

Session 1

Part I. Word List Based on Vocabulary Test Items

1. **Ambiguous** (æm'bigjuəs) Part of speech: adjective Definition: having more than one possible meaning or interpretation
 - The student's answer was ambiguous and the teacher had to ask for clarification.
 - The politician's statement was deliberately ambiguous to avoid committing to a position.

Synonyms: equivocal, vague

2. **Adept** (ə'dept) Part of speech: adjective Definition: very skilled or proficient at something
 - The musician was adept at playing multiple instruments.
 - The surgeon was known for being particularly adept at difficult procedures.

Synonyms: skilled, proficient

3. **Exhaustive** (ɪg'zɔstrɪv) Part of speech: adjective Definition: including or considering all elements or aspects; fully comprehensive
 - The report provided an exhaustive analysis of the company's financial data.
 - The author conducted exhaustive research before writing his book.

Synonyms: thorough, complete

4. **Fascinating** ('fæsəneɪtɪŋ) Part of speech: adjective Definition: capable of attracting and holding interest; charming
 - The museum exhibit was fascinating and drew large crowds.
 - The scientist's research on the behavior of animals was fascinating.

Synonyms: captivating, intriguing

5. **Trivial** ('trɪviəl) Part of speech: adjective Definition: of little value or importance
 - The argument over what to have for lunch seemed trivial in retrospect.
 - The actor dismissed the criticism as trivial and unimportant.

Synonyms: unimportant, insignificant

6. **Accessible** (æk'sesəbl) Part of speech: adjective Definition: able to be reached or entered
 - The building was accessible to people with disabilities.
 - The information was made accessible to everyone through the internet.

Synonyms: reachable, available

7. **Contagious** (kən'teɪdʒəs) Part of speech: adjective Definition: capable of being spread from one person to another
 - The flu is a highly contagious disease.
 - Laughter can be contagious and spread throughout a room.

Synonyms: infectious, communicable

8. Sagacious (sə'geɪfəs) Part of speech: adjective Definition: having or showing good judgment; wise

- The judge was known for his sagacious rulings.
- The elderly man offered sagacious advice to the young couple.

Synonyms: wise, insightful

9. Substantial (səb'stænʃəl) Part of speech: adjective Definition: of considerable importance, size, or worth

- The company made a substantial profit this quarter.
- The chef added a substantial amount of spices to the dish.

Synonyms: significant, sizable

10. Potable ('poutəbəl) Part of speech: adjective Definition: safe to drink; fit for human consumption

- The water in the mountain stream was potable and refreshing.
- The hiker carried a potable water filter to ensure he had access to safe drinking water.

Synonyms: drinkable, pure

11. Unfounded (ʌn'faʊndɪd) Part of speech: adjective Definition: not based on fact or reason

- The journalist's accusations were unfounded and eventually retracted.
- The judge dismissed the case as unfounded and lacking evidence.

Synonyms: baseless, groundless

12. Publicize ('pʌblɪsaɪz) Part of speech: verb Definition: to make something widely known or promote it

- The company hired a marketing team to publicize their new product.
- The artist used social media to publicize his upcoming show.

Synonyms: promote, advertise

13. Assuage (ə'sweɪdʒ) Part of speech: verb Definition: to make an unpleasant feeling less intense or severe

- The medicine helped to assuage the patient's pain.
- The apology did little to assuage her anger.

Synonyms: alleviate, ease

14. Debunk (di:'bʌŋk) Part of speech: verb Definition: to expose the falseness of something

- The scientist debunked the theory with his research findings.
- The journalist debunked the claims made by the politician.

Synonyms: disprove, refute

15. Malady ('mælədi) Part of speech: noun Definition: a disease or ailment
- The doctor diagnosed the patient with a rare malady.
 - The village was plagued by a malady that affected livestock.

Synonyms: illness, sickness

16. Misconception (,mɪskən 'sɛpʃən) Part of speech: noun Definition: a mistaken belief or idea
- There is a common misconception that bats are blind.
 - The teacher had to correct the student's misconception about the topic.

Synonyms: fallacy, illusion

17. Plague (pleɪg) Part of speech: verb Definition: to cause continual trouble, distress, or affliction
- The small business was plagued by financial difficulties.
 - The region was plagued by drought for several years.

Synonyms: afflict, torment

18. Intangible (ɪn 'tændʒəbəl) Part of speech: adjective Definition: unable to be touched or grasped; not having physical presence
- The company's brand image was an intangible asset that contributed to its success.
 - Love and happiness are often described as intangible concepts.

Synonyms: impalpable, insubstantial

19. Baffle ('bæfəl) Part of speech: verb Definition: to totally bewilder or perplex
- The magician's tricks baffled the audience.
 - The complex math problem baffled even the best students.

Synonyms: puzzle, confound

20. Deliberate (dɪ 'lɪbərət) Part of speech: adjective/verb Definition: done consciously and intentionally; to think carefully before making a decision
- The suspect made a deliberate attempt to cover up the evidence.
 - The jury deliberated for hours before reaching a verdict.

Synonyms: intentional, calculated

21. Lay down (leɪ daʊn) Part of speech: phrasal verb Definition: to establish or impose something as a rule or principle

- The company laid down strict guidelines for employee conduct.
- The government has laid down regulations to protect the environment.

Synonyms: establish, decree

22. Robust (rəʊˈbʌst) Part of speech: adjective Definition: strong and healthy; vigorous

- The athlete had a robust physique that helped him excel in his sport.
- The company's robust financial performance was due to its diversification strategy.

Synonyms: healthy, sturdy

23. Specious (ˈspiːʃəs) Part of speech: adjective Definition: superficially plausible but actually misleading

- The salesman's specious claims did not hold up under scrutiny.
- The argument was based on specious reasoning and logic.

Synonyms: deceptive, misleading

Part II. Word List Based on Reading and Critical Reasoning

1. Constantly (/ˈkɒnstəntli/): Adverb - In a consistent manner; repeatedly over a period of time.

- He constantly checks his emails every hour.
- She constantly reminds me to finish my work.

Synonyms: Continuously, consistently.

2. Unfavorable (/ʌnˈfeɪvərəbl/): Adjective - Not showing approval or support; negative or unfavorable.

- The weather conditions are unfavorable for outdoor activities.
- The decision had an unfavorable impact on the company's profits.

Synonyms: disadvantageous, adverse.

3. Multiply (/ˈmʌltəplaɪ/): Verb - To increase in number or amount greatly.

- If we plant more seeds, they will multiply and give us a bigger harvest.
- His wealth has multiplied over the years due to his investments.

Synonyms: Increase, expand.

4. Pathogen (/ˈpæθədʒən/): Noun - A bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease.

- The pathogen responsible for the flu was identified as a strain of influenza virus.
- The hospital implemented strict measures to prevent the spread of pathogens.

Synonyms: Germ, microbe.

5. Shed (/ʃɛd/): Verb - To get rid of something; to discard.
- Snakes shed their skin periodically as it grows older.
 - He decided to shed some weight by going on a strict diet.
- Synonyms: Discard, dispose.
6. Hinder (/ˈhɪndər/): Verb - To create difficulties or obstacles that interfere with progress or movement.
- The heavy snowfall hindered traffic on the roads.
 - His lack of experience hindered him from getting the job.
- Synonyms: impede, obstruct.
7. Invader (/ɪnˈveɪdər/): Noun - A person or group that enters a place or territory with the intention of taking control of it.
- The country was invaded by enemy troops.
 - The invasive species was considered an invader as it threatened the local ecosystem.
- Synonyms: intruder, occupier.
8. Establishment (/ɪˈstæblɪʃmənt/): Noun - The organization or structure of something; a business or institution.
- He worked for a large financial establishment in New York City.
 - The government established new policies to improve the education system.
- Synonyms: institution, organization.
9. Colonize (/ˈkɒlənaɪz/): Verb - To establish a colony or settlements in a new region.
- The Europeans colonized North America in the 15th century.
 - The bacteria began to colonize the petri dish after being exposed to nutrients.
- Synonyms: settle, inhabit.
10. Reversal (/rɪˈvɜrsəl/): Noun - A change to an opposite direction or position.
- The stock market experienced a sudden reversal in prices.
 - The team managed to make a reversal and win the game in the last few minutes.
- Synonyms: turnaround, inversion.
11. Salinity (/səˈlɪnəti/): Noun - The degree or level of saltiness in water or soil.
- The salinity of the ocean determines the types of marine organisms that can live there.
 - High levels of salinity in soil can damage crops and affect agricultural production.
- Synonyms: saltiness, brininess.
12. Intensity (/ɪnˈtensəti/): Noun - The degree or amount of strength or force.
- The intensity of the storm caused severe damage to buildings and infrastructure.
 - The intensity of his speech left a strong impression on the audience.
- Synonyms: strength, power.

13. Emerge (/ɪ'mɜːrdʒ/): Verb - To come into view or become visible.

- The sun emerged from behind the clouds, shining brightly over the landscape.
- The new talent emerged as a frontrunner in the competition.

Synonyms: appear, surface.

14. Freshwater (/ˈfrɛʃ,wɔːtər/): Noun - Water that contains very little salt; found in lakes, rivers, and other inland bodies of water.

- Many species of fish live in freshwater habitats.
- The city's main source of freshwater comes from underground aquifers.

Synonyms: potable water, drinking water.

15. Pesticide (/ˈpestə,sɑɪd/): Noun - A chemical substance used to kill pests, such as insects, rodents, or weeds.

- Farmers use pesticides to protect their crops from insect infestations.
- Some pesticides have been linked to environmental and health problems.

Synonyms: Insecticide, herbicide.

16. Epidemic (/ˌɛpəˈdɛmɪk/): Noun - A widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time.

- The flu epidemic of 2018 resulted in many hospitalizations.
- The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has affected millions of people worldwide.

Synonyms: Outbreak, plague.

17. Hierarchy (/ˈhaɪərərki/): Noun - A system or organization in which people or groups are ranked one above the other according to status or authority.

- The military has a strict hierarchy with clear lines of command.
- The corporate hierarchy determines the structure of a company.

Synonyms: Ranking, pecking order.