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Second Edition

Lawrence J. Zwier and Lynn Stafford-Yilmaz



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Second Edition

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Six Quick Hints for Success on the TOEFL®

1. **Try to understand a reading or lecture as a whole.** Unlike earlier versions of the TOEFL, the new version tests whether you can see how ideas interact in a longer reading.
2. **Take notes.** Especially in the listening section, you will need notes to remember what you have heard. Note-taking will also help you concentrate. You can practice by taking notes of news stories, documentaries, or lectures.
3. **Study grammar in context, not by itself.** Unlike earlier versions of the TOEFL, the new version has no grammar section. Your knowledge of grammar is useful in helping you understand the readings and lectures, not in answering grammar-specific questions.
4. **Practice writing essays that express your opinion on a topic.** The writing section of the 2005 TOEFL includes questions asking for your opinion on various daily topics. These are timed. Practice writing under a time limit, shaping your thoughts into a well-rounded essay.
5. **Build up your academic vocabulary.** Your ability to comprehend reading passages rests largely on your academic vocabulary. Build your vocabulary by reading, making flash cards, and writing sentences using new words in context. A strong vocabulary will help you not only in your reading comprehension, but also in listening, writing, and speaking.
6. **Commit your attention to the test.** Some of the topics covered in the test may not actually interest you. Still, your focused energy will improve your test score. Agree with yourself not to think about other topics during the test. Force yourself to keep your attention on the tested material.

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LESSON 1

Food Crops

Target Words

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. abandon | 6. intensify |
| 2. adversely | 7. irrigation |
| 3. aggregate | 8. obtain |
| 4. cultivation | 9. photosynthesis |
| 5. fertilize | 10. precipitation |

Definitions and Samples

1. **abandon** *v.* To leave; to give up

To save their lives, the sailors had to **abandon** the sinking ship.

Parts of speech **abandonment** *n*

2. **adversely** *adv.* In a harmful way; negatively

Excessive rainfall early in the spring can **adversely** affect the planting of crops.

Usage tips **Adversely** is often followed by *affect*.

Parts of speech **adversity** *n*, **adverse** *adj*

3. **aggregate** *adj.* Gathered into or amounting to a whole

It is impossible to judge last year's performance without knowing the **aggregate** sales numbers.

Usage tips **Aggregate** is often followed by a term like *sum*, *total*, or *numbers*.

Parts of speech **aggregate** *v*, **aggregate** *n*

4. **cultivation** *n.* Preparing the land to grow crops; improvement for agricultural purposes

With the development of land **cultivation**, hunters and gatherers were able to settle in one place.

Parts of speech **cultivate** *v*

5. **fertilize** *v.* To supply with nourishment for plants by adding helpful substances to the soil

Tomatoes grow well here because the farmers **fertilize** their soil with nitrogen.

Parts of speech **fertilizer** *n*, **fertilization** *n*

6. **intensify** *v.* To increase in power; to act with increased strength

Jacob's long absence from Rose **intensified** his certainty that he should marry her.

Parts of speech **intensification** *n*, **intense** *adj*, **intensity** *n*

7. **irrigation** *n.* The supplying of water to dry land

In dry areas of the country, you can see ditches all over the farmland for **irrigation**.

Parts of speech **irrigate** *v*

8. **obtain** *v.* To gain possession of; to get

After a series of difficult interviews, he finally was able to **obtain** the job.

9. **photosynthesis** *n.* The process by which green plants make their own food by combining water, salts, and carbon dioxide in the presence of light.

Oxygen is a by-product of the process of **photosynthesis**.

Parts of speech **photosynthesize** *v*

10. **precipitation** *n.* Water that falls to the Earth's surface

In the Pacific Northwest, the high level of **precipitation** ensures rich, green plant life.

TOEFL Prep I Complete each sentence by filling in the blank with the best word from the list. Change the form of the word if necessary. Use each word only once.

abandoned precipitation cultivation fertilize photosynthesis

1. Through _____, green plants create organic materials with the help of chlorophyll.
2. The coastal city gets half its _____ during the rainy months of January, February, and March.
3. Farmers use various methods of land _____.
4. When they heard the hull crack, all but two of the sailors _____ ship.
5. Inexperienced gardeners may not realize how important it is that they _____ their plants.

TOEFL Prep II Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word in the left-hand column. Write the letter in the blank.

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| _____ 1. obtain | (a) weaken |
| _____ 2. intensify | (b) separate |
| _____ 3. irrigation | (c) lose |
| _____ 4. aggregate | (d) drainage |
| _____ 5. adversely | (e) positively |

TOEFL Success Read the passage to review the vocabulary you have learned. Answer the questions that follow.

In countries like Niger and Mauritania, the *cultivation* of land has changed little in the past several centuries. Additionally, these countries' mono-modal rainfall pattern brings *precipitation* for only three months during the year. **As a result**, food production doesn't nearly meet demand.

Bonus Structure—
As a result means
 "therefore," "for
 this reason."

Several agencies and organizations have *intensified* their efforts to increase the productivity of land in these countries. They have introduced new strains of seed, improved *irrigation* techniques, and introduced new methods of *fertilization* and soil management. With ample sunlight for *photosynthesis* and modern *irrigation* techniques, sustainable farming techniques should allow farmers to boost *aggregate* production in order to meet demand.

Still, crop revitalization faces an unexpected adversary: institutional incompetence. Where crop specialists have convinced individual farmers to *abandon* old farming techniques in place of new, they can't readily *obtain* the governmental cooperation they need. The biggest hurdles are political corruption, incompetence, and the absence of a marketing infrastructure.

1. In this passage, the word adversary is closest in meaning to
 - a. friend
 - b. helper
 - c. enemy
 - d. leader
2. In the last paragraph, the word they refers to
 - a. crop specialists
 - b. farmers
 - c. farming techniques
 - d. adversaries

Lesson 1 Food Crops

TOEFL Prep I 1. photosynthesis 2. precipitation 3. cultivation
4. abandoned 5. fertilize

TOEFL Prep II 1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. e

TOEFL Success 1. c 2. a

Disaster

Target Words

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. anticipate | 6. flood |
| 2. catastrophic | 7. impact |
| 3. collide | 8. persevere |
| 4. eruption | 9. plunge |
| 5. famine | 10. unleash |

Definitions and Samples

1. **anticipate** *v.* To expect; to sense something before it happens

By placing sensors in earthquake-prone areas, scientists can **anticipate** some tremors in time to warn the public.

Parts of speech **anticipation** *n*, **anticipatory** *adj*

2. **catastrophic** *adj.* Extremely harmful; causing financial or physical ruin

The architect died in a **catastrophic** elevator accident.

Parts of speech **catastrophe** *n*, **catastrophically** *adv*

3. **collide** *v.* To come together with great or violent force

As usual, their holiday was ruined when their in-laws' views on politics **collided** with their own.

Parts of speech **collision** *n*

Evolution and Migration

Target Words

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. adapt | 6. inherent |
| 2. diverse | 7. migration |
| 3. evolve | 8. physical |
| 4. feature | 9. process |
| 5. generation | 10. survive |

Definitions and Samples

1. **adapt** *v.* To adjust to the circumstances; to make suitable

Dinosaurs could not **adapt** to the colder temperatures.

The teacher **adapted** the exercises for his more advanced students.

Usage tips *Adapt* is often followed by *to*.

Parts of speech **adaptation** *n.*, **adapter** *n.*, **adaptable** *adj*

2. **diverse** *n.* Various; showing a lot of differences within a group

India is one of the most linguistically **diverse** countries in the world.

Usage tips An *-ly* adverb (e.g., *linguistically*) often comes before *diverse*.

Parts of speech **diversify** *v.*, **diversity** *n.*, **diversification** *n*

3. **evolve** *v.* To develop; to come forth

Modern-day sharks **evolved** from their ancestor *Eryops*, which lived more than 200 million years ago.

Usage tips *Evolve* is often followed by *into* or *from*.

Parts of speech **evolution** *n*, **evolutionist** *n*, **evolutionary** *adj*

4. **feature** *n*. Part, characteristic

The best **feature** of this car is its heated seats.

Usage tips *Feature* is often followed by *of*.

Parts of speech **feature** *v*

5. **generation** *n*. A group of people born at about the same time

As older managers retired, a new **generation** of leaders took control of the company.

Usage tips Before *generation*, an adjective like *new*, *next*, *earlier*, or *older* is common. *Generation* is often followed by *of*.

Parts of speech **generational** *adj*

6. **inherent** *adj*. Naturally characteristic; always found within something, because it's a basic part of that thing

No job can be interesting all the time. Boredom is **inherent** in any kind of work.

Usage tips *Inherent* is often followed by *in*.

Parts of speech **inherently** *adv*

7. **migration** *n*. Movement from one place to another by a group of people or animals

The **migration** of farm workers from one state to the next depends primarily on the harvest.

Usage tips *Migration* is often followed by *to* or *from*.

Parts of speech **migrate** *v*, **migrant** *n*, **migratory** *adj*

8. **physical** *adj*. Related to the body; related to materials that can be seen or felt

Because of the shape of its throat, an ape does not have the **physical** ability to speak.

The mountains form a **physical** barrier between the west and the east.

Usage tips *Physical* usually comes before the noun it describes.

Parts of speech **physically** *adv*

9. **process** *n.* A series of steps leading to a result

To get a good job, most people go through a long **process** of letter-writing and interviews.

Usage tips *Process* is often followed by *of* plus the *-ing* form of a verb.

Parts of speech **proceed** *v*, **process** *v*

10. **survive** *v.* To continue living (despite some danger or illness)

After getting lost in the mountains, Gordon **survived** by eating wild plants and catching fish.

Usage tips *Survive* is often followed by a phrase with *by*.

Parts of speech **survivor** *n*, **survival** *n*

TOEFL Prep I Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word in the left-hand column. Write the letter in the blank.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ 1. physical | (a) not an integral part |
| _____ 2. migration | (b) stay the same |
| _____ 3. adapt | (c) die |
| _____ 4. inherent | (d) staying in one place |
| _____ 5. survive | (e) mental |

TOEFL Success Read the passage to review the vocabulary you have learned. Answer the questions that follow.

When the artistic *medium* of theater falls into the hands of college students, the results can be unpredictable. At one college, we saw Shakespeare's *Hamlet* done as musical theater. The idea was bad to start out with, and the actual play was *amateurish*, bordering on *incompetent*. The *cast* did not understand the tragic power of the play. Their *improvisation* when they forgot their lines was silly and inappropriate. The costumes and set design looked homemade, like something from an elementary school *skit*. Three months later, **however**, this same group of students did a great job with the comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Surprisingly enough, the actors were *charismatic*, played their parts with *zeal*, and achieved a *hilarious* result. It was no *gala* event, but we still felt that it was one of the best performances we had seen.

Bonus Structure—
However indicates
a change in focus.

1. What word best describes the author's opinion of the student performance of *Hamlet*?
 - a. incompetent
 - b. charismatic
 - c. hilarious
 - d. full of zeal
2. What is the author's opinion of student performances in general?
 - a. Students should not perform Shakespeare's plays.
 - b. Sometimes student productions are good, and other times they are not.
 - c. All student shows are amateurish.
 - d. Student performances should be gala events.

Lesson 40 Entertainment

TOEFL Prep I 1. e 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. d

TOEFL Prep II 1. skit 2. gala 3. improvisation 4. medium
5. charismatic

TOEFL Success 1. a 2. b

Risky Fashions

Target Words

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. bulk | 6. minimum |
| 2. capricious | 7. striking |
| 3. cumbersome | 8. trend |
| 4. exotic | 9. vanity |
| 5. inhibit | 10. vulnerable |

Definitions and Samples

1. **bulk** *n.* Largeness and a heavy appearance

The **bulk** of Kevin's athletic body was too great for one small chair, so he sat on a bench.

Parts of speech **bulky** *adj*

2. **capricious** *adj.* Moving unpredictably from one thing to another

Your college studies will go on too long if you make **capricious** jumps from one major to another.

Usage tips **Capricious** comes from a Latin word meaning "goat" and implies a motion like the jumping of a goat.

Parts of speech **capriciousness** *n*, **capriciously** *adv*

3. **cumbersome** *adj.* Difficult to wear or carry because of weight or shape

To make it to the top of the mountain before dark, the hikers dumped their **cumbersome** tent.

400 Must-Have Words for the TOEFL*

abandon
abduction
abstract
accumulate
accuracy
accuse
acquire
acquisition
adapt
addictive
adjacent
adjust
adolescent
advent
adversely
advocate
affection
affluence
aggravate
aggregate
agnostic
allegedly
allegiance
allocate
amateurish

ambiguous
amend
analyze
ancestral
anesthesia
animism
annex
anomaly
anticipate
antipathy
apex
apprehend
arbitrary
arrogantly
artillery
ascertain
assail
assess
asset
assimilate
associate
astrological
atheist
augment
authority

* Specifically, 410 words.

ritually
roster
rotate

sacrifice
safeguard
saga
scandal
scar
secular
seep
seize
self-perpetuating
sentiment
sequence
severely
shame
shrink
shuttle
sibling
simulation
skit
smuggle
solar
sole
solidarity
source
spectrum
stable
status quo
stigmatize
strategic
striking
structure
subsidy
subtly
surveillance

survive
suspect
suspend
suspicious
symbolic

tangible
terminal
tolerate
trend
trigger

unleash
unmask

vanish
vanity
vein
verdict
versus
vestige
villainy
violation
vitriolic
vulnerable

willing
witness
working class
wound

zeal

About the Authors

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LAWRENCE J. ZWIER is associate director of the English Language Center at Michigan State University at East Lansing, Michigan. He has written many general-interest books as well as ESL textbooks for reading, vocabulary development, and test preparation.

LYNN STAFFORD-YILMAZ taught ESL for more than 15 years at Bellevue Community College in Washington and other institutions. She was an accomplished author of numerous ESL textbooks and test-preparation materials.

We want to help you score high on the TOEFL*

We've put all of our proven expertise into *McGraw-Hill Education: 400 Must-Have Words for the TOEFL, 2nd Edition*, to make sure you're fully prepared for this difficult exam. With this updated and expanded guide, you'll get essential skill-building techniques and strategies created by leading ESL educators. You'll also get 410 commonly tested words, more than 150 activities and exercises, and a free Language Lab app to help you study. With *McGraw-Hill Education: 400 Must-Have Words for the TOEFL*, we'll guide you step by step through the essential vocabulary—and give you the tools you need to improve your score on the TOEFL.

This edition includes

- More than 400 important words for the TOEFL, with the addition of a new chapter
- Example sentences, usage tips, and commonly used parts of speech related to the word
- A free Language Lab app with flashcard vocabulary quizzes

About the Authors

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