THiNK PREP

LEARN SMARTER!

- Cognitive Learning Theories
- 700+ Practice problems

Foundation

Obscure

Abandon

Objective

Diverse

Theory

Lvl 1

BEYOND MEMORIZATION
LEARN, REMEMBER, AND USE!

Science-backed vocab for students, learners, & educators

About this book

Welcome to our innovative vocabulary resource, designed not only to overcome the limitations of traditional vocabulary books but also to be an essential tool for students preparing for exams like the NY statewide ELA, SHSAT, ISEE, SSAT, and more. While most resources provide clear definitions, they often lack extensive examples and exercises critical for reinforcing word comprehension. Our approach transcends these limitations by incorporating key cognitive science theories enhancing both the learning experience and retention.

At the heart of our methodology are cognitive load theory and contextual learning. These theories guide the presentation of new vocabulary in a way that enhances understanding and mental engagement, making the learning process both effective and relatable. We emphasize the importance of productive struggle, encouraging learners to engage with challenging yet manageable content, promoting deeper understanding and durable knowledge.

Our aim extends beyond simple memorization; we strive to integrate new vocabulary into your everyday communication, enriching your language skills and comprehension. With this book, you begin a comprehensive journey towards mastering a richer vocabulary, supported by strategies that cater to effective and long-term learning.

Structure

- **Introduction to Each Word:** Each section focuses on a set of five words. Each new vocabulary word is introduced with multiple examples to understand its usage in various contexts. These examples are designed to show how the word is used in everyday language, stories, and conversations. Students capable of managing more than five words at a time are encouraged to progress beyond a single section.

- **Engagement Questions:** After the examples, there are questions asking the user what they think the word means and to provide their own example sentences. This engages active participation and encourages the learner to think about the word and its usage critically.

- **Part of Speech and Definition:** The correct part of speech and definition for each word are then provided. This gives a clear and precise understanding of the word's meaning and how it functions within a sentence.

- **Synonyms:** A list of synonyms is provided to help expand the learner's vocabulary further and understand the nuances between similar words.

- **Exercises:** Various exercises follow the introductory material, including fill-in-the-blanks, true/false questions, writing prompts, and multiple-choice questions. These exercises are designed to reinforce understanding and encourage the practical application of the words learned.

- **Quizzes:** There are quizzes which further test the learner's understanding of the previous 10 words in various forms.

- **Tests:** Assessments are provided to evaluate understanding of the most recent 20 words through a variety of question types, enabling effortless review.

- **Final Test:** Ensure that this comprehensive test is appropriately challenging and covers the book's content effectively.

Type of Questions

- **Fill in the Blank:** Enhances vocabulary recall and context understanding. It requires students to use their knowledge and context clues to find the correct word.

- **True or False:** Tests comprehension of word usage and parts of speech, fostering critical thinking about language structure.

- **Sentence Creation:** Encourages creative use of vocabulary, applying the word in a new context, which aids in deepening understanding and retention.

- **Matching Antonyms:** Strengthens vocabulary by understanding opposite meanings, enhancing cognitive flexibility in language use.

- **Correct Usage:** Improves syntax and semantic skills by identifying correct sentence structures and word meanings.

- **Multiple Choice:** Offers a focused way to review specific language rules or word meanings through a selection process, reinforcing decision-making skills.

- **Descriptive Writing:** Promotes creative and analytical thinking by formulating sentences that accurately convey the meaning of a word.

- **Word Application in Context:** Contextualizes vocabulary in real-world or relatable scenarios, enhancing memory retention through relevant associations.

    ○ For fill-in-the blank questions, the strategy is to guide rather than give direct answers. When students struggle, offer clues that could include the word's definition or a key aspect of its meaning. This method encourages learners to think critically and make connections, deepening their understanding of the vocabulary in a meaningful way.

- **Reading Comprehension:** Questions cover different elements (reasons for actions, goals, methods of achieving goals, and outcomes), providing a comprehensive understanding of the text. Testing comprehension Requires readers to not just recall facts but also interpret the intentions and outcomes described in the passage.

Phonemic Chart

	Monophthongs				Diphthongs			
Vowels	ɑ f**a**ther	o r**o**w	ɛ **e**gg	ɜ g**i**rl	aɪ **ey**es	eɪ **a**te	aʊ c**ow**	aʊ **o**ver
	I Sh**i**p	i Sh**ee**p	ə fath**e**r	ɔ d**oo**r	ɔɪ **oi**l			
	ʊ g**oo**d	u c**oo**l	æ b**a**nd	ʌ **u**p				
Consonants	ϴ **th**ink	r **r**ight	p **p**izza	t **t**ip	ʃ **sh**oot	ʧ **ch**eese	k **c**ar	g **g**o
	f **f**or	b **b**oy	ð fa**th**er	l **l**ow	s **s**ee	h **h**appy	w **w**et	j **y**ellow
	z **z**oo	v **v**iew	m **m**oney	n **n**ice	ŋ ri**ng**	ʤ ju**dg**e	ʒ **g**enre	d **d**og

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SECTION 1

1. Abandon - əˈbændən

    a. Sentence Example:

    Tommy had to <u>abandon</u> his game of hide and seek because it started to rain.

    b. Short Narrative:

    As the final school bell rang, signaling the beginning of summer vacation, students burst through the doors with a sense of <u>abandon</u>. They tossed their papers in the air, laughing and shouting with pure joy. The worry of exams and homework was forgotten, replaced by the excitement of a summer full of endless possibilities.

    c. Dialogue Example:

    Ash: Brock, why are all these houses empty?
    Brock: When Team Rocket took over, many had to <u>abandon</u> their homes. It was too dangerous to stay.

- What do you think *abandon* means? Please write your own definition and give an example sentence.

- What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

        1. Noun
        2. Pronoun
        3. Verb
        4. Adjective
        5. Adverb

Let's see what the definition and part of speech of **abandon** are:

- Verb:
  To leave something or someone behind, usually permanently.
  - This can refer to leaving a physical location, like a building or city, or it can refer to giving up on an idea, plan, or responsibility.

- Noun:
  A complete lack of restraint or control.
    - It's often used in the context of doing something freely or enthusiastically without any thought about possible negative consequences.

- Synonyms:
  desert, forsake, relinquish, leave

The teddy bear was abandoned in the playground.

2. Benefit - ˈbɛnəfɪt

a. Sentence Example:

Regular exercise has many <u>benefits</u>, such as improving your health and reducing stress.

b. Short Narrative:

The school decided to implement a new study technique after researching its potential <u>benefits</u>. By the end of the semester, students were not only performing better on tests, but also seemed more engaged and less stressed.

c. Dialogue Example:

Andy: "Why do you volunteer at the animal shelter so much?"

Mia: "Aside from helping animals, it also has personal <u>benefits</u>. It feels rewarding and I've learned a lot about animal care."

● What do you think *benefit* means? Please give an example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Could you please mark the applicable choice(s)?

   1. Noun
   2. Pronoun
   3. Verb
   4. Adjective
   5. Adverb

Let's see what the definition and part of speech of **benefit** are:
   ● Noun
     An advantage or positive outcome that you get from doing something.

   ● Verb
     To receive an advantage or to help someone else to do so.

- Synonyms
advantage, gain, reward, perk

3. Consequence - ˈkɑnsəkwəns

a. Sentence Example:

Not doing your homework can have serious <u>consequences</u>, like getting a bad grade.

b. Short Narrative:

After seeing the <u>consequences</u> of littering in their local park, the children decided to start a cleanup project. They didn't want to see their favorite play area filled with trash.

c. Dialogue Example:

Parent: "If you continue to ignore your chores, there will be <u>consequences</u>." Child: "What kind of <u>consequences</u>?" Parent: "Well, you might lose your video game privileges."

- What do you think *consequence* means? Please write an example sentence using the vocabulary.

- What about the part of speech? Could you please mark the applicable choice(s)?
    1. Noun
    2. Pronoun
    3. Verb
    4. Adjective
    5. Adverb

Let's see what the definition and part of speech of **consequence** are:

- Noun
A result or effect of an action or decision; it can be a good outcome or a bad outcome.

- Synonyms
result, outcome, effect

4. Diverse - daɪˈvɜrs

    a. Sentence Example:

    The school has a <u>diverse</u> student population, with people from many different backgrounds and cultures.

    b. Short Narrative:

    The new art teacher was known for her <u>diverse</u> methods, using everything from traditional painting to digital art. This opened a whole new world of creative possibilities for the students.

    c. Dialogue Example:

    Bo: "Why do you enjoy living in this city?" Jackie: "I love its <u>diverse</u> culture. You can find food, music, and traditions from all over the world here."

● What do you think diverse means? Please give an example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Could you please mark the applicable choice(s)?

        1. Noun
        2. Pronoun
        3. Verb
        4. Adjective
        5. Adverb

Let's see what the definition and part of speech of **diverse** are:

● Adjective
Different or varied. It often refers to having many different types of one thing, or a variety of different items, ideas, people, etc.

● Synonyms
varied, assorted, heterogeneous, multifaceted

5. Establish - ɪˈstæblɪʃ

   a. Sentence Example:

   The town was <u>established</u> in 1856 and has grown significantly since then.

   b. Short Narrative:

   After moving to a new city, Maria decided to <u>establish</u> a community garden. She thought it would be a great way to bring the neighborhood together and promote healthy eating.

   c. Dialogue Example:

   Jenny: "How did this company start?"

   Bob: "Our CEO <u>established</u> it in his garage with just a laptop and a dream."

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *establish* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s)
    1. Noun
    2. Pronoun
    3. Verb
    4. Adjective
    5. Adverb

Let's see what the definition and part of speech of **establish** are:

   ● Verb
     To start something that is meant to last for a long time, like a business, a tradition, or a city. It can also mean to make a rule or law officially accepted.

   ● Synonyms
     set up, found, institute, start

EXERCISE 1

Use your understanding of words 1-5 to answer the following questions. Read each question carefully and respond accurately based on your knowledge of the words' meanings and uses.

1. Fill in the blank with an appropriate word: Regular exercise has many _____, including better heart health.

2. True or False: The word "abandon" can be used as a noun.

3. Write your own sentence using 'establish'. Make sure the sentence includes a clear object and context.

4. Match the word with its antonym: Diverse - (Similar, heterogeneous, Various)

5. Which of the following sentences uses "consequence" correctly?
    A. The consequence is the ball.
    B. The consequence of missing the bus was that he was late for school.
    C. She was consequence about the situation.

6. Fill in the blank(s): They are trying to _____ a new routine to improve productivity.

7. Write your own sentence using 'diverse'. Make sure to use 'diverse' as an adjective to describe a noun.

8. Multiple choice: Which of the following sentences uses "benefit" incorrectly?
    A. You could benefit from a good night's sleep.
    B. The benefit of having a car is that you can travel at your own pace.
    C. I have a benefit with my homework.

9. True or False: "Consequence" can only be used as a verb.

10. Fill in the blank: They had to _____ their picnic plans due to the sudden storm.

11. Choose the correct synonym for 'establish' in this sentence: 'After several experiments, they managed to _____ the truth.

12. Write your own sentence using 'benefit' as a verb. Include a clear object that is receiving the benefit.

13. True or False: "Diverse" can be used as a noun.

14. Fill in the blank(s): The city is known for its _____ food culture, offering dishes from around the world.

15. Write your own sentence using 'abandon' as a noun. Make sure to depict a situation of unrestrained behavior.

16. Multiple choice: Which of the following sentences uses "establish" correctly?
    A. I need to establish my skills in this game.
    B. The restaurant was established last year.

17. True or False: "Benefit" can be used as both a noun and a verb.

18. Fill in the blank(s): If you do not study for the exam, the _____ may be a poor grade.

19. Write your own sentence using 'consequence'. Ensure your sentence displays a cause-and-effect relationship.

20. Multiple Choice: Which of the following sentences uses "diverse" incorrectly?
   A. The school offers a diverse range of subjects.
   B. We need a more diverse perspective to solve this problem.
   C. The diverse at the event was fantastic.

Words in Action. Fill in the blank with the appropriate word:

In the popular video game Minecraft, players can **(1)** _____ their own unique worlds

without any real-world limitations. This digital platform provides a **(2)** _____ range

of blocks and resources for players to use in their creations, stimulating their imagination and

creativity. One of the major **(3)** _____ of such unrestricted creative freedom is that it

can foster the development of problem-solving and spatial reasoning skills. These skills are

established by figuring out how to construct intricate structures or how to survive in the game's

survival mode. But there can be **(4)** _____ as well, for example, forgetting

real-world time while being too engrossed in the game. However, if players can balance their

time well, they can **(5)** _____ a hobby that is both fun and educational.

SECTION 2

6. Fundamental - ˌfʌndəˈmɛntəl

a. Sentence Example:

   In mathematics, understanding addition and subtraction is <u>fundamental</u> to learning more complex concepts like algebra and calculus.

b. Short Narrative:

   In music class, Mrs. Lee told the kids that keeping the beat was <u>fundamental</u>. Tommy, new to playing the recorder, struggled at first. But he practiced keeping the beat, understanding soon that this was <u>fundamental</u> to playing music well. Soon, he played in perfect time with the class, making beautiful music together.

c. Dialogue Example:

   Mia: "I can't seem to get my robot to balance properly."

   Eli: "Did you check the wheel alignment? Proper alignment is <u>fundamental</u> to maintaining balance."

   Mia: "Oh, I didn't realize that was so important. I'll adjust it now!"

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *fundamental* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

   1. Nouns
   2. Pronoun
   3. Verb
   4. Adjective
   5. Adverb

Now let's see what the definition and part of speech of **fundamental** are:

- Adjective
  Something very basic and important that something else is built on or needs to work properly.

- Synonym
  Basic, Essential, Core, Key
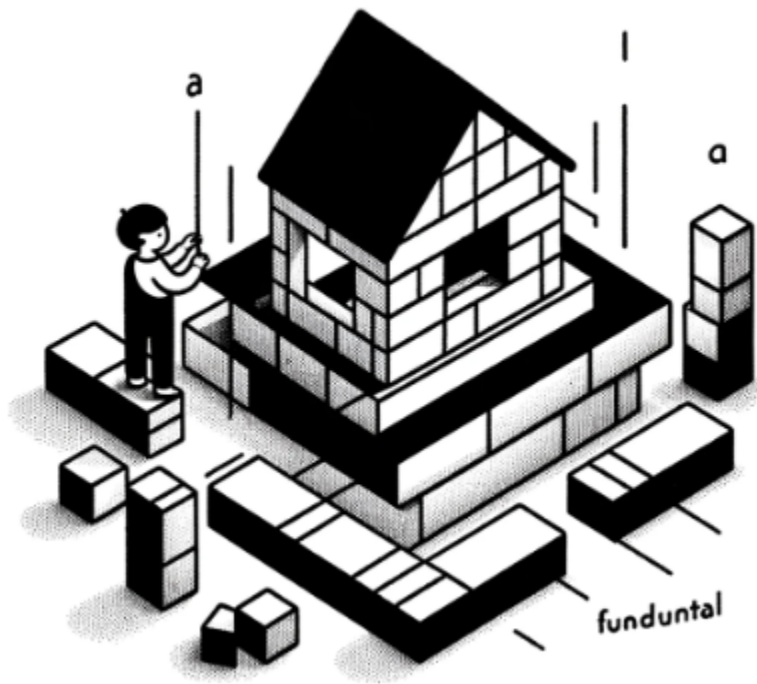
Setting a strong foundation is fundamental for building a house.

7. Generate - ˈʤɛnəˌreɪt

a. Sentence Example:

The wind turbines on the hill <u>generate</u> enough electricity to power the entire village.

b. Short Narrative:

During the science fair, Sarah presented her project on solar panels. She explained how these panels <u>generate</u> electricity from sunlight, making them a clean energy source. Her demonstration, using a small solar panel to light up a bulb, showed how sunlight could be converted into usable power.

c. Dialogue Example:

Alex: "Why do you have so many plants in your room?"
Jordan: "They help <u>generate</u> fresh oxygen, and they also make my room feel more lively!"
Alex: "That's cool! I didn't know plants could do that."

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *generate* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

1. Nouns
2. Pronoun
3. Verb
4. Adjective
5. Adverb

Now let's see what the definition and part of speech of **generate** are:

● Verb
To make or produce something

● Synonyms
Produce, Create, Formulate, Initiate

8. Highlight - ˈhaɪˌlaɪt

a. Sentence Example:

The tour guide used a bright flashlight to <u>highlight</u> the ancient paintings on the cave walls, making them stand out in the darkness.

b. Short Narrative:

In her art class, Emily decided to <u>highlight</u> the bright colors of the sunset in her painting. She used vibrant shades of orange and red to make the sky stand out, contrasting it against the dark silhouette of the city skyline. Her choice to <u>highlight</u> these colors brought her painting to life, earning praise from her teacher.

c. Dialogue Example:

Liam: "I'm not sure how to make my presentation more engaging."
Ava: "Why not highlight the key points with bold text or graphics? That way, your audience can easily see the most important information."
Liam: "Great idea! I'll add some bold headings and icons to <u>highlight</u> those parts."

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *highlight* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

1. Nouns
2. Pronoun
3. Verb
4. Adjective
5. Adverb

Now let's see what the definition and part of speech of **highlight** are:
● Verb
To make something stand out or to emphasize it

● Synonyms
Underline, Emphasize

9. Identity - aɪˈdɛntəti

a. Sentence Example:

Sarah's love for art and her passion for environmental activism form a big part of her <u>identity</u>.

b. Short Narrative:

At the multicultural festival, each booth showcased the unique <u>identity</u> of different countries. There were displays of traditional clothing, food, and music. Carlos, wearing his family's traditional attire, felt a strong connection to his roots and was proud to share the rich cultural **identity** of his heritage with his classmates.

c. Dialogue Example:

Emma: "I'm doing a project on family history. It's amazing how our ancestors shape our <u>identity</u>."
Liam: "That's true. My grandparents immigrated here with so many stories and traditions. Those stories are a big part of who I am today."

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *identity* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

1. Nouns
2. Pronoun
3. Verb
4. Adjective
5. Adverb

Now let's see what the definition and part of speech of **identity** are:

● Noun
Who a person is, including things like their name, personality, and the way they look.

● Synonyms
Individuality, Character

10. Justify - ˈʤʌstəˌfaɪ

a. Sentence Example:

Carla had to <u>justify</u> her decision to take a gap year by explaining how it would benefit her future career plans

b. Short Narrative:

During the team meeting, Mr. Smith <u>justified</u> the need for working overtime. He explained that completing the project by the deadline was critical for the company's success. He assured the team that their extra efforts would be rewarded and recognized.

c. Dialogue Example:

Leo: "Why are you studying so late every night?"
Maya: "I need to <u>justify</u> my scholarship. Maintaining high grades is required, and I can't afford to lose it. It's my ticket to graduating without debt."

● Based on the examples provided, what do you think *justify* means? Please write your definition and another example sentence.

● What about the part of speech? Please mark the applicable choice(s).

1. Nouns
2. Pronoun
3. Verb
4. Adjective
5. Adverb

Now let's see what the definition and part of speech of **justify** are:

● Verb
To give a good reason for doing something

● Synonyms
Defend, Validate, Rationalize, Vindicate

EXERCISE 2

Use your understanding of words 6-10 to answer the following questions. Read each question carefully and respond accurately based on your knowledge of the words' meanings and uses.

1. Fill in the Blank: He felt the need to _____ his decision to his parents.

2. Multiple Choice: What does "generate" mean?
     A. To criticize ideas
     B. To create or produce ideas
     C. To eliminate ideas

3. True or False: "Fundamental" refers to something that is peripheral and not very important.

4. Multiple Choice: Which of the following best defines "establish"?
     A. To question something
     B. To end something
     C. To start or create something

5. Fill in the Blank: The scientist aimed to _____ a new theory based on her research.

6. Multiple Choice: What does it mean to "highlight" something in a document?
     A. To delete it
     B. To make it stand out
     C. To ignore it

7. True or False: When you "highlight" something, you are making it less visible.

8. Multiple Choice: What does "identity" refer to?
     A. A constant change
     B. The qualities, beliefs, and characteristics that define a person or group
     C. A type of identification card

9. Fill in the Blank: Cultural festivals help people celebrate their _____.

10. Write your own sentence using 'justify'.

11. Multiple Choice: What does it mean to "justify" an action?
   A. To regret it
   B. To provide a rational basis for it
   C. To forget about it

12. True or False: "Generate" can refer to producing electricity.

13. Fill in the Blank: The tour guide _____ the historical importance of the building.

14. Multiple Choice: What does "fundamental" mean in the context of learning?
   A. Complex and detailed
   B. Basic and essential
   C. Unnecessary

15. **Fill in the Blank:** In mathematics, understanding addition and subtraction is

   _____ to learning more complex concepts like algebra and calculus.

16. True or False: "Establish" can mean to prove the validity of something.

17. True or False: "Identity" can relate to both individuals and groups.

18. Fill in the Blank: The new policy will _____ interest among the public.

19. Write your own sentence using 'fundamental'.

QUIZ 1

Use your understanding of words 1-10 to answer the following questions. Read each question carefully and respond accurately based on your knowledge of the words' meanings and uses.

1. Fill in the blank: Many people explore their cultural _____ to understand more about their ancestry.

2. Multiple Choice: Which of the following scenarios best illustrates the use of "benefit" as a verb?
    A. They benefited the concert last night.
    B. Regular exercise can benefit your health.
    C. She will benefit from her friend's advice.

3. Write a sentence: Use 'consequence' in a sentence showing the outcome of a decision.

4. Short Narrative: Write a brief story about someone deciding to abandon an old habit for a good reason.

5. Fill in the blank(s): Understanding the _____ principles of physics can help in solving complex problems.

6. True or False: Your identity includes only your name and nothing else.

7. Fill in the blank(s): Lawyers often need to _____ their client's actions during a trial.

8. Write a sentence: Use 'highlight' in a sentence about a presentation or report.

9. Multiple Choice: Which of these is considered fundamental in mathematics?
    A. Complex equations
    B. Basic arithmetic
    C. Optional theories

10. Fill in the blank: The new marketing campaign aimed to _____ interest among young adults.

11. True or False: "Diverse" is used to describe things that are all the same.

12. Write a sentence: Use 'justify' in a sentence where someone is explaining their actions.

13. True or False: "Benefit" can only be used as a noun and never as a verb.

14. Multiple Choice: Which sentence uses "consequence" correctly?
    A. She faced the consequences of her actions.
    B. He was very consequences about the rules.
    C. I can consequences it.

15. Write a sentence: Describe a diverse ecosystem in a single sentence.

16. True or False: "Establish" can mean to prove the truth of something.

ANSWER KEY

Ex1:

1. Benefits
2. True
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answer: Similar
5. b. The consequence of missing the bus was that he was late for school.
6. Establish
7. Answers will vary.
8. c. I have a benefit with my homework.
9. False
10. Abandon
11. Confirm
12. Answers will vary.
13. False
14. Diverse
15. Answers will vary.
16. a. I need to establish my skills in this game.
17. True
18. Consequence
19. Answers will vary.
20. c. The diverse at the event was fantastic.

    words in action

    1. Abandon
    2. Diverse
    3. Benefits
    4. Consequences
    5. Establish

Ex2:

1. justify
2. B. To create or produce ideas
3. False
4. C. To start or create something
5.   establish
6. B. To emphasize or make it stand out
7.   False

8. B. The qualities, beliefs, and characteristics that define a person or group
9. identity
10. Answer may vary
11. B. To provide a rational basis for it
12. True
13. highlighted
14. B. Basic and essential
15. fundamental
16. True
17. True
18. Generate
19. Answer may vary

QUIZ 1:

1. Identity
2. B. Regular exercise can benefit your health.
3. Answer may vary
4. Answer may vary
5. Fundamental
6. False
7. Justify
8. Answer may vary
9. B. Basic arithmetic
10. Generate
11. False
12. Answer may vary
13. False
14. A. She faced the consequences of her actions.
15. Answer may vary
16. True
17. Establish
18. Answer may vary
19. Abandon
20. Abandon, identity, justify

Ex 3:

1. **True** - "Numerous" refers to something in large quantities while "Few" refers to something in small quantities
2. **b) Reasonable** - A synonym for "Logical" is reasonable
3. **Objective** - "To ensure consistent progress and motivation throughout the semester, every student needs to have a clear objective they're working towards.
4. **Answers may vary**