IELTS Word List

Vocabulary List

Vocabulary and example	Write it

alternative n./adj. /ɔːlˈtɜːnətɪv/

another choice or possibility

Family: alternatively (adv.) **Use it with:** an alternative to · alternative energy

Cycling is a cheap **alternative** to driving.

circumstance n. /ˈsɜːkəmstæns/

a fact or condition that affects a situation

Use it with: under no circumstances · in some circumstances **Tip:** Usually plural: “in difficult circumstances”.

Under these **circumstances**, the match was cancelled.

comment n./v. /ˈkɒment/

something you say or write to give an opinion

Family: commentary (n.) · commentator (n.) **Use it with:** comment on · make a comment

Several readers left **comments** under the article.

compensate v. /ˈkɒmpənseɪt/

to pay or give something because of a loss or harm

Family: compensation (n.) **Use it with:** compensate for · receive compensation

The airline **compensated** passengers for the long delay.

component n. /kəmˈpəʊnənt/

one of the parts that make up a machine or system

Use it with: a key component · electronic components

Exercise is an important **component** of a healthy lifestyle.

consent n./v. /kənˈsent/

agreement or permission, given after understanding what is involved

Use it with: give consent · without consent **Tip:** Consent to something; silence is not consent.

Photos of children need their parents’ **consent**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

considerable adj. /kən'sɪdərəbl/

large in size, amount or importance

Family: considerably (adv.) **Use it with:** considerable effort · considerably higher **Tip:** Task 1: "considerably higher than…"

The project cost a **considerable** amount of money.

constant adj. /'kɒnstənt/

staying the same, or happening all the time

Family: constantly (adv.) **Use it with:** remain constant · constant noise **Tip:** Task 1: "remained constant at 20%".

The temperature remained **constant** throughout the day.

constrain v. /kən'streɪn/

to limit what someone can do

Family: constraint (n.) **Use it with:** time constraints · financial constraints

Small budgets **constrain** what schools can offer.

contribute v. /kən'trɪbjuːt/

to give money, time or ideas to help something

Family: contribution (n.) · contributor (n.) **Use it with:** contribute to · make a contribution **Tip:** Also "contribute to" a problem: "Cars contribute to air pollution."

Everyone **contributed** ideas to the group project.

convention n. /kən'venʃn/

a usual or accepted way of behaving; or a large meeting

Family: conventional (adj.) · convene (v.) **Use it with:** social conventions · a conventional method

By **convention**, the bride's family pays for the wedding.

coordinate v. /kəʊ'ɔːdɪnət/

to organise people or parts so they work well together

Family: coordination (n.) · coordinator (n.) **Use it with:** coordinate efforts · good coordination

A manager **coordinates** the work of the different teams.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

core n./adj. /kɔː/

the most important or central part

Use it with: core subjects · core values

Maths and English are **core** subjects at school.

corporate adj. /ˈkɔːpərət/

relating to a large company

Family: corporation (n.) **Use it with:** corporate social responsibility · a large corporation

Corporate taxes pay for many public services.

correspond v. /ˌkɒrɪˈspɒnd/

to match or be similar; or to write letters to someone

Family: correspondence (n.) · corresponding (adj.) **Use it with:** correspond to · the corresponding period **Tip:** Task 1: "compared with the corresponding period last year".

The numbers in the table **correspond** to the bars in the chart.

criteria n. /kraɪˈtɪərɪə/

standards used to judge or decide something

Family: criterion (sing.) **Use it with:** meet the criteria · selection criteria **Tip:** Criteria is plural; one is a criterion.

The examiners use four **criteria** to mark your essay.

deduce v. /dɪˈdjuːs/

to reach an answer from the facts you have

Family: deduction (n.) **Use it with:** deduce that… · logical deduction

From the footprints, the police **deduced** that two people were there.

demonstrate v. /ˈdemənstreɪt/

to show clearly that something is true, or how it works

Family: demonstration (n.) **Use it with:** clearly demonstrate · demonstrate a skill

The experiment **demonstrates** that plants need light.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

document n./v. /ˈdɒkjuːmənt/

an official paper; or to record details of something

Family: documentation (n.) · documentary (n.) **Use it with:** official documents · well documented

Bring your passport and other travel **documents**.

dominate v. /ˈdɒmɪneɪt/

to be the largest, strongest or most important

Family: dominant (adj.) · domination (n.) **Use it with:** dominate the market · the dominant group

Two companies **dominate** the smartphone market.

emphasis n. /ˈemfəsɪs/

special importance given to something

Family: emphasise (v.) **Use it with:** put emphasis on · strong emphasis

The new course puts more **emphasis** on speaking.

ensure v. /enˈʃʊə/

to make certain that something happens

Use it with: ensure that… · ensure safety **Tip:** Ensure = make sure; insure = buy insurance.

Check your answers to **ensure** that you have not made mistakes.

exclude v. /eksˈkluːd/

to leave out or not allow in

Family: exclusion (n.) · exclusive (adj.) **Use it with:** exclude from · socially excluded

Children under 12 are **excluded** from the competition.

12

framework n. /ˈfreɪmwɜːk/

a set of ideas or rules that give structure to something

Use it with: a legal framework · within a framework

The law provides a **framework** for protecting workers.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

fund n./v. /fʌnd/

money for a purpose; or to pay for something

Family: funding (n.) **Use it with:** government funding · raise funds

The museum is **funded** by ticket sales and donations.

illustrate v. /ˈɪləstreɪt/

to explain something by giving examples or pictures

Family: illustration (n.) **Use it with:** illustrate a point · a clear illustration **Tip:** Task 1: "The diagram illustrates…"

This example **illustrates** how quickly prices can change.

immigration n. /ˌɪmɪˈgreɪʃn/

the act of coming to live in another country

Family: immigrate (v.) · immigrant (n.) **Use it with:** immigration policy · illegal immigration **Tip:** Immigrate = come in; emigrate = leave.

Immigration has made the city more diverse.

imply v. /ɪmˈplaɪ/

to suggest something without saying it directly

Use it with: imply that… · strongly imply

His silence **implied** that he disagreed.

initial adj. /ɪˈnɪʃl/

happening at the beginning

Family: initially (adv.) **Use it with:** the initial stage · initial results

Initial costs are high, but solar panels save money later.

instance n. /ˈɪnstəns/

one example of something

Use it with: for instance · in this instance **Tip:** For instance = "for example".

There were several **instances** of cheating in the exam.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

interact v. /ˌɪntəˈrækt/

to talk or work together with others

Family: interaction (n.) · interactive (adj.) **Use it with:** interact with · social interaction

Online games let players **interact** with people around the world.

justify v. /ˈdʒʌstɪfaɪ/

to give a good reason for something

Family: justification (n.) **Use it with:** justify a decision · fully justified

Can the high cost of the stadium be **justified**?

layer n. /ˈleɪə/

a level of a material lying over or under another

Use it with: a layer of · the ozone layer

A thin **layer** of dust covered the furniture.

link n./v. /lɪŋk/

a connection between two things

Use it with: a link between · closely linked

Studies show a clear **link** between diet and health.

location n. /ləʊˈkeɪʃn/

a place or position

Family: locate (v.) · local (adj.) **Use it with:** a convenient location · be located in

The hotel is in a quiet **location** near the beach.

maximise v. /ˈmæksɪmaɪz/

to make something as large as possible

Family: maximum (n./adj.) **Use it with:** maximise profits · the maximum number

Farmers use fertiliser to **maximise** their harvest.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

minor adj. /ˈmaɪnə/

small or not very important

Family: minority (n.) **Use it with:** a minor problem · ethnic minorities

The accident caused only **minor** injuries.

negative adj. /ˈnegətɪv/

bad or harmful; or showing no

Family: negatively (adv.) · negate (v.) **Use it with:** a negative impact · negatively affect

Too much screen time can have a **negative** effect on sleep.

outcome n. /ˈaʊtkʌm/

the final result of something

Use it with: a positive outcome · the outcome of

Nobody can predict the **outcome** of the election.

partner n. /ˈpɑːtnə/

a person or company you work with or live with

Family: partnership (n.) **Use it with:** a business partner · in partnership with

China is the country's biggest trading **partner**.

philosophy n. /fɪˈlɒsəfi/

the study of ideas about life; or a set of beliefs

Family: philosopher (n.) · philosophical (adj.) **Use it with:** a philosophy of · study philosophy

The school's **philosophy** is that every child can learn.

physical adj. /ˈfɪzɪkl/

relating to the body, or to things you can touch

Family: physically (adv.) **Use it with:** physical exercise · physical health

Physical activity is important for children's health.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

proportion n. /prəˈpɔːʃn/

a part of a whole, often compared to the whole

Family: proportional (adj.) **Use it with:** a high proportion of · in proportion to **Tip:** Task 1: "the proportion of men who…"

A large **proportion** of students work part-time.

publish v. /ˈpʌblɪʃ/

to print a book or article, or put it online for people to read

Family: publisher (n.) · publication (n.) **Use it with:** publish a report · be published

The results will be **published** next month.

react v. /rɪˈækt/

to behave in a certain way because of something

Family: reaction (n.) **Use it with:** react to · a strong reaction

How did the public **react** to the news?

register v./n. /ˈredʒɪstə/

to put your name on an official list

Family: registration (n.) **Use it with:** register for · a registration form

You must **register** for the exam two months in advance.

rely on v. /rɪˈlaɪ ɒn/

to need or trust someone or something

Family: reliable (adj.) · reliance (n.) · reliability (n.) **Use it with:** rely heavily on · reliable data

Many families **rely on** two incomes.

remove v. /rɪˈmuːv/

to take something away

Family: removal (n.) **Use it with:** remove from · waste removal

Please **remove** your shoes before entering.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

scheme n. /skiːm/

an official plan or system

Use it with: a government scheme · a pension scheme **Tip:** In British English, scheme is neutral; in American English it can sound dishonest.

A new **scheme** gives free bicycles to students.

sequence n. /ˈsiːkwəns/

a series of events or things in a fixed order

Family: sequential (adj.) **Use it with:** in sequence · a sequence of events

Put the pictures in the right **sequence**.

sexism n. /ˈseksɪzəm/

unfair treatment of people because they are male or female

Family: sexist (adj.) · sex (n.) **Use it with:** fight sexism · sexist language **Tip:** In essays about equality, gender is usually the more neutral word.

Some job adverts still show **sexism**, for example by asking only for young men.

shift n./v. /ʃɪft/

a change in position or direction; or a period of work

Use it with: a shift in · a night shift

There has been a **shift** from print to online news.

specify v. /ˈspesɪfaɪ/

to state something clearly and exactly

Family: specification (n.) **Use it with:** clearly specify · unless otherwise specified

The rules **specify** that phones must be switched off.

sufficient adj. /səˈfɪʃənt/

enough for a purpose

Family: sufficiently (adv.) · insufficient (adj.) **Use it with:** sufficient evidence · sufficient time

Many people do not get **sufficient** sleep.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

task n. /tæsk/

a piece of work you have to do

Use it with: complete a task · a difficult task

Writing **Task** 1 asks you to describe a chart in 150 words.
1 150

technical adj. /'teknɪkl/

relating to practical knowledge, machines or methods

Family: technically (adv.) · technician (n.) **Use it with:** technical skills · technical support

The concert was delayed by a **technical** problem.

technique n. /tek'ni:k/

a way of doing something that needs skill

Use it with: a new technique · learn a technique

Skimming is a useful reading **technique**.

technology n. /tek'nɒlədʒi/

scientific knowledge used to make machines and tools

Family: technological (adj.) **Use it with:** modern technology · technological progress

Technology has changed the way we shop.

valid adj. /'vælɪd/

legally acceptable, or based on good reasons

Family: validity (n.) · invalid (adj.) **Use it with:** a valid point · valid for

Your passport must be **valid** for six months.

volume n. /'vɒlju:m/

the amount of space something fills, or an amount

Use it with: traffic volume · turn up the volume

The **volume** of traffic doubles at rush hour.

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