

GETTING TO KNOW THE TOEFL

WHAT IS THE TOEFL?

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

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

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

SECTION 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

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

Single Statement

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

YOU WILL HEAR:

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

YOU WILL SEE:

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

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

Short Dialogs

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

YOU WILL HEAR:

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

I got there.

(Man) What does the woman mean?

YOU WILL SEE:

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

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

Extended Conversation / Minitalks

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

YOU WILL HEAR:

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

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

YOU WILL SEE:

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

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

SECTION 2: STRUCTURE AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

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

Structure

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

YOU WILL SEE:

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

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

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

Written Expression

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

YOU WILL SEE:

The Navajo Indians have displayed a marked ability

A B

to incorporate aspects of other cultures into a changing,

C

flexibility lifestyle

D

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

SECTION 3: VOCABULARY AND READING COMPREHENSION

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

Vocabulary

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

YOU WILL SEE:

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

(A) accepted

(B) published

(C) established

(D) suggested

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

Reading Comprehension

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

YOU WILL SEE:

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

QUESTION:

According to the passage, what is focal length?

(A) A curved surface that refracts light.

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

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

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

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

THE TEST OF WRITTEN ENGLISH

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

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

SOME HELPFUL HINTS

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

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

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

UNDERSTANDING THE TOEFL: Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Section

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

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

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

The Vocabulary Question

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

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

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

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

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

Strategies

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

frustration.

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

Swallows are among the most agile passerine birds.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STRATEGIES TO REMEMBER

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

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

IMPROVING YOUR TOEFL VOCABULARY

READ A LOT

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

MAKE FLASH CARDS

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

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

MAKE WORD LISTS

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

LEARN WORDS FROM OLD TOEFL

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

LEARN THE WORDS IN THIS BOOK

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

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

LEARN TO USE A THESAURUS

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

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

BUILDING YOUR VOCABULARY

DEVELOPING WORD ATTACK SKILLS

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

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

Word Roots

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

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

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

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

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

How to Study Word Roots

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

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

Prefixes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Suffixes

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

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

ADJECTIVE SUFFIXES

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

NOUN SUFFIXES

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

ADVERB SUFFIXES

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

VERB SUFFIXES

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

IMPORTANT VOCABULARY BUILDING TOOLS

THE DICTIONARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

What You Can Learn

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE THESAURUS

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE ESSENTIAL TOEFL VOCABULARY

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

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

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

intricate	adj. having many parts; finely detailed
adv. intricately	syn. complex
n. intricacy	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STUDYING THE WORD ENTRIES

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

Read

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

Reread

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

Find the Synonyms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Make Flash Cards

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHAPTER 7

THE PRACTICE TESTS GENERAL DIRECTIONS

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

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

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

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

TOEFL VOCABULARY PRACTICE TEST 1

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

reader.

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

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

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

(D) identified

29. The predominant unit of drawing is the line.

(A) smallest

(B) resilient

(C) principal

(D) dramatic

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

(2).

(A) preserve

(B) distribute

(C) assimilate

(D) condense

TOEFL VOCABULARY PRACTICE TEST 2

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

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

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

- (D) unique
28. The typical symphony orchestra has evolved gradually since the late eighteenth century.
- (A) haphazardly
 - (B) scarcely
 - (C) steadily
 - (D) logically
29. The fire salamander takes its name from an old belief that it could withstand flames.
- (A) survive
 - (B) extinguish
 - (C) elude
 - (D) reduce
30. Satellite images show tropical depressions as brilliant white masses of clouds.
- (A) powerful
 - (B) vast
 - (C) radiant
 - (D) elaborate

ANSWERS TO TOEFL VOCABULARY TESTS

Practice Test 1

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

Practice Test 2

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

Scoring Your TOEFL Vocabulary Practice Tests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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