

SIR IELTS





500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

500 Basic TOEFL Words (1)

This is a middle size TOEFL vocabulary. Lots of websites and books use them as source of flash cards. BEHNAM collects them here and revises some with new definitions of Pacific Lava School. All words are divided into three groups to easy access and review. Welcome to visit this popular TOEFL preparation resource.

accolade: award of merit; expression of approval; praise

adamant: extremely hard; inflexible; stubbornly unyielding

admonition: gentle or friendly reproof; counseling against fault or oversight; warning

affable: easily approachable; warmly friendly

affinity: natural attraction, liking, or feeling of kinship; relationship by marriage

aftermath: outcome; consequence, especially of a disaster or misfortune

ailing: somewhat ill or prone to illness

aisles: spaces for walking between row of seats

amenable: responsive to advice or suggestion; responsible to higher authority; willing to comply with; agreeable

amidst: amid; in the middle of; among

among: in, into, or through the midst of more than two points, objects, etc.

apocryphal: untrue; of questionable authorship or authenticity; erroneous; fictitious

appall: depress or discourage with fear; grow faint or become weak

arousal: act of awaking from sleep; arousing from what is like sleep

assuage: ease or lessen pain; satisfy or appease



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

awash: covered with water

bared: uncovered; exposed; revealed

barely: just; only; hardly; scarcely

bear: support; sustain; carry; have; yield; give birth; hold up or support

beef: meat from an adult domestic bovine

beg: call upon in supplication

bend: strain or move out of a straight line; curve; turn toward some certain point

beneath: lower in place, with something directly over or on; under; underneath; below

bequest: inheritance; legacy; act of giving, leaving by will, or passing on to another

besiege: surround with armed forces; harass with requests

bet: stake or pledge upon the event of a contingent issue; amount or object risked in a wager

bind: tie, or confine with a cord, band, or chain; make fast; contract; cohere or stick together

binge: short period of excessive consumption; rapid and excessive consumption of food, especially of excessive alcohol consumption

blade: flat part of the leaf, of any plant, especially of gramineous plants; cutting part of an instrument

blasphemy: act of claiming for oneself the attributes and rights of God; utterance or writing concerning God or a sacred entity

blast: explode; burst; gale; very strong gust of wind or air

blazing: light up by or as by fire or flame; of tremendous intensity or fervor

blister: (pathology) an elevation of the skin filled with serous fluid



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

blow: forceful exhalation through the nose or mouth

blunt: having a dull edge or end; not sharp; lacking in feeling; insensitive

boast: show off oneself; speak of with excessive pride

bobbing: moving up and down

bolster: support or prop up with or as if with a long narrow pillow or cushion

bout: contest between antagonists; contest or fight; a period of time spent in a particular way, as in illness

brag: an instance of boastful talk

brash: presumptuously daring

breed: raise; produce offspring; give birth to or hatch; mate

brevity: quality or state of being brief in duration; concise expression

bribe: something serving to influence or persuade; reward or gift with a view to prevent judgment

brusque: abrupt and curt in manner or speech; rudely abrupt, unfriendly

burden: problem, trouble, an onerous or difficult concern

burglary: breaking and entering for the purpose of committing a crime

burst: the act of exploding or bursting something

cacophony: loud confusing disagreeable sounds

calf: young of domestic cattle

callus: thickened layer of skin

captivity: prison; confinement; state of being a prisoner

cartons: a box made of cardboard



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

catering: providing food and services

cattle: domesticated bovine animals as a group regardless of sex or age

cease: stop; terminate; put an end to; discontinue

censure: expression of strong disapproval or harsh criticism; blame

chimera: monster represented as vomiting flames, and as having lion head, goat body, and dragon tail

chuckle: call, as a hen to her chickens; fondle; cocker; laugh in a suppressed or broken manner

churning: moving with or producing or produced by vigorous agitation

clam: be moist or glutinous; stick or adhere; produce or cause to clang

clamor: noise; loud outcry; expression of discontent or protest

clash: make noise by striking against something; dash noisily together; meet in opposition

clemency: mildness, as of the weather

clever: showing inventiveness and skill

clumsy: awkward; showing lack of skill or aptitude

clutch: grasp and hold tightly; attempt to grasp or seize

coalesce: combine; fuse; grow together; come together so as to form one whole; unite

cock: adult male chicken

coeds: a female student at a school for males and females.

cognizant: aware; conscious

come: about happen



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

commiserate: feel or express pity or sympathy for

complaisant: trying to please; showing cheerful willingness to do favors for others

comprised: included; consisted of

concealed: put out of sight; hidden

concern: interest in any person or thing; regard; solicitude; anxiety

contract: constrict; make smaller; compress or concentrate

convey: carry from one place to another; bear or transport

convict: find or declare guilty

copious: plentiful; containing plenty; affording ample supply

copper: a ductile malleable reddish-brown corrosion-resistant diamagnetic metallic element

couch: sofa; arrange or dispose as in a bed

crap: obscene terms for feces

craze: fine crack in a surface or glaze; short-lived popular fashion; inordinate desire or longing; passion

crop: the top, end, or highest part of anything, especially of plant or tree; grain or other product of field while standing; anything cut off or gathered

crotch: the angle formed by the inner sides of the legs where they join the human trunk

culprit: one guilty of a crime

cumbersome: heavy; difficult to handle because of weight or bulk

curl: form into coiled or spiral shape; twist into ringlets or coils; move in curve or spiral

dainty: delicately beautiful or charming; exquisite; gratification or pleasure taken in



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

anything

dairy: place where milk is produced, kept, or converted into butter or cheese

dare: a challenge to do something dangerous or foolhardy

dart: move suddenly and rapidly

dawn: time each morning at which daylight first begins; beginning; start

dazzling: bright; brilliant

deaf: unable to perceive sounds; hard of hearing; unwilling to hear or listen; regardless; not to be persuaded

dean: dignitary or presiding officer; head in the faculty of some colleges or universities

dearth: scarcity; shortage of food; famine from failure or loss of crops

decadence: process, condition, or period of deterioration or decline; falling off or away; decay

decay: decompose; break down; disintegration; rottenness; decline; worsen; decadence

deceive: fool; cause to believe what is not true; mislead

deed: something that is carried out; act or action; feat or exploit

defy: renounce or dissolve all bonds of affiance, faith, or obligation with; provoke to combat or strife

demise: end of existence or activity; termination

denim: a coarse durable twill-weave cotton fabric

dentures: artificial teeth

depleted: emptied; drained; used up

deputy: one appointed as the substitute of another, and empowered to act for him; substitute in office



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

desultory: aimless; haphazard; at random; not connected with subject

deter: keep from; stop; prevent or discourage from acting

devise: form, plan, or arrange in the mind; transmit or give by will

diatribe: bitter verbal attack

dimple: slight natural depression or indentation on the surface of some part of the body; slight indentation on any surface

dire: causing fear or dread or terror

disgruntled: unhappy; dissatisfied; frustrated

dispassionate: calm; impartial; unaffected by strong emotion or prejudice

distress: discomfort; cause strain, anxiety, or suffering to

donor: giver; one that contributes something, such as money, to a cause or fund

downwind: towards the side away from the wind

doze: slumber; sleep lightly; be in dull or stupefied condition, as if half asleep; be drowsy

draped: covered with or as if with clothes or a wrap or cloak

dreary: gloomy; dismal; dark, colorless, or cheerless

drizzling: (of rain) falling lightly in very small drops

drowsiness: state of being in torpor, sleepy

dull: lacking responsiveness or alertness; intellectually weak or obtuse

dumb: mute; lacking the power of speech

duplicity: double-dealing; deliberate deceptiveness in behavior or speech; acting in bad faith.



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

duty: work that you are obliged to perform for moral or legal reasons

dye: substance used to color materials

ease: satisfaction; pleasure; entertainment; freedom from care

edge: brink; perimeter; margin

edifice: building, especially one of imposing appearance or size; a structure that has a roof and walls

erie: suggestive of the supernatural; mysterious

effervescent: bubbly, lively

eloquent: vividly or movingly expressive; persuasive

endowed: given from birth

endure: tolerate; carry on through, despite hardships

enmity: ill will; hatred; quality or state of being hostile

equivocal: open to two or more interpretations and often intended to mislead

erroneous: containing or derived from error; mistaken

exemplary: serving as model; outstanding; typical

expedient: suitable; appropriate to a purpose; serving to promote your interest

exuberance: overflowing abundance; joyful enthusiasm; flamboyance; lavishness



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

500 Basic TOEFL Words (2)

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fad: fashion that is taken up with great enthusiasm for a brief period of time; craze

faint: lacking strength or vigor; weak

fair: a traveling show

fancy: capricious notion; something many people believe that is false

fast: abstaining from food

feat: achievement; accomplishment

feather: the light horny waterproof structure forming the external covering of birds

fetter: restrain with U-shaped bar for ankles or feet; impede; hamper

fidget: move uneasily one way and the other; behave or move nervously or restlessly

fizz: an effervescent beverage (usually alcoholic), make a hissing noise

flair: natural talent or aptitude

flare: sudden outburst of emotion; glare; shine; shine with sudden light



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

flaw: crack or breach; gap or fissure; defect; fault; sudden burst of noise and disorder

fledgling: young and inexperienced; having just acquired its flight feathers

flood: a large flow

flunk: fail, especially in a course or an examination; give a failing grade to

folly: foolishness; lack of good sense, understanding, or foresight

footstool: a low stool to rest the feet of a seated person

frantic: highly excited with strong emotion; disordered or nervous activity

fright: cause fear in

fringe: margin; periphery; decorative border of hanging threads, cords, or strips, often attached to a separate band

frivolous: lacking in seriousness; not serious; relatively unimportant

fulfill: accomplish, satisfy, meet, suit

garbled: mixed up; difficult to understand because it has been distorted

garments: an article of clothing

garner: gather; store up; amass; acquire

gauntlet: a glove with long sleeve

gerbil: a small rodent that is often kept as a pet

giggle: laugh with short catches of the breath or voice; laugh in light, affected, or silly manner

glazed: having a shiny surface or coating; lacking liveliness, used of eyes; fitted or covered with glass

gloomy: imperfectly illuminated; dusky; dim; clouded



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

gorgeous: dazzlingly beautiful; magnificent

grated: to reduce something to small shreds by rubbing it on a grater.

gravel: small stones, or fragments of stone; very small pebbles, often intermixed with particles of sand

gravity: seriousness; solemn and dignified feeling; natural force between two massive bodies

greedy: wanting to get more than one can reasonably get

grief: pain of mind; mental suffering arising from any cause, as misfortune, loss of friends; sorrow; sadness

grim: unrelenting; rigid; dismal and gloomy; cold and forbidding

grip: hold fast or firmly; seize as in a wrestling match

groan: give forth a low, moaning sound in breathing

groovy: (british informal) very chic

groping: acting with uncertainty or hesitance or lack of confidence

ground: solid surface of the earth; bottom; lowest part

grudge: be unwilling or reluctant to give or admit; be envious; show discontent

gut: the part of the alimentary canal between the stomach and the anus

hackneyed: repeated too often; over familiar through overuse

haggle: argue about prices; bargain, as over the price of something

hail: call for; salute; greet; praise vociferously

haphazard: not thorough, constant or consistent; by chance

harm: any physical damage to the body caused by violence or accident or fracture etc.



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

harsh: rough; coarse; severe; unpleasantly stern

harvest: gather; yield from plants in a single growing season

hassle: argument or fight; trouble; bother

hasty: easily angered; irritable; made too quickly to be accurate or wise

hatch: breed; emerge from the egg

haunt: be a regular or frequent visitor to a certain place; bother; disturb

haze: fog; mist; partially opaque covering; vague or confused state of mind

heal: cure; make or get healthy again

hedge: thicket of bushes, usually thorn bushes

heel: back part of the human foot; lower end of a ship's mast

heist: commit a burglary

hen: female chicken

herd: flock; crowd; group of cattle or other domestic animals

heretic: one who holds to a heresy; one who believes some doctrine contrary to the established faith or prevailing religion

hermit: person who retires from society and lives in solitude; recluse; anchoret, especially, one who so lives from religious motives

hindrance: something that holds back or causes problems with something else; obstacle

hindsight: understanding the nature of an event after it has actually happened

hobbling: walking awkwardly

hold: keep from departing; take and maintain control over; stop dealing with



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

hollow: sound as if echoing in an empty space; void; vain; not solid; having a space or gap or cavity

hue: color; appearance; particular gradation of color

hurtle: crash; move with or as if with great speed and rushing noise

impart: reveal or tell; grant a share of; bestow

incessant: uninterrupted; unceasing; continuing without interruption

incidental: happening, as occasional event, without regularity; coming without design

incite: arouse to action; motivate; induce to exist

indefatigable: tireless; showing sustained enthusiastic action

indelible: impossible to remove, erase, or wash away; permanent

infraction: violation of rule or regulation; breach; minor offence or petty crime

inmate: a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

insolvent: bankrupt; unable to repay one's debts

intricate: complex; elaborate; having many complexly arranged elements

irascible: irritable; easily angered; excited by or arising from anger

irresolute: uncertain how to act or proceed; undecided; lacking in resolution

jargon: language used by a special group; technical terminology; nonsensical or meaningless talk

jeopardy: exposure to death, loss, or injury; hazard; risk of loss or injury

jiggle: a slight irregular shaking motion

keen: acute; incisive; sharp; express grief verbally

kindle: build or fuel a fire; cause to glow; light up; inspire



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

knack: clever, expedient way of doing something; specific talent, especially one difficult to explain or teach

knob: hard protuberance; hard swelling or rising; bunch; lump

ladder: steps consisting of two parallel members connected by rungs

lagging: hang back or fall behind in movement, progress, development

lame: moving with pain or difficulty because of injury; disabled so that movement is difficult or impossible

lampoon: ridicule; subject to abusive ridicule expressed in work of art

languish: lose animation; be or become weak or feeble; lose strength or vigor

lavish: liberal; wasteful; excessive spending

lead: a soft heavy toxic malleable metallic element

lean: bend or slant away from the vertical; rely for assistance or support

lease: rent; charter; engage for service under a term of contract

leather: an animal skin made smooth and flexible by removing the hair and then tanning

leery: suspicious or distrustful; wary; cautious

leniency: mildness; quality of mercy or forgiveness, especially in the assignment of punishment as in a court case

levity: lack of seriousness; lightness of manner or speech, especially when inappropriate

likely: has a good chance of being the case or of coming about

limb: arm; leg; any of the main branches arising from the trunk or a bough of a tree

limp: walk lamely, especially with irregularity, as if favoring one leg; move or proceed haltingly or unsteadily



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

loaf: any thick lump, mass, or cake, especially, a large regularly shaped or molded mass, as of bread

loony: informal or slang terms for mentally irregular, lunatic, insane

loosely: without regard to specific details or exceptions

loquacious: talkative; given to continual talking; chattering

lousy: infested with lice

ludicrous: laughable; completely devoid of wisdom or good sense

lump: a small mass of matter of irregular shape; irregular or shapeless mass; small cube of sugar

lurches: makes and uncontrolled series of movements

maize: tall annual cereal grass bearing kernels on large ears

meander: follow a winding and turning course; move aimlessly and idly without fixed direction

mend: make repairs or restoration to; fix; improve

mere: being nothing more than what is specified; considered apart from anything else; small; slight

messy: dirty; unorganized; disorderly; unpleasantly difficult to settle or resolve

miff: bad-tempered mood

mild: moderate in type or degree or effect or force

misanthrope: one who hates or mistrusts mankind

mischievous: causing mischief; harmful; hurtful; troublesome; irritating

misleading: deceptive



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

mock: treat with ridicule or contempt; mimic; frustrate hopes of

mold: model; fit tightly, follow the contours of; frame; make something for a specific shape; become moldy

mole: a small congenital pigmented spot on the skin

mood: a characteristic (habitual or relatively temporary) state of feeling

morose: ill humored; sullen; depressingly dark; gloomy; persistent

moss: tiny leafy-stemmed flowerless plants

muck: moist sticky mixture, especially of mud and filth; earth, rocks, or clay excavated in mining

mug: rob at gunpoint or with the threat of violence

mull: reflect deeply on a subject

nave: the central area of a church

neat: clean or orderly

negligent: careless; inattentive

nonchalance: indifference; lack of concern; composure

obey: be obedient to

obtuse: lacking in insight or discernment; stupid

odorless: having no odor; devoid of odor or fragrance

offspring: descendant

onset: beginning or early stages; offensive against enemy

opaque: impenetrable by light; not transparent; not reflecting light; having no luster

opulence: extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abundance



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

orchard: garden; area of land devoted to the cultivation of fruit or nut trees

outnumber: be larger in number

outward: toward the outside

overwhelming: overpowering in effect or strength; very great or intense; extreme

parsimonious: excessively unwilling to spend; excessively sparing or frugal

partake: to take part; participate. share.

paucity: scarcity; smallness of number; fewness

paw: a clawed foot of an animal especially a quadruped

peak: summit; apex; maximum; prime

peel: come off in flakes or thin small pieces; strip the skin off; get undressed

peripheral: located in outer boundary; unimportant; auxiliary

peruse: read or examine, typically with great care

pinch: clutch; squeeze between the thumb and a finger, the jaws of a tool, or other edges

plea: request for help; excuse or pretext

pledge: promise solemnly and formally; binding commitment to do something

poised: marked by balance or equilibrium and readiness for action

popsicle: ice cream or water ice on a small wooden stick

porch: covered and enclosed entrance to building; covered passage

poultry: domestic fowls reared for eating, or for their eggs or feathers, such as cocks and hens, capons, turkeys, ducks, and geese

pouring: flowing profusely



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

praise: an expression of approval and commendation

prank: acting like a clown; dress up showily; practical joke

preach: advocate; speak, plead; argue in favor of

prodigal: wasteful; reckless with money

profane: violate; put to improper, unworthy, or degrading use; abuse

progeny: one derived from another; offspring or descendant; result of creative effort, as product

proximity: state of being proximate; nearness in place, time, or relation

prudish: exaggeratedly proper

puddle: something resembling a pool of liquid; a small body of standing water

puffy: breathing heavily

pulled: attracted

pun: a humorous play on words

pursuit: follow after; follow with a view to obtain; endeavor to attain

500 Basic TOEFL Words (3)

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quarrel: an angry dispute

querulous: habitually complaining; expressing complaint or grievance



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

rage: something that is desired intensely; state of extreme anger

rash: hasty, incautious, reckless

rave: speak wildly, irrationally; speak or write with wild enthusiasm

rebuke: scold harshly; criticize severely

recapitulate: summarize; repeat in concise form

recluse: one who lives in solitude; withdrawn from the world; reclusive

regret: sadness associated with some wrong done or some disappointment

rehearse: practice; drill; engage in preparation for a public performance

rekindle: arouse again

relieve: free from a burden; alleviate; save from ruin

rely: rest with confidence; have confidence; depend

remain: continue in a place, position, or situation

renounce: abandon; disown; turn away from; give up

repent: cause to feel remorse or regret; feel regret or self-reproach for

reproach: express disapproval or disappointment; bring shame upon; disgrace

rescind: cancel; make void; repeal or annul

resemble: be similar to; take after; look like

respite: usually short interval of rest or relief; delay in punishment

retreat: receding; pull back or move away or backward; withdrawal of troops to a more favorable position

ribbing: the act of harassing someone playfully or maliciously (especially by ridicule)



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

riddle: pierce with numerous holes; perforate; permeate or spread throughout

ridge: long, narrow upper section or crest; chain of hills or mountains

rinds: the chewy or crunchy outside layers on fruit, cheese, or meat

ripe: ready; fully developed; mature

roaring: a very loud utterance (like the sound of an animal)

roll: a list of names

rot: become decomposed by a natural process; perish slowly; become corrupt

rough: not perfected; having or caused by an irregular surface

rouse: pull or haul strongly and all together, as upon a rope, without the assistance of mechanical appliances

rug: floor covering consisting of a piece of thick heavy fabric (usually with nap or pile)

ruminate: chew over and over mentally, or like cows physically; mull over; ponder

ruse: trick; use of artifice or trickery; deceptive maneuver, especially to avoid capture

rust: become destroyed by water, air, or an etching chemical such as an acid

sagacious: perceptive; shrewd; having insight

sage: one celebrated for wisdom, experience, and judgment; various plants of the genus *Salvia*

sate: satisfy appetite fully; satisfy to excess

savants: individuals with mental retardation who are extremely talented in one domain

scrawl: write carelessly

screech: a high-pitched noise resembling a human cry



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

screw: cause to penetrate with a circular motion; fastener with shank and slotted head

scrutinize: examine closely and critically

seal: middle size aquatic mammal; stamp used for authentication or security

seam: line of junction formed by sewing together two pieces; line across a surface, as a crack; scar

seizing: the act of gripping something firmly with the hands

sentient: aware; conscious; able to perceive

settle: take up residence; form a community; come to rest; bring to an end; fix firmly

sew: create (clothes) with cloth

shackle: chain; fetter; restraint that confines or restricts freedom

shed: get rid of; cast off; cause to pour forth

shelter: structure that provides privacy and protection from danger

shingles: viral disease that affects the peripheral nerves and causes blisters on the skin

shiv: a knife used as a weapon

shoplift: steal in a store

shore: support by placing against something solid or rigid

shrieking: making a annoying noise

shrink: become smaller or draw together; compress

silk: a fabric made from the fine threads produced by certain insect larvae

silly: exhibiting a lack of wisdom or good sense; foolish; stupid

skewer: a long pin for holding meat in position while it is being roasted



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

slash: cut; reduce largely

slaughter: act of killing; extensive, violent, bloody, or wanton destruction of life; carnage

slippers: low footwear that can be slipped on and off easily

slope: be at an angle; incline; gradient

slug: any of various terrestrial gastropods having an elongated slimy body and no external shell

slum: a district of a city marked by poverty and inferior living conditions

slump: sudden falling off or decline, as in activity, prices, or business; gross amount; mass

sly: stealthy, insidious, or secret; mischievous; foxy

smear: overspread with anything adhesive; soil in any way; pollute

snail: freshwater or marine or terrestrial gastropod mollusk usually having an external enclosing spiral shell

snap: make a sharp sound; break suddenly as under tension; utter in angry or sharp tone

snub: ignore, to treat with disdain or contempt

soaked: drenched with water, or other liquid; very drunk

sober: not extreme; marked by seriousness or gravity; not affected by use of drugs; self-restraint

somber: gloomy; depressing or grave; dull or dark in color

soothed: calmed or comforted

sovereignty: autonomy; independence

sparkle: be brilliant in performance; give off or reflect flashes of light; glitter

spotter: a person employed to watch for something to happen



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

spouting: propelled violently in a usually narrow stream

spree: a lively or wild outburst of activity

spurious: false; counterfeit; forged; illogical

squalid: sordid; wretched and dirty as from neglect; morally degraded

squeeze: force something into or through a restricted space; compress with violence

squirm: to move in a twisting or contorted motion, (especially when struggling)

stage: any scene regarded as a setting for exhibiting or doing something

stagnant: not moving or flowing; lacking vitality or briskness; stale; dull

stale: having lost freshness; lacking originality or spontaneity

stare: a fixed look with eyes open wide

stark: bare; complete or extreme

steady: securely in position; not shaky; not easily excited

steep: soak; make thoroughly wet

stem: stop flow of a liquid; make headway against

stickler: one who insists on something unyieldingly; something puzzling or difficult

sticky: glutinous; adhesive; covered with an adhesive agent; humid; stiff

stiff: not moving or operating freely; lacking ease in bending; resistant

stingy: stinging; able to sting

stir: to mix gently with a spoon in a rotary motion

stoic: one who is seemingly indifferent to or unaffected by joy, grief, pleasure, or pain

stony: showing unfeeling resistance to tender feelings



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

strain: group of organisms within a species; tension; pressure

stretch: extend; pull in opposite directions; lie down comfortably

stride: step; pace; significant progress

stripes: rays, lines

stroll: wander on foot; ramble idly or leisurely

struck: (used in combination) affected by something overwhelming

stubborn: unreasonably, often perversely unyielding; persistent; difficult to treat

stun: surprise greatly; amaze; make senseless or dizzy by or as if by a blow

stunt: difficult or unusual or dangerous feat usually done to gain attention

substantiate: establish by evidence; make firm or solid; support

sulky: silently resentful; disposed to keep aloof from society, or to repel the friendly advances of others

supplant: replace; usurp; displace and substitute for another

surreptitious: secret; done or made by stealth, or without proper authority; made or introduced fraudulently

swallow: take back what one has said; enclose or envelop completely

swamp: low land that is seasonally flooded; low land region saturated with water

swath: a path or strip; the space created by the swing of a scythe or the cut of a mowing machine

sway: swing; move back and forth or sideways; win approval or support for; convince

sweepings: the act of cleaning with a broom

thick: not thin



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

thigh: part of the leg between the hip and the knee

thorn: something that causes irritation; a sharp-pointed tip on a stem or leaf

thrifty: careful about money; economical

throw: up eject the contents of the stomach through the mouth

tickle: touch (the body) lightly so as to cause laughter; please

tide: periodic rise and fall of the sea level

torpor: state of mental or physical inactivity or insensibility; sluggishness; dormancy

touchy: tending to take offense with slight cause; oversensitive; requiring special tact or skill in handling

trite: repeated too often; over familiar through overuse; worn out by use

trousers: (usually in the plural) a garment extending from the waist to the knee or ankle, covering each leg separately

trustworthy: dependable; reliable

tuckered: tired, exhausted

turd: obscene terms for feces

udder: mammary gland of bovids (cows and sheep and goats)

unassailable: impossible to assail; without flaws or loopholes

uncanny: strange; mysterious; peculiarly unsettling, as if of supernatural origin or nature

undergo: experience; suffer; pass through

underneath: under or below an object or a surface; lower down on the page

uniform: consistent; standardized; clothing of a particular group



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

unobtrusive: acting in a manner that does not attract attention

unpleasant: desagradable

unscathed: not injured or unharmed

untenable: indefensible; not able to be maintained

upbeat: pleasantly (even unrealistically) optimistic

upsetting: causing an emotional disturbance

vacillate: sway unsteadily from one side to the other; oscillate

vanish: disappear; pass out of sight, especially quickly; die out

veal: flesh of a calf when killed and used for food

vex: annoy; disturb, especially by minor irritations; be a mystery or bewildering to

vilify: debase; degrade; spread negative information about

vogue: popular fashion; current state or style of general acceptance and use

voluminous: large in volume or bulk; large in number or quantity, especially of discourse

voracious: ravenous; excessively greedy and grasping; devouring or craving food in great quantities

waist: narrowing of the body between the ribs and hips

wart: (pathology) a firm abnormal elevated blemish on the skin

wax: increase gradually in size, number, strength, or intensity; show a progressively larger illuminated area

weave: pattern or structure by weaving; knit; interlace

wedge: a piece of metal, or other hard material, thick at one end, and tapering to a thin edge at the other, used in splitting wood, rocks



500 BASIC TOEFL WORDS

- weeds: any plant that grows where you don't want it to
- weird: queer; of a strikingly odd or unusual character; strange
- welfare: benefit; something that aids health or happiness
- whalebone: a horny material from the upper jaws of certain whales
- whinnying: crying like a child
- whipping: beating with a whip or strap or rope as a form of punishment
- wholly: completely.
- widen: extend in scope or range or area
- wilted: to become limp from lack of water or too much heat
- wisdom: quality of being wise; knowledge ; results of wise judgments
- wise: having or prompted by wisdom or discernment
- wool: dense, soft, often curly hair forming the coat of sheep and certain other mammals
- worthy: having high moral qualities
- wreck: destruction; destroy; smash or break forcefully
- wriggle: to twist to and from; to squirm
- writhe: move in twisting or contorted motion; contort in pain