

# BARRON'S

The Leader in Test Preparation



# ESSENTIAL WORDS FOR THE TOEFL®

**6TH EDITION**

Steven J. Matthiesen

- A fully updated list of 500 words that frequently appear on the TOEFL
- Definitions, sample sentences, and practice exercises to build your word power
- An overview of each section of the TOEFL iBT and ITP
- A Reading Section test with answers to help you assess your test-taking readiness

# LESSON 13

- **crucial**
- **dignitary**
- **elude**
- **evident**
- **exhaust**
- **extensive**
- **face**
- **facet**
- **idol**
- **inaccessible**
- **oblivious**
- **obviously**
- **offensive**
- **predictably**
- **suitable**
- **surpass**
- **uphold**

**crucial** *adj.* of great importance; extremely necessary  
*adv.* **crucially** *syn.* critical

Favorable weather is *crucial* to a good harvest.

Having all the information necessary to make a good decision is *crucially* important.

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

Every *dignitary* in Washington was invited to the wedding.

All of the high-ranking *dignitaries* attended the economic summit.

**elude** *v.* to escape in a tricky way  
*adj.* **elusive** *syn.* evade  
*n.* **elusiveness**

The criminal has *eluded* the police for months.

Success has been *elusive* for the team.

**evident** *adj.* easy to see, usually because of some proof  
*adv.* **evidently** *syn.* apparent  
*n.* **evidence**

It is *evident* that you are not feeling well.

All the *evidence* points to the presence of hydrogen.

**exhaust**

*adv.* exhaustively  
*adj.* exhaustive  
*adj.* exhausting  
*adj.* exhausted  
*n.* exhaustion

*v.* to use completely; to expend all energy; very thorough  
*syn.* deplete

They *exhausted* their energy in ten minutes.

The *exhaustive* report was acclaimed by everyone.

**extensive**

*adv.* extensively  
*v.* extend\*  
*n.* extension\*

*adj.* large in area or number  
 \*to offer; to make longer  
*syn.* comprehensive

The *extensive* snowfall caused problems throughout the city.

The professor *extended* a warm welcome to the new student.

**face**

*v.* to be in the presence of and oppose  
*syn.* confront

The mountain climbers *faced* grave danger on the cliff.

He finds it difficult to *face* his problems.

**facet**

*adj.* faceted

*n.* element or component  
*syn.* aspect

The proposal had many beneficial *facets*.

It was a *multifaceted* problem that challenged the entire student body.

**idol**

*n.* idolatry  
*adj.* idolatrous

*n.* a person or image that is loyally admired or respected  
*syn.* hero

The Beatles, a famous singing group of the 1960s, were the *idols* of many teenage girls.

Talented athletes often become *idols* in the eyes of their fans.



**surpass** *v.* to go beyond

*adj.* surpassable  
*n.* surpasser

*syn.* exceed

The movie *surpassed* even the film critics' high expectations.

The soccer player will probably *surpass* the scoring record set last year.

**uphold** *v.* to support or maintain

*n.* upholder

*syn.* sustain

The tree house was *upheld* by three thick tree branches.

Each president of the United States must promise to *uphold* the constitution.

**MATCHING**

Choose the synonym.

1. **oblivious**

- (A) elusive
- (B) blind
- (C) eclectic
- (D) valid

2. **critical**

- (A) prevalent
- (B) elusive
- (C) prime
- (D) crucial

3. **predictably**

- (A) obviously
- (B) expectedly
- (C) conspicuously
- (D) extensively

4. **sustain**

- (A) uphold
- (B) emit
- (C) creep
- (D) distinguish

5. **inaccessible**

- (A) depleted
- (B) incessant
- (C) remote
- (D) enormous

6. **elude**

- (A) erode
- (B) evade
- (C) endorse
- (D) enrich

7. **extensive**

- (A) delicate
- (B) impressive
- (C) comprehensive
- (D) disruptive

8. **celebrity**

- (A) settler
- (B) dignitary
- (C) petitioner
- (D) dweller

9. **evidently**

- (A) routinely
- (B) entirely
- (C) exceptionally
- (D) obviously

10. **exceed**

- (A) surpass
- (B) benefit
- (C) ascertain
- (D) recompense

**LESSON 13—MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST QUESTIONS**

1. Engineering geologists survey the geology of an area, and then prepare a geological map. One of their main responsibilities is to determine whether the geological structure of a location is **suitable** for the building of huge structures such as dams.

The word **suitable** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) appropriate
- (B) extensive
- (C) recoverable
- (D) perfect

2. Experts believe that a child's family experiences are **crucial** for personality development. The ways that basic needs are met in infancy, along with later techniques of child rearing, can leave a permanent mark on personality. Children learn behavior appropriate to their sex by identifying with the parent of the same sex. A warm, caring relationship with that parent helps such learning.

The word **crucial** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) evident
- (B) extensive
- (C) critical
- (D) obvious

3. The Everglades comprises one of the wildest and most **inaccessible** areas in the United States. Its wildlife is plentiful and is largely protected within the Everglades National Park. The only inhabitants of the Everglades are several hundred Seminole Indians.

The word **inaccessible** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) remote
- (B) indiscriminate
- (C) inactive
- (D) immense

4. Bank credit and debit cards, now used worldwide, are examples of general purpose bank cards. Establishments offering almost every kind of product or service now honor such cards. These cards are designed to give customers access to credit, savings, and checking accounts, eliminating the need to purchase items with cash. It is **predicted** that, in the future, these cards will completely eliminate the need for carrying cash.

The word **predicted** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) inconceivable
- (B) evident
- (C) justified
- (D) anticipated

5. In Western culture, until about the middle of the seventeenth century, biographies were generally tributes to famous individuals. Their purpose was to enlighten and motivate. They often dealt with the exemplary lives of people who became heroes and **heroines** to the public, but sometimes also glorified the lives of infamous doers of bad deeds.

The word **heroines** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) dignitary
- (B) idol
- (C) benefactor
- (D) philanthropist

6. Kinesics is the name given to the study of nonverbal interactions such as facial expressions, gestures, and eye contact. In many cultures, direct eye contact is seen as a sign of disrespect in **face-to-face encounters**. Students, for example, are expected to lower their eyes while addressing a teacher. In other cultures, lowered eyes are construed as an indication of shame, embarrassment, or dishonesty. Kinesics focuses on many such cultural differences.

In discussing **face-to-face encounters**, the author is referring to social interactions in which two people are

- (A) sitting back to back.
- (B) in front of each other.
- (C) keeping their eyes down.
- (D) staring into space.



7. High standards and rigorous early training are **evident** where dance is an art performed before an audience. In early cultures, dance was something in which everyone participated; dancers were not singled out and trained because of their skill or charm. Once religious worship developed into ritual, it became important for dancers to be as skilled as possible.

The word **evident** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) rumored
- (B) apparent
- (C) vibrant
- (D) enhanced

8. Mineral deposits form because there is a transporting agent for the ore minerals. The transporting agent removes the minerals it carries from one area and deposits them in another. Groundwater and seawater are examples of transporting agents. The transporting agent process is involved in the creation of deposits of both abundant and **exhausted** metals.

The word **exhausted** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) depleted
- (B) eroded
- (C) released
- (D) restricted

9. The independent African states encounter numerous problems implementing an educational policy that will encourage economic and social development. The difficulties most governments **face** are basically political. There is also concern about the financial problems of the different states. The lack of communication between educational policy makers and economic and social planners may also create hardships.

The word **face** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- (A) bear
- (B) resolve
- (C) confront
- (D) endorse

10. Pop artists seek to portray modern culture. Their art emphasizes modern social values, the sprawl of urban life, and the flashy, frivolous, transitory, and offensive **facets** of modern life. These values are the very opposites of the values cherished by artists of the past.

The word **facets** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- Ⓐ aspects
- Ⓑ ideals
- Ⓒ facts
- Ⓓ particles