

Skilful 3 Reading & Writing Target Vocabulary List

Unit 1 – Identity

Confirm (v): to strengthen in habit, resolution, opinion, etc.

When I received an award for writing, that just confirmed my desire to be a journalist.

Consequences (n): results or effects

She said exactly what she thought, without thinking about the consequences.

Correlation (n): a relationship or connection between two things

Is there any correlation between gender and personality traits?

Current (adj): happening now; at the present time

This study is really old, do you know of a more current one?

Debate (n): a discussion between two opposing points; argument

The two psychologists had a debate over the cause of the problem.

Define (v): to describe the nature or basic qualities of something

Happiness is a very difficult feeling to define.

Desirable (adj): worth having; pleasing; suitable; attractive

I think patience and loyalty are desirable qualities in a friend.

Frustrated (adj): upset, distressed, annoyed at a person or situation

When I don't understand something, even after the teacher explained twice, I feel really frustrated.

Mature (v): to reach full development

It's generally said girls mature quicker than boys.

Modest (adj): not arrogant or vain; being quiet about one's abilities or achievements

Although she won the competition, Sara didn't brag about it to her friends because she was a very modest person.

Participant (n): a person who takes part in a study or a research

The survey was sent to over a thousand people, but unfortunately, only about half of the participants completed it correctly.

Rate (v): to judge something or someone according to a scale; to grade

The applicant was rated very high in technical skills, but rather low in social skills.

Suggest (v): to say something is possible or likely; to imply
The results of my research suggest that identity is important in all cultures in the world.

Tend to (v): to be likely to happen; to be likely to do something
I tend to be very careful about personal information I post online.

Tensions (n): mental or emotional strain; stress.
Measures are needed to reduce tensions between fans at the next game.

Extroverted (adj): Extroverted people are outgoing and sociable. They are interested in other people and the world around them.

Feeling (adj): Feeling people use emotions and feelings to guide their choices.

Introverted (adj): People who focus on their inner world are introverted. They often prefer to spend time alone or without distractions from the outside.

Intuitive (adj): People who draw conclusions based on their ideas and concepts of the world are known as intuitive.

Judging (adj): People with a strong judging identity are most comfortable with rules and specific guidelines. They see the world as an orderly place that always operates the same way.

Perceiving (adj): If you are someone who thinks any situation can have many different outcomes, that there is no stable structure in place, and so anything is possible, you are probably a perceiving person.

Sensing (adj): Sensing people rely on concrete information; for example, evidence that can be seen, heard or felt.

Thinking (adj): Thinking people make decisions based on logical evidence.

Comprehensive (adj): having all or nearly all parts or aspects of something

Journal (n): a professional magazine that covers research about one topic

Outcome (n): result; consequence

Scope (n): the extent or range of something

Variables (n): elements, features or factors.

Volunteer (n): a person who participates in an activity without being paid

The psychology journal has an interesting article about a very comprehensive study carried out on a group of 500 volunteers. The study tested whether people were honest about representing their identity online. The scope of the study was broad: it took into account

such variables as age, gender, hours spent online, and years of online use. I was surprised by the outcome, which suggested that the majority of people exaggerated information about themselves, held information back, and in some cases, even posted information that wasn't true.

Unit 2 – Design

Delicate (adj): lightweight or fragile; easily broken.

Be careful with those glasses. They're very delicate and break easily.

Entirely (adv): completely; totally

Those boots are not made entirely of leather. The bottoms are made of rubber.

Functional (adj): useful; practical; not decorative

This chair isn't very attractive, but it's functional, so I keep it.

Harm (v): to damage, injure, or hurt something or someone

Don't put hot dishes directly on the table. You might harm the wood.

Imitate (v): to copy something; to do something in the same way

Italian ice-cream is imitated all over the world.

Incident (n): one event or occurrence

Police are questioning the witnesses to the incident.

Modest (adj): a characteristic of not talking about your achievements or successes

Peter is genuinely modest about his school success.

Objection (n): an expression of disagreement or disapproval

If you don't have any objections, I'm going to buy this chair.

Piece (n): a complete artwork, such as a painting or sculpture

This vase is a particularly beautiful piece.

Practice (n): a method or way of doing something.

It is good practice to check your work before handing it in.

Romantic (adj): making you have feelings of love and excitement

My parents can't judge their old home realistically. They have a romantic impression of it.

Smash (v): to break something with force into many pieces

Someone had smashed the window into thousand pieces.

Thick (adj): heavy; the opposite of thin

Wool sweaters can be very thick, so they're warm in winter.

Value (v): to consider something as important

This is a community in which people respect their elders and value their knowledge and experience.

Appealing (adj): attractive and interesting

The building has an appealing old-fashioned charm.

Contemporary (adj): modern; relating to the present time.

The artist was an expert in contemporary designs.

Durable (adj): able to stay in good condition for a long time

The architect had used durable stainless steel in the kitchen.

Generic (adj): relating to or suitable for a range or class of similar things

This is a generic software that is suitable for use with both Macs and PCs.

Fake (adj): not real but made to look like something real

She has a fake Lacoste bag.

Innovative (adj): new, original and advanced

She is a young woman full of innovative ideas.

Mass-produced (adj): made in large quantities by using machines

With the recent health crisis, a new drug has become a mass-produced common medical supply.

Multifunctional (adj): doing several different things or having several different uses

The new multifunctional furniture has drawn a lot of attention from the public.

Enhance (v): to make something better by adding to it

The furniture maker enhanced the chair by carving birds and flowers into the back of it.

Notion (n): idea, concept

The notion that handmade items are more special is not one that everyone agrees with.

Overseas (adv): in another country

Some people travel overseas to find special handcrafted items.

Philosophy (n): a way of thinking; a belief or attitude in life

My personal philosophy is that design should always be functional.

Survive (v): to live, endure or continue, especially in the face of a threat or difficulty

Fortunately, the pottery and sculptures in the museum survived the earthquake.

Tradition (n): an activity or custom that has continued over time
Indonesia has a tradition of making Batik – a way of dying fabric.

Unit 3 – Thought

Anxiety (n): the feeling you experience when you're worried about something
I often feel anxious before an important presentation. However, I don't think I am the only one in class who has anxiety issues.

Concrete (adj): based on facts and information
After planning for several months, the committee came up with a concrete proposal.

Constantly (adv): always or regularly
Your brain constantly makes decisions based on what's happening around you.

Deadline (n): a time by which something has to be done or finished
Some people do their best work when faced with tight deadlines.

Emotions (n): strong feelings
Many interviews now include questions that test candidates' emotional intelligence: the way one relate with one's own or others' emotions.

Encounter (v): to meet something or someone for the first time
It's important to stay calm when you encounter problems at work.

Guilt (n): a strong feeling that you have done something wrong; a feeling of shame
There is no need to feel guilty. It wasn't your fault.

Hypothesize (v): to suggest a possible explanation for something based on the information you have
When scientists can't identify a cause for something, they start by hypothesizing and then check their guesses.

Inappropriate (adj): not suitable; not proper
Please don't wear shorts to the office. It's inappropriate for business.

Logical (adj): connecting ideas or reasons in a sensible way.
He approached the problem in a very logical way.

Point of view (np): personal judgement or opinion on something
From his point of view, there wasn't any need for further studies. The rest of the committee, however, had the opposite opinion.

Rational (adj): based on reasons or facts
When you are angry, it's difficult to make a rational decision.

Sort (v): to arrange things in groups or in a particular order

Can you help me sort this pile of papers into white and coloured, so I can recycle them?

Strengthen (v): to make something stronger

Sometimes, dealing with difficult incidents in life strengthens your personality.

By the same token (pp): in a similar way

Empathy motivates people to help others. By the same token, guilt strengthen commitment to others.

Despite (prep): used for saying that something happens even though something else might have prevented it

Despite everything we know about the brain, there is still a lot to discover.

Equally (adv): 1. in a way that something is fair and is the same for everyone, 2. In equal amounts or quantities

Love and empathy are considered positive emotions. Equally, gratitude and joy enhance a person's life.

In spite of (pp): used for saying that something happens even though something else might have prevented it

I know that I can't always trust my gut feelings. In spite of this, they play a big part in my decision-making.

In the same way (pp):

I jump into situations without considering all my options. In the same way, I sometimes find it hard to slow down and make intellectual decisions.

On the contrary (pp): used for emphasizing that something is true, even though it is the opposite of something that has been said

I'm a very left-brained person. My brother, on the contrary, is more right-brained.

Similarly (adv): in a similar way

A fearful person is less likely to take risks. Similarly, happy people are not risk-takers.,

Whereas (conj): used for comparing two things, people, situations etc and showing that there is an important difference between them

Anger makes it harder for people to change what they are already doing, whereas fear makes them give up too easily.

Abstract (adj): existing as an idea, but not having a physical form

Concepts like "truth" and "love" are hard to define because they're abstract ideas.

Categories (n): groups of people or things that have similar qualities
Some psychologists have tried to organize our emotions into different categories.

Complex (adj): consisting of several different parts; not simple
Introducing new regulations in the workplace is a complex process.

Depressed (adj): sad; unhappy
When it rains for too many days in a row, I get depressed. I need some sunshine to feel cheerful again.

Interpret (v): to explain or figure out the meaning of something
I'm not sure how to interpret the results of this experiment. I don't know what they mean.

Maximize (v): to get the most benefit from
Businesses typically look for ways to maximize profit.

Reluctant (adj): unwilling; not happy about doing something
Solely (adv): alone; not involving anything or anyone else
Hamid was solely responsible for the success of that project. Nobody else helped him.

Unit 4 – Fire

Beneficial (adj): having a good effect on someone or something
Wildfires can actually be hugely beneficial to the local environment.

Conduct (v): to do something in an organized way
Schools in the area conduct forest fire exercises once a week.

Costly (adj): costing a lot of money
Wildfires are becoming costlier. In 2015 alone, the United States spent over \$3 billion fighting wildfires.

Employ (v): to use something for a particular purpose
Firefighters employ a number of different methods for dealing with forest fires.

Enforce (v): to make sure that something happens or done.
Wildfires often a result of failure to enforce local laws.

Extinguish (v): to put out a fire
It took firefighters several weeks to extinguish the fire.

Historically (adv): used for describing an earlier period of time
Historically, forest fires were largely caused by natural events.

Latter (adj): used to describe the later part of a period of time
Human-caused forest fires increased rapidly in the latter half of the 20th century.

Maintenance (n): work that is done to keep something in good condition
Proper use and maintenance of equipment is key to wildfire prevention.

Melt (v): to change a solid substance into a liquid.
Recent studies suggest wildfires might be causing ice in Greenland to melt.

Renew (v): to replace something that is damaged or old
Forest fires help renew and maintain healthy ecosystems.

Rural (adj): relating to the countryside or in the countryside
Wildfires in rural areas can destroy entire communities.

Supervise (v): to be in charge of a group of people to make sure they are behaving or working correctly
It's important to supervise young children at all times so they don't get into trouble.

Threaten (v): to be likely to harm or damage something
Forest fires threaten local communities and destroy large areas of farmland.

Vegetation (n): plants and trees
How quickly vegetation recovers after a wildfire depends on the weather conditions at that time of year.

Wilderness (n): an area where people usually don't live or grow crops
The state of Alaska, which has a very low human population, contains a little more than half of the United States' wilderness.

Collocations with "problem"

Cope (v): To cope with a problem is to deal with a problem.

Face (v): To be faced with problems is to encounter problems.

Grave (adj): A grave problem is a very serious problem.

Minor (adj): A minor problem is a problem that is not serious.

Perennial (adj): A perennial problem is a problem that happens again and again.

Pressing (adj): A pressing problem is a problem that must be solved soon.

Problem (n): an issue

Remedy (v): To remedy a problem is to solve a problem.

Root (n): The root of the problem is the problem's fundamental cause.

Acknowledge (v): to admit or accept that something is true
The Forest Service acknowledged that prescribed burns can be risky.

Capable (adj): able to do something
The National Park Service defines a fuel as any material capable of burning.

Decade (n): a period of ten years

This land has been privately owned for several decades.

Error (n): a mistake

An estimated 90% of forest fires caused by human error.

Federal (adj): relating to a national government

Local, state and federal governments should work together to protect public land.

Regulation (n): an official rule that controls how something is done.

Tighter camping regulations might reduce numbers of forest fires in the area.

Unit 5 – Movement

Arise (v): to begin to exist or to develop

If the need arises, we can raise more funds to protect the land.

Cargo (n): things that are being sent by ship, train, plane or truck

Some trains carry passengers, but many transport cargo instead.

Coastal (adj): on land beside a sea

Residents in coastal areas are sometimes threatened by storms at sea or large waves.

Dispute (n): a serious disagreement

My neighbour and I have a dispute about the location of the fence between our yards.

Halt (v): not to continue or develop any further

When the project run out of funds, construction was halted.

Indigenous (adj): belonging to a region

Rabbits are not indigenous to Australia. They were introduced by early settlers.

Marine (adj): living in or happening in the sea

Whales, sharks and seals are example of marine animals.

Reef (n): a long line of rock or coral in the sea

Many colourful fish live near the reef.

Toll (n): an amount of money you pay to use a bridge or a road

To pay for the construction of the highway, each car had to pay a toll in order to use it.

Treaty (n): an official written agreement between two or more countries

The two countries signed a treaty to establish a border.

Zone (n): an area that has an important or a typical feature

You must wear protective clothing in a construction zone.

Demolish (v): to deliberately destroy a building

According to this report, there are plans to demolish the homes along the river and create a city park instead.

Develop (v): to make something better by adding to it

If we could develop the downtown area further, more businesses would be attracted to the area.

Extend (v): to continue for a particular distance in a particular direction

If the city adds 20 kilometres to the road, it will be necessary to extend the sidewalk as well.

Make into (phr v): to change something so it becomes something else

When I left for college, my parents decided to make my bedroom into a home office.

Remodel (v): to change the structure or appearance of something

Unfortunately, a new train station design would cost too much money to remodel.

Replace (v): to take something out and put a better version of it in place

The old bridge isn't safe. It has to be replaced with a stronger one.

Tear down (phr v): to destroy or remove a structure or a part of a structure

That old building has been abandoned for years. It should be torn down.

Transform (v): to make someone or something completely different

Building a dam across the river completely transformed the countryside.

Abandon (v): to stop doing something, especially because it is difficult

Alternative (adj): different choice or possibility from among several

Nevertheless (adv): in spite of that

Primary (adj): very important; first or top priority

Purchase (v): to buy

Straightforward (adj): direct; uncomplicated

When the state government purchased the land, its primary goal was to build railroad tracks through the area so freight trains could transport cargo to the port. Unfortunately, construction of the railroad was not straightforward. Due to the presence of both mountains and swamps, it became too expensive to run a railroad through that area, and two alternative routes were chosen instead. Nevertheless, even though the original project had to be abandoned, the state was able to make good use of the land by turning it into a national park, where today it is enjoyed by thousands of visitors annually.

Unit 6 – Disease

Alarm (n): fear or worry that something unpleasant or dangerous might happen
Are you ever alarmed when you hear about diseases around the world?

Associate (v): to make a connection in your mind between different people or things.
Many people associate malaria with long periods of rainfall.

Dependent (adj): being in need of something to survive or succeed
The world is often dependent on companies to develop drugs. Why might this be a problem?

Distinguish (v): to recognize the differences between things
How easy is it to distinguish between the impact of diseases and other world events on tourism?

Doubtful (adj): not certain
How doubtful are you that scientists will ever find a cure to all forms of cancer?

Effective (adj): working well
Antibiotics are the most effective treatment for the illness.

Gather (v): bring things together
Scientists are trying to gather data together to test their theory.

Infected (adj): having a disease that can be transmitted from one person to another
Over ten thousand people were infected by the disease.

Major (adj): important; serious
Heart disease is a major cause of death worldwide.

overall (adv): when everything is considered
Overall, deaths from infectious diseases are falling. Why?

overlook (v): to fail to consider someone or something
Which consequences of illness do you think are often overlooked?

polluted (adj): dirty and dangerous for people to use in a safe way
Polluted air can cause a number of health problems.

productive (adj): achieving good results
What impact might disease or illness have on a country's productivity?

proof (n): information or evidence that shows that something is definitely true or definitely exists.
There is proof that shows that the disease is spread through the air.

related (adj): having a connection

How is lifestyle related to the increase of diseases?

supply (n): an amount or quantity of something that is available to use.

A supply of fresh water is essential to avoid disease.

Phrases expressing cause-effect relationship

as a result (phrase)

The government reduced funding for disease research. As a result, fewer cures are being discovered.

because of (phrase)

Because of lost working days, the government's income from taxes fell.

consequently (adv)

Diseases can have significant economic impacts. Consequently, countries need to fund research into diseases.

result from (v)

More days being taken off work resulted from increased levels of depression and stress.

result in (v)

The outbreak resulted in a fall in tourism.

Therefore (adv)

Governments have a responsibility for the welfare of their residents. Therefore, they should develop vaccines that fight dangerous diseases.

hence (adv): used for introducing something that is a result of the fact that has just been stated

Diseases are mainly spread by individuals. Hence, it is individual's responsibility, not the government's, to prevent their spread.

collapse (v): to fall dramatically

If we discontinued public funding, the research industry would collapse.

exposure (n): the state of being put into a situation in which something harmful or dangerous might affect you

Exposure to a disease, such as Ebola, can be fatal. Therefore, governments should place restrictions on travel.

transmission (n): a process by which a disease spreads from one person to another
The residents of a local community are responsible for preventing the transmission of diseases such as flu.

ultimately (adv): used to emphasize the main point you are speaking about
Ultimately, most deaths in rich countries could be prevented with lifestyle changes.

undergo (v): to experience something, especially something that is unpleasant but necessary
Hospitals should undergo infection control audits to limit the spread of diseases.

virtually (adv): used to emphasize that a statement is almost completely true
Virtually all diseases will have a cure in the next hundred years, but not all.

widespread (adj): happening or existing in many places, or affecting many people
Many diseases have become more widespread due to international travel.