

## Homework for TOEFL PREP Lesson 4

### Read the passage and look up any words you don't know.

The migration from Asia to North America across the Bering Strait (perhaps by land bridge) was a monumental event in human history. The process of overspreading the Americas took more than 1,000 years, or 30 generations. This might seem to confirm common sense--that slow travel was inherent in any great migration without wheeled vehicles across unknown terrain. Further thought shows that this process was remarkably fast--about 10 north-south miles per year, on average. The Americas were populated at an astounding pace, when one considers the physical limits of the human body and the physical features of the American continents. Legs of human can move only so fast under the best of circumstances, and they work even slower over mountain passes or deserts. Populations spread through the diverse regions of the Americas (grasslands, eastern forests, coastal swamps) and needed to adapt to their new environments. The migrants' lifestyle had evolved over the years to that of professional nomads ensuring that they would find the resources needed to survive.

1. Which sentence best expresses the essential information in this passage?  
a-Human migration across the Bering Strait was remarkably slow.  
b-Physical limitations made migration across the Bering Strait almost impossible.  
c-Humans readily adapted to life in the Bering Strait.  
d-The migration through the Americas was surprisingly fast.
2. In this passage, the word monumental is closest in meaning to  
a-disastrous  
b-evolving  
c-important  
d-physical

### Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word in the left-hand column

- |              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 1. physical  | a-not an integral part |
| 2. migration | b-stay the same        |
| 3. adapt     | c-die                  |
| 4. inherent  | d-staying in one place |
| 5. survive   | 4-mental               |

### Choose the word from the list that is closest in meaning to the underlined words in each sentence.

diverse      evolved      generation      process      survive

1. Various languages are spoken on the Indian subcontinent.
2. Making bread involves a sequence of steps that takes about three hours.
3. Few sea turtles manage to live through their first year of life.
4. This age group tends to support current educational policies.
5. Her thinking about economics has changed slowly in the last several months.