Time

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

ADVANCED | C1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each advanced temporal concept with its meaning.

1 temporality	____	a delay between a cause and its visible effect
2 diachronic analysis	____	b interpretation of time and temporal experience
3 synchronic analysis	____	c regular recurrence at measurable intervals
4 temporal horizon	____	d study of a phenomenon at one particular time
5 path dependence	____	e inappropriate placement of something in another era
6 periodicity	____	f effect of past choices on later possibilities
7 latency	____	g period between a stimulus and a response
8 temporal lag	____	h study of change across time
9 anachronism	____	i future period considered when making decisions
10 temporal compression	____	j experience or representation of many events in reduced time

2 Complete the advanced temporal collocations.

compression | dependence | horizon | lag | latency | periodicity | sequence | trajectory

1 a temporal _____

2 path _____

3 a developmental _____

4 a predictable _____

5 a prolonged _____ period

6 a significant time _____

7 temporal _____ in narration

8 show regular _____

3 Choose the concept that best captures the distinction.

1 Change is studied across several centuries: *diachronic / synchronic analysis*.

2 Different groups are compared in one year: *synchronic / diachronic analysis*.

3 Earlier choices constrain later options: *path dependence / periodicity*.

4 An effect appears years after its cause: *temporal lag / compression*.

5 A modern object appears in a medieval scene: *anachronism / temporality*.

6 A film condenses decades into minutes: *temporal compression / latency*.

Time

4 Complete the temporal analysis with terms from the box.

anachronism | diachronic analysis | latency | path dependence | periodicity | synchronic analysis | temporal compression | temporal horizon | temporal lag | temporality

A **1** _____ compares change across periods, whereas a **2** _____ examines variation at one time. Decisions are shaped by their **3** _____: earlier choices narrow later options. Planning also depends on the chosen **4** _____. Some processes show regular **5** _____. Others involve **6** _____ before a response begins or a longer **7** _____ before effects become visible. Narratives may use **8** _____ to condense decades. An **9** _____ places something in the wrong era, while **10** _____ concerns how time itself is experienced and represented.

5 Read the text and answer the questions concisely.

Short-term decisions and long-term effects
Institutions often favour outcomes that can be measured within election cycles, financial years or project deadlines. Benefits that emerge decades later may receive less attention, while delayed costs can remain politically invisible. This mismatch of temporal horizons complicates decisions about infrastructure, education and environmental risk. Extending the time frame can reveal cumulative effects, but distant projections also become more uncertain. Responsible planning must therefore balance long-term consequences against the limits of prediction.

1 Which time frames often shape institutional choices? _____

2 Why may long-term benefits receive less attention? _____

3 What can happen to delayed costs? _____

4 Which policy areas are mentioned? _____

5 What can a longer time frame reveal? _____

6 What balance does responsible planning require? _____

6 Paraphrase using the expression in capitals.

1 Past choices restricted later possibilities. **DEPENDENCE** _

2 The effect became visible only years later. **LAG** _____

3 The study traced change across time. **DIACHRONIC** _____

4 The novel condensed a century into one chapter. **COMPRESSION** _

OVER TO YOU

Write a **160-190 word** discussion of how the chosen time frame changes the interpretation of an issue. Address sequence, delay, uncertainty and long-term effects.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms or collocations. [ ] Distinguish analytical time scales. [ ] Evaluate projections cautiously.

ANSWER KEY

1 Advanced temporal concepts

1 **b** 2 **h** 3 **d** 4 **i** 5 **f** 6 **c** 7 **g** 8 **a** 9 **e** 10 **j**

2 Advanced temporal collocations

1 **horizon** 2 **dependence** 3 **trajectory** 4 **sequence** 5 **latency** 6 **lag** 7 **compression** 8 **periodicity**

3 Conceptual distinctions

1 **diachronic analysis** 2 **synchronic analysis** 3 **path dependence**
4 **temporal lag** 5 **anachronism** 6 **temporal compression**

4 Temporal analysis

1 **diachronic analysis** 2 **synchronic analysis** 3 **path dependence** 4 **temporal horizon** 5 **periodicity**
6 **latency** 7 **temporal lag** 8 **temporal compression** 9 **anachronism** 10 **temporality**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Election cycles, financial years and deadlines. 2 They emerge much later. 3 They remain politically invisible.
4 Infrastructure, education and environmental risk. 5 Cumulative effects. 6 Long-term consequences and predictive limits.

6 Paraphrasing - possible answers

1 This shows path **dependence**. 2 There was a temporal **lag**. 3 It was a **diachronic** analysis. 4 The novel used temporal **compression**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check temporal scale, causal delay, uncertainty and analytical precision.