.D 4.B 5.B 1.C 2.A 3.B 4.B 5.A

6.C 7.A 8.D 9.A 10.C

LESSON 28

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.A 2.C 3.C 4.B 5.D 1.D 2.A 3.C 4.A 5.C

6.A 7.C 8.D 9.B 10.C

LESSON 29

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.A 3.B 4.B 5.A 1.B 2.C 3.D 4.D 5.A

6.A 7.A 8.B 9.C 10.C

LESSON 30

MATCHING TEST QUESTIONS

1.C 2.C 3.C 4.A 5.D 1.B 2.A 3.C 4.A 5.C

6.B 7.B 8.A 9.B 10.C