



Complete Word List: 327 TOEFL Words You Must Know

PrepScholar's Essential Vocab Series
Complete Word List

By PrepScholar TOEFL Prep





Word	Definition
abundant	adj. present in large quantities
accumulate	v. to gradually collect
accurate	adj. correct; free from errors
accustomed	adj. used to something
acquire	v. to come into possession of
adamant	adj. refusing to change an opinion
adequate	adj. enough to suit your needs
adjacent	adj. close to or next to
adjust	v. to change something so it serves its purpose better
advantage	n. something that makes it easier to achieve success
advocate	v. to publicly support
adverse	adj. unfavorable; against one's desires
aggregate	v. to combine
aggressive	adj. assertive and pushy
allocate	v. to put aside for a specific purpose
alternative	n. another option or choice
amateur	n. someone who is inexperienced or not highly skilled in a particular area
ambiguous	adj. having several potential meanings; unclear and difficult to understand
ambitious	adj. having large goals
amend	v. to change for the better; to improve
ample	adj. plentiful
anomaly	n. deviation from the norm
annual	adj. occurring yearly
antagonize	v. to tease or be hostile towards a person or group
attitude	n. manner or feeling
attribute	v. to give credit
arbitrary	adj. based on a whim or random desire
arduous	adj. requiring a lot of effort
assuage	v. to lessen a negative feeling
assume	v. to suppose without solid proof
augment	v. to increase or make larger
benefit	n. something positive or advantageous
berate	v. to scold
bestow	v. to give as a gift
boast	v. to brag or talk with excessive pride
boost	v. to help raise or increase something



brash	adj. rude and tactless
brief	adj. short (in terms of time)
brusque	adj. abrupt to the point of rudeness
cacophony	n. a harsh, unpleasant mixture of noise
cease	v. to stop
censure	v. to express strong disapproval
chronological	adj. arranged in order of time or date
clarify	v. to make clear; to remove confusion
coalesce	v. to combine or grow together
coerce	v. to force someone to do something against their will
cognizant	adj. being aware or having knowledge of something
cohesion	n. uniting; becoming one
coincide	v. to occur at the same time
collapse	v. to fall down or break down
collide	v. to hit one another with a forceful impact
commitment	n. dedication to a cause or activity
community	n. a group of people who live or work together
conceal	v. to hide
concur	v. to agree
conflict	n. a disagreement or fight
constrain	v. to restrict or repress
contemplate	v. to consider thoughtfully
continuously	v. to go on without stopping
contradict	v. to give the opposite opinion
contribute	v. to give something (usually money or time) to a common fund or cause
convey	v. to make known
copious	adj. abundant
core	adj. central; of main importance
corrode	v. to gradually wear away
cumbersome	adj. burdensome; clumsy
curriculum	n. the courses given by a school or program
data	n. facts, statistics, or pieces of information
decay	v. to decline in health or excellence
deceive	v. to trick or mislead
decipher	v. to find the meaning of
declaration	n. an announcement
decline	v. to politely refuse v. to deteriorate (especially in terms of health)



degrade	v. to lower in quality
demonstrate	v. to show
deny	v. to state that something isn't true
deplete	v. to significantly decrease
deposit	v. to deliver and leave an item
desirable	adj. worth having or wanting
despise	v. to hate
detect	v. to locate something
deter	v. to discourage
deviate	v. to differ from the norm
devise	v. to plan or create
diatribe	n. a sharp criticism or attack
digress	v. to wander from the main subject
dilemma	n. a situation where one must choose between two difficult choices
diminish	v. to shrink or reduce
dispose	v. to get rid of
disproportionate	adj. too small or large when compared to something else
disrupt	v. to interrupt by causing a disturbance
distort	v. to misrepresent
distribute	v. to give portions of something
diverse	adj. showing a lot of variety
divert	v. to cause a change of course
dynamic	adj. constantly changing
ease	v. to reduce unpleasantness or difficulty
efficient	adj. maximizing productivity
eliminate	v. to remove
elite	adj. a select, above-average group
eloquent	adj. moving speech or writing
emphasize	v. to give special importance to when speaking or writing
endure	v. to suffer through something difficult with patience
enhance	v. to intensify or magnify
epitome	n. a perfect example of something
equivalent	adj. equal
erroneous	adj. incorrect
estimate	n. an approximate value
evade	v. to avoid or escape
evaluate	v. to assess
evidence	n. facts or evidence that help prove or disprove something
evolve	v. to gradually change



exemplary	adj. worthy of imitation
exclude	v. to leave out
exclusive	adj. not admitting the majority
expand	v. to increase in size
expertise	n. expert knowledge or skill in a particular field
exploit	v. to use selfishly
expose	v. to reveal or unmask
extension	n. an act of making something longer
extract	v. to get or remove something
famine	n. a time when there is an extreme lack of food
feasible	adj. possible to do
finite	adj. having an end or limits
flaw	n. a feature that ruins the perfection of something
fluctuate	v. to change continually
focus	n. the central point or idea
fortify	v. to strengthen
framework	n. a skeletal structure designed to support something
frivolous	adj. unnecessary; of little importance
function	n. a purpose natural to a person or thing
fundamental	adj. of primary importance
gap	n. a space in between two objects
garbled	adj. communication that is distorted and unclear
generate	v. to produce
grandiose	adj. pompous; overly important
hackneyed	adj. overused and unoriginal
haphazard	adj. lacking planning
harsh	adj. not gentle; unpleasant
hasty	adj. in a hurry
hazardous	adj. full of risk
hesitate	v. to pause, often due to reluctance
hierarchy	n. a ranking system
hindrance	n. something that causes delay or resistance
hollow	adj. empty inside
horror	n. an intense feeling of fear
hostile	adj. extremely unfriendly
hypothesis	n. an unproven idea that attempts to prove something
identical	adj. exactly the same
illiterate	adj. unable to read
illustrate	v. to explain by using an example



impact	n. effect or influence
impair	v. to worsen
implement	v. to carry out
imply	v. to strongly suggest
impose	v. to force upon
impoverish	v. to reduce to poverty
incentive	n. a reason to do something
incessant	adj. continuing without pause
incidental	adj. a minor part
incite	v. to urge on
inclination	n. a preference
incompetent	adj. incapable; lacking ability
inconsistent	adj. changing randomly
indefatigable	adj. untiring
indisputable	adj. not able to be challenged
ineffective	adj. not producing any major impact
inevitable	adj. unable to be avoided
infer	v. to guess based on evidence
inflate	v. to increase in size
influence	n. the ability to have an impact on something
inhibit	v. to hinder or restrain
initial	adj. the first
inquiry	n. an investigation to determine the truth
integral	adj. necessary to complete the whole
integrate	v. to combine
interpret	v. to explain the meaning of something
intervene	v. to come between people, objects, or an event and change what is happening
intrepid	adj. fearless
intricate	adj. highly detailed
invasive	adj. intrusive
investigate	v. to examine or study
irascible	adj. easy to anger
irony	n. the use of words to give a meaning opposite to their literal meaning
irresolute	adj. uncertain
jargon	n. words specific to a certain job or group
jointly	adj. together
knack	n. a special talent or skill



labor	n. work or effort
lag	v. to fall behind
lampoon	v. to mock or ridicule
languish	v. to become weak v. to be neglected
lecture	n. a talk given to an audience
leery	adj. wary
legitimate	adj. lawful
lenient	adj. merciful; less harsh
likely	adj. probable
ludicrous	adj. ridiculous
maintain	v. to continue at the same level
major	adj. very important
manipulate	v. to influence, especially in an unfair way
maximize	v. to increase to the greatest possible size
measure	v. to find the size and dimensions of something
mediocre	adj. ordinary, average
mend	v. to fix
method	n. a way of doing something
migrate	v. to move from one place to another
minimum	n. the smallest or lowest amount possible
misleading	adj. giving the wrong idea
modify	v. to change
morose	adj. gloomy, depressed
negligent	adj. lazy, neglectful
nonchalant	adj. indifferent, unexcited
obey	v. to follow orders or instructions
obtain	v. to get
obvious	adj. easily understood
opponent	n. someone on the opposite side for a game or contest
oppress	v. to unfairly burden
origin	n. the source; where something began
parsimonious	adj. frugal, stingy
partake	v. to join in
partial	adj. preferring one option over others
paucity	n. something existing in very small amounts; scarcity
peak	n. the highest or most important point
peripheral	adj. located on the side or edge
permeate	v. to penetrate or pass through



persist	v. to continue, especially when facing opposition
pertain	v. to relate
phase	n. a period or stage in a process
poll	n. a record of opinions or votes
potent	adj. powerful
pragmatic	adj. practical, sensible
praise	v. to give approval or admiration
precede	v. to come before
precise	adj. exact
prestigious	adj. having a high reputation
prevalent	adj. widespread
primary	adj. first; most important
prior	adj. previous or earlier
proceed	v. to continue doing something
progeny	n. offspring
promote	v. to further the progress of something
prosper	v. to do well
proximity	n. nearness in time or space
quarrel	n. a disagreement or fight v. to have an argument
range	n. the distance between two things, often the maximum and minimum
rank	n. an official position or station
rebuke	v. to sternly disapprove or reprimand
recapitulate	v. to give a brief summary
recede	v. to retreat
recommend	v. to present someone with confidence and approval
reform	v. to make changes that improve something
regulate	v. to supervise or control a process so that it functions correctly
reinforce	v. to strengthen with added support
reject	v. to say no to something that is offered
release	v. to free v. to allow to be known
rely	v. to depend on
reproach	v. to express disapproval or disappointment
require	v. to need for a specific purpose
resent	v. to feel bitterness or anger towards someone or something
resign	v. to give up an office or position
resist	v. to withstand the effect of



resolve	v. to come to a firm decision
restrict	v. to confine or keep within limits
retain	v. to continue to do something or keep something
retract	v. to draw back in v. to withdraw something after it's found to be untrue
retrieve	v. to bring back
rhetorical	adj. used just for style or impact
rigid	adj. stiff, unyielding
rotate	v. to turn
safeguard	n. something that serves as protection or ensures safety
scrutinize	v. to very carefully examine
section	n. a part of the whole
select	v. to choose
sequence	n. things that follow each other in a certain order
severe	adj. harsh or strict adj. grave, critical
shallow	adj. not deep
shelter	v. to protect from something harmful
shrink	v. to become smaller
significant	adj. important, noteworthy
source	n. a person, place or thing where something was obtained
sparse	adj. thinly scattered
specify	v. to clearly specify which one
speculate	v. to form a theory without strong evidence
solitary	adj. alone; without others
somber	adj. gloomy; depressing
soothe	v. to calm or comfort
squalid	adj. filthy and unpleasant
stable	adj. unlikely to change or fail
stagnant	adj. sluggish; showing little movement
strategy	n. a plan to reach a desired outcome
subsequent	adj. coming after something in time
substitute	n. a person or thing acting in place of another
subtle	adj. difficult to notice right away
sufficient	adj. enough to serve a particular purpose
summarize	v. to briefly give the main points
supervise	v. to oversee work or a process
supplant	v. to take the place of something else
suspend	v. to temporarily stop



	v. to hang something from somewhere
suspicious	adj. having the belief that someone is doing something dishonest or illegal
sustain	v. to keep going
symbolic	adj. serving as a symbol
technical	adj. relating to a specific subject or craft
terminal	adj. situated at the end
tolerate	v. to put up with
transfer	v. to move from one place to another
transition	v. to change from one state or condition to another
transparent	adj. easy to see through adj. easy to detect
tuition	n. the fee for instruction at a school
unobtrusive	adj. not attracting attention
unscathed	adj. unharmed
upbeat	adj. happy, optimistic
unjust	adj. unfair
vacillate	v. to waver or be indecisive
valid	adj. just; well-founded
vanish	v. to disappear quickly
vary	v. to be different from something else in a group
verdict	n. a judgement or decision
vestige	n. a small trace of something that is disappearing or has already disappeared
vial	n. a small container used to hold liquids
vilify	v. to speak poorly of; to slander
voluminous	adj. taking up a lot of space
whereas	conj. on the contrary
wholly	adv. completely
widespread	adj. occurring over a large region
wilt	v. to droop and become limp

AND NOW WHAT?

If you found this guide helpful, please share it with any other people who might benefit.

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