

Time to Talk

vocabulary builder



upper intermediate
brown

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Table of Contents

Introduction		6
How to Use		7
Unit	Words to Learn	
1	abandon, accommodation, adapt, conservative, considerable, distressed, eliminate, internal, mode, passage, proportion, raw, rely, resolve, seminar, sphere, splendid, sufficient, token, tolerant	8
2	alley, artistic, bustling, chaotic, characteristic, comfort, courier, diligent, dismiss, exaggeration, industrial, inspiration, mechanism, rarity, spontaneous, suburban, supervision, suspicious, unsafe, whisper	14
3	ally, awfully, beloved, bury, closely, corrupt, deputy, dominate, entire, envision, envy, landmark, mixture, nomination, radiation, replacement, status, straightaway, trigger, violence	20
4	bang, collaborate, diverse, episode, extinction, import, invest, lighthearted, melodramatic, overdo, pose, quarrel, redevelopment, right, rot, sake, sedentary, stem, swing, triumph	26
5	adequate, allocate, budget, changeable, comply, day care, directory, drawback, evolve, flee, mechanic, palm, primitive, recruitment, scenic, scrutiny, summit, superior, unproductive, unquestionably	32
6	alter, apparent, appeal, armed, arson, atom, circumstance, desktop, disappearance, evidence, illegal, immortality, injury, rearrange, robbery, shoplifting, spaceship, suspect, victim, witness	38
7	applause, cemetery, coincide, coma, delegate, demonstration, disturb, emission, exclusive, harm, identically, impersonal, implement, modest, mortgage, pointless, renewable, sweep, vague, wilderness	44
8	acorn, acoustic, alongside, cockpit, concourse, co-operation, deny, descent, groove, instant, landing, outstanding, recreation, refreshment, sequence, swell, terminal, tray, upright, vain	50
9	acupuncture, competent, constant, diplomatic, discipline, elite, freedom, fulfil, infect, magenta, passionate, payable, postal, sole, spokesperson, tertiary, toll, vegetation, vision, whistle	56
10	aboard, archaeology, commercial, complex, derive, draught, economy, ensure, inferior, organic, outweigh, prestigious, renewal, scrumptious, socialist, soil, teapot, technician, techno, virtual	62

11	aggressive, aircraft, amateur, appreciate, commitment, creativity, enthusiasm, equate, idealist, infrastructure, instance, lame, patience, principle, similarity, stocking, sweat, temper, thoughtful, trunk	68
12	capture, collapse, curve, deficiency, disaster, endanger, foolish, forum, hamper, hell, increase, lotion, nation, organiser, popularity, recovery, species, steadily, stormy, sweetheart	74
13	aside, catchy, chalk, component, disorder, dreadful, fascinate, fleet, gig, grip, impress, monk, plot, predictable, prior, restrain, sporty, thrilling, unthinkable, whilst	80
14	aggression, agreement, applicant, cholesterol, civil, devastating, dispose of, editor, gadget, incident, innocence, intonation, journalism, lamppost, perspective, privilege, scholarship, surgeon, tag, unwind	86
15	ample, bacteria, colonel, continual, detriment, discourse, divert, footstep, initiate, monotony, nutshell, professional, publication, rust, sheer, straw, stumble, tail, vein, vice versa	92
16	accelerate, assert, comprise, corporation, daft, equivalent, hammer, interact, interpret, obligatory, overdraft, privacy, ratio, rational, reaction, scholar, solidarity, stare, therapeutic, voluntary	98
17	commodity, concept, delightful, domain, exceptionally, flatter, hinder, inclined, literal, mostly, peer, predator, react, reinforce, reputable, shortcoming, solitude, steep, takeover, verse	104
18	additional, booming, combine, contemporary, conventional, dazzle, decor, error, floral, harvest, oak, overseas, retro, ridiculous, spotlight, stylish, tempt, terror, tragic, upholstery	110
19	affluent, apprehend, charm, chimney, debut, eventually, examine, halt, irresponsible, lecture, moody, nag, peasant, punishment, rebel, regulate, shallow, thoroughly, trainee, trespass	116
20	assess, continually, deadline, directly, emperor, freelance, humanity, insult, mindset, opposition, overdraft, pitch, portfolio, portrait, protective, scatter, soak, stable, technique, transaction	122
Index		128
Answer Key		131

Introduction

Introduction

Time to Talk Vocabulary Builder is a five-level, ten-book series designed to assist students in their English vocabulary studies as they progress from the foundational level through to the upper intermediate level. The words and activities featured in the series become progressively more challenging to meet the needs of students at different stages of their English language development.

Vocabulary

The words featured in *Time to Talk Vocabulary Builder* are high-frequency words encountered in both spoken and written English. Students will find the words invaluable in their study of English. Twenty words are introduced in every unit. In one book, students will learn 400 new words. That is a total of 4,000 new words over the whole series. Each word is introduced with a definition and example sentence, allowing students to see words in context from the outset. Pictures accompanying the definitions provide clues to assist students in visualising the words and forming related associations—an important part of memory and recall.

Activities

The activities in each unit provide students with extensive exposure to the target words of that unit. Activities are designed to give students the opportunity to think about the meaning and usage of the vocabulary, and the relationship between the target words and other words. Each unit features a short passage containing some of the target vocabulary in a new context, followed by comprehension questions. A review section provides an opportunity for students to test their understanding and recall of the words.

- The **Read** section contains some of the words in a passage. Students see the words in a new context and test their recall of the meanings. Reading comprehension questions allow students to think carefully about what they have read.
- The **Extend** activity in this section presents a selection of the target words in idiomatic expressions to show students new ways in which the vocabulary can be used.
- **Review** provides a global review of the contents of the unit. Students can work alone to test themselves, or work with a partner to make this into a more collaborative review activity.



Words to Learn

Learn the words. Write each word in your language.

1



abandon _____

v. to leave a person, thing or place forever

→ People sometimes abandon cars in fields in the country.

2



accommodation _____

n. a place to live or stay

→ I found cheap, clean accommodation near the town centre.

3



adapt _____

v. to change to suit different conditions

→ Toby easily adapted from office work to his new role as a stay-at-home father.

4



conservative _____

adj. not usually liking change; not liking new or fashionable things

→ Mary's taste in music is very conservative.

5



considerable _____

adj. large in size or degree; of great importance

→ Owning a pet requires a considerable amount of time and money.

6



distressed _____

adj. very upset or worried

→ Matt was distressed after losing his job.

7



eliminate _____

v. to remove; to take away

→ Joe wants to eliminate junk food from his diet.

8



internal _____

adj. existing or happening on the inside of something

→ Paul specialises in internal medicine.

9



mode _____

n. a way of doing something

→ Trains are a convenient mode of transport.

10



passage _____

n. a long, narrow way which connects one place with another

→ Let's walk down that beautiful, old passage.



proportion

n. the relationship between different things or parts of things when compared by size, number or degree

→ A surprisingly large proportion of students failed the exam: 80%!



raw

adj. uncooked

→ Be sure to wash your hands after touching raw chicken.



rely

v. to depend (on); to have trust (in)

→ My grandmother relies on my help to get around.



resolve

v. to find a solution to a problem

→ Mandy wishes her children would resolve their differences.



seminar

n. an event at which an expert and a group of people meet to study and discuss a topic

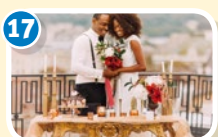
→ There is a literature seminar in this room every Tuesday.



sphere

n. an object with a round shape

→ Long ago, people didn't believe that the Earth was a sphere.



splendid

adj. excellent; impressive

→ Mark and Kelly had a splendid wedding.



sufficient

adj. enough for a particular purpose

→ Sally didn't have sufficient money to buy the clothes she wanted.



token

n. a symbol of a feeling, a fact, an event, etc.

→ Some people put locks on the bridge as a token of their love.



tolerant

adj. willing to accept different behaviour and values; able to deal with something unpleasant and annoying

→ It's important to teach children to be tolerant of each other.



Practice

A. Write T for true or F for false.

1. _____ When you **adapt** to a situation, you refuse to change.
2. _____ £10 million is a **considerable** amount of money.
3. _____ A **passage** is a narrow means of access between places.
4. _____ **Conservative** people are not very tolerant of change.
5. _____ When you are **distressed**, you feel troubled and worried.
6. _____ If you **abandon** something, you go back to get it again.

B. Replace each highlighted word or phrase with a word from the box.

seminar	sufficient	eliminate	proportion	resolve	tolerant
---------	------------	-----------	------------	---------	----------

1. _____ You should **remove**¹ sugar and increase the **amount**² of raw vegetables in your diet.
3. _____ By teaching people to be more **understanding**³, we
4. _____ can help to **finish**⁴ conflict around the world.
5. _____ We have **enough**⁵ chairs for twenty people to attend
6. _____ the next **small group study session**⁶.

C. Choose the two words that are similar in each group of words.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| 1. accommodation | conservative | adapt | hotel |
| 2. seminar | sphere | circle | transition |
| 3. wonderful | splendid | raw | proportion |
| 4. mode | sufficient | obtain | way |
| 5. token | internal | distressed | symbol |

D. Choose the best answer to complete each sentence.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. People can rely on you if you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. are easily distressed. b. always keep promises. c. don't adapt to new situations. | <p>2. An example of an internal organ is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the heart. b. a mode. c. a token. |
| <p>3. Raw meat can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. take something away. b. be found in a sphere. c. make you sick if you eat it. | <p>4. If you are a tolerant person, you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. are in proportion. b. get on with others. c. seem conservative. |
| <p>5. Types of accommodation include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. cars, taxis and buses. b. books, magazines and newspapers. c. hotels, motels and tents. | <p>6. Abandoning a pet is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a cruel thing to do. b. done in a passage. c. simply splendid. |

E. Complete the sentences using the words in the box. Then say a suitable response.

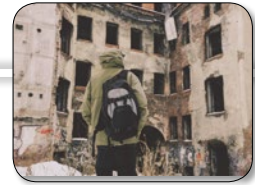
resolved
raw

modes
distressed

spheres
eliminate

rely on
seminar

1. What kinds of foods do you like to eat _____? Why?
2. What is a problem that you _____? How did you do it?
3. When was the last time you felt _____? Why were you upset?
4. Have you ever attended a _____? What was the topic?
5. Name three things which are _____. Which of them is the largest?
6. Who do you _____? How does he or she help you?
7. What _____ of communication do you use with friends? Which do you use the most?
8. Have you ever tried to _____ something from your diet? What was it?



On any given night of the year, in cities across the world, thousands of people begin a search for **accommodation**. These are not travellers looking for a hotel on holiday; these people are the homeless. They are the people we can find sleeping in cars and buildings that have been **abandoned**. We
 5 can see them take shelter in quiet **passages** and streets, with boxes and newspapers that they have **adapted** into beds and sheets. Alarming, the **proportion** of homeless people in societies around the world is growing. To what can we attribute this rise? There are several causes.

One problem is the increasing cost of living. People in low-paid jobs find they lack
 10 **sufficient** funds to pay for rent. People who miss work for a few days because of sickness might be unable to pay their rent for the month. They suddenly find themselves without a home. Another problem is a shortage of jobs. Many companies are **eliminating** positions or **relying** on cheaper labour overseas. This adds to the number of people who are out of work.

We all feel uncomfortable when we see people living on the street. However, they are
 15 probably much more **distressed** because they find themselves unable to pay for their basic needs. We should try to be more **tolerant** and support those working to **resolve** the problem, especially on cold and rainy nights when we are warm and dry in our own homes.

A. Choose the best answers.

1. Which is NOT mentioned as kind of accommodation in the passage?
 - a. Passages
 - b. Cars
 - c. Abandoned buildings
 - d. Societies
2. What is a cause of homelessness according to the passage?
 - a. Cheap cost of living
 - b. Companies cutting jobs
 - c. Low rents
 - d. Rainy nights
3. What is the writer's attitude towards the homeless?
 - a. We should offer them more jobs overseas.
 - b. The homeless are not tolerant and are not really a problem.
 - c. We should understand their situation and try to help resolve this issue.
 - d. We should eliminate abandoned buildings to reduce the number of homeless people.

B. Find each sentence above. Write the missing words.

1. On any given night of the year, in cities across the world, _____.
2. People in low-paid jobs _____.
3. Many companies are _____ labour overseas.



Extend and Review

A. Learn these phrases.

raw deal	something that is unfair <i>I bought a second-hand car, but it broke down after two days. What a raw deal!</i>
abandon ship	to leave a bad situation in a hurry, while considering only your own interests <i>After the CEO quit, all the employees abandoned ship.</i>
token gesture	a small and insignificant action <i>She gave her mum flowers to say sorry, but it was just a token gesture.</i>
rite of passage	an activity showing that someone has reached an important stage in his/her life <i>In my family, buying your first car is a rite of passage.</i>

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct phrases. Use the correct form.

token gesture raw deal rite of passage abandon ship

- When everyone except Luke got a pay raise, he felt that he had got a _____.
- Getting your first job is an important _____.
- Helen says she is sincere, but her gifts always feel more like they are _____.
- When the newspaper reported that the company was in trouble, everyone started to _____.

C. Circle the correct words.

- If you want to stay in luxurious, modern **seminar** / **accommodation**, this is a **splendid** / **conservative** hotel.
- Toby was **raw** / **distressed** to learn that his dog had **internal** / **conservative** health problems.
- Unless **sufficient** / **mode** students enrol, we will have to cancel the **passage** / **seminar**.
- A red rose is a rather **conservative** / **distressed** gift given as a **token** / **sphere** of love.
- It's cruel to **rely on** / **abandon** a dog, and we should not be **tolerant** / **considerable** of such behaviour.
- In the past, people ate only **raw** / **splendid** foods, but we have **conservative** / **adapted** to cooked foods.
- Kevin **relies** / **adapts** on his car as his main **mode** / **passage** of transport.
- The company has **resolved** / **sufficient** a **proportion** / **considerable** number of its financial problems.
- There is a marble **sphere** / **abandon** at each end of the **internal** / **passage**.
- The company is expected to **sufficient** / **eliminate** a large **proportion** / **resolve** of part-time jobs.