

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

LESSON

10

Spirituality

Target Words

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. agnostic | 6. deify |
| 2. animism | 7. ecclesiastical |
| 3. atheist | 8. exalt |
| 4. be inclined to | 9. pious |
| 5. contemplate | 10. sacrifice |

Definitions and Samples

1. **agnostic** *adj.* Believing that humans cannot know whether there is a god

His devoutly Christian parents had problems with his **agnostic** beliefs.

Parts of speech agnostic *n*, agnosticism *n*

2. **animism** *n.* The belief that natural objects, such as trees, have souls

Desert cultures that practice **animism** often believe that winds contain spirits.

Parts of speech animistic *adj*

3. **atheist** *n.* One who does not believe in the existence of a supreme being

He argued that his scientific training made it impossible for him to be anything but an **atheist**.

Parts of speech atheistic *adj*

4. **be inclined to** *v.* To favor an opinion or a course of action

He couldn't say which candidate he favored, but he had always been inclined to vote Republican.

Parts of speech incline *n*, inclination *n*

5. **contemplate** *v.* To consider thoughtfully

If you **contemplate** each step for so long, we will never complete this project on time.

Parts of speech contemplation *n*, contemplative *adj*

6. **deify** *v.* To worship as a god

When people **deify** the leader of their country, the leader is able to abuse power more easily.

Parts of speech deity *n*

7. **ecclesiastical** *adj.* Relating to a church

He was looking specifically for a university where he could study ecclesiastical history.

Parts of speech ecclesiastic *n*, ecclesiastically *adv*

8. **exalt** *v.* To praise or honor

He would often **exalt** the virtues of his new wife.

Parts of speech exaltation *n*

9. **pious** *adj.* Having or exhibiting religious reverence

Sometimes she was so **pious** that the rest of us felt like heathens.

Parts of speech pioussness *n*, piety *n*, piously *adv*

10. **sacrifice** *v.* Anything offered to a deity as a religious thanksgiving; giving up something in order to have something more valuable later on

Every harvest time, the Fadeloni people **sacrificed** vegetables to their gods as a show of thanks.

In order to succeed in his career, he had to **sacrifice** his private life and his leisure time.

Parts of speech sacrifice *n*, sacrificial *adj*, sacrificially *adv*

TOEFL Prep I Complete each sentence by filling in the blank with the best word or phrase from the list. Change the form of the word if necessary. Use each word or phrase only once.

be inclined to contemplate deify exalted sacrifice

1. Traditionally, the Camerian society _____ its leaders, considering them to be sent from the land of the gods.
2. To do well in his university courses, he had to _____ a lot of his personal time.
3. The generation of American leaders known as “the Founders” are _____ by many scholars for their wisdom and courage.
4. She knew she would always _____ agree with what her mother said, so she struggled to remain unbiased.
5. The human resources department _____ whether they should let Mary go.

TOEFL Prep II Circle the likely meaning of the word part that is shared within each set of words.

1. animism, animal, animation

The root *anima* probably means

- a. color
- b. death
- c. many
- d. life

2. atheistic, amoral, apathetic

The prefix *a* probably means

- a. not
- b. loving
- c. excessive
- d. surely

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

In Russia, several religions coexist, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and *animism*. The most common religion is Christianity, and most Christians are members of the Russian Orthodox Church. The Church has existed for over 1,000 years, surviving even the official *atheism* of the Soviet era and the *agnosticism* that may have been even more prominent at the time. During the communist years, many Russians who practiced Orthodoxy *sacrificed* career and educational opportunities. The tenacity of Russian Orthodoxy may explain why even nonreligious Russians *are inclined to* call themselves Russian Orthodox. That same staying power drives the Church today, which is run by Aleksey II of Moscow. Born Aleksey Mikhailovich Ridiger, the future patriarch was from a very *pious* family. As a boy, Aleksey was often taken by his parents on their annual

Bonus Structure—
Here As patriarch means “while working in the position of church leader.”

pilgrimages, when he most certainly began *contemplation* of the religious way of life he was to choose. As patriarch, Aleksey is *exalted* in the Church governance, but he is not *deified*. Aleksey has published articles on Church history and peacemaking in both the *ecclesiastical* and secular press, broadening the Church’s image both in Russia and abroad.

1. Which sentence best expresses the essential information of this passage?
 - a. The Russian Orthodox Church was banned under Soviet control.
 - b. Few Russians believe in a god.
 - c. Aleksey II has updated the church’s image.
 - d. The Russian Orthodox Church has a long history of strong membership in Russia.
2. According to the passage, Aleksey II of Moscow is
 - a. a god
 - b. a high church official
 - c. a secular leader
 - d. an atheist

LESSON

11

Illness

Target Words

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. aggravate | 6. persist |
| 2. decrepit | 7. prognosis |
| 3. disease | 8. terminal |
| 4. fatally | 9. vein |
| 5. forensics | 10. wound |

Definitions and Samples

- aggravate** *v.* To make worse; to anger or intensify
Running will **aggravate** your sore knees.
Parts of speech aggravation *n*
- decrepit** *adj.* Weakened or worn out because of age, illness, or excessive use
The once-beautiful building was now dirty, **decrepit**, and roofless.
- disease** *n.* An unhealthful condition caused by an infection or a long-term physical problem
Thanks to developments in medicine, many once-fatal **diseases** can now be cured.
- fatally** *adv.* Causing death or disaster
The soldier was **fatally** wounded in the battle.
Parts of speech fatality *n*, fatal *adj*
- forensics** *n.* The use of science and technology to investigate facts in criminal cases
Advances in the study of **forensics** have made it much easier to identify criminals from very small traces of evidence.
Parts of speech forensic *adj*
- persist** *v.* To continue to exist; to hold to a purpose, despite any obstacle
If your symptoms **persist**, you should go see a doctor.
Lola **persisted** in her efforts to become a lawyer.
Parts of speech persistence *n*, persistent *adj*
- prognosis** *n.* An educated guess of how something will develop, especially a disease

The room fell silent when the doctor gave Senator Grebe a grim prognosis of months of treatment.

8. **terminal** *adj.* Located at an end; approaching death

The cancer ward at the hospital held both **terminal** and recovering patients.

Parts of speech terminate *v*, terminally *adv*

9. **vein** *n.* Any of the tubes that form a branching system, especially those that carry blood to the heart

She became fascinated with human anatomy, especially when she learned how **veins** transport oxygen.

10. **wound** *v.* To inflict an injury on

Sometimes he didn't realize his sharp humor could **wound** as well as entertain.

Parts of speech wound *n*

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

disease fatal persist prognosis wound

- _____ 1. He sustained a serious injury in the war, so he was sent home immediately.
- _____ 2. Her sickness was so rare, doctors weren't certain how to treat it.
- _____ 3. His motto was to keep trying, no matter what happened.
- _____ 4. The medical staff could not know for sure whether the treatment would work, but they made a confident prediction that the patient would recover.
- _____ 5. The airplane crash was tragic, killing many people immediately and inflicting injuries on others that would eventually prove deadly.

TOEFL Prep II Next to each definition, write the word that most closely fits it.

aggravate decrepit forensics terminal vein

- _____ 1. the science involved in solving crimes
- _____ 2. a vessel for carrying blood
- _____ 3. to make worse
- _____ 4. unable to be cured
- _____ 5. in very bad condition

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

The man was *decrepit*. With high blood pressure, cancer, and liver *disease*, he *aggravated* his situation by smoking. His *prognosis* was death. His advanced lung cancer was *terminal*, and his family members knew that he would pass away soon. So no one was surprised to find him dead on that sharp winter Thursday, no one, that is, except one sharp-eyed detective, who noticed the bedroom window ajar on the morning of the old man's death. Would a *fatally* ill person be likely to sleep with the window open on a freezing cold night?

This question occupied *forensic* specialists from the medical examiner's office. There, an autopsy revealed an unlikely *wound* on the victim's thigh. Such a wound could easily have been inflicted by someone administering medicine . . . or poison. From there, the poison could travel through the *veins*, shutting down vital organs and causing death within seconds.

Indeed, the death turned out to be murder in the first degree. Criminal investigators *persisted* in their questioning of friends and family, only later finding the motive: money. Two distant relatives who stood to *inherit* large sums from the old man's estate plotted the death, believing that the old man's death would not be questioned.

Bonus Structure—
Indeed indicates that an idea in an earlier paragraph was actually true.

1. Why does the author mention a *wound*?
 - a. The wound caused the death.
 - b. It was evidence of a struggle.
 - c. It was suspicious.
 - d. It was predictable, considering the man's disease.
2. In the passage, the word *inherit* is closest in meaning to
 - a. lose
 - b. gain
 - c. earn
 - d. want