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Words with Multiple Meanings

In Part 2 of the TOEIC test, you will sometimes hear words that have more than one meaning. You need to understand the context in order to choose the correct response.

Exercise 1

Match each sentence with the correct meaning of the word in bold.

close (verb)

1. Please close the door behind you when you come in.	a. end
2. Online registration for the conference will close on Friday the 29th.	b. shut

clear (adjective)

1. It was clear that we had to take action quickly to avoid a disaster.	a. obvious
2. The instructions for this new copy machine are not very clear .	b. easy to understand

duty (noun)

1. This company has a duty to all our employees and stockholders.	a. responsibility
2. The duty on imported raw materials will be lowered next month.	b. tax

free (adjective)

1. Parking is free for all customers using SportsWorld Leisure facilities.	a. not busy
2. I'm free all tomorrow afternoon if you want to schedule a meeting.	b. at no cost

raise (verb)

1. Most airlines tend to raise their prices during popular vacation periods.	a. mention
2. This is a serious issue that I will certainly raise at the next board meeting.	b. increase
make (verb)	
1. Everything we make in this factory is of the highest quality.	a. produce

point (noun)

1. I know we have to number each item, but I don't understand the point .	a. stage
2. We are not yet at the point where we can expand the business.	b. purpose

sign (noun)

1. Negotiations began a month ago, but there has been little sign of progress.	a. evidence
2. There was a sign on the door saying the company had gone out of business.	b. notice

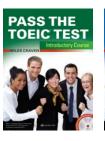
2. They can't **make** you work overtime if it's not what you want to do.

b. force

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Exercise 2

Match each sentence with the correct meaning of the verb in bold.

- 1. I don't **see** what point you're trying to make. a. meet
- 2. Please can I **see** all this month's invoices? b. experience
- 3. Who did you **see** you while you were in the factory? c. make sure
- 4. James will **see** that everything is ready for the president's arrival. d. understand
- 5. We expect to **see** strong growth in the third quarter e. look at

catch (verb)

- 1. Sorry, I didn't **catch** what you said. a. get a disease
- 2. Did they ever **catch** the person who stole the money? b. be in time for
- 3. It's too far to walk to the station, so let's **catch** a cab.
- 4. Please stay home if you are ill, so we don't all **catch** the flu. d. hear
- 5. Because of the delay we won't **catch** the beginning of the talk. e. take (transportation)

call (verb)

- 1. Please **call** me tomorrow morning to discuss this further.
- 2. When I call your name, please raise your hand.
- 3. The chairman has decided to **call** an emergency meeting.
- a. telephone
- b. organize
- c. say loudly

Answers

- **Exercise 1:** close 1. b, 2. a, clear 1. a, 2. b, duty 1. a, 2. b, free 1. b, 2. a raise 1. b, 2. a, make 1. a, 2. b, point 1. b, 2. a, sign 1. a, 2. b
- **Exercise 2:** see 1. d, 2. e, 3. a, 4. c, 5. b, catch 1. d, 2. c, 3. e, 4. a, 5. b, call 1. a, 2. c, 3. b

Expansion activity

Use your dictionary to find a verb with at least three different meanings. Write an example sentence for the three most common meanings.

(verb) Example sentence		Meaning
1	·	
2	·	
3	·	