IELTS Word List

Vocabulary List

Vocabulary and example	Write it

ageing population phrase /ˈeɪdʒɪŋ ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/

a population in which the share of older people is growing

Use it with: the problem of an ageing population **Tip:** British: ageing; American: aging.

An **ageing population** puts pressure on health services.

the elderly n. /ðɪ ˈeldəli/

old people as a group

Family: elderly (adj.) **Use it with:** care for the elderly · elderly parents **Tip:** Older people is often more polite in writing.

Many of **the elderly** live alone.

generation gap phrase /ˌdʒenəˈreɪʃn gæp/

differences in ideas and behaviour between young and old people

Use it with: bridge the generation gap

Technology has widened the **generation gap**.

nuclear family phrase /ˈnjuːklɪə ˈfæmɪli/

a family of two parents and their children only

Use it with: the traditional nuclear family **Tip:** Compare: extended family.

The **nuclear family** is now the most common type in cities.

extended family phrase /ekˈstendɪd ˈfæmɪli/

a family that includes grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins

Use it with: live with your extended family

In the past, the **extended family** often lived together.

single-parent family phrase /ˈsɪŋgl ˈpeərənt ˈfæmɪli/

a family in which children live with only one parent

Family: single parent (n.) **Use it with:** grow up in a single-parent family

Single-parent families often need help with childcare.

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upbringing n. /ʌpbrɪŋˈɪŋ/

the way a child is cared for and taught by its parents

Family: bring up (v.) **Use it with:** a happy upbringing · a strict upbringing

A strict **upbringing** does not always make children well-behaved.

sibling n. /ˈsɪblɪŋ/

a brother or sister

Use it with: older siblings · sibling rivalry

Children with **siblings** learn to share early.

role model phrase /rəʊl ˈmɒdl/

a person you admire and try to copy

Use it with: a positive role model · act as a role model

Parents are a child's first **role models**.

childcare n. /ˈtʃaɪldkeə/

looking after children while their parents work

Use it with: affordable childcare · childcare costs

The cost of **childcare** stops many mothers from working.

parenting n. /ˈpeərəntɪŋ/

the activity of bringing up a child

Family: parent (n./v.) **Use it with:** parenting skills · parenting styles

Good **parenting** includes setting clear limits.

charity n. /ˈtʃærɪti/

an organisation that helps people in need, using donated money

Family: charitable (adj.) **Use it with:** a charity event · donate to charity

She volunteers for a **charity** that feeds homeless people.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

loneliness n. /ˈləʊnlinəs/

being unhappy because you have no friends or company

Family: lonely (adj.) **Use it with:** feelings of loneliness

Loneliness is a serious problem among older people.

care home phrase /keə həʊm/

a building where old people live and are looked after

Family: nursing home (n.) **Use it with:** live in a care home

Her grandmother moved into a **care home** last year.

birth rate phrase /bɜːθ reɪt/

the number of babies born per 1,000 people in a year

Use it with: a falling birth rate · a low birth rate **Tip:** Good for Task 1 charts about population.

The **birth rate** has fallen in most rich countries.

divorce n./v. /dɪˈvɔːs/

the legal end of a marriage

Family: divorced (adj.) **Use it with:** get divorced · the divorce rate

Divorce rates rose in the second half of the century.

household n. /ˈhaʊshəʊld/

all the people who live together in one home

Use it with: household income · household chores

The average **household** now has fewer than three people.

breadwinner n. /ˈbredwɪnə/

the person in a family who earns the money

Use it with: the main breadwinner

In many families, both parents are now **breadwinners**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

multicultural adj. /ˌmʌltɪˈkʌltʃərəl/

including people of many different cultures

Family: multiculturalism (n.) **Use it with:** a multicultural society

Toronto is a very **multicultural** city.

gender equality phrase /ˈdʒendə iːˈkwɒlɪti/

men and women having the same rights and chances

Family: gender inequality (n.) **Use it with:** promote gender equality

Gender equality at work includes equal pay.

stereotype n. /ˈsterɪəʊtaɪp/

a fixed, simple idea about a type of person that is often wrong

Family: stereotypical (adj.) **Use it with:** gender stereotypes · challenge stereotypes

Adverts sometimes show **stereotypes** of men and women.

peer n. /pɪə/

a person of the same age or social group

Use it with: peer group · peer support

Teenagers care a lot about what their **peers** think.

social cohesion phrase /ˈsəʊʃl kəʊˈhiːʒn/

people in a society feeling connected and working together

Use it with: promote social cohesion

Community events can improve **social cohesion**.

well-off adj. /wel ɒf/

having enough money to live comfortably

Use it with: well-off families **Tip:** Opposite: badly off.

Children from **well-off** families have more chances to travel.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

nurture v. /ˈnɜːtʃə/

to care for and help someone or something grow

Use it with: nurture talent · nature versus nurture

Good teachers **nurture** children's talents.

household chores phrase /ˈhaʊshəʊld tʃɔːz/

regular jobs at home such as cleaning and cooking

Family: housework (n.) **Use it with:** share household chores

Children should help with **household chores**.

dependent adj./n. /dɪˈpendənt/

needing someone or something for support

Family: dependence (n.) · depend on (v.) **Use it with:** financially dependent · dependent on **Tip:** British spelling: the noun "dependant" means a person you support.

Young children are **dependent** on their parents.

volunteering n. /ˌvɒlənˈtɪərɪŋ/

doing unpaid work to help others

Family: volunteer (n./v.) **Use it with:** encourage volunteering

Volunteering helps young people gain experience.

family values phrase /ˈfæmɪli ˈvæljuːz/

beliefs about how family members should treat and support each other

Use it with: traditional family values

Many grandparents worry that **family values** are changing.

foster v./adj. /ˈfɒstə/

to look after a child who is not your own for a period

Family: foster parents (n.) **Use it with:** a foster family · foster a child

They **fostered** three children while the parents were in hospital.

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