

9. (A) She doesn't like the place he chose.  
 (B) She doesn't want to get into the car.  
 (C) She's glad the spot is reserved.  
 (D) They can't park the car there.
10. (A) There's plenty to eat.  
 (B) The refrigerator's broken.  
 (C) The food isn't in the refrigerator.  
 (D) He's not sure if there's enough.

## SKILL 2: CHOOSE ANSWERS WITH SYNONYMS

Often the correct answer in a short dialogue is an answer that contains synonyms (words with similar meanings but different sounds) for key words in the conversation.

### Example from the Paper and Computer TOEFL® Tests

On the recording, you hear:

- (woman) *Why is Barbara feeling so happy?*  
 (man) *She just started working in a real estate agency.*  
 (narrator) *What does the man say about Barbara?*

In your test book or on the computer screen, you read:

- (A) She always liked her work in real estate.  
 (B) She began a new job.  
 (C) She just bought some real estate.  
 (D) She bought a real estate agency.

In this dialogue, the key word *started* means *began*, and the key word *working* refers to *job*. The best answer to this question is therefore answer (B).

The following chart outlines a very important strategy for short dialogues:

### STRATEGY #2: CHOOSE ANSWERS WITH SYNONYMS

1. As you listen to the last line of the dialogue, focus on key words in that line.
2. If you see any synonyms for key words in a particular answer, then you have probably found the correct answer.

**EXERCISE 2:** In this exercise, underline key words in the last line of each short dialogue. Then underline synonyms for these key words in the answers, and choose the best answer to each question. Remember that the best answer is probably the answer that contains synonyms for the key words in the last line of the dialogue.

1. (woman) *Did you see the manager about the job in the bookstore?*  
 (man) *Yes, and I also had to fill out an application.*  
 (narrator) *What does the man mean?*
- (A) He got a job as bookstore manager.  
 (B) The bookstore was not accepting applications.  
 (C) He saw a book about how to apply for jobs.  
 (D) It was necessary to complete a form.

2. (man) *We're planning to leave for the trip at about 2:00.*  
 (woman) *Couldn't we leave before noon?*  
 (narrator) *What does the woman ask?*
- (A) If they could leave at noon  
 (B) If it is possible to go by 12:00  
 (C) Why they can't leave at noon  
 (D) If they could leave the room
3. (man) *Was the concert well-received?*  
 (woman) *The audience applauded for a long time after the performance.*  
 (narrator) *What does the woman say about the concert?*
- (A) The performance went on for a long time.  
 (B) There was applause throughout the performance.  
 (C) The people clapped on and on after the concert.  
 (D) The audience waited for a long time for the concert to begin.

**TOEFL EXERCISE 2:** In this exercise, listen carefully to each short dialogue and question on the recording, and then choose the best answer to the question. You should look for synonyms for key words in the last line.



NOW BEGIN THE RECORDING AT TOEFL EXERCISE 2.

1. (A) The final exam was harder than the others.  
 (B) There were two exams rather than one.  
 (C) He thought the exam would be easier.  
 (D) The exam was not very difficult.
2. (A) He's not feeling very well.  
 (B) He's rather sick of working.  
 (C) He's feeling better today than yesterday.  
 (D) He'd really rather not answer the question.
3. (A) The company was founded about a year ago.  
 (B) It was just established that he could go into business.  
 (C) The family is well-established.  
 (D) The business only lasted a year.
4. (A) He did not look at the right schedule.  
 (B) The plane landed in the right place.  
 (C) The plane arrived on time.  
 (D) He had to wait for the plane to land.
5. (A) She'd rather go running.  
 (B) She doesn't want to go into the pool.  
 (C) She'll change clothes quickly and go swimming.  
 (D) She needs a sweatsuit to go running.
6. (A) The firefighters saved the homes for last.  
 (B) A firefighter saved the hillside last night.  
 (C) The homes on the hillside were burned.  
 (D) The houses weren't destroyed.
7. (A) There's enough soup.  
 (B) The spices are adequate.  
 (C) She thinks the soup's too salty.  
 (D) The man should add more salt and pepper.
8. (A) He was lucky to receive a grant for his studies.  
 (B) He used his fortune to pay his fees.  
 (C) He is a scholar at a college with low fees.  
 (D) He paid to get a scholarship.
9. (A) It profited from previous mistakes.  
 (B) It earned a lot of money.  
 (C) This was the last year that it would make a profit.  
 (D) It was not so successful.
10. (A) Chuck's bank account has too much money in it.  
 (B) He thinks Chuck has the wrong kind of bank account.  
 (C) He thinks that Chuck is on his way home from the bank.  
 (D) There isn't enough money in Chuck's account.