

ExactListening.Org

16-20 Words

Note to Exact Listening Guides

For strings up to and including 15 words, use a newspaper or magazine, following the instructions in the Exact Listening manual. There are one hundred 20-word strings in this document. For 16 words, simply eliminate the last 4 words of the string. You may wish to cover them with something before you begin reading. When the Student is ready to go on to 17 words, continue down the list from where you left off, only now eliminate the last 3 words. And so on until the Student reaches 20-word strings and you eliminate no words. The strings are numbered for easy reference, but the numbers are not read to the Student.

If the Student has not graduated to 21 words by the time you reach the 100th string in this document, just start again with #1. Generally, we want to avoid repeating the same string so the Student does not rely on memorization by repetition. With a hundred strings, this problem is avoided, since there will be a considerable length of time between using a string one time and its repetition, if any.

When the Student is ready for 21 words, use <http://www.exactlistening.org/words/21-25.pdf>.

- 1 It's late, and all the grumpy business traveler wants to do is collapse into eight hours of uninterrupted sleep. Her
- 2 Two weeks ago, I was in Japan for a week, then I was in San Francisco for a day, and
- 3 People seeking to protect their privacy can complete a single Web form to keep major advertising companies from collecting data
- 4 If parents spend the first year of their child's life worrying about motor development, we devote the second to language
- 5 Fortunately, the vast majority of children learn language without a hitch, Eliot said. When you think of how difficult it
- 6 Who knew a stylebook could be so much fun? For lovers of language, *Lapsing Into a Comma* is a sensible
- 7 Photocopier maker Xerox Corp., under investigation by U.S. regulators for how it booked revenue from its Mexico operations, said on
- 8 Carpal tunnel syndrome is a major problem that starts out as simple discomfort from repeated movements, but can lead to

- 9 The Supreme Court ruled that a federal anti-discrimination law requires the disabled golfer be allowed to ride in a cart
- 10 The few who do succeed contribute truckloads of cash to industry coffers. Profits from blockbuster releases by such acts as
- 11 If you live in a city, you are probably already an extra in a real-life version of the all-seeing Big
- 12 Move over big brother and sister: Here's an event for crawlers, toddlers and droolers. The 12th annual Kids' Nature Festival
- 13 Toddlers can dig for dinosaurs, crawl through a mole tunnel, pat friendly reptiles and join in a sing-along concert. Exhibits
- 14 It's so simple: Type the name of the restaurant you'd like to review in the box above to go to
- 15 'Neon' means 'new' in Greek," she says, "and that just seems to be part of its character." Since 1981, more
- 16 I was almost never born. I almost never got to chase after a ray of light trying to catch it
- 17 It's been 28 years since a newfangled entertainment and art medium dubbed Laserium first called the Griffith Observatory home. Today,
- 18 In this light one thing is clear: We've been cooped up in the city way too long. Now is the
- 19 When the aliens come to enslave or enlighten us, they'll be listening to this warped Seattle band. Be forewarned. It
- 20 Think you don't know Cedric The Entertainer? A veteran comedian, he finally hit the big time thanks to his commercials for
- 21 More than 250 artists from across the nation will come together to display and sell decorative, functional and wearable art.
- 22 The choice of music was basic and to the point: an opening blues followed by a group of standards ranging
- 23 For more than a year now, listeners of several local public radio stations, along with listeners across the nation, have
- 24 Hassle-free business travel may be closer than you think. But for now, there are ways to deal with the stress
- 25 Experience medieval castles in France, attractions for kids in England and art and antiques in the Netherlands. If you look

- 26 Villas with butlers, lush new landscaping, and redecorated rooms are no small change for three San Diego area hotels where
- 27 My sister isn't an antique, at least not yet, as I like to tease her. But antiquing is her passion, and
- 28 After a weekend visit last month, I was a believer. The district—a five-block stretch of downtown—feels like a
- 29 The weekend began on a Friday afternoon with a drive from my home in L.A. County south toward San Diego
- 30 British Airways is introducing flat beds in business class on all flights between Los Angeles and London Heathrow, beginning spring
- 31 Geologists said Tuesday they've discovered evidence that a major earthquake hit what is now downtown Portland about 12,000 years ago
- 32 In 1900 Pasadena opened the first leg of an elevated bicycle highway designed to run to downtown Los Angeles. Although
- 33 It looked like a colorful place, so we stayed. The owner-operator, not smoking, served up a grilled cheese sandwich for
- 34 Real-world street gang turf wars have spread to cyberspace. The result has been a host of unexpected consequences for law
- 35 Among factors most of us will never have to deal with when landscaping our gardens: a cliff-side locale and millions
- 36 The concept of language errors is a fuzzy one. I'll leave to linguists the technical definitions. Here we're concerned only
- 37 Speakers of other languages tend to make some specific errors that are uncommon among native speakers, so you may also
- 38 Most speakers and writers of all races and classes want to use language in a way that will impress others.
- 39 The essay is an attempt to communicate information, opinion, or feeling, and usually it presents an argument about a topic.
- 40 If at times the essay form seems a little artificial, or removed from the kinds of writing you expect to
- 41 To make the significance of each paragraph clear, you must include a topic sentence. The topic sentence of this paragraph

- 42 Much is known about how to write help text, online documentation, and other technical writing, and a good deal of
- 43 The advice from these fields does transfer to writing for the Web. The main difference is that Web readers are
- 44 much less motivated than readers of online docs since they can't know whether the site is relevant to their goals
- 45 Chapter 2 of my book is about how to read a dictionary. You might think that's a waste of paper
- 46 I also tried to call the columnist, but it was late on a Friday night and I had to settle
- 47 What I was confronted with was a case of metaphor colliding with reality. "Plastic" has come to represent the credit
- 48 While all metaphors are untruths in a strict literal sense, those that jump out and scream "I am a lie!" should
- 49 experts will testify that there is no rule -- and never has been a rule -- against inserting a word between "to"
- 50 and the verb in an infinitive (as in to boldly go where no man has gone before). Somebody somewhere made
- 51 up this "rule" because infinitives were never split in Latin. Of course they weren't: In Latin, infinitives are single words.
- 52 review: Infinitives and other verb phrases should be written the way they sound best. When in doubt, leave it alone.
- 53 The price of being good – way, way above the rest – is high, often unreasonable expectations from viewers. In other words,
- 54 Poems rhyme some of the time; oftentimes they don't. But what distinguishes a poem from other herds of words is
- 55 Peek over the shoulders of archaeologists as they excavate a 4th century Egyptian monastery. Read about their weekly progress, learn
- 56 Become an online archaeologist and detective through this series of exercises in which you study objects carefully, use tools to
- 57 such as Anton Gaudi who wished that in the future, " I hope that all buildings will be soft and furry."
- 58 See how others have depicted houses and then practice this technique by learning how to draw your house in detail.

- 59 The seven ancient wonders of the world were considered to be exceptional achievements of architecture, engineering, technology and art. View
- 60 Meet architects and learn how architecture incorporates such elements as engineering, construction management, and design of both interiors and landscapes.
- 61 Swimming pools were invented almost 4500 years ago in 2500 B.C. Find out who invented such objects ranging from light
- 62 Marie Curie won two Nobel prizes: one in physics and the other in chemistry. Learn about the lives and achievements
- 63 Many primitive cultures used a four-day week, possibly in honor of the four directions. Central American peoples used a five
- 64 Pottery has been found in the remains of every ancient civilization. The oldest known piece of pottery was found in
- 65 What we know as plywood today was invented by Emmanuel Nobel, father of Alfred Nobel, the famous inventor of dynamite
- 66 Most scientists believe that the wheel was invented 5000 years ago. The oldest wheel known was discovered in Mesopotamia and
- 67 Toothpaste is one of those inventions, like the wheel and the calendar, that doesn't seem to have a definite inventor
- 68 Credit for building the first heated swimming pool goes to Maecenas of Rome in the first century BC. But most
- 69 Paper was named after “papyrus,” a reed that the ancient Egyptians used to make material to write on. The Egyptians
- 70 Modern paper, and the papermaking process, was invented in China around 105 AD. It was discovered that good papermaking fibers
- 71 could be obtained by pounding rags. Early Chinese paper was too rough to write on, so it was used for
- 72 wrapping and wearing as clothes. The art of papermaking stayed in China’s until 610 when it was introduced to Japan.
- 73 Paper reached Central Asia by 751 and the Middle East by 793. It was brought to Europe by the Moors, and
- 74 in 1150 the first papermaking mill was established in Spain. By the 14th century there were paper mills in many areas

- 75 Europe. When the printing press was invented there was more need for paper, and people were running out of rags.
- 76 So, at the beginning of the 19th century, wood and some vegetable pulps began to replace rags as the main
- 77 For a long time horses and ponies were ridden bareback or with simple cloths or blankets slung over their backs.
- 78 It wasn't until the 3rd century that the leather saddle was developed. This greatly improved the riding of horses
- 79 especially in battle. The Sarmatians were well known for their horsemanship and use of horses in warfare. They are credited
- 80 with the development of the saddle, the metal stirrup and the spur. The Sarmatians were a nomadic tribe who enjoyed
- 81 hunting and ranching. They worshipped a god of fire, and often sacrificed horses to him. The female Sarmatians may have
- 82 been the inspiration for the Greek tales of Amazons, and they were known to ride into battle along with their
- 83 male counterparts. The Goths at the close of the 3rd century toppled their rule over what is now southern Russia.
- 84 Camel saddles and elephant saddles were developed in Asia and Africa at about the same time as the horse saddle
- 85 "Specs" or eyeglasses took a long time to evolve into the "One-Hour" lenses found today. The Chinese first used colored glasses
- 86 as a fashion accessory that supposedly gave magical powers but didn't improve sight. Roger Bacon, a medieval inventor, discovered the
- 87 magnifying properties of lenses in 1262, arguing that glasses could be used to help you see. Twenty years later in
- 88 Florence, Italy, inventor Alessandro di Spina made the first pair of working, fashionable glasses. While these glasses worked, scientists didn't
- 89 understand how the glasses helped the eye to see. They thought that the eye sent out light that reflected like
- 90 a mirror on whatever a person was looking at; then the light came back to the eye and people could see

- 91 In 1604, Johannes Kepler figured out how glasses work. He named the parts of the eye and described how the
- 92 eye actually focuses with the help of lenses. Inventors continued to improve on glasses (and still do today, in the
- 93 fields of optometry and optics). In 1784 Ben Franklin created the bifocals that sit on his face in his famous
- 94 portraits. In 1827 George Airy made circle-shaped glasses to correct astigmatism (an eye defect that makes things look blurry). These
- 95 The human hand is certainly our oldest counting tool. But hands are limited calculators, since they only have ten fingers.
- 96 In order to quickly count to 10, ancient number-lovers came up with a counting board with grooves in it, where
- 97 pebbles were placed. Just sliding the pebbles along the grooves from one side of the board to the other made
- 98 counting much easier, and freed one hand to do other work. The Salamis tablet is the oldest known counting board.
- 99 It was used by the Babylonians over 2,000 years ago, around 300 B.C. It was discovered in 1899 on the
- 100 island of Salamis. The first real abacus evolved in 1200 A.D. in China. It was made of wood and had