Your printable word bank

200 useful words for TOEFL study

60 daily-life words / 60 campus words / 80 academic words. Each entry includes one meaning, an original sentence, a useful phrase and word-family connections.

This independent PrepEx selection is not an official ETS list or a prediction of test questions. It does not guarantee a score. Meanings are specific to the example; many words have other uses.

Use it in ten minutes: Choose five unfamiliar words. Read and say the phrases. Cover the entries and retrieve their meanings. Write a new sentence for each word, then check form and usage. Review the next day, about three days later and a week later.

Read the connections carefully: Words marked related or opposite are learning connections, not necessarily forms of the same headword. Do not substitute every family member into the same sentence.

Current format: TOEFL includes everyday, campus and academic English. Official overall and section scores use the 1-6 scale in half-point steps. PrepEx feedback is a practice estimate, not an official result.

Search the complete collection online: prepex.ai/toefl-vocabulary-pdf

Learning method: prepex.ai/toefl/learn/vocabulary

Official test format: ETS TOEFL test content

PrepEx / TOEFL

Daily life / words 1-10

1. appointment

an arrangement to meet at a set time.

Example: I made an appointment with the housing advisor.

Phrase: schedule an appointment

Family / connections: appointments

2. available

free to be used or obtained.

Example: A quiet room is available after lunch.

Phrase: available space

Family / connections: availability, unavailable

3. confirm

to state that something is correct or definite.

Example: Please confirm your arrival time by email.

Phrase: confirm a reservation

Family / connections: confirmation, confirmed

4. delay

to make something happen later.

Example: Heavy rain delayed the afternoon bus.

Phrase: a short delay

Family / connections: delayed, delaying

5. reschedule

to arrange a new time for something.

Example: We rescheduled the meeting for Thursday.

Phrase: reschedule a meeting

Family / connections: schedule, scheduling

6. cancel

to decide that a planned event will not happen.

Example: The center canceled the outdoor class.

Phrase: cancel a booking

Family / connections: cancellation, canceled

7. refund

money returned after a payment.

Example: The store offered a refund for the broken lamp.

Phrase: request a refund

Family / connections: refundable, refunded

8. receipt

a record showing that payment was made.

Example: Keep the receipt until the printer arrives.

Phrase: a sales receipt

Family / connections: receipts; receive (related)

9. purchase

to buy something.

Example: We purchased a used desk for the apartment.

Phrase: make a purchase

Family / connections: purchaser, purchased

10. affordable

not too expensive for someone.

Example: The neighborhood has several affordable cafés.

Phrase: affordable housing

Family / connections: afford, affordability

Daily life / words 11-20

11. budget

a plan for spending available money.

Example: Our monthly budget includes bus fares.

Phrase: a limited budget

Family / connections: budgeting, budgeted

12. expense

money spent for a particular purpose.

Example: Travel was our largest expense this month.

Phrase: cover expenses

Family / connections: expensive, expenditure

13. deposit

money paid in advance as security or part payment.

Example: The landlord returned my deposit after the inspection.

Phrase: pay a deposit

Family / connections: deposited, depositing

14. balance

the amount remaining in an account.

Example: Check your balance before paying the fee.

Phrase: account balance

Family / connections: balanced, balancing

15. charge

an amount of money requested for a service.

Example: There is no extra charge for delivery.

Phrase: a service charge

Family / connections: charged, charging

16. discount

a reduction in the usual price.

Example: Students receive a discount on weekday tickets.

Phrase: a student discount

Family / connections: discounted, discounting

17. convenient

easy to use or suitable for a situation.

Example: The bus stop is convenient for my evening class.

Phrase: a convenient location

Family / connections: convenience, inconvenient

18. accessible

easy to reach, enter, or use.

Example: The new entrance is accessible to wheelchair users.

Phrase: accessible facilities

Family / connections: access, accessibility

19. reliable

able to be trusted to work well.

Example: We need a reliable internet connection for the interview.

Phrase: a reliable service

Family / connections: rely, reliability

20. efficient

working well without wasting time or resources.

Example: The new check-in process is more efficient.

Phrase: an efficient system

Family / connections: efficiency, efficiently

Daily life / words 21-30

21. repair

to put something damaged back into working condition.

Example: A technician repaired the shared refrigerator.

Phrase: carry out repairs

Family / connections: repairable, repaired

22. replace

to put something new in the place of something else.

Example: The office will replace the missing key.

Phrase: replace equipment

Family / connections: replacement, replaced

23. maintain

to keep something in good condition.

Example: Residents help maintain the community garden.

Phrase: maintain equipment

Family / connections: maintenance, maintained

24. install

to put equipment in place ready for use.

Example: They installed a brighter light above the stairs.

Phrase: install software

Family / connections: installation, installer

25. inspect

to examine something carefully.

Example: The mechanic inspected the brakes before the trip.

Phrase: inspect a vehicle

Family / connections: inspection, inspector

26. notify

to tell someone officially about something.

Example: Notify the office if your address changes.

Phrase: notify residents

Family / connections: notification, notified

27. request

to ask for something politely or formally.

Example: I requested a copy of the rental agreement.

Phrase: submit a request

Family / connections: requested, requesting

28. require

to make something necessary.

Example: The building requires visitors to sign in.

Phrase: require permission

Family / connections: requirement, required

29. permit

to allow something.

Example: The park permits bicycles on the main path.

Phrase: permit entry

Family / connections: permission, permitted

30. restrict

to limit an activity or access.

Example: The library restricts food to the ground floor.

Phrase: restrict access

Family / connections: restriction, restricted

Daily life / words 31-40

31. prohibit

to formally forbid something.

Example: The lease prohibits smoking inside the apartment.

Phrase: prohibit parking

Family / connections: prohibition, prohibited

32. alternative

another possible choice.

Example: Walking is a useful alternative when the bus is late.

Phrase: an alternative route

Family / connections: alternate, alternatively

33. option

one of several choices.

Example: An evening appointment is another option.

Phrase: a practical option

Family / connections: optional, optionally

34. priority

something considered more important than other things.

Example: Finding a safe place to live is my first priority.

Phrase: give priority to

Family / connections: prioritize, prioritization

35. urgent

needing immediate attention.

Example: The leaking pipe needs urgent attention.

Phrase: an urgent request

Family / connections: urgency, urgently

36. temporary

lasting for a limited time.

Example: The office has moved to a temporary location.

Phrase: temporary accommodation

Family / connections: temporarily, permanence (opposite)

37. permanent

lasting for a long time or indefinitely.

Example: She is looking for a permanent address.

Phrase: a permanent solution

Family / connections: permanently, permanence

38. flexible

able to change to suit different needs.

Example: My work hours are flexible during exams.

Phrase: a flexible schedule

Family / connections: flexibility, flexibly

39. adjust

to change something slightly to suit a purpose.

Example: Adjust the chair so your feet touch the floor.

Phrase: adjust the settings

Family / connections: adjustment, adjustable

40. arrange

to organize or put things in a suitable order.

Example: We arranged transport for the visiting students.

Phrase: arrange a visit

Family / connections: arrangement, rearrange

Daily life / words 41-50

41. reserve

to keep something for a particular person or time.

Example: You can reserve a table online.

Phrase: reserve a seat

Family / connections: reservation, reserved

42. deliver

to take something to a person or place.

Example: The shop delivers groceries on Saturdays.

Phrase: deliver a package

Family / connections: delivery, delivered

43. collect

to bring things together or pick something up.

Example: Collect your package from the front desk.

Phrase: collect a package

Family / connections: collection, collector

44. commute

to travel regularly between home and work or study.

Example: I commute by train three days a week.

Phrase: a daily commute

Family / connections: commuter, commuting

45. destination

the place someone is traveling to.

Example: Check the destination on the front of the bus.

Phrase: reach a destination

Family / connections: destinations; destined for (related phrase)

46. departure

the act or time of leaving.

Example: Our departure was delayed by fog.

Phrase: departure time

Family / connections: depart, departing

47. arrival

the act or time of reaching a place.

Example: Please call us on arrival at the station.

Phrase: arrival time

Family / connections: arrive, arriving

48. transfer

to move from one place or service to another.

Example: Transfer to the green line at Central Station.

Phrase: a bus transfer

Family / connections: transferred, transferable

49. route

the way taken from one place to another.

Example: This route avoids the busy main road.

Phrase: a direct route

Family / connections: routing, reroute

50. pedestrian

a person traveling on foot.

Example: Drivers must stop for pedestrians at the crossing.

Phrase: a pedestrian crossing

Family / connections: pedestrianized, pedestrianization

Daily life / words 51-60

51. facility

a place or piece of equipment provided for a purpose.

Example: The sports facility closes at nine.

Phrase: public facilities

Family / connections: facilities

52. capacity

the largest amount that something can hold.

Example: The hall has a capacity of 200 people.

Phrase: seating capacity

Family / connections: capacities; capable, capability (related)

53. occupy

to use or fill a space.

Example: The café occupies the corner unit.

Phrase: occupy a room

Family / connections: occupation, occupied

54. vacant

empty and available for use.

Example: Two rooms are vacant this weekend.

Phrase: a vacant room

Family / connections: vacancy, vacate

55. resident

a person who lives in a particular place.

Example: Residents can borrow tools from the building office.

Phrase: local residents

Family / connections: reside, residential

56. neighbor

a person who lives nearby.

Example: Our neighbor waters the plants when we travel.

Phrase: a nearby neighbor

Family / connections: neighborhood, neighboring

57. community

people connected by a place or shared interest.

Example: The community organizes a monthly food collection.

Phrase: community involvement

Family / connections: communal, communities

58. volunteer

to offer to do something without being paid.

Example: Students volunteer at the weekend repair café.

Phrase: volunteer work

Family / connections: voluntary, voluntarily

59. donate

to give money or goods to help others.

Example: We donated our spare blankets to the shelter.

Phrase: donate supplies

Family / connections: donation, donor

60. participate

to take part in an activity.

Example: Everyone can participate in the neighborhood survey.

Phrase: participate in an event

Family / connections: participation, participant

Campus / words 61-70

61. enroll

to officially join a course or institution.

Example: You must enroll before attending the laboratory sessions.

Phrase: enroll in a course

Family / connections: enrollment, enrolled

62. register

to put a name or details on an official list.

Example: Register for the workshop by Friday.

Phrase: register online

Family / connections: registration, registered

63. admission

permission to enter a program or institution.

Example: Admission to the program requires a writing sample.

Phrase: admission requirements

Family / connections: admit, admitted

64. application

a formal request for a place or opportunity.

Example: Her application included two references.

Phrase: submit an application

Family / connections: apply, applicant

65. eligible

meeting the conditions needed for something.

Example: Part-time students are eligible for this grant.

Phrase: eligible for funding

Family / connections: eligibility, ineligible

66. prerequisite

something required before another activity can begin.

Example: Basic statistics is a prerequisite for this course.

Phrase: a course prerequisite

Family / connections: prerequisites; required (related)

67. curriculum

the subjects and content taught in a program.

Example: The curriculum includes fieldwork and laboratory study.

Phrase: a revised curriculum

Family / connections: curricular, curricula

68. syllabus

a document outlining a course and its requirements.

Example: The syllabus lists every assessment deadline.

Phrase: read the syllabus

Family / connections: syllabi, syllabuses

69. semester

one of two main periods in an academic year.

Example: She is studying abroad next semester.

Phrase: the fall semester

Family / connections: semesters; term (related)

70. lecture

a talk that teaches an academic subject.

Example: The lecture explained how rivers shape valleys.

Phrase: attend a lecture

Family / connections: lecturer, lecturing

Campus / words 71-80

71. seminar

a class in which a small group discusses a subject.

Example: We discussed the article in a seminar.

Phrase: a research seminar

Family / connections: seminars; discussion (related)

72. tutorial

a teaching session with an individual or small group.

Example: Bring your draft to the tutorial.

Phrase: a weekly tutorial

Family / connections: tutor, tutoring

73. assignment

a piece of work given to a student.

Example: The assignment asks us to compare two surveys.

Phrase: submit an assignment

Family / connections: assign, assigned

74. deadline

the latest time when something must be done.

Example: The deadline for the report is noon on Monday.

Phrase: meet a deadline

Family / connections: deadlines; due (related)

75. extension

extra time allowed to complete something.

Example: Ask for an extension before the deadline.

Phrase: grant an extension

Family / connections: extend, extended

76. submit

to give work to someone for consideration.

Example: Submit the report through the course website.

Phrase: submit a draft

Family / connections: submission, submitted

77. revise

to change written work to improve it.

Example: I revised the introduction after our meeting.

Phrase: revise a draft

Family / connections: revision, revised

78. feedback

information about how well something was done.

Example: Her feedback helped me clarify the argument.

Phrase: constructive feedback

Family / connections: feed back; response (related)

79. assessment

a process of judging knowledge or performance.

Example: The final assessment includes a short presentation.

Phrase: continuous assessment

Family / connections: assess, assessor

80. criterion

a standard used to judge something.

Example: Accuracy is one criterion used in the grading guide.

Phrase: assessment criteria

Family / connections: criteria (plural)

Campus / words 81-90

81. rubric

a guide describing standards used to assess work.

Example: The rubric explains what a clear argument needs.

Phrase: an assessment rubric

Family / connections: rubrics; rating (related)

82. credit

a unit representing academic work completed.

Example: This laboratory course carries three credits.

Phrase: earn credits

Family / connections: credits, credited

83. scholarship

money awarded to support a student's education.

Example: The scholarship covers part of her tuition.

Phrase: apply for a scholarship

Family / connections: scholar, scholarly

84. tuition

money paid for teaching at a school or university.

Example: Tuition does not include housing costs.

Phrase: tuition fees

Family / connections: tutor, tutoring (related teaching words)

85. funding

money provided for a project or activity.

Example: The research team applied for additional funding.

Phrase: secure funding

Family / connections: fund, funded

86. grant

money given for a specific purpose.

Example: A small grant paid for the recording equipment.

Phrase: a research grant

Family / connections: grant-funded, granted

87. advisor

someone who gives guidance in a particular area.

Example: My advisor helped me choose suitable courses.

Phrase: an academic advisor

Family / connections: advise, advisory

88. faculty

the teaching staff of an educational institution.

Example: Faculty members will review the proposal.

Phrase: faculty members

Family / connections: faculty members; faculties (groups or divisions)

89. department

a division responsible for one subject or activity.

Example: The history department is hosting a public talk.

Phrase: an academic department

Family / connections: departmental, departments

90. undergraduate

a student studying for a first degree.

Example: The workshop is open to all undergraduates.

Phrase: an undergraduate course

Family / connections: undergraduate-level; graduate (related)

Campus / words 91-100

91. graduate

a person who has completed a degree.

Example: Recent graduates shared advice about internships.

Phrase: a university graduate

Family / connections: graduation, graduated

92. qualification

an achievement showing relevant knowledge or skills.

Example: The position requires a teaching qualification.

Phrase: a professional qualification

Family / connections: qualify, qualified

93. certificate

a document confirming an achievement or status.

Example: Participants receive a certificate after the course.

Phrase: a completion certificate

Family / connections: certify, certification

94. transcript

an official record of courses and grades.

Example: Request your transcript from the records office.

Phrase: an academic transcript

Family / connections: transcribe, transcription

95. attendance

the act of being present at an event.

Example: Attendance at the safety briefing is required.

Phrase: regular attendance

Family / connections: attend, attendee

96. absence

the state of not being present.

Example: Notify your instructor about a planned absence.

Phrase: an unexplained absence

Family / connections: absent, absentee

97. collaborate

to work with others toward a shared result.

Example: Our group collaborated on the design project.

Phrase: collaborate on research

Family / connections: collaboration, collaborative

98. contribute

to give something that helps a shared effort.

Example: Each member contributed a section of the report.

Phrase: contribute to a discussion

Family / connections: contribution, contributor

99. coordinate

to organize people or activities to work together.

Example: Mina coordinates the student mentoring program.

Phrase: coordinate a project

Family / connections: coordination, coordinator

100. consult

to ask someone for advice or information.

Example: Consult your instructor before changing the topic.

Phrase: consult an advisor

Family / connections: consultation, consultant

Campus / words 101-110

101. clarify

to make something easier to understand.

Example: Could you clarify the instructions for the report?

Phrase: clarify a requirement

Family / connections: clarification, clarity

102. demonstrate

to show clearly how something works or is true.

Example: The tutor demonstrated how to use the microscope.

Phrase: demonstrate a technique

Family / connections: demonstration, demonstrator

103. present

to explain or show information to an audience.

Example: We will present our findings next week.

Phrase: present findings

Family / connections: presentation, presenter

104. discuss

to consider a subject by talking or writing about it.

Example: The class discussed two explanations for the results.

Phrase: discuss an issue

Family / connections: discussion, discussed

105. debate

to consider opposing views on a question.

Example: Students debated whether the timetable should change.

Phrase: a public debate

Family / connections: debatable, debated

106. reference

a source mentioned to support or explain something.

Example: Add a reference for the statistic in paragraph two.

Phrase: a reference list

Family / connections: reference, referenced

107. cite

to identify a source used in your work.

Example: Cite the study when you describe its findings.

Phrase: cite a source

Family / connections: citation, cited

108. plagiarism

using another person's work as your own without acknowledgment.

Example: The orientation session explains how to avoid plagiarism.

Phrase: avoid plagiarism

Family / connections: plagiarize, plagiarized

109. original

created independently rather than copied.

Example: The project includes original photographs of the site.

Phrase: original research

Family / connections: originality, originally

110. draft

an early version of a piece of writing.

Example: My first draft needs a clearer ending.

Phrase: a rough draft

Family / connections: drafting, redraft

Campus / words 111-120

111. outline

a brief plan showing the main parts.

Example: Write an outline before preparing your slides.

Phrase: a project outline

Family / connections: outlined, outlining

112. abstract

a short summary of a research paper.

Example: The abstract states the question and main finding.

Phrase: a research abstract

Family / connections: abstracts; summarize (related)

113. workshop

a practical session for learning or developing a skill.

Example: The workshop helped us practice interview techniques.

Phrase: attend a workshop

Family / connections: workshops; training (related)

114. laboratory

a room equipped for scientific work.

Example: Wear protective glasses in the laboratory.

Phrase: a laboratory experiment

Family / connections: laboratories; lab (short form)

115. equipment

tools or machines needed for an activity.

Example: Book the recording equipment before your session.

Phrase: specialist equipment

Family / connections: equip, equipped

116. resource

something useful for completing a task.

Example: The library has useful resources for local history.

Phrase: learning resources

Family / connections: resources, resourceful; resourcing means providing resources

117. archive

a collection of records kept for future use.

Example: The archive contains maps from the nineteenth century.

Phrase: an archive collection

Family / connections: archival, archivist

118. catalog

a systematic list of items or offerings.

Example: Search the library catalog by author.

Phrase: a course catalog

Family / connections: catalogue (variant), cataloging

119. borrow

to use something belonging to another person temporarily.

Example: You can borrow a laptop for two hours.

Phrase: borrow a book

Family / connections: borrower, borrowing

120. renew

to extend the period for which something is valid.

Example: Renew your library loan before Friday.

Phrase: renew a loan

Family / connections: renewal, renewable

Academic / words 121-130

121. analyze

to examine something carefully to understand its parts.

Example: The researchers analyzed changes in water quality.

Phrase: analyze data

Family / connections: analysis, analytical

122. evaluate

to judge the value or effectiveness of something.

Example: The study evaluates three methods of storing energy.

Phrase: evaluate evidence

Family / connections: evaluation, evaluative

123. interpret

to explain the meaning of something.

Example: Scientists interpreted the marks as evidence of tool use.

Phrase: interpret results

Family / connections: interpretation, interpreter

124. infer

to reach a conclusion from evidence rather than a direct statement.

Example: We can infer from the footprints that several animals passed.

Phrase: infer from evidence

Family / connections: inference, inferential

125. imply

to suggest something without stating it directly.

Example: The speaker's pause implied uncertainty.

Phrase: imply a connection

Family / connections: implication, implicit

126. indicate

to show or suggest something.

Example: The measurements indicate a gradual temperature rise.

Phrase: indicate a trend

Family / connections: indication, indicator

127. establish

to show something reliably or set it in place.

Example: Further tests are needed to establish the cause.

Phrase: establish a relationship

Family / connections: establishment, established

128. identify

to recognize or name something.

Example: The survey identified three common travel problems.

Phrase: identify a pattern

Family / connections: identification, identifiable

129. define

to explain the exact meaning or limits of something.

Example: The author defines resilience at the start of the chapter.

Phrase: define a term

Family / connections: definition, definite

130. classify

to place things into groups based on shared features.

Example: The team classified the samples by mineral content.

Phrase: classify organisms

Family / connections: classification, classified

Academic / words 131-140

131. compare

to examine similarities and differences.

Example: We compared growth in shaded and sunny plots.

Phrase: compare results

Family / connections: comparison, comparative

132. contrast

to examine or show differences.

Example: The chapter contrasts two approaches to city planning.

Phrase: contrast with

Family / connections: contrasting, contrastive

133. distinguish

to recognize the difference between things.

Example: The test distinguishes salt water from fresh water.

Phrase: distinguish between

Family / connections: distinction, distinctive

134. relate

to show or have a connection.

Example: The article relates diet to changes in sleep.

Phrase: relate to

Family / connections: relation, related

135. associate

to connect one thing with another.

Example: Participants associated the sound with the red light.

Phrase: associate with

Family / connections: association, associated

136. attribute

to explain something as the result of a particular cause.

Example: The team attributed the delay to a sensor failure.

Phrase: attribute to

Family / connections: attribution, attributable

137. derive

to obtain something from a source.

Example: The estimate is derived from monthly records.

Phrase: derive from

Family / connections: derivation, derivative

138. generate

to produce something.

Example: The panels generate electricity during daylight hours.

Phrase: generate energy

Family / connections: generation, generator

139. obtain

to get something through effort or a process.

Example: The team obtained permission to examine the site.

Phrase: obtain evidence

Family / connections: obtainable, obtained

140. acquire

to gain knowledge, a skill, or a possession.

Example: Children acquire new words through repeated use.

Phrase: acquire knowledge

Family / connections: acquisition, acquired

Academic / words 141-150

141. retain

to keep something.

Example: The soil retains moisture after rain.

Phrase: retain information

Family / connections: retention, retained

142. adapt

to change to suit new conditions.

Example: Some plants adapt to dry conditions by storing water.

Phrase: adapt to change

Family / connections: adaptation, adaptive

143. modify

to change part of something.

Example: The engineers modified the design to reduce noise.

Phrase: modify a method

Family / connections: modification, modified

144. vary

to differ or change.

Example: Rainfall varies widely across the region.

Phrase: vary considerably

Family / connections: variation, variable

145. fluctuate

to rise and fall irregularly.

Example: Water levels fluctuate with seasonal rainfall.

Phrase: fluctuate over time

Family / connections: fluctuation, fluctuating

146. decline

to become smaller or weaker.

Example: The bird population declined after the wetland was drained.

Phrase: a gradual decline

Family / connections: declining, declined

147. expand

to increase in size or scope.

Example: The program expanded to include rural schools.

Phrase: expand access

Family / connections: expansion, expansive

148. emerge

to appear or become known.

Example: A different pattern emerged in the second experiment.

Phrase: emerge from

Family / connections: emergence, emerging

149. persist

to continue despite difficulty or change.

Example: The difference persisted after the data were adjusted.

Phrase: persist over time

Family / connections: persistence, persistent

150. precede

to happen or come before something.

Example: A brief survey preceded the interview.

Phrase: precede an event

Family / connections: preceding, precedence

Academic / words 151-160

151. subsequent

happening after something else.

Example: Subsequent tests produced similar results.

Phrase: subsequent research

Family / connections: subsequently, sequence (related)

152. simultaneous

happening at the same time.

Example: Simultaneous measurements were taken at both sites.

Phrase: simultaneous changes

Family / connections: simultaneously, simultaneity

153. initial

existing or happening at the beginning.

Example: The initial results suggested a small improvement.

Phrase: initial findings

Family / connections: initially, initiate

154. eventual

happening at the end of a process.

Example: The eventual outcome depended on local rainfall.

Phrase: the eventual outcome

Family / connections: eventually; eventuality means a possible future event

155. approximate

close to an exact value.

Example: The map shows the approximate location of the ruins.

Phrase: an approximate value

Family / connections: approximately, approximation

156. precise

exact and clearly expressed.

Example: The instrument provides precise temperature readings.

Phrase: a precise measurement

Family / connections: precision, precisely

157. accurate

correct and free from significant error.

Example: Accurate records are essential for the comparison.

Phrase: accurate data

Family / connections: accuracy, accurately

158. valid

supported by sound evidence or reasoning.

Example: The conclusion is valid only for this sample.

Phrase: a valid conclusion

Family / connections: validity, validate

159. consistent

showing agreement or a similar pattern over time.

Example: The results were consistent across all three trials.

Phrase: consistent with

Family / connections: consistency, consistently

160. significant

important or large enough to matter in a stated context.

Example: Transport costs are a significant part of the budget.

Phrase: a significant difference

Family / connections: significance, significantly; statistical significance has a technical meaning

Academic / words 161-170

161. relevant

closely connected to the matter being considered.

Example: Include only evidence relevant to the research question.

Phrase: relevant evidence

Family / connections: relevance, irrelevant

162. sufficient

enough for a particular purpose.

Example: The sample was not sufficient to support a broad claim.

Phrase: sufficient evidence

Family / connections: sufficiency, sufficiently

163. essential

necessary for something to work or exist.

Example: Clean water is essential for healthy plant growth.

Phrase: essential for

Family / connections: essentially, essentials

164. complex

having many connected parts.

Example: The model describes a complex network of trade routes.

Phrase: a complex system

Family / connections: complexity, complexities

165. distinct

clearly different or separate.

Example: The recordings contain two distinct bird calls.

Phrase: distinct features

Family / connections: distinction, distinctly

166. diverse

including many different kinds.

Example: The region supports a diverse range of habitats.

Phrase: a diverse population

Family / connections: diversity, diversify

167. widespread

found or occurring in many places.

Example: The survey found widespread support for later opening hours.

Phrase: widespread use

Family / connections: widely; spread (related)

168. scarce

available only in small amounts.

Example: Fresh water is scarce during the dry season.

Phrase: scarce resources

Family / connections: scarcity; scarcely usually means "hardly"

169. abundant

existing in large amounts.

Example: Insects are abundant near the river in summer.

Phrase: abundant evidence

Family / connections: abundance, abundantly

170. finite

having a limit or an end.

Example: The project must operate with finite resources.

Phrase: finite resources

Family / connections: finiteness; infinite (opposite)

Academic / words 171-180

171. sustainable

able to continue without exhausting necessary resources.

Example: The town is exploring sustainable transport options.

Phrase: sustainable development

Family / connections: sustain, sustainability

172. hypothesis

a proposed explanation that can be tested.

Example: The experiment tests the hypothesis that shade slows growth.

Phrase: test a hypothesis

Family / connections: hypotheses, hypothesize

173. theory

an organized explanation supported by a body of evidence.

Example: The lecture introduced a theory of language development.

Phrase: a scientific theory

Family / connections: theoretical, theorist

174. evidence

information that supports or challenges a claim.

Example: The fragments provide evidence of earlier settlement.

Phrase: supporting evidence

Family / connections: evident, evidential

175. data

recorded observations or measurements used for analysis.

Example: The team collected data from twelve monitoring stations.

Phrase: collect data

Family / connections: dataset, data-driven

176. sample

a smaller group or amount examined to learn about a larger whole.

Example: The sample included students from six departments.

Phrase: a representative sample

Family / connections: sampling, sampled

177. variable

a factor that can take different values.

Example: Temperature was the only variable changed between trials.

Phrase: control a variable

Family / connections: variability, vary

178. method

an organized way of doing something.

Example: Both groups used the same method to measure distance.

Phrase: a research method

Family / connections: methodical, methodology

179. procedure

a sequence of steps followed for a task.

Example: The procedure requires each sample to be weighed twice.

Phrase: follow a procedure

Family / connections: procedural, procedures

180. process

a series of changes or actions producing a result.

Example: The diagram shows the process of water purification.

Phrase: a gradual process

Family / connections: processing, processed

Academic / words 181-190

181. outcome

the result of an action or process.

Example: The study measured health outcomes after six months.

Phrase: a possible outcome

Family / connections: outcomes; result (related)

182. factor

one element that influences a result.

Example: Cost was one factor in the committee's decision.

Phrase: a contributing factor

Family / connections: factor in, factors

183. consequence

a result that follows an action or event.

Example: Reduced soil fertility was one consequence of erosion.

Phrase: a long-term consequence

Family / connections: consequent, consequently

184. benefit

an advantage or helpful result.

Example: The scheme offers benefits to both students and employers.

Phrase: a potential benefit

Family / connections: beneficial, beneficiary

185. limitation

a restriction or weakness affecting what is possible.

Example: The small sample is a limitation of the study.

Phrase: a major limitation

Family / connections: limit, limited

186. assumption

something accepted as true without being proved in that context.

Example: The model relies on the assumption of constant demand.

Phrase: an underlying assumption

Family / connections: assume, assumed

187. perspective

a particular way of considering something.

Example: The diaries offer a different perspective on city life.

Phrase: from a historical perspective

Family / connections: perspectives; viewpoint (related)

188. principle

a basic rule or idea guiding a system.

Example: The design follows the principle of equal access.

Phrase: a general principle

Family / connections: principles; principled means guided by strong values

189. concept

an idea used to understand a subject.

Example: The teacher explained the concept of relative speed.

Phrase: a central concept

Family / connections: conceptual, conceptualize

190. framework

a structure of ideas used to organize thinking.

Example: The framework helps compare different housing policies.

Phrase: a theoretical framework

Family / connections: frameworks; structure (related)

Academic / words 191-200

191. context

the situation surrounding an event or statement.

Example: The phrase has a different meaning in this context.

Phrase: historical context

Family / connections: contextual, contextualize

192. feature

a noticeable characteristic of something.

Example: A thick outer layer is a distinctive feature of the seed.

Phrase: a key feature

Family / connections: featured, featuring

193. function

the purpose or job of something.

Example: The roots have the function of absorbing water.

Phrase: a primary function

Family / connections: functional, functioning

194. structure

the arrangement of connected parts.

Example: The essay's structure makes the comparison easy to follow.

Phrase: internal structure

Family / connections: structural, restructure

195. distribution

the way something is spread across an area or group.

Example: The map shows the distribution of rainfall.

Phrase: geographic distribution

Family / connections: distribute, distributed

196. proportion

a part considered in relation to a whole.

Example: A higher proportion of respondents traveled by bus.

Phrase: a small proportion

Family / connections: proportional, proportionately

197. trend

a general direction of change.

Example: The figures show a downward trend in fuel use.

Phrase: a long-term trend

Family / connections: trending, trends

198. pattern

a repeated arrangement or way something happens.

Example: Researchers noticed a seasonal pattern in migration.

Phrase: a recurring pattern

Family / connections: patterned, patterns

199. mechanism

the process through which something works.

Example: The lecture explains the mechanism of heat transfer.

Phrase: an underlying mechanism

Family / connections: mechanical, mechanistic

200. interaction

the way two or more things affect one another.

Example: The study explores interaction between roots and soil organisms.

Phrase: social interaction

Family / connections: interact, interactive

Recall exercises and answer checks

1 / Retrieve the word

Cover the list. Name the word that means: (a) arrange a new time; (b) meeting conditions for funding; (c) reach a conclusion from evidence; (d) a testable proposed explanation; (e) having a limit.

2 / Complete the phrase

eligible ___ funding; contribute ___ a discussion; distinguish ___ two explanations; attribute the change ___ rainfall; consistent ___ earlier findings.

3 / Change the form

The team needs more ___ (evident). The method produced ___ results (consistency). Please send written ___ (confirm). The tutor offered a useful ___ (interpret).

4 / Apply the words

Write a short email asking to reschedule an appointment. Include a clear request, an alternative time and a request for confirmation. Then explain a small project aloud using method, sample and limitation. Check the message, not just the number of target words.

Answer checks

1: reschedule; eligible; infer; hypothesis; finite. 2: for; to; between; to; with. 3: evidence (noun, uncountable); consistent (adjective); confirmation (noun); interpretation (noun). The email and spoken explanation have many possible answers.

Sources and scope

Definitions, examples and exercises: original PrepEx Editorial, November 11, 2026. Format: ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/about/content.html. Scores: ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/scores/understand-scores.html. Use a dictionary or teacher to check unfamiliar senses and pronunciation. No test-question content is reproduced.