ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# 400 Must Have Words for the TOEFL LESSON 6 – Ancient Life Vocabulary Test

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

## Explanations

**1. Complete each sentence by choosing the best word. Change the form of the word if necessary. Use each word only once.**

She had no idea how they could _____ take a big vacation and remodel their house in the same year.
✓ **C) feasibly**
The gap comes before the verb **take**, so it needs an adverb. **Feasibly** means 'in a way that is possible or practical'. She didn't see how they could possibly afford both things in one year. Not **integrally**, which means 'as an essential part' and doesn't fit the meaning.

**2.** Daily meditation is used _____ with medication and massage as part of the recovery plan.
✓ **D) integrally**
**Integrally** means 'as a necessary, central part of something'. Meditation is used as an essential part of the recovery plan, together with medication and massage. An adverb is needed to describe how it **is used**.

**3.** The rival politicians were raised in _____ counties.
✓ **B) adjacent**
**Adjacent** means 'next to' or 'neighbouring'. The gap comes before the noun **counties**, so it needs an adjective. **Adjacent counties** are counties that share a border.

**4.** If you build a _____ next to this river, you must be sure it is safe against floods.
✓ **E) structure**
After **a** the gap needs a noun. A **structure** is something that is built, such as a building or a bridge. Example: **The structure must be safe against floods.**

**5.** Once he ran for public office, he understood the importance of checking public statements for _____.
✓ **A) accuracy**
After the preposition **for**, a noun is needed. **Accuracy** means 'being correct and exact'. Politicians check their statements **for accuracy** so that they don't say anything false.

**6.** Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word.

**seep**
✓ **C) stay contained**
To **seep** means to flow slowly through small openings, like water seeping into soil. The opposite is to **stay contained**, which means to remain inside and not leak out.

**7. gut**
✓ **A) fill**
As a verb, to **gut** means to remove the inside parts of something, e.g. **gut a fish** or **gut a building**. The opposite is to **fill**, which means to put things inside.

**8. retain**
✓ **E) throw away**
To **retain** means to keep or hold on to something. The opposite is to **throw away**, which means to get rid of it. Not **stay contained**, which is closer to **retain** in meaning than opposite to it.

**9. compress**
✓ **D) loosen**
To **compress** means to press something together so that it becomes tighter or smaller. The opposite is to **loosen**, which means to make it less tight.

**10. overlap**
✓ **B) separate**
To **overlap** means to partly cover something, so that two things share the same space, e.g. **overlapping layers**. The opposite is to **separate**, which means to keep things apart.

**11. Which sentence best expresses the essential information of this passage?**
✓ **A) Preserved life-forms, including petrified matter and fossils, teach us about ancient life.**
The passage describes two main ways ancient life is preserved: **petrified matter** (paragraph 1) and **fossils** (paragraph 2). It also shows what these teach us about ancient life forms. Not **scientists try to replicate natural processes**, because the lab petrification of wood is only a minor detail. The passage never claims that scientific discovery is the 'primary function' of preserved life forms, or that they give 'the most concentrated energy'.

**12.** In the passage, the words submerged in are closest in meaning to _____.
✓ **B) completely covered**
**Submerged in** means 'completely covered by' a liquid, especially water. Paragraph 2 says swamp vegetation is **submerged in water**, which means it lies fully under the water. Not **made wet**, because something can be wet without being completely under water.