ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

400 Must Have Words for the TOEFL LESSON 2 – Disaster Vocabulary Test

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1	**B**	2	**C**	3	**E**	4	**A**	5	**D**	6	**A**	7	**B**	8	**B**	9	**B**	10	**B**
11	**C**	12	**C**																

Explanations

1. Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of the word below.

persevere
✓ B) to give up
To **persevere** means to keep trying even when something is difficult. The opposite is **to give up**, which means to stop trying. Example: **She persevered and passed the exam on her third attempt.**

2. **anticipate**
✓ C) to not see something coming
To **anticipate** means to expect something or see it coming before it happens. The opposite is **to not see something coming**. Example: **Scientists try to anticipate tsunamis.**

3. **famine**
✓ E) excess of food
A **famine** is a serious lack of food in an area, so people go hungry. The opposite is an **excess of food**, which means more food than is needed.

4. **collide**
✓ A) to pass by without hitting
To **collide** means to crash into something, for example **Two cars collided on the bridge.** The opposite is **to pass by without hitting**.

5. **catastrophic**
✓ D) harmless
Catastrophic means causing terrible damage or suffering. The opposite is **harmless**, which means causing no damage at all.

6. **Choose the word that best completes each sentence.**

Residents of Hawaii must accept the possibility of a volcanic _____.

✓ A) eruption
An **eruption** is the sudden explosion of a volcano, when it throws out lava, ash and gas. The word **volcanic** is the clue: we say **a volcanic eruption**. **Perseverance** (continued effort) does not fit with a volcano.

7. Years after the accident, she was finally able to _____ her feelings of anger.
✓ B) unleash
To **unleash** means to suddenly let out a strong force or feeling that was held back. After years of keeping her anger inside, she could finally **unleash** it. **Anticipate** means to expect something in the future, which does not fit with feelings she already had.

8. Houses along the river often face _____ during the rainy season.
✓ B) flooding
Flooding happens when water covers land that is usually dry. The clues are **along the river** and **rainy season**. **Famine** is a lack of food and has nothing to do with rain or rivers.

9. Many people think it is cruel to _____ live lobsters into boiling water.
✓ B) plunge
To **plunge** means to push or drop something suddenly and deeply into a liquid: **plunge lobsters into boiling water**. **Collide** means to crash into something and does not take the pattern **collide something into water**.

10. A well-written essay should make some kind of _____ on its readers.
✓ B) impact
Impact means a strong effect on someone or something. The fixed phrase is **make an impact on** someone. A **catastrophe** is a terrible disaster, which is not what a good essay should cause.

11. **Which sentence best expresses the essential information of this passage?**
✓ C) Tsunamis can have an especially catastrophic impact on coastal communities.
The passage is about how tsunamis cause **catastrophic destruction** for people **living along the coast**. It describes how they damage beaches, homes and land inland. Not the option about prediction: the passage says foreseeing tsunamis **is not easy**, so scientists cannot yet predict them accurately. The passage never presents tsunamis as a source of usable energy, and it treats flooding as part of tsunami damage, not something to compare with it.

12. In the first sentence, why does the author mention weather?
✓ C) as an example of a destructive natural force
The first sentence lists **disease, weather, and famine** as ways that nature **challenges humans**. Weather is one example of a destructive natural force, which leads into the topic of tsunamis. Not **because tsunamis are caused by bad weather**: the passage says tsunamis are caused by earthquakes, landslides, eruptions, explosions and meteorites, not by weather.

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