گروه زبان دکتر برزآبادی

# VOCABULARY FOR PRETOEFL STUDENTS

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# **Session One**

Saturate	Sophisticated	Withstand
Abundant	Successive	Enhance
Consolidate	Ambiguous	Acclaim
Champion(v.)	Intrusive	Profound
Abandon	Formidable	Prevailing

# Word 1: saturate

- ► Saturate: soak: drench\*
- to make something very wet [= soak; ≠ dry]:
- ▶ Water poured through the hole and <u>saturated</u> the carpet.
- ► Most TV channels are saturated with ads.(adjective)
- ► His T-shirt was saturated with sweat.(adjective)
- \*Drenched in sth

#### Word 2: Abundant

- ► Abundant: plentiful: adequate: ample: rich # scarce
- ► Abundant supplies/ opportunities/ work force(adjective)
- You can find the material in abundance in this region.(noun)
- Examples of this reason abound. (verb)

#### Word 3: Consolidate

- Consolidate: <u>strengthen: fortify: stabilize</u>
- Samsung tries to <u>consolidate</u> its position in the market through introducing user-friendly smartphones. (verb)
- ▶ You need to consolidate your language learning though regular practice.
- Further consolidations in political power might follow the coup.(Noun)

# Word 4: Champion(v.)

- ► Champion (v.): support: advocate: back: espouse
- This idea has been widely championed by academicians.(Verb)

#### Word 5: Abandon

- ► Abandon: leave: desert
- ▶ Abandon your family/ city/ country/ house/ attempts to do sth/ the idea of sth
- Fearing further attacks, most of the population had abandoned the city. (Verb)
- ► There were lots of abandoned houses in the district.(Adjective)
- ► Government's abandonment of the policy was criticized. (Noun)

#### POP QUIZ

Fill in blanks using the following words:

# ► Abundant Championed Abandon Saturated Consolidated

- ▶ 1. Because of the fog they.....their idea of driving.
- ▶ 2. During the 18th century land was cheap, grain was plentiful, and meat was........
- ▶ 3. The company is planning to ...... its business activities at a new site in Arizona.
- ▶ 4. The hypothesis was .....by Piaget.
- ▶ 5. Heavy rains had......the ground, turning the streets into rivers.

## Word 6: Sophisticated

- ► Sophisticated: cultivated: refined: urbane
- ► Complex: complicated: intricate
- ► Sophisticated cutting-edge tablets
- ► He is recognized as a highly sophisticated university professor.(adjective)
- Tourists have been amazed by the sophistication of this rich cosmopolitan city. (Noun)

#### Word 7: Successive

- Successive: consecutive: in sequence
- Successive classes left him absolutely worn-out. (adjective)
- Successive governments have tried to deal with this issue. (adjective)
- A succession of visitors came to the door. (Noun)
- If the prince dies, the <u>succession</u> passes to his son. (Noun)
- ► She won the championship four times in succession. (Noun)
- ► Who will <u>succeed</u> him to the throne? (verb)

#### Word 8: Ambiguous

- Ambiguous: indefinite: dubious: equivocal: enigmatic: vague: obscure
- The poem is highly ambiguous and open to various interpretations. (adjective)
- ► The rules are <u>ambiguously</u> worded. (adverb)
- There was an element of <u>ambiguity</u> in the president's reply. (Noun)

#### Word 9: Intrusive

- Intrusive: interfering: meddlesome
- The paparazzi can be intrusive at times. (Adjective)
- I resented this intrusion into/upon/on my personal affairs.(Noun)
- ► Governments should not <u>intrude into/on/upon</u> the private lives of their citizens.(Verb)

#### Word 10: Formidable

- Formidable: terrifying: intimidating: fearful: dismaying
- ► You have to deal with the formidable task of scoring high on TOEFL iBT. (adjective)
- ► A formidable challenge in your life was ...(adjective)
- The formidability of the issue prevented any further progress. (Noun)

# POP QUIZ

- 1. The underlined word is closest in meaning to.....
  - Eye operations often involve the use of highly <u>sophisticated</u> equipment, such as lasers.
  - A. timid
  - ▶ B. ambitious

- C. advanced
- D. controversial
- 2. The underlined word is closest in meaning to.....
  - ► The expense of moving a family to the ever-receding frontier exceeded the means of many, and the cost of tools draft animals, a wagon, a well, fencing, and of building the simplest house, might come to\$1,000---a **formidable** barrier.
  - (A) obvious

(C) difficult

► (B) predictable

- ► (D) manageable
- 3. The underlined word is closest in meaning to.....
- In the first place, most of its key concepts are essentially **ambiguous**.
- ► A. impressive

C. Crucial

▶ B. well-defined

- D. Vague
- 4. The underlined word is closest in meaning to.....
- ➤ Companies should not have the right to <u>intrude</u> into employees' personal lives by giving them psychological tests.
- A. Persist

C. Judge

► B. Interfere

D. Persuade

#### Word 11: withstand

- ► Withstand: endure: resist: bear: tolerate
- This fabric can withstand steam and high temperatures.
- ▶ The bridge is built to withstand an earthquake of 8.3 magnitude.
- Exercise helps you enormously withstand stresses and strains more easily.

#### Word 12: Enhance

- ► Enhance: boost: improve: heighten: elevate
- The publicity has enhanced his reputation. (Verb)
- ► Rich vocabulary will enhance your reading skill.(Verb)
- ► Performance-enhancing drugs are strictly forbidden. (adjective)
- ▶ Recent improvements in Internet have led to <u>enhanced</u> access to websites. (adjective)
- ► flavor enhancers(noun)
- ► Music is an enhancement to her brilliant performance.(Noun)

#### Word 13: Acclaim

- Acclaim: praise: compliment: applaud: honor
- This movie has been widely <u>acclaimed</u> by film critics. (Verb)
- ► He published a paper which won great <u>acclaim</u> among the academicians. (Noun: acclamation)
- ► The book has been widely/ universally/ highly <u>acclaimed</u> by teachers and pupils. (adjective)

# Word 14: Profound

- ▶ Profound: intense: extreme: acute
- a <u>profound</u> effect/influence/impact/consequence/ question/ thinker/ change(adjective)
- ► Widespread crackdown had a <u>profound</u> effect on people's dissatisfaction with the government. (adjective)

# Word 15: Prevailing

- Prevailing: prevalent: widespread: customary: popular: usual: predominant
- ► The <u>prevailing</u> economic conditions are not favorable.(adjective)
- ► Justice will prevail.(Verb)
- Your inner strength will enable you to prevail over/against life's obstacles. (verb)
- ► She prevailed upon her father to say nothing.(verb)
- ► The prevalent beliefs in superstitions really bothered him. (adjective)

# POP QUIZ

- ▶ Define the underlined words.
- ▶ 1. Burton's lecture was amusing as well as being profound.
- ▶ 2. An epidemic of such proportions that nothing could withstand it.
- ▶ 3. You can enhance the flavor of most dishes with the careful use of herbs.
- ▶ 4. The prevailing mood of public opinion remained hostile.
- ▶ 5. Talen's last play was acclaimed by the critics as a masterpiece.

# **Session Two**

Shortcoming	Bizarre	Commence	Obsolete	Susceptible
Elaborate	Suppress	Lucrative	Plague	Fragile
Secluded	Intensify	Coincide	Abrupt	Massive

# Word 1: Shortcoming

- ► **Shortcoming**: imperfection: flaw: weakness: defect: fault
- ▶ Peter was painfully aware of his own **shortcomings**.(Noun)
- ► The report suggested that there were severe **shortcomings** in police tactics. (noun)

# Word 2: Elaborate

- ► Adjective: detailed: precise: thorough: complete
- ► Verb: expand: amplify
- ► The city is equipped with a very **elaborate** telecommunications network. (Adjective)
- ► She had an **elaborate** lecture on the topic.(adjective)
- ► McDonald refused to **elaborate** on his reasons for resigning. (Verb)
- ► Would you please **elaborate** on that topic? (Verb)
- ► He will some further **elaboration** on the topic. (Noun)

#### Word 3: Secluded

- ► **Secluded**: Private: solitary: sheltered: lonely
- ► **secluded** garden/spot/beach etc
- ► He's 80 years old now and lives a very **secluded** life.
- ► He preferred to stay at home in **seclusion**.

#### Word 4: Bizarre

- **Bizarre**: unusual, strange, odd, extraordinary, exceptional, remarkable: weird
- ► They had worn **bizarre** costumes. (adjective)
- ► It was rather a **bizarre** coincidence. (adjective)

#### Word 5: **Suppress**

- ► **Suppress**: oppress: crush: stifle
- ► The uprising was ruthlessly **suppressed**. (Verb)
- ► Harry could scarcely **suppress** a smile.(Verb)
- ➤ You should **suppress** your emotions.(Verb)
- ► The virus **suppresses** the body's immune system. (Verb)
- There was a shocking **suppression** of the opposition parties. (Noun)

# POP QUIZ

Find the correct synonym.

Suppress	Unleash
Bizarre	Defect
Secluded	Plentiful
Elaborate	Detached
Shortcoming	Strange
	Comprehensive
	Restrict

# Word 6: **Intensify**

- ▶ <u>to increase: deepen: escalate: strengthen</u>
- ► In June, the civil war **intensified**.
- ► His mother's death **intensified his loneliness**.
- ► China is **intensifying efforts** to fight crime.
- ▶ Winds **intensified** during the afternoon.
- ► Adjectives: intense- intensive

#### Word 7: Commence

- ► Begin: start: initiate
- ▶ Work will **commence** on the new building immediately.
- ▶ Your first evaluation will be six months after you **commence** employment.
- ▶ The planes **commenced** bombing at midnight.

# Word 8: Lucrative

- ► <u>Profitable: advantageous: fruitful</u>
- ► Catering is a very lucrative business if you succeed in it.
- ► A lucrative job/ business

#### Word 9: Coincide

- ► Coincide: concur
- **coincide** with
- ► His entry to the party **coincided with** his marriage.
- Noun: coincidence
- **by coincidence**
- **By coincidence**, John and I both ended up at Yale.
- ► It was sheer/pure coincidence.

#### Word 10: Obsolete

- ► Antiquated: archaic: outdated
- **obsolete** weapons
- computer hardware that quickly became **obsolete**
- ► Will computers render (=make) books **obsolete**?

# **POP QUIZ**

- ▶ Define the bold-faced words.
- ▶ 1. Transferred from Barcelona to Naples, Maradona signed a highly <u>lucrative</u> three-year contract.
- ▶ 2. In the excitement as the applause <u>commenced</u>, nobody had noticed Stafford slipping out of the lecture hall.
- ▶ 3. Floppy disks are now **obsolete.**
- ▶ 4. The show is timed to **coincide with** the launch of a new book.
- ▶ 5. Police have now **intensified** the search for the lost child.

#### Word 11: Plague

- ► Bother: annoy: make suffer: harass
- ► He was **plagued by** eye troubles.
- Financial problems continued to **plague** the company.
- ► The kids have been **plaguing me with** questions.

# Word 12: Abrupt

- ► Sudden: unexpected: quick
- ► There was an **abrupt change** of plan.
- ► He left the class **abruptly**.
- ► His **abruptness** irked her.
- ► Sorry, I didn't mean to be so **abrupt.**

# Word 13: Susceptible

- ► Prone: vulnerable: suggestible
- ▶ Older people are more **susceptible to** infections.

- ► Young people are more **susceptible to** advertisements.
- ► She was very **susceptible to** flattery.
- ▶ A lot of TV advertising is aimed at **susceptible** young children.
- ► Hafez's poems are **susceptible to** different interpretations.

# Word 14: Fragile

- ▶ Delicate: easily broken: frail: flimsy: weak
- ▶ fragile bones
- ► Be careful with that vase it's very **fragile.**
- ▶ the country's **fragile** economy
- ▶ Relations between the two countries are in a **fragile** state.
- ► the party's fragile unity

# Word 15: Massive

- ► Huge: gigantic: enormous: monumental
- ► My phone bill was **massive** last month.
- ► There were **massive** increases in the number of homeless
- ► Club members can get a **massive** discount of £50.
- ► He had a **massive** stroke/heart attack etc.
- ► He suffered a **massive** stroke.

# **POP QUIZ**

- Fill in blanks using these words.
  - Susceptible- Plague- Massive- Fragile- Abrupt
- ▶ 1. The system is capable of recording......amounts of information.
- ► 2. Heavy snows continue to .....the state.
- ▶ 3. His departure was ......and completely unexpected.
- ▶ 4. Two ambulance attendants picked up his ...... body and put him carefully onto a stretcher.
- ▶ 5. Soil on the mountain slopes is very......to erosion.

# **Session Three**

Stimulate	Capacious	Intermittent	Illuminate	distinguish
Surpass	Undermine	Scanty	Depict	Contradictory
Rapport	Tenacious	Inaugurate	spontaneous	decline

#### Word 1: Stimulate

► Arouse: provoke: encourage

► It was an article on the President's plan to stimulate economic growth

► Her interest in art was stimulated by her father.

► An inspiring teacher can stimulate students to succeed.

➤ Stimulus: stimuli (Noun)

## Word 2: Surpass

Outdo: excel

▶ In 15 years, China will likely surpass the U.S. as the world's largest market.

► He had surpassed all our expectations.

He was determined to surpass the achievements of his older brothers.

# Word 3: Rapport

► Relationship: tie: bond: sympathy: affinity

▶ rapport with/between

► He had an excellent rapport with his patients.

establish/build up/develop (a) rapport

► He built up a good rapport with the children.

# Word 4: Capacious

Spacious: roomy: commodious: broad

a capacious suitcase/handbag

#### Word 5: Undermine

► Weaken:

undermine somebody's confidence/authority/position/credibility etc.

► The constant criticism was beginning to undermine her confidence

▶ This policy threatens to undermine the health-care system.

▶ These attempts might undermine the chances of the government's success.

# POP QUIZ

- ► Fill in blanks using the bold-faced words.

  Surpass- rapport- capacious- undermining- stimulate

#### Word 6: Tenacious

- ▶ Resolute: determined: iron: adamant: immovable: unyielding
- ▶ She is very tenacious and will work hard to achieve the objectives.
- ► He was the most tenacious politician in South Korea.
- ► Tenacity: tenaciousness(NOUN)
- ► Talent, diligence and sheer tenacity are all crucial to career success.

#### Word 7: Intermittent

- Occasional: sporadic: periodic: irregular
- After three hours of intermittent rain, the game was finally abandoned.
- ▶ The weather forecast is for sun, with intermittent showers.
- The talks went on intermittently for three years.

#### Word 8: Scanty

- Insufficient: inadequate: deficient
- ► There is only scanty evidence/data of his involvement.
- scanty clothing

#### Word 9: Inaugurate

- Launch: begin: commence: initiate: introduce
- ▶ On 8 January 1959 De Gaulle was inaugurated as First President of the Republic.
- ▶ The International Trade Agreement inaugurated a period of high economic growth.
- In 1960, Brazil inaugurated its new capital, Brasilia.
- ► The new president will be inaugurated on January 20.

#### Word 10: Illuminate

- ► Elucidate: clarify: shed light on sth...
- These reasons illuminate our understanding of the issue.
- Streetlights illuminated the streets.
- ▶ The report illuminated the difficult issues at the heart of science policy.
- To illuminate the subject, you may use graphs and charts.

#### Word 11: Depict

- ▶ Draw: illustrate: portray: demonstrate: picture
- ► The book depicts life in pre-revolutionary Russia.
- In this new biography, she is depicted as a lonely and unhappy woman.
- ► The god is depicted as a bird with a human head.

## Word 12: spontaneous

- Natural: impulsive: unplanned
- ► The crowd gave a spontaneous cheer.
- My spontaneous reaction was to run away.
- She laughed spontaneously.
- ► The group was greeted by spontaneous applause.
- ► The invitation was completely spontaneous.
- ► He had the spontaneity of a child.

## Word 13: distinguish

- ▶ Differentiate: discriminate: determine: categorize: separate
- distinguish somebody/something from
- ▶ The factor that distinguishes this company from the competition is customer service.
- distinguishing feature/mark/characteristic
- ► The main distinguishing feature of this species is the leaf shape.
- ► The light was too dim for me to distinguish anything clearly.
- ► He distinguished himself on several occasions in the civil war.
- Ms. Dixon comes from a distinguished Washington family.

# Word 14: Contradictory

- ► Incompatible: inconsistent: contrary: converse: paradoxical
- contradictory messages/statements/demands etc.
- ▶ The public is being fed contradictory messages about the economy.
- ▶ Upon further questioning, the witnesses gave inconsistent and sometimes contradictory answers.
- ▶ Dad just can't bear to be contradicted.
- ► The article flatly contradicts their claims.
- ▶ There is a contradiction between the government's ideas and its actual policy.
- Your behavior is in direct contradiction to the principles you claim to have.

#### Word 15: decline

- Transitive: refuse: reject: to turn down:
- Intransitive: lessen: decrease: diminish: deteriorate
- ► There has been a decline in the size of families.
- rapid/sharp/steep/dramatic decline
- ► a rapid decline in unemployment
- Spending on information technology has declined.
- Car sales have declined by a quarter.
- Mary declined Jay's invitation to dinner.

► Her health has been declining progressively for several months.

# Pop Quiz

- ► Define the bold-faced words.
- ▶ 1. Ed asked me to run the new division for them, but I declined.
- ▶ 2. The crowd gave a spontaneous cheer when the news was announced.
- ▶ 3. The California state flag depicts a grizzly bear.
- ▶ 4. Even an expert would find it hard to distinguish between the original painting and the copy.
- ▶ 5. Candidates must make decisions quickly, sometimes with little or contradictory information.

# **Session Four**

deplete	germinate	underestimate	unprecedented	fluctuate
abolish	relic	synthesize	resilience	exotic
disperse	versatile	edible	proliferate	eradicate

# Word 1: deplete

- Consume: empty: drain: lessen: reduce
- Salmon populations have been severely depleted.
- ► CFC is just one chemical that **depletes** the ozone layer.
- Over the last few years, rainforests have been steadily depleted.

# Word 2: abolish

- **Cancel: end: eliminate: eradicate: revoke**
- ▶ Slavery was **abolished** in the US in the 19th century.
- ▶ He served over 27 years in prison for fighting to **abolish** white-only **rule**.
- Welfare programs cannot be **abolished** that quickly.
- Demonstrations have led to the **abolition** of the rules.

# Word 3: disperse

- Scatter: diffuse: spread
- Police used tear gas to **disperse** the crowd.
- The clouds **dispersed** as quickly as they had gathered
- Once the ambulance had left, the crowd began to disperse.
- **Decause** of the surrounding mountains, air pollution in Tehran is not easily dispersed.

# Word 4: germinate

- Develop: grow
- Most seeds **germinate** best between 85 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit.
- The **idea** of setting up his own company began to **germinate** in his mind.

#### Word 5: relic

- **Remnant:** memento
- The books and photos are **relics** of Rob's university days
- Everything in the house seemed old and untouched, like **relics** of an ancient time.
- **Relict** species

# Pop Quiz

- Fill in blanks using the following words.
  Deplete- abolished- dispersed- germinate- relic
- ▶ 1. The unpopular tax was finally ...... some ten years ago.
- **2.** As these problems multiply and.....resources, the range of options available to the organization increasingly narrows.
- ▶ 3. Some aquatic plants develop seeds which.....immediately after maturing.
- ▶ 4. Voters passed a bill to remove a law that is a......of the state's racist past.
- ▶ 5. One resident said the student protesters .....peacefully.

#### Word 6: versatile

- ► All-purpose: all-round: resourceful
- a very **versatile** performer
- a more **versatile** workforce
- The potato is an extremely **versatile vegetable.**
- Everyone admired his outstanding **versatility** as an all-round entertainer.

## Word 7: underestimate

- Underrate: undervalue: minimize
- We **underestimated** how long it would take to get there.
- underestimate the importance/extent/effect/power etc of something
- Never **underestimate** the power of the press.
- ► He tends to **overestimate** his own abilities.

#### Word 8: synthesize

- Mix: combine
- DDT is a pesticide that was first **synthesized** in 1874.
- Your paper has to **synthesize** what you read and what you observed.
- a synthesis of Eastern and Western philosophical ideas

#### Word 9: edible

- **Eatable: digestible: palatable**
- These berries are **edible**, but those are poisonous.
- Are these mushrooms **edible?**
- The meal was barely **edible.**
- There are many **edible** fruits growing wild in the coastal forest.

#### Word 10: unprecedented

Unheard-of, remarkable, singular, extraordinary

- ▶ He took the **unprecedented** step of stating that the rumors were false.
- Crime has increased on an unprecedented scale.
- An **unprecedented boom** in tourism brought sudden prosperity to the town.
- An **unprecedented number** of cars entered the race.
- Such an event is unprecedented in recent history.

## Word 11: resilience

- ► Strong: tough: hardy: sturdy: flexible
- Children are often very **resilient**.
- ▶ The company proved **remarkably resilient** during the recession.
- People showed **remarkable resilience** during the war.

# Word 12: proliferate

- ► Increase: expand: multiply
- ► An INTRANSITIVE verb
- Fast-food restaurants have **proliferated** in the area.
- The HIV virus is able to **proliferate** at an astonishing rate.

#### Word 13: fluctuate

- ► Vary: oscillate: waver: alternate
- **▶** fluctuate between
- Prices were volatile, **fluctuating** between \$20 and \$40.
- fluctuate around
- The number of children in the school **fluctuates around** 100.
- ▶ Insect populations **fluctuate** wildly from year to year.

#### Word 14: exotic

- Unusual: foreign: alien
- **exotic** birds
- **exotic** places

#### Word 15: eradicate

- Wipe out: eliminate: root out: uproot: exterminate: obliterate
- We can **eradicate** this disease from the world.
- ▶ There was an attempt to **eradicate** inflation.
- This problem has now been completely **eradicated.**
- ▶ He spoke about what is necessary to **eradicate** AIDS.
- The disease has been **eradicated** from the Western world through the use of vaccines.

# **Session Five**

feasible	Inadvertent	Debris	Implausible	Genuine
Discern	Volatile	Contagious	Compelling	Monopolize
Proponent	Detrimental	Devastated	Lethal	Camouflage

#### WORD 1: feasible

- ► Possible, workable, achievable, viable
- **a** <u>fea</u>sible solution
- economically/technically/politically etc feasible
- ▶ It was no longer financially feasible to keep the community centre open.

#### WORD 2: Discern

- ► Perceive, notice, behold, determine
- **▶** discern what/where/why etc
- ▶ Officials were keen to <u>discern</u> how much public support there was.
- **▶** We could just discern a town in the distance.
- **▶** The discernible stars

# WORD 3: Proponent

- ► Supporter, advocate# opponent
- proponent of
- ► Steinem has always been a strong proponent of women's rights.
- ► leading/main/major proponent
- ▶ Dr George is one of the leading proponents of this view.

#### WORD 4: Inadvertent

- ► Unintentional, involuntary, unconscious
- ► Viruses can be spread inadvertently by email users.
- ► Robinson's name was inadvertently omitted from the list.
- **▶** <u>inadvertent</u> exposure to chemicals

#### WORD 5: Volatile

- ► Unsteady, variable, inconstant, changeable
- ► an <u>increasingly volatile</u> political situation
- ► The highly volatile stock and bond markets
- ► A <u>volatile person</u>(temperamental: mercurial)

# Pop quiz

- ▶ Define the boldfaced words
- ▶ 1. the available weather data are generally not detailed enough to allow computers to **discern** the subtle atmospheric changes that precede these storms.
- ▶ 2. In a panic, I **inadvertently** pushed the accelerator instead of the brake.
- ▶ 3. Da Silva considered it **feasible** that uranium could be produced on an industrial scale.
- ▶ 4. People are afraid to change jobs in today's **volatile** economy.

# A Question

- ▶ **Proponents** of these reforms argued that public ownership and regulation would insure widespread access to these utilities and guarantee a fair price.
- ► The word "Proponents" is closest in meaning to which of following?
  - (A) Experts
- (B) Pioneers
- (C) Reviewers
- (D) Supporters

#### WORD 6: Detrimental

- ► Unfavorable, damaging, destructive, deleterious, adverse
- **detrimental to**
- **►** Smoking is detrimental to your health.
- ► The detrimental effect of pollution on the environment

#### Word 7: Debris

- ► Fragments, remains, rubble, wreckage
- ► She was hit by flying debris from the blast.
- ► plant/garden/industrial etc debris
- ► Clean the ventilation ducts to remove dust and insect debris.
- ► The beach was littered with debris.

#### **WORD 8: Contagious**

- **▶** Communicable, infectious
- ► Chicken pox is a highly contagious disease.
- ► The patient is still highly contagious.
- ► her contagious enthusiasm
- ► Laughing/ yawning is contagious.

#### WORD 9: Devastated

- **▶** Devastate: destroy: demolish: wreck
- ▶ Rob was devastated by the news of her death.
- ► The city center was devastated by the bomb.
- ► She was left feeling totally devastated.

- devastating effect/impact
- ► Acid rain has a devastating effect on the forest.
- devastating results/consequences
- ► The oil spill had <u>devastating consequences</u> for wildlife.
- ► It will be a <u>devastating blow</u> for the town if the factory closes.

# WORD 10: Implausible

- ► Impossible, inconceivable, impractical
- **▶** implausible theory/idea/explanation etc
- ► Margaret found his excuse somewhat implausible.
- ▶ It's not <u>entirely implausible</u> that a galaxy could be identical to our own.
- ▶ Jill says she can earn \$50,000 from the job, but this is an implausible figure.

# Pop quiz

- Fill in the blanks.
- **▶** Detrimental- debris- contagious- devastated- implausible
- ▶ 1. A huge explosion....the downtown area last night.
- ▶ 2. People with measles are highly .......
- ▶ 3. Fragments of building.....can form a large part of the total number of finds from a site.
- ▶ 4. The idea that a virus could wipe out an entire city so quickly seems a little......
- ▶ 5. At the same time, medical and social science research began to indicate that retirement itself had.....effects.

#### WORD 11: Compelling

- ► Fascinating, forcing, convincing, irrefutable
- compelling reason/argument/case etc
- ► Lucy had no compelling reason to go into town.
- ► The court was presented with <u>compelling evidence</u> that she'd murdered her husband.
- ► His life makes a compelling story.
- ► compelling need/desire/urge (to do something)
- ▶ He felt a compelling need to tell someone about his idea.

# WORD 12: Lethal

- ▶ Deadly, fatal, dangerous, devastating, murderous, destructive
- **▶** a lethal dose of heroin
- ► A lethal weapon
- ▶ death by lethal injection
- ► These chemicals are lethal to fish.
- ► Higher taxes and higher inflation were a lethal combination.

#### WORD 13: Genuine

- ▶ authentic, original, real # fake, sham, forge, counterfeit
- **▶** genuine interest/concern/desire etc
- ► The reforms are motivated by <u>a genuine concern</u> for the disabled.
- **a** genuine fear of invasion
- ▶ 'Did he really?' Her surprise seemed genuine.
- ► We need laws that will protect genuine refugees. (real)
- ► The strap is genuine leather.
- ► She is the most genuine person I've ever met. (honest)

# WORD 14: Monopolize

- **▶** Dominate, take the control of, take over
- ► The company has monopolized the soft drinks market.
- ► He monopolized the conversation all evening.
- ▶ Virtually all her time and energy is now monopolized by the children.
- **▶** The state monopoly of television
- ► monopoly on/in
- For years Bell Telephone had a monopoly on telephone services in the US.
- ► Teachers do not have a monopoly on educational debate.

# WORD 15: Camouflage

- ► Mask, disguise, veil
- **▶** Soldiers learn camouflage techniques.
- ► The men were dressed <u>in camouflage</u> and carrying automatic weapons.
- **▶** camouflage trousers
- ► The whiteness of the arctic fox acts as camouflage, hiding it from its enemies.

# Pop quiz

Find the meanings of the words.

Compelling	Mortal
Camouflage	Dominate
Monopolize	Forceful
Genuine	Concealment
Lethal	Authentic

# **Session Six**

Surrender	Collide	Incongruous	Assess	Dormant
Deprive	Assortment	Precede	Climax	Epoch
Perish	Flaw	Equilibrium	Indigenous	Triumph

#### WORD 1: Surrender

- ► Give up, abandon, submit
- The terrorists were given ten minutes to surrender.
- surrender to somebody
- Thousands of illegal immigrants in Japan have surrendered to police.
- ▶ He immediately surrendered himself to the authorities.
- They were given two hours to <u>surrender their weapons</u>.
- ► Kate was most reluctant to <u>surrender her independence</u>.
- Marchers who had cameras were forced to surrender their film.
- Sarah <u>surrendered to temptation</u> and took out a cigarette.

# WORD 2: Deprive

- Remove
- A lot of these children have been deprived of a normal home life.
- Deprived children tend to do less well at school.
- deprived areas/neighborhoods etc (=where a lot of deprived people live)
- our <u>deprived inner cities</u>
- ► Sleep deprivation can result in mental disorders.
- social/economic/emotional etc deprivation
- Low birth weight is related to economic deprivation.

# WORD 3: Perish

- Die, vanish, rot, decay
- Hundreds perished when the ship went down.
- Five children <u>perished</u> before firefighters could put out the blaze.

## WORD 4: Collide

- Conflict, crash, hit, clash
- A car and a van <u>collided</u> on the motorway.
- I ran around the corner, and almost collided with Mrs Laurence.
- Two trains collided head-on (=when they were moving directly towards each other).
- The President has again <u>collided with Congress</u> over his budget plans. (disagree)

- Istanbul, where east and west collide
- Colliding viewpoints(opposite)
- The school bus was involved in a collision with a truck.

#### WORD 5: Assortment

- Medley, mixture, array, variety
- On the floor was an <u>assortment</u> of boxes and packages.
- The soldier received a parcel containing an <u>assortment</u> of shirts, biscuits, and canned food.
- Assorted colors

# Question

- The lot could also accommodate a rectangular tenement, though it could not yield the square, well-lighted, and logically arranged rooms that great apartment buildings require.
- The word "yield" is closest in meaning to which of following?

  (A) harvest (B) surrender (C) amount (D) provide

## Ouestion

- Then, perhaps later, an assortment of vocal sounds was developed as a word tally against the number of objects in a small group.
- The word "assortment" is closest in meaning to which of following?

  (A) instrument (B) variety (C) surplus (D) symbol

#### Word 6: Flaw

- Weakness, defect, fault, imperfection
- a <u>flaw</u> in the software
- serious/major/basic/minor etc flaw
- ▶ Beautiful scenery does not make up for the flaws of this film.
- There is a fundamental flaw in Walton's argument.
- fatal flaw
- Jealousy is Othello's major flaw.
- ▶ the President's character flaws
- The research behind this report is <u>seriously flawed</u>.

#### Word 7: Incongruous

- Inappropriate, improper, incompatible, unsuitable
- The new theater looks utterly incongruous in its setting.
- ▶ He was dressed in a three-piece suit with an <u>incongruous</u> tie shaped like a fish.
- It seemed incongruous having a dance-band at the funeral.

## Word 8: Precede

- Antedate, predate, go before
- a type of cloud that <u>precedes</u> rain
- Lunch will be preceded by a short speech from the chairman.
- ► The guard <u>preceded</u> them down the corridor.
- preceding days/weeks/months/years
- preceding chapter/paragraph/page etc

# Word 9: Equilibrium

- ▶ Balance, stability, steadiness, symmetry
- The government is anxious not to upset the <u>economic equilibrium</u>.
- ► She struggled to recover her <u>equilibrium</u>.
- The operation of the free market <u>maintains an equilibrium</u> between supply, demand and price.
- The shock of Freddie's death had <u>upset her equilibrium.</u>

#### Word 10: Assess

- Judge, appraise, evaluate, estimate
- a report to assess the impact of advertising on children
- The technique is being tried in classrooms to assess what effects it may have.
- Many of the adults were assessed as having learning difficulties.
- The value of the business was <u>assessed</u> at £1.25 million.
- What's Michael's assessment of the situation?

# Pop Quiz

- Define the bold-faced words.
- ▶ 1. On vehicle license plates in the UK, the numbers are <u>preceded</u> by a single letter.
- ▶ 2. The temperature at which the solid and liquid are in <u>equilibrium</u> is called the freezing point.
- ▶ 3. We piled into its crowded bar, <u>incongruous</u> among rough seagoing types, and found ourselves a table by the window.
- ▶ 4. The committee will continue to assess how we can improve.
- > 5. Regulatory agencies uncovered numerous flaws in operating and safety procedures.

#### Word 11: Climax

- Culmination, peak, summit, top, pinnacle, zenith
- the climax of his career
- a thrilling climax to the game
- The festival reaches its climax with the traditional boat-burning ceremony.

#### Word 12: Indigenous

- Native, local, domestic
- indigenous to
- ▶ Blueberries are indigenous to America.
- the many <u>indigenous cultures</u> which existed in Siberia

#### Word 13: Dormant

- Inactive, asleep, latent, inoperative
- The seeds <u>remain dormant</u> until the spring.
- a huge dormant volcano
- A dormant neighborhood

# Word 14: Epoch

- Era, age, date, period, time
- the Victorian epoch
- The king's death marked the end of an epoch.
- the beginning of a new epoch
- the epoch-making social changes of the 1960s

# Word 15: Triumph

- Joy, elation, success, accomplishment, feat
- Winning the championship is a great personal triumph.
- a tremendous diplomatic triumph for France
- the <u>triumph over</u> hardship
- a shout of triumph
- The gallery is a triumph of design.
- In the end, good shall triumph over evil.(verb)

# Pop Quiz

- Use the following words to fill in blanks.
- lack climax- indigenous- dormant- epoch- triumph
- ▶ 1. The virus remains....in the nerve tissue until activated.
- 2. I have, in my mind, retold my life, .... by.....
- ▶ 3. The cemetery is surrounded by......plants and trees.
- ▶ 4. The opera reaches its.....with Violetta's death in the third act.
- ▶ 5. Mary's final.....was to see both of her boys go to college.

# **Session Seven**

Mainstay	Consensus	Rudimentary	Prohibit	Colony
Mutually exclusive	Interplay	Deficient	Sustainable	Hamper
Repudiate	Meticulous	Pristine	Relay	Compromise

# **Word 1: Mainstay**

Backbone, crucial part

Agriculture is still the mainstay of the country's economy.

She was the mainstay of the team.

Tourism has long been the economic mainstay of Kashmir.

# **Word 2: Mutually exclusive**

Separate/ different, two things which are mutually exclusive can not both exist or be true at the same time

Both questions have to receive affirmative answers, and they are not to a large extent these <u>mutually exclusive.</u>

Two approaches have been <u>mutually exclusive</u>, not to say antagonistic.

# Word 3: Repudiate

Reject, disclaim, contradict, refute

He <u>repudiated</u> all offers of friendship.

The book repudiates the racist stereotypes about black women.

#### **Word 4: Consensus**

Agreement, consent, unanimity

# consensus on/about

a lack of consensus about the aims of the project

<u>There is a consensus among</u> teachers that children should have a broad understanding of the world.

The EU Council of Finance Ministers failed to reach a consensus on the pace of integration.

the current consensus of opinion

The general consensus was that technology was a good thing.

# Word 5: Interplay

Association, bond, connection, rapport

There's a lot of <u>wonderful interplay</u> between the writer and his characters.

the interplay of ideas

# **Word 6: Meticulous**

Thorough, exact, precise

He kept meticulous accounts.

Their planning and preparation were meticulous.

He cleaned the tools with meticulous care.

The book describes his journey in meticulous detail.

He was meticulous in his use of words.

He has always been so meticulous about his appearance.

The attack was meticulously planned and executed.

# **Word 7: Rudimentary**

Basic, elementary, fundamental, initial, primitive, undeveloped

Gradually, I acquired a <u>rudimentary knowledge</u> of music.

my rudimentary German

The classroom equipment is pretty rudimentary.

#### **Word 8: Deficient**

Inadequate, insufficient, scarce, faulty, flawed

Women who are dieting can become iron deficient.

patients who were <u>deficient in vitamin C</u>

Our prisons are our most deficient social service.

## **Word 9: Pristine**

New, pure, untouched, uncorrupted

a pristine white shirt(fresh)

The car has been restored to pristine condition.

pristine African rainforest

**Pristine** snow

#### Word 10: Prohibit

Forbid, ban, prevent, hinder, hamper, impede

Smoking is <u>strictly prohibited</u> inside the factory.

They are <u>prohibited from revealing</u> details about the candidates.

<u>a prohibition on/against</u> Sunday trading

The cost of land in Tokyo is prohibitive.

prohibitive regulations

Moving house would be prohibitively expensive.

# Word 11: Sustainable (ADJECTIVE): enduring, proceeding

The government should do more to promote sustainable agriculture.

the sustainable use of rainforest resources

environmentally sustainable development

The party is promising low inflation and sustainable economic growth.

She found it difficult to sustain the children's interest.

He was incapable of sustaining close relationships with others.

the policies necessary to sustain economic growth

a period of sustained economic development

#### Word 12: Relay (VERB): send: spread: broadcast: transmit

He quickly <u>relayed</u> this news to the other members of staff.

The broadcasts were relayed by satellite.

The speaker opened the session by <u>relaying</u> some messages to the conference.

# Word 13: Colony (NOUN): possession: territory

Algeria was formerly a French colony.

a dead tree that has been colonized by ants

The <u>colonists</u> struggled through their first winter.

# Word 14: Hamper (verb): hinder: impede: restrict: obstruct

She tried to run, but was <u>hampered</u> by her heavy suitcase.

An attempt to rescue the men <u>has been hampered</u> by bad weather.

Storms at sea <u>impeded</u> our progress.

# Word 15: Compromise (Noun/Verb): agreement: concession

<u>Compromise</u> is an inevitable part of marriage.

a compromise between government and opposition

If moderates fail to reach a compromise, the extremists will dominate the agenda.

Be prepared to make <u>compromises</u>.

a happy compromise between the needs of family and work

His work-mates demanded that he never <u>compromise</u> with the bosses.

Critics accused the mayor of <u>compromising</u> too easily.

# **Pop Quiz**

Define the underlined words.

- 1. The real estate market is not unaffected but it is not seriously hampered.
- 2. Officials hope to find a compromise between Britain and other EU members.
- 3. He was more likely to call Rob and relay a message.
- 4. The United States was once a colony of Great Britain.
- 5. The Queensland Conservation Council accepts that grants are needed to encourage <u>sustainable</u> land management.

# **Session Eight**

Trim	Condense	Preposterous	Potent	Obliterate
Perplex	Encompass	Overestimate	Constitute	Adept
Ritual	Surmise	Asset	Vogue	Ingenious

# Word 1: Trim (Verb/Noun):cut : reduce: neat: groom: crop: prune

Pete was trimming the lawn around the roses.

I have my hair trimmed every six weeks.

We need to trim costs by £500m.

The bill would trim the number of immigrants to the US.

The company trimmed £46,000 from its advertising budget.

I play tennis to keep trim.(SLIM)

My beard needs a trim.

# Word 2: Perplex (Verb): puzzle: baffle: mystify: bewilder

The question of how the murderer had gained entry to the house perplexed the police for several weeks.

The student looked at him, perplexed.

Perplexed investors tried to work out what the deal meant.

a perplexing problem

# Word 3: Ritual (noun): rite: ceremony: custom: habit: procedure

the importance of religion and ritual in our lives

The lady of the house performs the sacred ritual of lighting two candles.

The daily ritual of mealtimes

He went through the ritual of lighting his cigar.

Animals have highly ritualized courtship displays.

# Word 4: Condense (verb): abridge: abbreviate: compress: shorten: concentrate

The gaseous metal is cooled and condenses into liquid zinc.

This whole chapter could be condensed into a few paragraphs.

The air becomes fog and condenses.

The water produced would be condensed and stored for recycling.

# Word 5: Encompass (Verb): encircle: envelop: include: comprise: incorporate

The study encompasses the social, political, and economic aspects of the situation.

The houses encompassed about 100 square meters.

It was a fruitful discussion which encompassed several different viewpoints.

# Pop Quiz

Fill in blanks using the following words.

Trimmed- Perplexed- Ritual- Condenses- Encompasses

- 1. During cold nights, air.....on the grass to form dew.
- 2. She seemed ...... by the question.
- 3. The Hindu religion.....many widely differing forms of worship.
- 4. We .....the bushes in front of the house.
- 5. The.....is performed in order to thank the Sun Goddess for the rice harvest.

# Word 6: Surmise (Noun/ Verb): guess: presume: suppose: speculate: suppose

When he came in, he didn't look up, so she surmised that he was in a bad mood.

Charles was glad to have his surmise confirmed.

And the first victims were not black, as you might surmise, but white men.

I could only surmise that she and Lila had met before.

# Word 7: Preposterous (adjective): ridiculous: absurd: crazy: incredible: insane: ludicrous: outrageous

The whole idea sounds absolutely preposterous!

a preposterous excuse

It's a preposterous claim that the government is trying to poison its citizens.

It is preposterous that Bruce did not know that we were there.

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# Word 8: Overestimate (Verb): overrate: overvalue

He tends to overestimate his own abilities.

The importance of training in health and safety cannot be overestimated (=is extremely important).

Most patients overestimated how long they had had to wait to see a doctor.

A Harvard University survey found that Americans significantly overestimate the cost of higher education.

I made enough food for forty people but it looks like I overestimated.

## Word 9: Asset (noun): benefit: advantage: resource: property: capital: possession

a corporation with \$9 billion in assets

the value of a company's assets

A sense of humor is an important asset for any teacher.

I think Rachel would be an asset to the department.

# Word 10: Potent (adjective): powerful: forceful: mighty: vigorous

potent drugs

A potent symbol of oppression

Advertising is a potent force in showing smoking as a socially acceptable habit.

The treaty requires them to get rid of their most potent weapons.

His speech had a potent emotional impact.

# Word 11: Constitute (verb): establish: found: set up: form

he rise in crime constitutes a threat to society.

We must redefine what constitutes a family.

The Federation was constituted in 1949.

According to Marx, "money constitutes true power."

Alaska is the largest of the fifty states that constitute the USA.

# Word 12: Vogue (noun): fashion: craze: custom: trend: style

Short skirts are very much in vogue just now.

Sun-tanning first came into vogue in the mid-1930s.

In the 1870s, after all, when plumpness was in vogue, physicians had encouraged people to gain weight.

# Word 13: Obliterate (verb): destroy: annihilate: eradicate: expunge: root out: wipe out

Hiroshima was nearly obliterated by the atomic bomb.

Nothing could obliterate the memory of those tragic events.

Then the fog came down, obliterating everything.(covering)

Entire sections of the city were obliterated by the repeated bombing.

# Word 14: Adept (adjective): skillful: able: adroit: proficient: expert

Melissa quickly became adept at predicting his moods.

Silas proved adept in the art of avoiding potholes in the road.

I'm afraid she's also an adept liar.

McCrea was equally adept in comedy and drama.

#### Word 15: Ingenious (adjective): creative: bright: brilliant: crafty: resourceful: shrewd

Many fish have ingenious ways of protecting their eggs from predators.

an ingenious device

American scientists have come up with an ingenious way of getting rid of cockroaches.

an ingenious marketing strategy

# **Session Nine**

SKEPTICAL	TRIGGER	CONQUEST	INSULATE	ACCOUNT FOR
ACCORD	PRESUMABLY	BULKY	FRIGID	GIVE RISE TO
ILLUMINATE	EXHAUSTIVE	SUPPLEMENT	RECUR	STARVATION

# WORD 1: SKEPTICAL: unsure: hesitant: dubious: undecided: wavering

skeptical about/of (ADJECTIVE)

I'm extremely skeptical about what I read in the press.

Environmental groups are skeptical of the government's claims.

highly/deeply skeptical

He is highly skeptical of the reforms.

'You can trust me,' he said. Jane looked skeptical.

SKEPTIC(NOUN)

Skeptics argued that the rise in prices was temporary.

#### WORD 2: ACCORD: fit: agree: conform: harmonize

You will not be accorded any special treatment.(VERB)

accord something to something/somebody

Every school accords high priority to the quality of teaching.

The punishments accorded with the current code of discipline.

These results are in accord with earlier research. (NOUN)

It is important to the success of any firm that its partners should be in complete accord.

#### WORD 3: ILLUMINATE: brighten: explain: clarify: elucidate: shed light on

A single candle illuminated his face.

At night the canals are beautifully illuminated.

The report illuminated the difficult issues at the heart of science policy.

a very illuminating book

#### WORD 4: TRIGGER: set off: activate: cause: generate: produce: start

The assassination triggered off a wave of rioting.

Certain forms of mental illness can be triggered by food allergies.

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trigger a memory (=make you suddenly remember something)

His action triggered a massive response from the government.

The burglars fled after triggering the alarm.

The incident could trigger a civil war.

# WORD 5: PRESUMABLY: apparently: likely: probably: seemingly

It's raining, which presumably means that your football match will be cancelled.

He's dead now, presumably?

Several of the villagers disappeared, presumably killed by enemy soldiers.

Each of you will make a speech, I presume? (VERB)

From the way he talked, I presumed him to be your boss.

The temple is presumed to date from the first century BC.

On the presumption that the doctor knows best, I took the medicine.(NOUN)

#### **POP QUIZ**

Fill in the blanks using the words below.

Skeptical- accords- illuminate- triggered- Presumably

- 1. The policy shift was......by a sharp increase in violent crimes committed by young offenders during the late 1980s.
- 2. Newly discovered artifacts may help.....the culture of the Aztecs.
- 3. The party has always had a cautious and....attitude to Europe.
- 4. The spear is.....the murder weapon.
- 5. Such an approach....with the principles of socialist ideology.

#### WORD 6: EXHAUSTIVE: thorough: complete: comprehensive: extensive

An exhaustive investigation into better methods of financing young entrants is continuing.(ADJECTIVE)

The list is by no means exhaustive.

# WORD 7: CONQUEST: defeat: triumph: takeover: occupation: invasion

the Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire(Noun)

He boasts about his many conquests.

the conquest of space

military conquests

The Normans conquered England in 1066.

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Egypt was conquered by the Persian king Kambyses.

She was determined to conquer her fear of flying.

In the last few years, the company has succeeded in conquering the European market.

# WORD 8: BULKY: large: massive: substantial: weighty

a bulky parcel(ADJECTIVE)

Andrew is a bulky man.

The men were carrying bulky packages under their arms.

The bulk of consumers are based in towns.(NOUN)

The dough will rise until it is double in bulk.

We can bulk out the report with lots of diagrams.(VERB)

## WORD 9: SUPPLEMENT: add: augment: extend

vitamins and other dietary supplements

The payments are a supplement to his usual salary.

Kia supplements her regular salary by tutoring in the evenings.

Tracy gives her children vitamin pills to supplement their diet.

#### **WORD 10: INSULATE: protect: shield**

Pipes may need insulating against the cold.(Verb)

an insulated attic

The royal family tried to insulate him from the prying eyes of the media.

I went to close the curtains and found the windows sealed with silver insulating tape.

Good insulation can save you money on heating bills.

#### **POP Quiz**

Define the underlined words.

- 1. In this first phase of conquest, the Arabs created an Empire and a State, but not yet a civilization.
- 2. The room was full of bulky old furniture.
- 3. He sometimes eats fish as a supplement to his vegetarian diet
- 4. The rescue team made an exhaustive search of the area.
- 5. She spent \$10,000 insulating her home to try to keep the highway noise out.

#### WORD 11: FRIGID: cold: arctic: wintry: glacial: frosty

The guard looked at us with a frigid stare.(Adjective)

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the frigid air

A snowstorm hit the city, bringing with it frigid temperatures.

# WORD 12: RECUR: happen again: revert

There is a danger that the disease may recur.(Verb)

Love is a recurring theme in the book.

recurring dream/nightmare

recurrent minor illnesses(adjective)

Political revolution is a recurrent theme in his books.

# WORD 13: ACCOUNT FOR: explain: clarify: elucidate: justify

Afro-Americans account for 12% of the US population.(Verb: to form)

Recent pressure at work may account for his behavior. [= explain]

Can you account for your movements on that night?

It reported that drivers' spinning of the radio dial accounted for far more crashes.

# WORD 14: GIVE RISE TO: Provoke: bring about: induce: rouse: stir

His speech gave rise to a bitter argument.(Verb)

The President's absence has given rise to speculation about his health.

#### **WORD 15: STARVATION: famine: hunger**

people dying of starvation(NOUN)

starvation diet/ starvation wages

30 million people die of starvation each year.

Thousands of people will starve if food doesn't reach the city.(VERB)

pictures of starving children

They'll either die from the cold or starve to death.

You must be starving!

The schools are starved of funding.

The poor kid's just starved for attention.