TASK: Read the target words. Practice using them by means of the exercises presented here.

LESSON 34

Passion

Target Words

1. complex
2. despondent
3. devotion
4. dilemma
5. engender
6. loyal
7. passion
8. proliferation
9. reciprocity
10. vanish

Definitions and Samples

1. **complex** *adj.* Not simple; involving many parts that work together

   A modern car engine is too **complex** for most car owners to repair by themselves.

   Parts of speech complexity *n*

2. **despondent** *adj.* Extremely sad and without hope for the future

   After his girlfriend left him, Johnson was **despondent** and wouldn't talk to anyone.

3. **devotion** *n.* A willingness to keep supporting someone you admire

   Grant showed great **devotion** to his wife, supporting her during her long illness.

   Usage tips *Devotion* is often followed by a *to* phrase.

   Parts of speech devote *v*, devotee *n*

4. **dilemma** *n.* A difficult choice between two things

   I was caught in a **dilemma** between traveling by airplane and taking a train, which is slower but more comfortable.

5. **engender** *v.* To bring into being; to cause to exist

   The government's warnings about terrorism **engendered** fear throughout the nation.

   Usage tips *Engender* is often followed by a noun for an emotion.

6. **loyal** *adj.* Faithful

   Carter was **loyal** to his girlfriend and would not date anyone else.

   Usage tips *Loyal* is often followed by a *to* phrase.

   Parts of speech loyalty *n*, loyally *adv*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7. **passion** *n.* An extremely strong emotion, like love or anger

Debbie complained that there was no **passion** in her marriage.

Parts of speech passionate *adj,* passionately *adv*

8. **proliferation** *n.* An increase in the number of something and in the number of places it can be found

The **proliferation** of fast-food restaurants has made it harder for Americans to eat healthy lunches.

Usage tips *Proliferation* is very often followed by an *of* phrase.

Parts of speech proliferate *v*

9. **reciprocity** *n.* Doing as much for another as he or she has done for you

Dan was giving a lot of attention to Kelly, but he felt no **reciprocity** in their relationship.

Parts of speech reciprocate *v,* reciprocal *adj*

10. **vanish** *v.* To disappear suddenly

When the sun came out, last night's light snowfall **vanished.**

TOEFL Prep I Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word in the left-hand column. Write the letter in the blank.

_____ 1. complex	(a) an easy choice
_____ 2. dilemma	(b) simple
_____ 3. loyal	(c) a decrease
_____ 4. proliferation	(d) appear
_____ 5. vanish	(e) unfaithful

TOEFL Prep II Choose the word from the list that is closest in meaning to the underlined part of each sentence. Write it in the blank.

despondent *devotion to* *engender* *passion* *reciprocity*

_____ 1. In a good relationship, there is a lot of <u>give and take</u>.

_____ 2. Mr. Foster's <u>strong love</u> for teaching makes him successful.

_____ 3. Rhonda was <u>extremely sad</u> after the death of her cat.

_____ 4. Sometimes, a small characteristic, like a nice smile, can <u>cause</u> love.

_____ 5. My <u>continuing support for</u> the candidate is based on my admiration for her.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOEFL Success Read the passage to review the new vocabulary you have learned. Answer the questions that follow.

Perhaps no emotion is more complex than *passion*. Passion can show itself in a negative way as a burst of anger, or in a more pleasant way, as love. Passion can *engender* blind *devotion* for a lover or plunge a person into *despondent* misery if he or she feels a lack of *reciprocity* in the relationship. Passion and love cause innumerable *dilemmas*, and people constantly seek out ways to understand these emotions, as evidenced by the *proliferation* of articles, books, talk shows, and Web pages devoted to relationships. Many of these forums have *loyal* followings and have become cultural fixtures. The endless flow of information and opinions about the *complex* situations aroused by passion will probably not *vanish* anytime soon.

1. According to this article, which statement about passion is true?
   a. It can have good or bad effects.
   b. It can be easily explained.
   c. It helps people decide what to do.
   d. It is irrational.

2. According to the reading, why are there so many books and other works about passion?
   a. because people want a lot of advice about love
   b. because many people want to write about their own passion
   c. because reading about passion is relaxing
   d. because passion can also show itself as a burst of anger

LESSON 35

Negative Emotions

Target Words

1. **antipathy**
2. **arrogantly**
3. **berate**
4. **contemptuous**
5. **despise**
6. **humiliation**
7. **obnoxious**
8. **shame**
9. **stigmatize**
10. **vitriolic**

Definitions and Samples

1. **antipathy** *n.* A strong, long-lasting negative feeling

   My **antipathy** toward telemarketers is so strong that I am often rude to them.

   Usage tips *Antipathy* is often followed by a *toward* phrase.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. **arrogantly** *adv.* In a way that shows a high opinion of oneself and a low opinion of others

Jenny told us about her party only one day in advance, **arrogantly** thinking we had nothing else to do.

Parts of speech arrogance *n*, arrogant *adj*

3. **berate** *v.* To say insulting and disrespectful things

The teacher lost his job because he cruelly **berated** students who made mistakes.

Usage tips You can only berate someone directly—only when he or she can hear you.

4. **contemptuous** *n.* Having no respect

Most scientists are **contemptuous** of reports that aliens from outer space have landed on the Earth.

Usage tips A very common structure is *be contemptuous of.*

Parts of speech contempt *n*, contemptible *adj*, contemptuously *adv*

5. **despise** *v.* Hate very much

Tom grew to **despise** his greedy and unfriendly boss.

6. **humiliation** *n.* An event that causes someone to feel that she or he has lost the respect of others

Losing the chess tournament was a great **humiliation** for Marie, and she never played chess again.

Parts of speech humiliate *v*

7. **obnoxious** *adj.* Bothersome; doing small things that others don't like

My **obnoxious** neighbor keeps talking to me while I'm trying to read in my backyard.

Parts of speech obnoxiously *adv*

8. **shame** *n.* Dishonor because one has done something wrong

Feeling deep **shame** because of their son's crimes, the Ford family moved to a different town.

Usage tips *Shame* is often followed by an *of* or *about* phrase.

Parts of speech shame *v*, shameful *adj*, ashamed *adj*, shamefully *adv*

9. **stigmatize** *v.* To mark with a visible feature that makes other people think, perhaps incorrectly, that someone or something is wrong

Cadbury's beard and tattoos **stigmatized** him as a bad match for Wall Street, so he couldn't find work as a financial analyst.

Parts of speech stigma *n*

10. **vitriolic** *adj.* Showing an extreme, hateful anger

The mayor's **vitriolic** attacks against the city council only made him sound unreasonable.

Usage tips The origin of *vitriolic* is "vitriol," a strong chemical that could cause painful burns.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOEFL Prep I Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to each word in the left-hand column. Write the letter in the blank.

_____ 1. arrogantly	(a) very bitter and hurtful
_____ 2. berate	(b) to criticize and insult
_____ 3. humiliation	(c) annoying
_____ 4. obnoxious	(d) too proudly
_____ 5. vitriolic	(e) embarrassment

TOEFL Prep II Circle the word that best completes each sentence. Be careful: Many words in this chapter are very close in meaning to each other. Pay attention to small details in order to choose the best.

1. As a teenager, Dean did a lot of stupid things that he now feels (humiliation / shame) about.
2. Many foreigners feel that their appearance (stigmatizes / despises) them in this country.
3. Because the president was (obnoxious / contemptuous) of France's opinion long ago, the French are not eager to help him now.
4. Mark (despises / berates) Henry and refuses to see him at all.
5. Turkey's historic (antipathy / shame) toward Greece may be softening with the new generation.

TOEFL Success Read the passage to review the vocabulary you have learned. Answer the questions that follow.

Some radio talk show hosts are masters of *obnoxious* insults. Callers to such shows should be prepared for *humiliation* if they dare to disagree with the host's views. The host controls whether the caller can speak, so he can *arrogantly berate* the caller without allowing the caller to respond. Some shows, especially on AM radio, have hosts who are *contemptuous* of nearly everyone. They regularly use *vitriolic* language to *stigmatize* whole groups of people, such as foreigners, liberals, gays, or women. Some hosts don't actually *despise* the groups they insult. They simply use *antipathy* as a form of entertainment, and they seem to feel no *shame* about the damage they do.

1. Which phrase best describes the author's point of view?
   a. The author enjoys listening to radio talk shows.
   b. The author believes talk shows can cause damage.
   c. The author thinks talk show hosts are disturbing but honest.
   d. The author argues that hosts are ordinary people just doing their jobs.

2. Which people are often berated on radio talk shows, according to the author?
   a. hosts
   b. callers
   c. listeners
   d. advertisers

LIVEWORKSHEETS