

PTE Preparation Series

Vocabulary Mastery

Essential Words for PTE Academic Success



Designed for PTE Students

Comprehensive vocabulary practice with contextual
examples and usage patterns



openpte.com



1. Lament (verb)

- Definition: To express sorrow, regret, or unhappiness over something.
- Synonyms: mourn, grieve, bewail
- Antonyms: rejoice, celebrate, laud
- Example: The community gathered to lament the loss of their historic building.

2. Languish (verb)

- Definition: To suffer from being forced to remain in an unpleasant place or situation, or to grow weak or feeble.
- Synonyms: suffer, decline, wilt
- Antonyms: thrive, flourish, prosper
- Example: Without proper care, the plants began to languish.

3. Luminous (adjective)

- Definition: Emitting or reflecting light; shining brightly.
- Synonyms: radiant, glowing, brilliant
- Antonyms: dark, dull, dim
- Example: The luminous full moon cast long shadows across the path.

4. Lax (adjective)

- Definition: Not sufficiently strict, severe, or careful.
- Synonyms: careless, negligent, slack
- Antonyms: strict, rigorous, diligent
- Example: The company's lax security measures led to a data breach.

5. Legitimate (adjective)

- Definition: Conforming to the law or to rules; justifiable.
- Synonyms: valid, lawful, authentic
- Antonyms: illegal, illegitimate, unlawful
- Example: The student presented a legitimate excuse for her absence.

6. Lethargy (noun)

- Definition: A state of sluggishness, inactivity, and apathy.
- Synonyms: drowsiness, inertia, torpor
- Antonyms: vigor, energy, vitality
- Example: After the long flight, a feeling of lethargy overcame him.

7. Liable (adjective)

- Definition: Responsible by law; legally answerable.
- Synonyms: responsible, accountable, susceptible



- **Antonyms:** exempt, immune, irresponsible
- Example: The driver was found liable for the accident.

8. Liberate (verb)

- Definition: To set (someone or something) free from a situation, especially imprisonment or slavery.
- **Synonyms:** free, release, emancipate
- **Antonyms:** imprison, confine, enslave
- Example: The army fought to liberate the occupied territories.

9. Linger (verb)

- Definition: To stay in a place longer than necessary due to a reluctance to leave.
- **Synonyms:** remain, tarry, dally
- **Antonyms:** depart, leave, rush
- Example: The pleasant aroma of freshly baked bread continued to linger in the kitchen.

10. Livid (adjective)

- Definition: Furious; extremely angry.
- **Synonyms:** enraged, furious, irate
- **Antonyms:** calm, pleased, delighted
- Example: She was livid when she discovered her car had been scratched.

11. Lofty (adjective)

- Definition: Of imposing height; or grand and noble.
- **Synonyms:** tall, elevated, majestic
- **Antonyms:** low, humble, base
- Example: The university has a lofty goal of eradicating poverty through education.

12. Lucid (adjective)

- Definition: Expressed clearly; easy to understand.
- **Synonyms:** clear, coherent, intelligible
- **Antonyms:** vague, unclear, obscure
- Example: The professor's lucid explanation helped the students grasp the complex concept.

13. Ludicrous (adjective)

- Definition: So foolish, unreasonable, or out of place as to be amusing; ridiculous.
- **Synonyms:** ridiculous, absurd, preposterous
- **Antonyms:** sensible, logical, reasonable
- Example: The idea of building a bridge to the moon seemed utterly ludicrous.

14. Lure (verb)



- Definition: To entice (a person or animal) to do something or go somewhere, especially by offering some temptation.
- Synonyms: entice, attract, tempt
- Antonyms: repel, deter, dissuade
- Example: The promise of a higher salary might lure employees away from their current jobs.

15. Lush (adjective)

- Definition: (Of vegetation) growing luxuriantly and profusely.
- Synonyms: verdant, abundant, rich
- Antonyms: barren, sparse, arid
- Example: The tropical island was covered in lush, green foliage.

16. Luxurious (adjective)

- Definition: Extremely comfortable, elegant, or enjoyable, especially in a way that involves great expense.
- Synonyms: opulent, lavish, extravagant
- Antonyms: simple, austere, spartan
- Example: They stayed in a luxurious hotel suite during their vacation.

17. Lackadaisical (adjective)

- Definition: Lacking enthusiasm and determination; carelessly lazy.
- Synonyms: lazy, apathetic, half-hearted
- Antonyms: energetic, enthusiastic, diligent
- Example: His lackadaisical approach to his studies resulted in poor grades.

18. Lamentable (adjective)

- Definition: (Of circumstances or conditions) deplorably bad or unsatisfactory.
- Synonyms: regrettable, deplorable, pitiful
- Antonyms: praiseworthy, commendable, excellent
- Example: The company's financial situation was in a lamentable state.

19. Laudable (adjective)

- Definition: (Of an action, idea, or aim) deserving praise and commendation.
- Synonyms: praiseworthy, commendable, meritorious
- Antonyms: blameworthy, discreditable, reprehensible
- Example: His efforts to help the underprivileged were truly laudable.

20. Levity (noun)

- Definition: Humor or frivolity, especially the treatment of a serious matter with humor or in a manner lacking due respect.
- Synonyms: lightheartedness, flippancy, triviality



- **Antonyms:** seriousness, gravity, solemnity

- Example: The teacher admonished the students for their levity during the solemn ceremony.

21. Likely (adjective)

- Definition: Probable or expected.

- Synonyms: probable, possible, plausible

- **Antonyms:** unlikely, improbable, doubtful

- Example: It is likely to rain later this afternoon.

22. Limpid (adjective)

- Definition: (Especially of a liquid) free of anything that darkens; perfectly clear.

- Synonyms: clear, transparent, pellucid

- **Antonyms:** murky, opaque, turbid

- Example: The stream's limpid waters revealed the smooth stones below.

23. Literate (adjective)

- Definition: Able to read and write.

- Synonyms: educated, learned, knowledgeable

- **Antonyms:** illiterate, uneducated, ignorant

- Example: The goal of the program is to make every adult literate.

24. Longevity (noun)

- Definition: Long existence or service.

- Synonyms: endurance, durability, permanence

- **Antonyms:** brevity, transience, impermanence

- Example: The longevity of the ancient oak tree was remarkable, having stood for centuries.

25. Loquacious (adjective)

- Definition: Tending to talk a great deal; talkative.

- Synonyms: talkative, garrulous, voluble

- **Antonyms:** quiet, taciturn, reserved

- Example: The loquacious host kept the conversation flowing throughout the dinner party.

26. Lurid (adjective)

- Definition: Presented in vividly shocking or sensational terms; glaringly vivid or sensational.

- Synonyms: sensational, shocking, graphic

- **Antonyms:** mild, restrained, subtle

- Example: The newspaper published lurid details of the crime.

27. Lustrous (adjective)



- Definition: Having a soft sheen or glow.
- Synonyms: glossy, gleaming, radiant
- Antonyms: dull, matte, lackluster
- Example: The bride's hair had a beautiful lustrous shine.

28. Laconic (adjective)

- Definition: (Of a person, speech, or style of writing) using very few words.
- Synonyms: brief, concise, terse
- Antonyms: verbose, garrulous, loquacious
- Example: His laconic response left us guessing about his true feelings.

29. Labyrinth (noun)

- Definition: A complicated irregular network of passages or paths in which it is difficult to find one's way; a maze.
- Synonyms: maze, tangle, convolution
- Antonyms: order, simplicity, straightforwardness
- Example: The old house had a labyrinth of corridors and staircases.

30. Lag (verb)

- Definition: To fall behind in movement, progress, or development.
- Synonyms: delay, trail, fall back
- Antonyms: lead, advance, progress
- Example: The older computers began to lag behind the new software requirements.

31. Lascivious (adjective)

- Definition: (Of a person, manner, or gesture) feeling or revealing an overt and often offensive sexual desire.
- Synonyms: lustful, lewd, salacious
- Antonyms: chaste, modest, pure
- Example: The novel was criticized for its lascivious descriptions.

32. Lateral (adjective)

- Definition: Of, at, toward, or from the side or sides.
- Synonyms: sideways, flanking, peripheral
- Antonyms: central, vertical, axial
- Example: The company decided to make a lateral move by expanding into a similar market.

33. Laud (verb)

- Definition: To praise (a person or their achievements) highly, especially in a public context.
- Synonyms: praise, commend, extol
- Antonyms: criticize, condemn, disparage



- Example: The critics lauded the director's latest film as a masterpiece.

34. Leeway (noun)

- Definition: The amount of freedom to move or act that is available.
- Synonyms: flexibility, latitude, room
- Antonyms: restriction, limitation, constraint
- Example: The project deadline allows for some leeway in case of unexpected delays.

35. Lethal (adjective)

- Definition: Sufficient to cause death.
- Synonyms: deadly, fatal, mortal
- Antonyms: harmless, innocuous, non-lethal
- Example: The snake's venom was lethal.

36. Levy (verb)

- Definition: To impose (a tax, fee, or fine).
- Synonyms: impose, charge, collect
- Antonyms: remit, waive, exempt
- Example: The government decided to levy a new tax on luxury goods.

37. Lexicon (noun)

- Definition: The vocabulary of a person, language, or branch of knowledge.
- Synonyms: vocabulary, terminology, glossary
- Antonyms: ignorance, silence, unfamiliarity
- Example: The legal lexicon can be difficult for laypeople to understand.

38. Liberal (adjective)

- Definition: Open to new behavior or opinions and willing to discard traditional values.
- Synonyms: tolerant, progressive, broad-minded
- Antonyms: conservative, narrow-minded, rigid
- Example: She holds liberal views on social issues.

39. Licentious (adjective)

- Definition: Disregarding accepted rules or conventions, especially in sexual matters.
- Synonyms: immoral, promiscuous, dissolute
- Antonyms: moral, chaste, virtuous
- Example: His licentious behavior caused scandal in the conservative community.

40. Lineage (noun)

- Definition: Lineal descent from an ancestor; ancestry or pedigree.



- Synonyms: ancestry, descent, pedigree
- Antonyms: progeny, offspring, posterity
- Example: She traced her lineage back to European royalty.

41. Litigate (verb)

- Definition: To take (a claim or dispute) to a court of law.
- Synonyms: sue, prosecute, contend
- Antonyms: settle, arbitrate, conciliate
- Example: The companies decided to litigate the dispute over intellectual property rights.

42. Locale (noun)

- Definition: A place where something happens or is set, or that has particular events associated with it.
- Synonyms: place, setting, venue
- Antonyms: nowhere, cyberspace, generality
- Example: The film's remote locale added to its mysterious atmosphere.

43. Locution (noun)

- Definition: A word or phrase, especially a characteristic one.
- Synonyms: phrase, expression, idiom
- Antonyms: babble, stammer, silence
- Example: He used several old-fashioned locutions that were unfamiliar to the younger audience.

44. Loiter (verb)

- Definition: To stand or wait around idly or without apparent purpose.
- Synonyms: dawdle, linger, idle
- Antonyms: hurry, rush, hasten
- Example: Students were warned not to loiter in the hallways after class.

45. Longing (noun)

- Definition: A strong, yearning desire.
- Synonyms: yearning, craving, desire
- Antonyms: aversion, dislike, contentment
- Example: She felt a deep longing for her homeland.

46. Loathe (verb)

- Definition: To feel intense dislike or disgust for.
- Synonyms: detest, abhor, hate
- Antonyms: love, adore, cherish
- Example: He absolutely loathes public speaking.



47. Lubricant (noun)

- Definition: A substance, such as oil or grease, applied to an engine or component to minimize friction.
- Synonyms: grease, oil, emollient
- Antonyms: abrasive, grit, roughness
- Example: Regular application of lubricant is essential for maintaining machinery.

48. Lucrative (adjective)

- Definition: Producing a great deal of profit.
- Synonyms: profitable, remunerative, gainful
- Antonyms: unprofitable, unrewarding, losing
- Example: Investing in renewable energy has proven to be a very lucrative venture.

49. Lugubrious (adjective)

- Definition: Looking or sounding sad and dismal.
- Synonyms: mournful, melancholy, gloomy
- Antonyms: cheerful, joyful, buoyant
- Example: The funeral procession moved at a slow, lugubrious pace.

50. Lull (verb)

- Definition: To calm or send to sleep, typically with soothing sounds or movements.
- Synonyms: calm, soothe, quiet
- Antonyms: agitate, arouse, disturb
- Example: The gentle rocking of the boat lulled the baby to sleep.

51. Luminary (noun)

- Definition: A person who inspires or influences others, especially one prominent in a particular sphere.
- Synonyms: expert, master, celebrity
- Antonyms: novice, amateur, nonentity
- Example: She was considered a luminary in the field of astrophysics.

52. Lunge (verb)

- Definition: To make a sudden forward thrust with the body or a part of the body.
- Synonyms: thrust, dive, pounce
- Antonyms: retreat, withdraw, recoil
- Example: The boxer lunged forward with a powerful punch.

53. Luster (noun)

- Definition: A gentle sheen or soft glow.
- Synonyms: sheen, glow, radiance
- Antonyms: dullness, drabness, tarnish



- Example: The antique furniture retained its original luster.

54. Liability (noun)

- Definition: The state of being responsible for something, especially by law; or a disadvantage.
- Synonyms: responsibility, obligation, debt
- Antonyms: asset, advantage, immunity
- Example: His lack of experience was a definite liability to the team.

55. Lackluster (adjective)

- Definition: Lacking in vitality, force, or conviction; uninspired or uninspiring.
- Synonyms: dull, uninspired, mediocre
- Antonyms: brilliant, vibrant, exciting
- Example: The team delivered a lackluster performance in the final match.

56. Lacuna (noun)

- Definition: An unfilled space or interval; a gap.
- Synonyms: gap, void, omission
- Antonyms: fullness, completion, continuity
- Example: There was a significant lacuna in the historical record of that period.

57. Lagoon (noun)

- Definition: A stretch of salt water separated from the sea by a low sandbank or coral reef.
- Synonyms: cove, inlet, bay
- Antonyms: ocean, sea, open water
- Example: The calm waters of the lagoon were perfect for swimming.

58. Laissez-faire (noun)

- Definition: A policy or attitude of letting things take their own course, without interfering.
- Synonyms: non-intervention, free enterprise, hands-off
- Antonyms: intervention, control, regulation
- Example: The government's laissez-faire approach to the economy led to both booms and busts.

59. Lanky (adjective)

- Definition: (Of a person) ungracefully thin and tall.
- Synonyms: skinny, gaunt, slender
- Antonyms: stout, bulky, stocky
- Example: The lanky teenager struggled to fit into the small car.

60. Latent (adjective)

- Definition: (Of a quality or state) existing but not yet developed or manifest; hidden or concealed.



- Synonyms: hidden, dormant, potential
- Antonyms: apparent, manifest, active
- Example: The disease can remain latent for many years before symptoms appear.

61. Larceny (noun)

- Definition: Theft of personal property.
- Synonyms: theft, stealing, robbery
- Antonyms: restitution, return, honesty
- Example: He was arrested on charges of grand larceny for stealing a valuable painting.

62. Largess (noun)

- Definition: Generosity in bestowing money or gifts upon others.
- Synonyms: generosity, benevolence, philanthropy
- Antonyms: stinginess, parsimony, avarice
- Example: The charity depended on the largess of its wealthy benefactors.

63. Lash (verb)

- Definition: To strike (someone or something) with a whip or stick, or to move violently.
- Synonyms: whip, flog, strike
- Antonyms: caress, stroke, pat
- Example: The storm winds lashed against the windows all night.

64. Lassitude (noun)

- Definition: A state of physical or mental weariness; lack of energy.
- Synonyms: weariness, fatigue, lethargy
- Antonyms: vigor, energy, vitality
- Example: A feeling of lassitude settled over her after a day of intense work.

65. Latitude (noun)

- Definition: Scope for freedom of action or thought.
- Synonyms: freedom, leeway, scope
- Antonyms: restriction, limitation, constraint
- Example: The manager gave his team considerable latitude in how they approached the project.

66. Laureate (noun)

- Definition: A person who is honored with an award for outstanding achievement in a particular art or science.
- Synonyms: winner, honoree, prize-winner
- Antonyms: loser, failure, unknown
- Example: The Nobel laureate delivered a compelling speech at the ceremony.



67. Lavish (adjective)

- Definition: Sumptuously rich, elaborate, or luxurious.
- Synonyms: extravagant, opulent, profuse
- Antonyms: meager, sparse, economical
- Example: They hosted a lavish wedding reception with hundreds of guests.

68. Lease (verb)

- Definition: To grant (property) on lease; to let.
- Synonyms: rent, hire, charter
- Antonyms: own, buy, possess
- Example: They decided to lease a new office space for their expanding business.

69. Lectern (noun)

- Definition: A stand with a sloping top, at which a speaker may rest notes or books.
- Synonyms: podium, stand, desk
- Antonyms: seat, chair, floor
- Example: The speaker placed his notes on the lectern before beginning his address.

70. Legacy (noun)

- Definition: An amount of money or property left to someone in a will; or something handed down from an ancestor or predecessor.
- Synonyms: inheritance, bequest, heritage
- Antonyms: newness, current, acquisition
- Example: The architect left a lasting legacy of beautiful buildings in the city.

71. Legendary (adjective)

- Definition: Of, described in, or based on legends; very famous or notorious.
- Synonyms: mythical, fabled, famous
- Antonyms: actual, real, obscure
- Example: King Arthur is a legendary figure in British history.

72. Legislative (adjective)

- Definition: Having the power to make laws.
- Synonyms: law-making, statutory, parliamentary
- Antonyms: executive, judicial, administrative
- Example: The legislative branch of government is responsible for creating new laws.

73. Lend (verb)

- Definition: To grant to (someone) the use of (something) on the understanding that it will be returned.
- Synonyms: loan, advance, provide



- **Antonyms:** borrow, take, seize
- Example: Can you lend me your pen for a moment?

74. Lenient (adjective)

- Definition: (Of punishment or a person in authority) more merciful or tolerant than expected.
- **Synonyms:** merciful, tolerant, permissive
- **Antonyms:** strict, severe, harsh
- Example: The judge was lenient with the first-time offender.

75. Lesion (noun)

- Definition: A region in an organ or tissue which has suffered damage through injury or disease, such as a wound, ulcer, abscess, or tumor.
- **Synonyms:** wound, injury, damage
- **Antonyms:** healing, repair, intactness
- Example: Doctors performed a biopsy on the skin lesion.

76. Lessen (verb)

- Definition: To make (something) less intense, extensive, or severe.
- **Synonyms:** reduce, diminish, decrease
- **Antonyms:** increase, amplify, enhance
- Example: The new medication helped to lessen her pain.

77. Lethargic (adjective)

- Definition: Affected by lethargy; sluggish and apathetic.
- **Synonyms:** sluggish, listless, inactive
- **Antonyms:** energetic, active, vigorous
- Example: After the big meal, everyone felt a bit lethargic.

78. Levitate (verb)

- Definition: To rise and hover in the air, especially by means of supernatural or magical power.
- **Synonyms:** float, hover, soar
- **Antonyms:** sink, fall, descend
- Example: The magician appeared to levitate a table in front of the astonished audience.

79. Liberalize (verb)

- Definition: To make or become less strict.
- **Synonyms:** deregulate, loosen, relax
- **Antonyms:** restrict, tighten, control
- Example: The government decided to liberalize trade policies to boost the economy.

80. Licit (adjective)



- Definition: Not forbidden; lawful.
- Synonyms: lawful, permissible, legitimate
- Antonyms: illicit, unlawful, forbidden
- Example: The sale of these goods is licit within the country's borders.

81. Liege (noun)

- Definition: A feudal lord entitled to allegiance and service.
- Synonyms: lord, master, sovereign
- Antonyms: vassal, servant, subordinate
- Example: The knight swore fealty to his liege lord.

82. Lien (noun)

- Definition: A right to keep possession of property belonging to another person until a debt owed by that person is discharged.
- Synonyms: claim, charge, mortgage
- Antonyms: release, waiver, ownership
- Example: The bank placed a lien on his property until the loan was repaid.

83. Lifeline (noun)

- Definition: A thing on which someone or something depends for their survival or continued existence.
- Synonyms: support, link, connection
- Antonyms: hindrance, impediment, obstacle
- Example: The humanitarian aid served as a lifeline for the war-torn community.

84. Lighthearted (adjective)

- Definition: Cheerful and carefree.
- Synonyms: joyful, cheerful, sprightly
- Antonyms: serious, gloomy, morose
- Example: The play was a lighthearted comedy, full of laughter.

85. Limber (adjective)

- Definition: (Of a person or body part) lithe or supple.
- Synonyms: flexible, agile, supple
- Antonyms: stiff, rigid, inflexible
- Example: Dancers need to be very limber to perform complex movements.

86. Limited (adjective)

- Definition: Restricted in size, amount, or extent; few, small, or short.
- Synonyms: restricted, finite, narrow
- Antonyms: unlimited, boundless, extensive



- Example: The event had a limited number of tickets available.

87. Liniment (noun)

- Definition: A liquid or semiliquid preparation for rubbing on the body, to relieve pain or stiffness.
- Synonyms: balm, ointment, embrocation
- Antonyms: irritant, toxin, poison
- Example: She applied liniment to her sore muscles after the strenuous workout.

88. Liquefy (verb)

- Definition: To make or become liquid.
- Synonyms: melt, dissolve, fluidize
- Antonyms: solidify, freeze, congeal
- Example: The extreme heat caused the ice to liquefy rapidly.

89. Liquidate (verb)

- Definition: To wind up the affairs of (a company or firm) by ascertaining liabilities and apportioning assets.
- Synonyms: abolish, terminate, dissolve
- Antonyms: establish, found, initiate
- Example: The company decided to liquidate its assets to pay off its debts.

90. Litany (noun)

- Definition: A tedious recital or repetitive series.
- Synonyms: list, recitation, enumeration
- Antonyms: silence, brevity, uniqueness
- Example: The customer launched into a litany of complaints about the poor service.

91. Literary (adjective)

- Definition: Concerning the writing, study, or content of literature, especially of the kind valued for quality of form.
- Synonyms: scholarly, artistic, poetic
- Antonyms: illiterate, uneducated, unread
- Example: She has a strong interest in literary criticism.

92. Lithe (adjective)

- Definition: (Especially of a person's body) thin, supple, and graceful.
- Synonyms: agile, flexible, graceful
- Antonyms: clumsy, stiff, awkward
- Example: The gymnast performed with impressive lithe movements.

93. Litmus (noun)



- Definition: A coloring matter obtained from certain lichens, that is red in acid solutions and blue in alkaline solutions; often used metaphorically as a decisive test.
- Synonyms: indicator, gauge, benchmark
- Antonyms: obfuscator, misleading, ambiguity
- Example: His reaction to the proposal was a litmus test of his true intentions.

94. Littoral (adjective)

- Definition: Of or relating to the shore of the sea or of a lake.
- Synonyms: coastal, riparian, shore-based
- Antonyms: oceanic, inland, pelagic
- Example: The littoral zone is home to unique marine species.

95. Livelihood (noun)

- Definition: A means of securing the necessities of life.
- Synonyms: income, sustenance, living
- Antonyms: unemployment, destitution, poverty
- Example: Fishing was their primary source of livelihood.

96. Load (noun)

- Definition: A heavy or bulky thing that is being carried or is about to be carried.
- Synonyms: burden, cargo, weight
- Antonyms: unburden, lightness, ease
- Example: The truck carried a heavy load of timber.

97. Loan (noun)

- Definition: A thing that is borrowed, especially a sum of money that is expected to be paid back with interest.
- Synonyms: credit, advance, debt
- Antonyms: gift, donation, grant
- Example: She applied for a bank loan to buy a new car.

98. Loathsome (adjective)

- Definition: Causing hatred or disgust; repulsive.
- Synonyms: repulsive, disgusting, abhorrent
- Antonyms: delightful, appealing, attractive
- Example: The prisoner was held in loathsome conditions.

99. Lobby (verb)

- Definition: To seek to influence (a legislator or issue) on an issue.
- Synonyms: persuade, advocate, influence
- Antonyms: discourage, deter, obstruct



- Example: Environmental groups continued to lobby for stricter pollution controls.

100. Locomotion (noun)

- Definition: Movement or the ability to move from one place to another.
- Synonyms: movement, mobility, travel
- Antonyms: immobility, stillness, stagnation
- Example: The invention of the wheel greatly improved human locomotion.