

# **Vocabulary Building for Examinations**

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### Session Overview.

What is Vocabulary?

Vocabulary in IELTS and FCE.

Vocabulary Development – ideas and examples.

Expanding vocabulary alone.

Vocabulary for Writing.

Online Practice.

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### A Quick Definition.

Thank you Wikipedia!

Vocabulary is commonly defined as "all the words known and used by a particular person". *Knowing* a word, however, is not as simple as simply being able to recognize or use it. There are several aspects of word knowledge which are used to measure word knowledge.



# **Vocabulary in Examinations.**

**IELTS** 

FCE



# **IELTS.**

No specific vocabulary test.

Vocabulary important across all the papers.

General or Academic?



# FCE.

'Use of English' paper has vocabulary focus.

Vocabulary important across all the papers.



# Your Ideas.

Group A WHAT?

Group B HOW?



# **Vocabulary Development – some ideas.**

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# **Discussion of Meaning**

**Drilling Down** 

Overt discussion – teacher and peer level. Internal discussion.

Questioning techniques.

Examples in context.

Deal with ambiguities/exceptions.



# **Page 177**

# 5 'Dummy' can be used as an adjective or a noun to refer to something which is not real.

(lines 67 and 11). What do you think the 'dummy' expressions in these sentences mean?

a A small group of directors transferred some of the company's profits into a *dummy* 

corporation they had set up.

- b Before carrying out the first experiment, researchers did a *dummy* run on animals.
- c The condition of patients given the dummy pills improved slightly.
- d Some shops install dummy security cameras to deter would-be shoplifters.

# Verb-noun and adjective-noun combinations.

### Learn them!



# 8 Match the words on the left with those on the right to form commonly occurring

adjective—noun combinations. Then check your answers by finding them in the text.

Example: key questions

key duty

patriotic economy

precious future

self-evident questions

uncertain resources

vibrant truth

d The fall in the value of our currency

leaves us facing an

.....

# Opposites – suffixes or alternative words. Prefixes.



Discuss the key patterns and combinations – encourage extension and experiments.

Regular and quick quizzes.

Competitive activities for reinforcement – peer level.



# Page 73

7 What meaning does the prefix out- add to the verb in 'outperform' (line 11)? What do you think the phrase 'to outstay your welcome' means? Make sentences using these verbs and the words in brackets.

a outgrow (family / house)

b outlive (old computer / usefulness)

c outmanoeuvre (president / political enemies)

d outnumber (female graduates)

e outweigh (disadvantages)

# Idioms and Phrasal Verbs.

#### Question 12: Global multiple-choice

12 Complete this statement about the text in your own words.

Overall, the writer believes that installation art is ...

Choose the appropriate letter A-D. Decide which is most like your answer above.

Overall, the writer believes that installation art is

- A only of interest to a small audience and the artists themselves.
- B hard to define but challenging and sometimes worthwhile.
- C impossible to appreciate without knowing the history of modern art.
- D now of much higher quality than other visual art forms.

#### Exploration

- 5 Complete the expressions with the correct dependent prepositions. Then look back at the passage to check your answers.
- a The exhibition is entirely devoted ....... the works of Salvador Dali. (line 15)
- b There is no simple answer ....... the question 'What is art?'. (line 16)
- c Some critics even conferred ....... Warhol the title of 'Greatest Living Artist'. (line 34)
- d To understand this piece, you need to see it ....... context, not on its own. (line 40)
- e The impact ....... Picasso's work on twentieth-century art was enormous. (line 43)
- f The public have become much more interested ....... abstract art. (line 66)
- g Certain artists seem to be conforming ....... the current fashion for installation art. (line 75)
- h The demands ....... working full-time as a creative artist can be extremely stressful. (line 75)
- The tone of a painting is often closely bound ...... with the colours used. (line 82)
- The Sunday street market is full ....... works by local artists. (line 97)

#### 6 Match the idioms (a-d) with their meanings (1-4).

- a a first stab (line 29)
- b got the nod from (line 35)
- c barking up the wrong tree (line 45)
- d like the emperor's new clothes (line 80)
- 1 following the wrong idea
- 2 non-existent
- 3 been officially accepted by
- 4 an initial attempt

#### 7 Discuss these questions with other students.

- a How do you feel about the kind of art described in the text?
- b Why do you think people visit art galleries and exhibitions? Why might other people prefer to stay away?
- c How important is it that art is taught at school?
- d Should governments support the arts with taxpayers' money?









# **Page 121**

- 5 Work out the meanings of these phrasal verbs. What are the clues in the text?
- kick in (paragraph B)
- brush up against (paragraph C)
- stick on, head for, swim off (paragraph E)
- deal with, send out, seek out, home in on (paragraph F)
- take out (paragraph G)

# **Collocations and Compound Nouns.**



These need to be taught as new items.

Ask Ss to identify them in texts.

Ensure all recording and discussion is in context.

03 IELTS MC SB U03 FP.qxd 23/12/05 07:56 Page 37

- Exploration 4 Refer to the text to find answers to these questions.
  - a What has been omitted before 'Want to' at the beginning of the text? Why?
  - b What kind of things are 'energy fields, energy flows, energy blocks, meridians, forces, auras, rhythms'? Do you need their precise meanings to understand the
  - c Which common conjunction could replace 'yet' on line 27?
  - d Find a synonym of 'quackery' in the same sentence (lines 31-38). What do they
  - e Where would you normally find 'a trigger'? What does it mean as a verb (line 65)?
  - f What is the usual meaning of 'recipe' (line 86)? Which other word in that sentence has the same associations?
  - g What part of speech is 'face/faces' on line 107? Which nouns collocate with it in each case?
  - 5 Match the words on the left with those on the right to form collocations. Then check your answers by finding them in the text.

Example: placebo effect

placebo pain subject touchy manner healing hint relief blood bedside effect strong power

- 6 Use the collocations above to complete the sentences.
- a Medical exams are a ..... with Tom at the moment: he's just failed all of them.
- b The main ..... in the human body are the arteries and veins.
- c Relaxing the body can bring ..... more quickly than analgesic drugs.
- d A good ..... includes respect, politeness and listening to the patient.
- e Although she said nothing definite, Jo gave a .... that she's leaving nursing.

  f Many people believe in the ..... of light, of music or of religious faith.
- g Clinical trials are used to detect whether a treament is a ..... or an effective cure.
- 7 Discuss these questions with other students.
- a What other examples of placebos can you think of? Are there other ways in which 'our state of mind can influence our physiology'?
- b Which kinds of alternative medicine are popular in your country? In your opinion, which work and which don't? Why?
- c Do you think alternative medicine could be integrated with conventional medicine in your country? Why?/Why not?

UNIT 3 37





# Metaphorical vs Literal Use.



Identify examples in texts.

GMFC.

Passive rather than active.

Watch out for L1 interference.

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# **Page 109**

- 7 Some words are used metaphorically to give colour and interest to a phrase. What do the words in italic in these extracts from the article mean? What are their more literal meanings?
- a ... bookshop shelves groan with self-help books ... (paragraph A)
- b ... the invisible thread running through society ... (paragraph B)
- c Friendship is a *slippery category*. (paragraph C)
- d ... the danger is that the friendships of the affluent and successful hoard social
- advantage ... (paragraph G)
- e ... erode or sustain hierarchies. (paragraph K)

# Subject-specific Vocabulary.

Passive vocabulary.

12 IELTS MC SB U12 FP.qxd 23/12/05 08:19 Page 152

#### Help yourself

#### Subject-specific vocabulary

1 You do not have to be an expert in any particular field to succeed at IELTS, but reading texts you meet will often include vocabulary related to specific subjects. Which subjects are the words and phrases below related to? Choose from this list.

Health History and archaeology Education Society Business and the workplace Psychology

absenteeism artefact birth rate commercial gain disability excavate extroversion fertility illusion income inequality investment literacy skills
meritocracy
pension
perception
placebo effect
productivity
research
sensory
social mobility
target
taxation

workforce

- 2 Some words have special subject-specific meanings as well as their more everyday meanings. What are the specific meanings of the words in italic in these sentences? What other meanings do they have in more everyday contexts?
- a Newton discovered that gravity is a force that attracts bodies of matter toward each other.
- Some ancient societies used sacrifice as part of their religious rituals.
- c If its working capital drops too low, a business risks running out of liquid assets.
- d As the economy grew, its need for new materials and markets expanded.
- The three main wireless technologies in operation are Bluetooth, GPRS and WiFi.
- 3 Why is it important to know some subject-specific words and phrases as well as having a wide general vocabulary? IELTS Masterclass is organized into topicrelated units. How could you use this fact to increase your knowledge of subject-specific vocabulary?

#### IELTS to do list

Choose one of the following to do outside class.

- Check back through the units of this book to remind yourself of the topics covered. Use these topics as the basis for building a vocabulary map of the book. Use unit openers and reading sections as sources of useful words and phrases.
- Look back at compositions you have written and had corrected.

  Note down subject-specific vocabulary from them that might be useful when you answer similar questions in future.
- Whenever you read a text on a topic that interests you, note down one or two potentially useful items of subject-specific vocabulary.

#### Where to look

www.oup.com/elt/ielts

152 UNIT 12



# **Expanding Vocabulary – working alone.**



# Reading.

GMFC and Recording.

GMFC –pushing Ss to do it

Using L1 examples

Asking them to record and discuss 'guessed' words at class or peer level.

Ensuring all new items are recorded.



# **Recording Vocabulary 1.**

The Personal Vocabulary Record.

Examples in context.

Ease of reference.

Parts of speech generator.

Digital?

# Recording Vocabulary 2.

Pronunciation.

#### Help yourself

#### Pronunciation: word stress

- Say these words aloud, stressing the syllables in red.
   president (first syllable stressed)
   university (second syllable stressed)
   entertain (third syllable stressed)
- Choose the correct alternatives to complete the paragraph.

When you stress a syllable, it is usually both (1) quieter/louder and (2) longer/shorter than the other syllables in the same word. You also say it (3) more/less clearly than unstressed ones, and the pitch is normally (4) lower/higher than that of any syllables which come before and after it. You may also notice that your face makes (5) bigger/smaller movements when you pronounce stressed syllables.

- 3 There are some word stress patterns which can help you. Listen to the words in each set a-c. Say each word aloud.
- a easy context social lecture

- b record (verb) record (noun)
  object (verb) object (noun)
  export (verb) export (noun)
  contrast (verb) contrast (noun)
- c compete competition photograph photography educate education economy economic China Chinese voluntary volunteer active activity luxury luxurious
- 4 is Listen again and highlight the stress on each word, for example, 'easy'. When you have finished, what patterns can you recognize? Think of more words stressed in the same way.

#### IELTS to do list

Choose one of the following to do outside class.

Mark the stress on the words in your vocabulary notebook, and on new words as you add them.

Write a few sentences about yourself, your home and what you do. Mark the stress on all the words of more than one syllable, checking any you are unsure of in your dictionary. Then practise reading your sentences aloud.

#### Where to look

www.oup.com/elt/ielts

176 UNIT 14

### Word Formation.

### Best done alone.

#### Help yourself

#### Word formation

1 In general, prefixes change the meaning of words. How do these prefixes change the meaning of the root words?

Prefixes Examples
a antiantisocial / anticlimax
b biobiodiversity / biodegradable
c disdishonest / disobey
c extraextraordinary / extraterrestrial
d misnisbehaviour / mismanage
e rerewind / refuel

2 How do these prefixes change the meaning of root words? Think of two or three examples of words starting with these prefixes.

> auto- postinter- transmulti- underover-

3 Suffixes often change the part of speech of words as well as their meaning. What parts of speech are the root words below and what parts of speech result from the addition of the suffixes?

Root Examples
a employ employee / employment
b create creator / creative
c weak weakness / weaken
d child childsh / childhood
e solid solidify / solidly

- 4 To guess the meanings of words, start with the meaning of the root, then work out how prefixes and suffixes might change this. Work out the meanings of the words in italic in these sentences.
- A small dehumidifier is ideal for enclosed areas where excess moisture may have undesired effects.
- Multidimensional family therapy is an autpatient family-based drug abuse treatment for teenage substance abusers.
- He became increasingly aware of her tendency to point out his imperfections.
- 5 Adding two or more words together to make compound words is another way in which English words are formed. This is more common than using complex phrases. For example, 'a business meeting' is used in preference to 'a meeting to discuss business matters'. What combinations of parts of speech are used in these examples?
- · right-handed · cold-hearted · quick-thinking
- a database the generation gap an eye witness account
- · an outbreak · a breakout · a downpour
- · a blackbird · grandparents
- · writing paper driving test walking boots

Add other examples you know which follow the above patterns.

#### IELTS to do list

Choose one of the following to do outside class.

- Train yourself to work out or guess the meanings of words rather than always looking in a dictionary. Take account of prefixes and suffixes. This will help you to prepare for IELTS, in which you are not allowed to refer to a dictionary.
- When recording new vocabulary, note down related words: root words and words with different prefixes and suffixes.
- Make your own reference lists of words starting with particular prefixes and suffixes, especially less common ones, like hyper-(hyperactive), omni- (omnipresent), and -dom (officialdom).

#### Where to look

www.oup.com/elt/ielts

Oxford Advanced Learner's
Dictionary
Oxford Student's Dictionary
of English

68 UNIT'S

### **Root Words.**

Pre-reading tasks

– peer level or alone.

#### Reading

#### Orientation

- 1 Discuss these questions with other students.
  - a How and where do you meet your friends?
- b What do you see as your responsibilities and obligations to your friends?
- c What, in your opinion, are the limits of friendship? Are there certain things you would not do, even if asked by a close friend?

#### Word formation

#### note

Endings help to identify the category of a word (noun, weth, etc.). Prefixes such as over- and un- also add to the meaning. When a word or phrase is unfamiliar, identifying the root word or words can help establish the meaning.

2 The following words are taken from the article opposite. What is the root word in each case? How do the endings change the grammar of the words?

relationship Root word - relate relate > relation (changes a werb to a noun) relation > relationship (changes a noun to another noun) neighbourhood inclusion justification

usefulness friendliness virtuous mobility

3 What is the meaning of the parts of these words in italic?

intercommunication unbelievable inappropriate underused counterattack inhuman

4 What is the meaning of each of these words taken from the article?

overstatement (paragraph B) unevenly (paragraph F) counter-productive (paragraph I) intolerance (paragraph K)

5 Read paragraphs A and B of the article. Why does the author describe friendship as 'the invisible thread'?

106 UNIT 9

# **Easily Confused Words.**



Add the issue of L1 false friends.

Remember the context can be a guide to meaning.

Ask Ss to make a lit of their 'favourite worst' words.

10 IHL/FS MC SB U10 FP.qxd 11/01/06 07:42 Page 128

#### Help yourself

#### Easily confused words

- Some words look similar but have different meanings.
   Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words given.
- a 1 affect /o'fekt/ 2 effect /i'fekt/
   The disease mainly ... the skin.
   A change in temperature had no ... on the experimental results.
- b 1 desert /'dezat/ 2 dessert /dr'zat/ It can reach 55°C in the ... . Let's have ice-cream for ... .
- c 1 1definite 2 definitive

  The professor wrote the ... work on the subject.

  We now have a ... date for the confererence.
- d 1 accept /ak'sept/ 2 except /ik'sept/ People over 65 are ... from the new rules. Congratulations. Your application has been ... .
- e 1 continuous 2 continual There were ... warnings of the danger. Recycling waste forms part of a ... process.
- 2 Write sentences to show the difference in meaning of the following pairs.
- shade/shadow
- lose/loose
- economic/economical
- lie/lay

- 3 Other words sound the same but their meanings and spelling are different. For each sentence, choose the correct word and define the other word.
- a Town councillors/counsellors are elected every four years.
- b Motor vehicles are not aloud/allowed on the campus.
- c There is no need to dress formally/formerly for the dinner.
- d The tale/tail of the fish measures four centimetres in length.
- We visited the site/sight of an ancient temple, of which little remains.
- 4 Explain the difference between these pairs.

past/passed break/brake roll/rol principle/principal they're/their its/it's who's/whose

5 Academic writing requires accurate expression, so care must be taken with words that are close in meaning, but not the same. Find the error in each sentence, and replace it with one of these words.

between earn foreigners number means

- a The only way of transport is an infrequent bus
- On average, industrial workers win less than \$20,000 per year.
- Last year there was little trade among the two countries.
- d A large amount of scientists took part in the study.
- Strangers who wish to work in that country require visas.

#### IELTS to do list

Choose one of the following to do outside class.

- Look back at your written work for vocabulary mistakes of this kind, and make sure you know the correct words.
- Key 'commonly confused words' or 'easily confused words' into your Internet search engine. Download, copy, or note down any pairs that might cause you difficulty, then check them in your dictionary.

Try out the words you have studied the next time you are writing or speaking. If possible, check with the reader or listener that you are using them correctly.

Where to look

www.oup.com/elt/ielts

128 UNIT 10





# Vocabulary for Writing.

# **Organising Expressions.**



Markers.

Connectors.

Sequencers.

**Emphasising Devices.** 

# **Approximate Phrases.**



### Page 55

### 6 It was possible to describe the graph on page 54 without stating exact figures.

You can also use approximate phrases and fractions. Rephrase sentences a—c using the expressions below.

just over/under more/less than almost nearly about approximately roughly

#### Examples

There was a 64% fall in cassette sales between 1995 and 2000.

There was a fall of almost two-thirds in cassette sales between 1995 and 2000.

In the last two months, sales of DVDs have risen by 97,487.

In the last two months, sales of DVDs have risen by just under 100,000.

a There was a 9% decline in art values last year.

b Since January, cinema audiences have gone up by 20,800.

c Currently, the market for prints is growing by 32% per year.

# Style.

What should we look out for?



Impersonal vocabulary

Formal vocabulary

Correct terminology

Collocation

Linking words

Complex sentences

# Richer Reporting Verbs.

# Can you think of any?



Agreed

Wondered

Replied

Argued

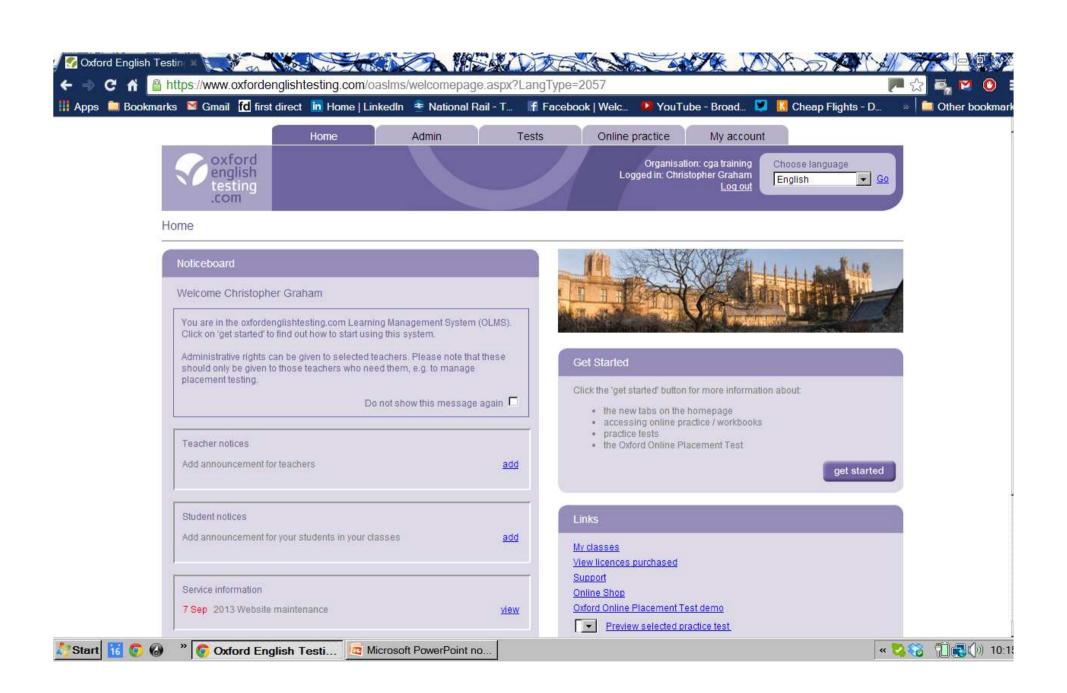
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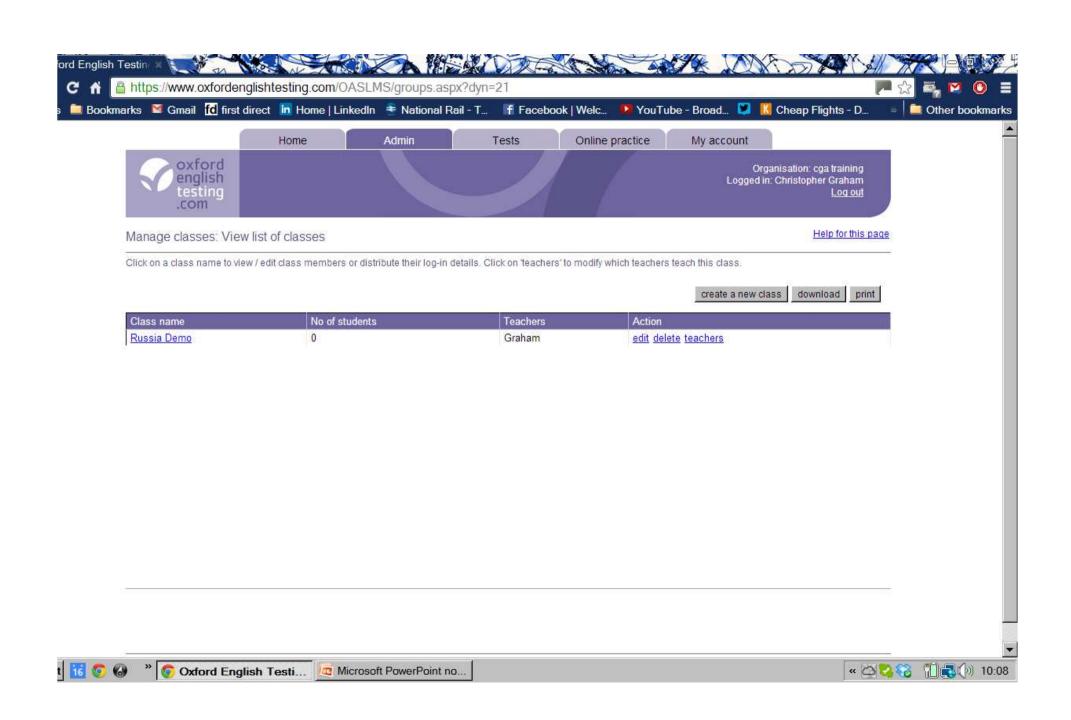
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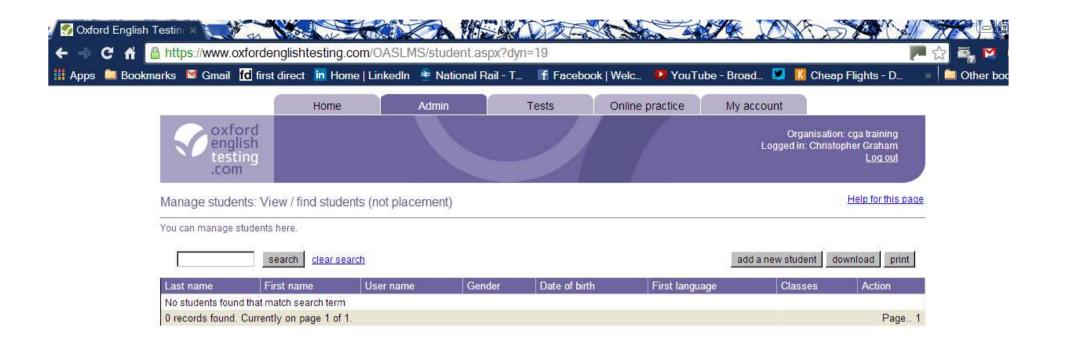
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# **Online Practice with OET.**

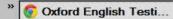


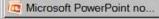
















An account owner has immediate access to all the functions on the 'Admin' tab (listed below) on logging in. The account owner/administrator can then choose to set up particular teachers with full admin rights (see below) or partial admin rights (to view and update classes only) in 'Manage teachers'. The majority of teachers will not require admin rights and will be able to view classes only. All teachers will be able to view the licence pool to see the number of tests available.

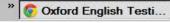
Please ensure that admin rights are only given to teachers who are required to perform the tasks below.

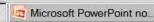
Import from files	Import a list of students from a file into classes in the OLMS or into groups for placement testing. Import a list of teachers from a file into the OLMS. Get help on preparing your data files for import.
Manage classes	Create new classes. View and edit a list of classes. View and edit a list of students in each class. Distribute log-in details to students in a class (not placement) by email. Add individual students to a class. Remove students from a class.
Manage teachers	Create a list of teachers. View and edit the list of teachers. Send log-in details to teachers by email. View a list of a teacher's classes. Add classes to or remove them from that list. Set up a teacher with full or partial administrator rights. See 'Note' above.
Manage students (not placement)	Create a list of all non-placement students in your organisation. View or edit this list.  Add individual students to the list of students manually. This list does not include placement students until they are moved from "Manage placement results" into a regular class.





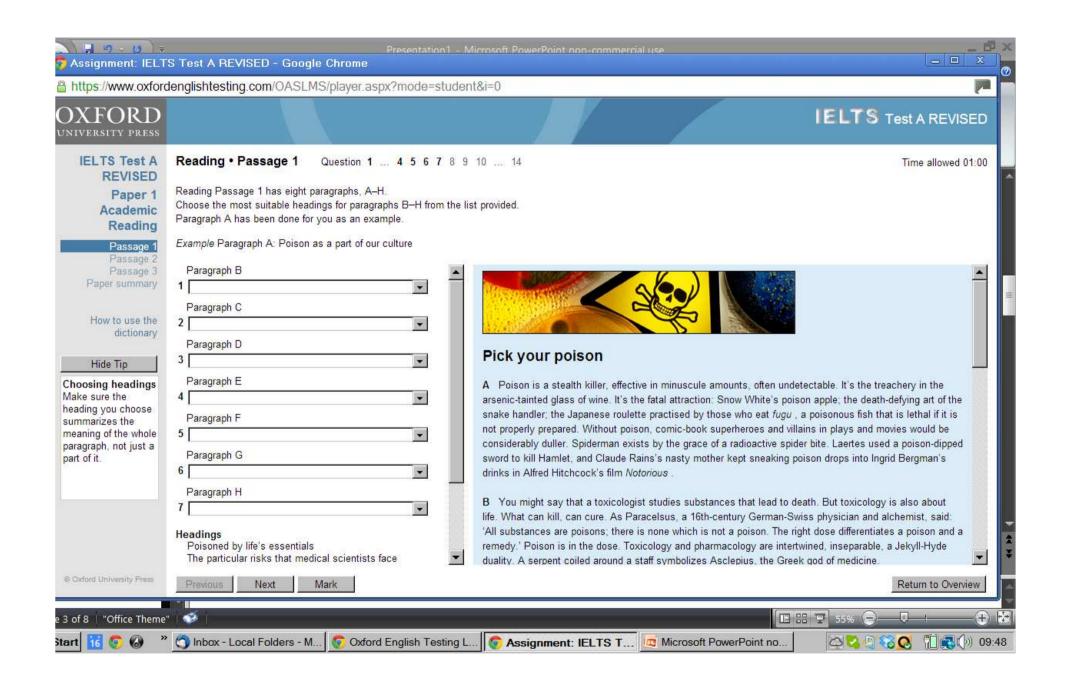


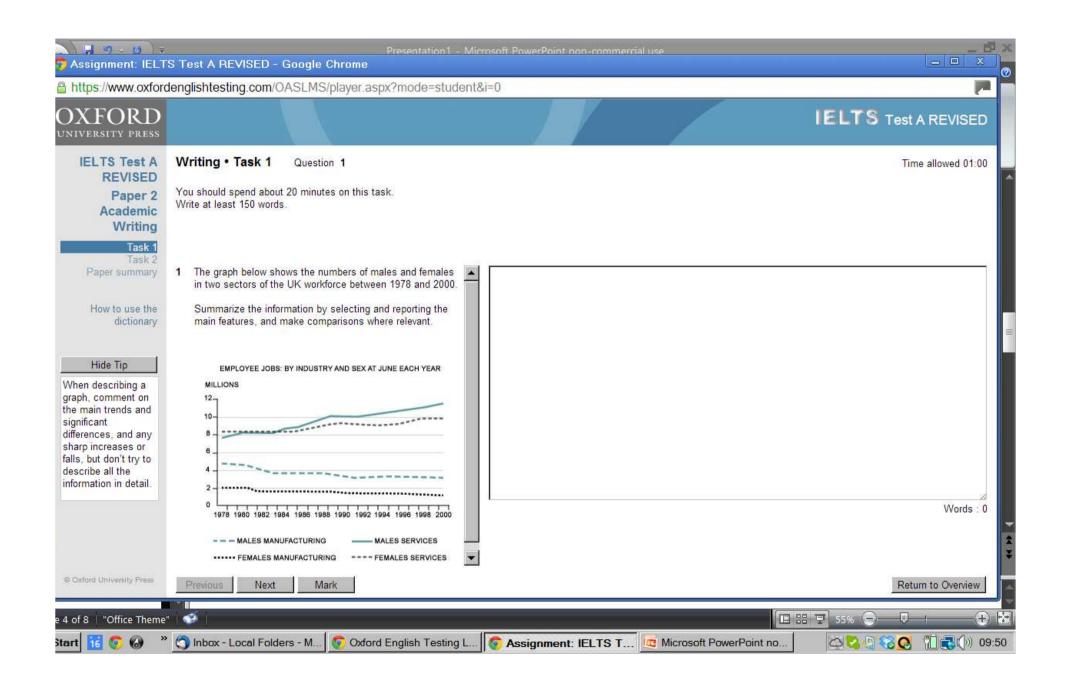


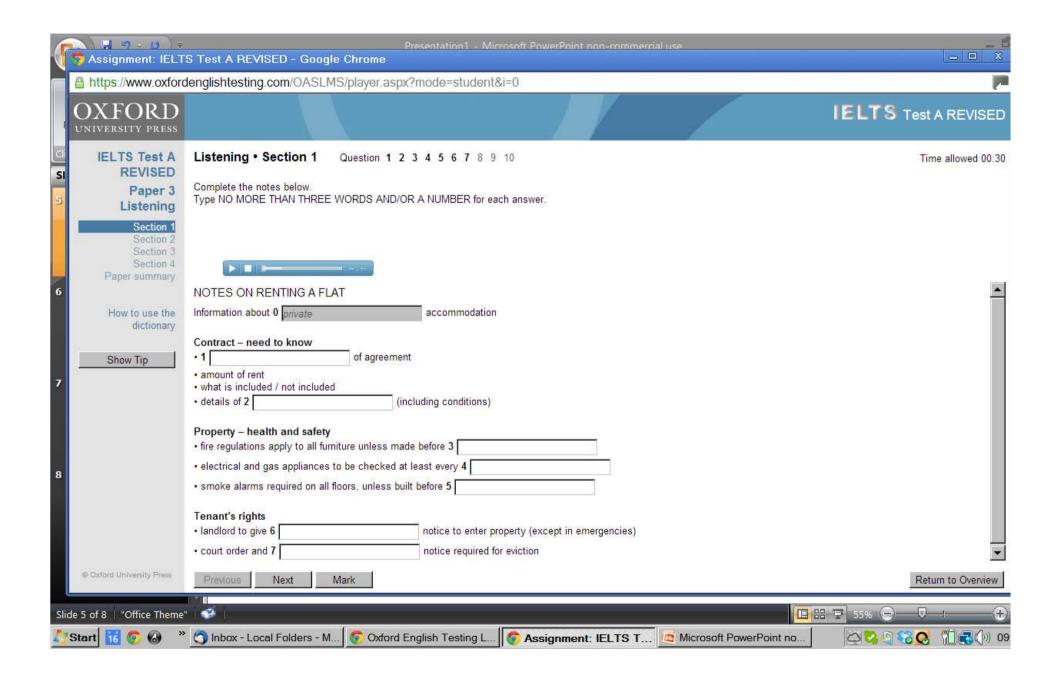


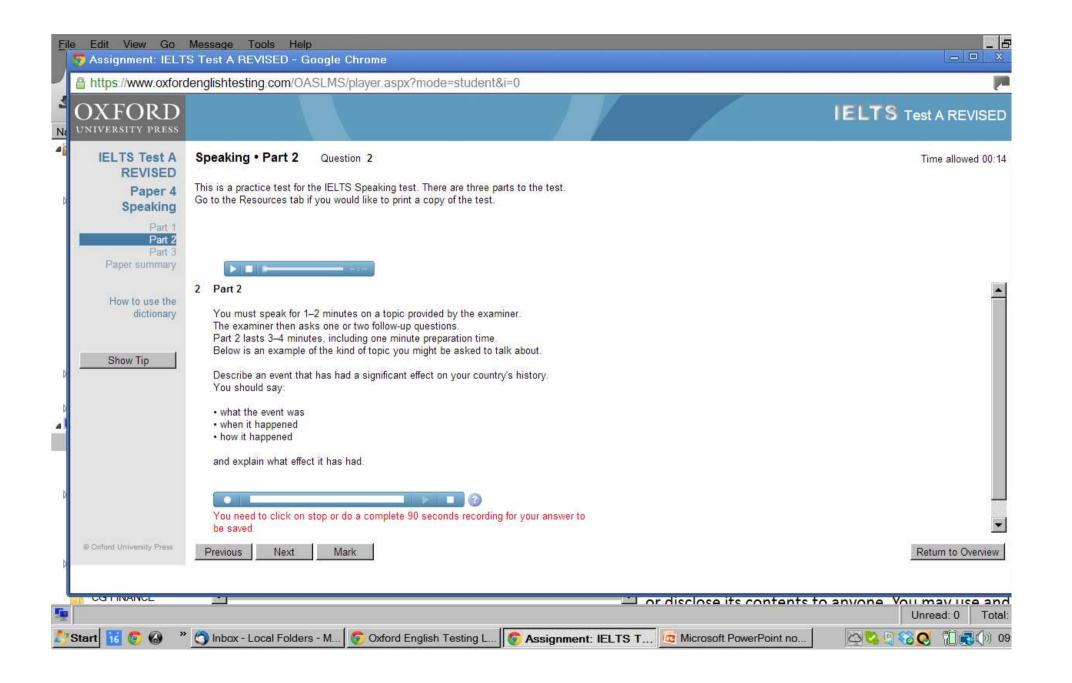


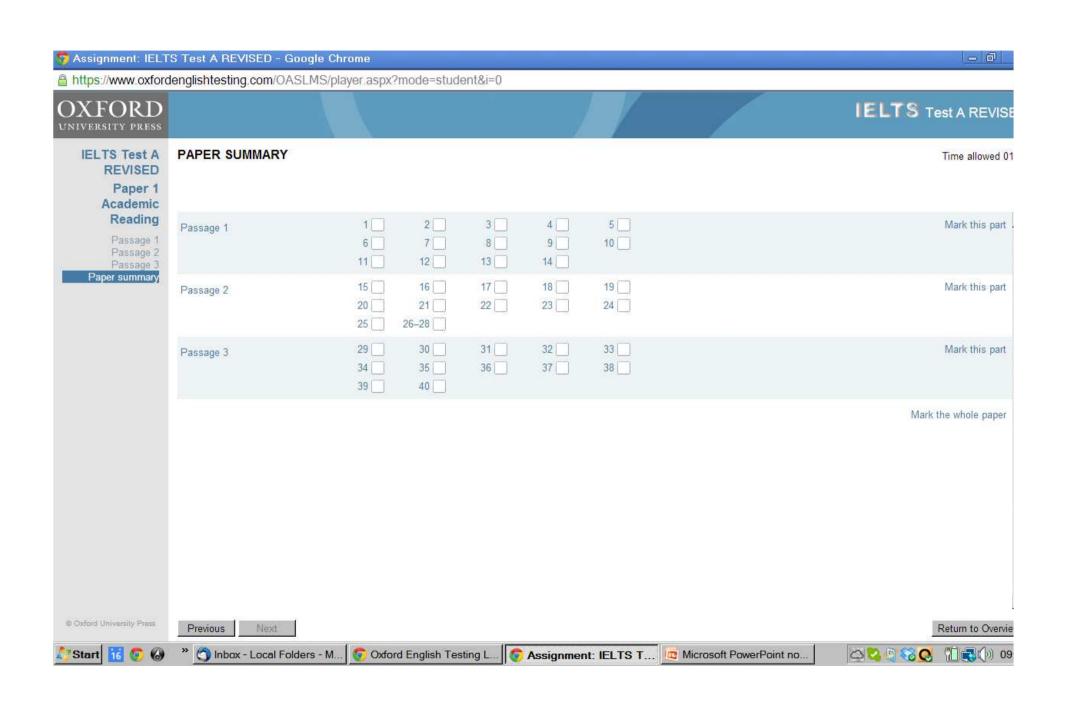
















https://www.oxfordenglishtesting.com/testdelivery/dictionary.aspx

#### How to access an online dictionary

Double-click on any English word in your test and you will get a definition from an Oxford dictionary.

#### If the definition you want does not appear:

Use the drop-down menu to look for the appropriate word or phrase.

#### If no definition appears:

The word you have selected may not be in the dictionary, for example, because it is a proper noun (the name of a person or place).





Dictionary - Google Chrome



# **Vocabulary Building for Examinations**

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Russia, November 2013