

[01] History

Getting Ready to Read

A. Learn the words.

Key Vocabulary

well-known	famous; talked about
factory	a place where goods are made, usually by machines
cruel	willfully causing pain or distress

TOEFL Vocabulary

leader	the head of a nation, political party, or other group of people
impact	a strong effect or influence
nation	a country
agriculture	the practice of farming or growing crops
industry	the practice of manufacturing goods

B. Learn the question types.

TOEFL Question Types

Vocabulary

The word X in the passage is closest in meaning to . . .

In stating X, the author means that . . .

- This type of question asks for the meaning of a word or phrase in the context of how it is used in the passage.
- The word is usually important to understanding part of the passage.

Reference

The word X in the passage refers to . . .

- This type of question asks for what a word or phrase is referring to.
- The word is often a pronoun.

Reading Passage

C. Read the passage. Number each paragraph with the correct main idea or purpose.

1. The writer's opinion of Stalin
2. Information about changes Stalin made in the Soviet Union
3. What the passage is about
4. Information about Stalin's name change

Joseph Stalin

___ Joseph Stalin is a well-known leader. He was the leader of the Soviet Union from 1928 until 1953.

___ When he was born, he was called Iosif Dzhugashvili. Later he changed his name to Stalin. The word "Stalin" means "man of steel" in Russian. Stalin chose this new name so that people would think of him as a strong leader.

___ Stalin had a big impact on the Soviet Union. He changed the country. It went from a nation based on agriculture to one based on industry. He forced thousands of farm workers to leave their farms. He made them move to the cities to work in factories.

___ Stalin was cruel. He killed many people to get what he wanted.

Note-taking

D. Complete the summary notes by filling in the blanks.

Topic: Joseph Stalin

Introduction: _____ leader of the Soviet Union from 1928 to _____.

Name: Called _____ Dzhugashvili.

Changed his name to _____.

Means "man of _____" in Russian.

Wanted people to think he was a _____ leader.

Impact: _____ the country.

- From a _____ based on _____

- To a nation based on _____

Forced farm _____ to work in _____.

Conclusion: Was _____.

Killed many to get what he wanted.

TOEFL Questions

E. Choose the correct answers.

1. The word **he** in the passage refers to
(A) Joseph Stalin (B) the farm workers
2. The word **strong** in the passage is closest in meaning to
(A) powerful (B) healthy
3. The word **it** in the passage refers to
(A) industry (B) the Soviet Union
4. The word **forced** in the passage is closest in meaning to
(A) made (B) hit

TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

F. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

leader

impact

nation

agriculture

industry

1. Russia has more land than any other _____.
2. Detroit is famous for its car _____.
3. President Bill Clinton was the _____ of the United States from 1993 to 2001.
4. Taking vitamins has a good _____ on my health.
5. Growing fruits and vegetables is an example of _____.

Practice

A. Learn the words.

Key Vocabulary

✓ ruins	the pieces that are left from very old buildings or cities
pottery	objects made of baked clay
mine	a hole in the earth for collecting valuable materials

TOEFL Vocabulary

✓ consist	to be made of
archaeologist	someone who studies items from long ago
conclusion	a decision
trade	buying and selling or exchanging goods
resource	something we can use; something that helps us

B. Read the passage and underline the key information.

Great Zimbabwe Ruins

There is a country in Africa called Zimbabwe. It has many large, old buildings. Some of these buildings are called the *Great Zimbabwe Ruins*. Sometimes, they are called *The Houses of Stone*. They consist of hundreds of stone ruins.

The ruins were found by Portuguese people in 1531. Nobody had lived in the buildings for many years. It is not known why people left this place.

Archaeologists studied the ruins in the 1800s. They wanted to learn more about them. They found many Arabian coins. They also found a lot of Chinese pottery. The coins and pottery were found near the ruins. They came to the conclusion that the people who had lived there traded with other nations.

There are many gold mines near the ruins. Archaeologists think the Arabian and Chinese people wanted the gold. That is why they traded with the people in Zimbabwe. The gold was a very good trading resource.

TOEFL Questions

C. Choose the correct answers.

1. The word **they** in the passage refers to
(A) Portuguese people (B) archaeologists
2. The word **ruins** in the passage is closest in meaning to
(A) old buildings (B) African stones
3. According to the passage, the Zimbabwe ruins can be found
(A) in America (B) in Africa
4. According to the passage, scientists found all of these items EXCEPT
(A) Arabian coins
(B) African beads
(C) Chinese pottery

TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

D. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

consists conclusion archaeologists traded resource

1. Steel is an important _____.
2. _____ often go to very old places to learn about the people who lived there.
3. The police officer came to the _____ that the man had robbed the bank.
4. Greek salad _____ of tomato, cucumber, and feta cheese.
5. The diamonds mined in South Africa are _____ for money.

Read the passage.

The Slave Trade

Slaves were people. However, they were owned by other people. Slaves had to work very hard for no money. Many people in the United States owned slaves. Slaves were used for almost 250 years.

Slaves were traded in the United States. This started around 1619. Dutch people sold slaves from Africa. Many American farmers bought the slaves. The slaves were a good resource because they had to work hard. They were also very cheap. They were cheap because the farmers didn't have to pay them.

Many slaves worked in agriculture. In some parts of the United States, the slaves grew crops. The crops consisted of tobacco and cotton. The farmers became rich.

The impact of slavery was good for the farmers. They made a lot of money. The impact on the slaves was very bad. They were not free. They could not go where they wanted. They could not choose their work. They also had no money.

At first, Americans thought slavery was good. Many people owned slaves. Rich people had a lot of slaves. ■ 1) Slave owners were cruel. They stopped slaves from running away. ■ 2) They often hit them and hurt their families. ■ 3) The slaves were scared, so they didn't run away. ■ 4)

Finally, many Americans came to the conclusion that slavery was bad. Slavery ended in 1865. A well-known American leader ended it. His name was Abraham Lincoln. He freed the slaves.

Choose the correct answers.

1. According to the passage, slaves are
 - (A) always women
 - (B) farmers who are rich
 - (C) people who are forced to work for no money
 - (D) people who are happy to work hard
2. The word owned in the passage is closest in meaning to
 - (A) take
 - (B) sell
 - (C) have
 - (D) want

3. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentences? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

Slaves were traded in America. This started around 1619.

- (A) Americans were working as slaves by 1619.
 - (B) Slaves wanted to work in America in 1619.
 - (C) By 1619, Americans were ending the slave trade.
 - (D) In 1619, the USA started the slave trade.
4. Look at the four squares (■) that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

Sometimes they even killed the slaves who made them angry.

Where would the sentence best fit?

- (A) Square 1
 - (B) Square 2
 - (C) Square 3
 - (D) Square 4
5. What can be inferred about President Abraham Lincoln?
- (A) He thought slavery was bad.
 - (B) He died in 1865.
 - (C) He was a slave owner.
 - (D) He was a slave.
6. **Directions:** An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided below. Complete the summary by selecting the THREE answer choices that express the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not belong in the summary because they express ideas that are not presented in the passage or are minor ideas in the passage.

Slavery existed in the United States from 1619 until 1865.

Answer choices

- (A) The slaves' wishes came true when President Lincoln freed them.
- (B) Rich Americans owned many slaves.
- (C) American farmers became rich by using slave labor.
- (D) Dutch traders sold many slaves to Americans.
- (E) Slaves were usually very badly treated and wished to be free.