BARRON’S

1100 WORDS You Need to Know

MURRAY BROMBERG AND MELVIN GORDON
SEVENTH EDITION

A BEST SELLER FOR OVER 50 YEARS!
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INTRODUCTION

The study of the English language has spread all over the world, and high school and college students everywhere have come to realize that language mastery depends on the possession of a comprehensive vocabulary. This is just what *1100 Words You Need to Know* has been offering through the six earlier editions and continuing on this seventh one.

We are proud that Amazon.com has rated this book as a bestseller in its category. In addition to the various exercises that help readers learn challenging vocabulary, take a look at the section called “The Lighter Touch 100,” which shows that vocabulary can be taught with a sense of humor. By investing a mere 15 minutes a day with this new book, you will soon see a dramatic improvement in your vocabulary.

Special thanks to Ellis Bromberg and Kyra Bromberg for their assistance in editing the Seventh Edition of *1100 Words You Need to Know*.

Murray Bromberg
Melvin Gordon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>apple, bat</td>
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<td>ā</td>
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<td>up, month</td>
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<td>z</td>
<td>zoo, buzz</td>
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<tr>
<td>zh</td>
<td>genre, pleasure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- denotes separate syllables

' denotes that the following syllable is the stressed syllable

(y) parentheses denote an optional sound in pronunciation
READING WISELY

The youngster who reads voraciously, though indiscriminately, does not necessarily gain in wisdom over the teenager who is more selective in his reading choices. A student who has read the life story of every eminent athlete of the twentieth century, or one who has steeped herself in every social-protest novel she can get her hands on, may very well be learning all there is to know in a narrow area. But books are replete with so many wonders that it is often discouraging to see bright young people limit their own experiences.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>voracious</td>
<td>/vərəˈʃəʊs/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>indiscriminate</td>
<td>/ɪnˈdɪskrɪmɪnət/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eminent</td>
<td>/ˈeɪmənt/</td>
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<tr>
<td>steeped</td>
<td>/ˈstɛpt/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>replete</td>
<td>/riˈplɛt/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** On the basis of the above paragraph, try to use your new words in the following sentences. Occasionally it may be necessary to change the ending of a word; e.g., indiscriminate to indiscriminately.

1. The football game was ________________ with excitement and great plays.
2. The ________________ author received the Nobel Prize for literature.
3. My cousin is so ________________ in schoolwork that his friends call him a bookworm.
4. After skiing, I find that I have a ________________ appetite.
5. Modern warfare often results in the ________________ killing of combatants and innocent civilians alike.

Definitions Now that you have seen and used the new words in sentences, and have the definitions “on the tip of your tongue,” try to pair the words with their meanings.

6. voracious _____ a. of high reputation, outstanding
7. indiscriminate_____ b. completely filled or supplied with
8. eminent _____ c. choosing at random without careful selection
9. steeped _____ d. desiring or consuming great quantities
10. replete _____ e. soaked, drenched, saturated

Today's Idiom

eat humble pie—to admit your error and apologize

After his candidate had lost the election, the boastful campaign manager had to eat humble pie.
SOLVING THE SERVANT PROBLEM

The worlds of science fiction abound with wonders. Yet modern technology progresses so rapidly that what is today’s wild dream may be next year’s kitchen appliance. A British scientist has prognosticated that within ten years every suburban abode will have its own robot servant. One task this domesticated automaton will not have to contend with will be scouring the oven because even today the newest ranges can be programmed to reduce their own baked-on grime to easily disposed of ash.

New Words

abound
ə - ˈbound

technology
tek - ˈno - lə - jē

prognosticate
prog - ˈno - stə - kāt

abode
ə - bōd

automaton
ə - ˈto - mə - ton

Sample Sentences Now that you’ve seen the words used in context, and—hopefully—have an idea of their meanings, try to use them in the following sentences. Remember that a word-ending may have to be changed.

1. The mayor refused to ______________ as to his margin of victory in the election.
2. The time is approaching when human workers may be replaced by ______________.
3. Mel’s new two-bedroom ______________ overlooks a lake where many birds nest.
4. The western plains used to ______________ with bison before those animals were
slaughtered by settlers.

5. Man may be freed from backbreaking labor by the products of scientific ________________.

Definitions Test yourself now by matching the new words with the definitions. If you are not sure of yourself, cover the top half of this page before you begin.

6. abound _____ a. a place where one lives
7. technology _____ b. branch of knowledge dealing with engineering, applied science, etc.
8. prognosticate_____ c. a robot; a mechanical “person”
9. abode _____ d. to exist in great numbers
10. automaton _____ e. to predict or foretell a future event

TODAY'S IDIOM

*a pig in a poke*—an item you purchase without having seen; a disappointment

The mail order bicycle that my nephew bought turned out to be a pig in a poke, and he is now trying to get his money back.
A LUCKY FIND ON THE SUBWAY?

Sylvia regularly took a crowded subway train to work during rush hour, so she found it to be a paradox one hot, steamy Tuesday to easily find a seat in a car that was nearly empty. She wondered how, in the realm of possibilities, this could be; how often in the annals of subway history had there been such a fortunate occurrence? To compound the puzzle, looking out the window she could see many commuters busily racing on the platform to fill other cars. It was not until she saw the sign on the door that she realized, with a tinge of resignation, why she had been so “lucky” this morning: “We apologize, but the air conditioning is not working in this car.”

NEW WORDS

paradox
'pa - rə - doks

realm
'relm

annals
'a - nəlz

compound (v.)
kəm - 'pound

tinge (n.)
'tinj

Sample Sentences Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. His gloom was now ________________ by the failing mark on his geometry test.
2. The ________________ of sports are filled with great athletes of color.
3. One of the great ________________ of American life is that though minority groups have suffered injustices, nowhere in the world have so many varied groups lived together so harmoniously.
4. A ________________ of garlic is all that’s necessary in most recipes.

5. The cruel king would not allow the prince to enter his ________________, restricting him to the forest, which abounded* with wild animals.

(*abounded—studied previously, see page 2. Each review word studied previously will be followed by an asterisk—you will find the first use of the word by consulting the index at the back of the book.)

Definitions If you are having trouble in picking the right definitions, it may be best not to do them in the order given, but to do the ones you are surest of first.

6. paradox _____ a. a trace, smattering, or slight degree

7. realm _____ b. a statement that at first seems to be absurd or self-contradictory but which may in fact turn out to be true

8. annals _____ c. to increase or add to

9. compound____ d. historical records (v.)

10. tinge (n.) ____ e. special field of something or someone; kingdom

TODAY’S IDIOM

*a flash in the pan*—promising at the start, but then disappointing

The rookie hit many home runs in spring training, but once the season began he proved to be a flash in the pan.
HOW NOT TO GET YOUR WAY

It is difficult to change someone’s opinion by badgering him. The child who begs his mother to “get off his back” when she implores him for some assistance with the household drudgery, may very well plead interminably for some special privilege when he wants something for himself. How paradoxical* that neither is able to perceive that no one likes being nagged.

Sample Sentences Getting the hang of it? Now go on to use the five new words in the following sentences—remember, past tenses may be required.

1. She does her homework on Fridays to save herself from the ________________ of having to do it during the weekend.
2. The teacher continually ________________ the pupil for the missing assignments.
3. The eminent* scientist ________________ difficulties in putting the invention into practice.
4. The sick child’s mother ________________ the doctor to come immediately.
5. I listened to the boring lecture for what seemed an ________________ fifty minutes.
Definitions  Pick the letter of the definition that matches your new word and write it in the answer space.

6. badger (v.) ______ a. unpleasant, dull, or hard work
7. implore ______ b. unending
8. drudgery ______ c. to plead urgently for aid or mercy
9. interminable____ d. to understand, know, become aware of
10. perceive _____ e. to pester, nag, annoy persistently

TODAY'SIDIOM

*get one’s ducks in a row*—to have everything organized, have one’s facts straight

Alexandra spent a good hour before her presentation to the group being sure to get her ducks in a row.
You have accomplished something worthwhile this week. In learning twenty useful words and four idioms, you have taken a step toward a greater mastery of the English language. As a result of today’s lesson, you will become aware of those words that require greater study on your part for complete success in these first lessons.

Take the following quiz by matching the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ 1. abode</td>
<td>a. to be completely soaked in something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 2. abound</td>
<td>b. to be able to tell what will happen in the future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 3. annals</td>
<td>c. someone’s special field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 4. automaton</td>
<td>d. to continually nag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 5. badger (v.)</td>
<td>e. carelessly chosen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 6. compound (v.)</td>
<td>f. related to science of engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 7. drudgery</td>
<td>g. to add to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 8. eminent</td>
<td>h. to beg for assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 9. implore</td>
<td>i. of outstanding reputation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 10. indiscriminate</td>
<td>j. a home or dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 11. interminable</td>
<td>k. small amount of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 12. paradox</td>
<td>l. dull, difficult work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 13. perceive</td>
<td>m. desiring huge amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 14. prognosticate</td>
<td>n. existing in great number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 15. realm</td>
<td>o. historical records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 16. replete</td>
<td>p. to come to have an understanding of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 17. steeped</td>
<td>q. completely filled with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 18. technology</td>
<td>r. machine that behaves like a person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 19. tinge (n.)</td>
<td>s. seemingly self-contradictory situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 20. voracious</td>
<td>t. unending</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ 21. eat humble pie</td>
<td>u. blind item, poor purchase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 22. a pig in a poke</td>
<td>v. to admit to defeat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 23. a flash in the pan</td>
<td>w. a star today, a flop tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 24. get one’s ducks in a row</td>
<td>x. to get organized</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed. You can learn them successfully by studying them and by using them in your own original sentences. If you put in the effort to build your vocabulary, it will be worth your while.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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SENSIBLE SENTENCES?
(From Week 1)

¶ Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The huge football player had a (voracious, replete) appetite.
2. After a seemingly (interminable, indiscriminate) wait, the surgeon came to give us the news.
3. Without a (paradox, tinge) of evidence, the coroner could not solve the murder.
4. As the proverb goes, “in the (realm, annals) of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.”
5. We invited the (eminent, steeped) engineer to address our club.
6. In the Catskill Mountains, the woods (abound, implore) with deer.
7. I cannot (perceive, prognosticate) why people voted for the corrupt senator.
8. Night and day my kid brother (badgers, compounds) me for money.
10. With his expertise in (drudgery, technology), my uncle is able to earn a good salary.

¶ Do these sentences make sense? Explain why.

11. The rookie was amazing during spring training but he turned out to be a flash in the pan.
12. I complained to the salesperson because he had sold me a pig in a poke.
13. After we got our ducks in a row, our vacation plans went smoothly.
14. After the election, when my candidate conceded his loss, I had to eat humble pie.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Reggie the Con Man**

In the \(1\)___________ of crime, there are few scoundrels who could match the exploits of Reggie Hayes, who also used the names of Reginald Haven, Ricardo Hermosa, Father Harris, and dozens of other aliases. Reggie’s police record, principally in Chicago and Baltimore, is \(2\)___________ with scams that he perpetrated upon gullible people.

Dressed as a priest (“Father Harris”), and using no sophisticated \(3\)___________, he was most convincing, however. His method of operation was to “find” a wallet stuffed with hundred dollar bills outside a supermarket and then urgently \(4\)___________ an unsuspecting woman to share his good fortune, since there was no identification in the wallet. But first, to establish her credibility, his victim had to put up a sum of money as a testimonial to her good faith. Mrs. Emma Schultz, age 72, tearfully told the police that she had withdrawn $14,000 from her bank and placed it in a shopping bag supplied by the helpful priest. He told her to hold onto the bag while he went next door to a lawyer’s office to make the sharing of their good fortune legal.

After a seemingly \(5\)___________ wait, Mrs. Schultz discovered to her chagrin that the heartless thief had skipped out the back way, leaving her “holding the bag”—a switched bag containing shredded newspaper—while he made his getaway with her life savings.

**Clues**

1. 3rd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 4th Day
5. 4th Day
TO THE POINT

Calvin Coolidge, our thirtieth president, was named “Silent Cal” by reporters because of his laconic speech. One Sunday, after Mr. Coolidge had listened to an interminable* sermon, a throng of newsmen gathered around him. An intrepid reporter accosted the Chief Executive: “Mr. President, we know that the sermon was on the topic of sin. What did the minister say?” “He was against it,” the reticent Coolidge replied.

NEW WORDS

laconic
lə-ˈko-nik

throng
ˈthrɒŋ

intrepid
in-ˈtre-pid

accost
ə-ˈkost

reticent
ˈre-tə-sənt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. His speech was usually rambling, but this time I found it brief and ________________ .
2. If a surly panhandler should ________________ you, keep on walking.
3. Even under repeated questioning, the witness remained ________________ .
4. A howling ________________ of teenage girls surrounded the pop stars.
5. The corporal received the Silver Star for his ________________ deeds in combat.
Definitions Match the new words with their dictionary meanings.

6. laconic _____ a. expressing much in few words
7. throng _____ b. brave
8. intrepid _____ c. to approach and speak to
9. accost _____ d. to crowd
10. reticent _____ e. inclined to be reserved

Today's Idiom

sword of Damocles (´da - mə - klēz)—any imminent danger
(a king seated one of his subjects underneath a sword that was hanging by a hair, in order to teach him the dangers a king faces)

Although the president of the company seemed quite secure, he always believed that there was a sword of Damocles hanging over his head.
IF I HAD THE WINGS OF AN ANGEL

Casting a furtive glance over his shoulder, the felon slipped out the main prison gate to be swallowed up in the British fog. A plethora of escapes from supposedly secure prisons embarrassed the hapless wardens. To compound* their problems, the officials were badgered* by irate citizens who accused the guards of accepting bribes from convicts whose motto was: “Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage.”

NEW WORDS

furtive
·fër-tiv

felon
·fe-lon

plethora
·ple-thə-roʊ

hapless
·hap-lis

irate
·ɪ - ɪrət

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The ________________ contest winner was unable to locate the lucky ticket.
   2. My uncle was ________________ when the drunken driver swerved in front of us.
   3. In a ________________ manner she removed her shoes and tiptoed up to her room.
   4. When the teacher asked why the homework had not been done, he was greeted by a ________________ of incredible alibis.
   5. When his wife learned that Bob associated with a dangerous ________________, she divorced him.
**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>furtive</td>
<td>a. angry, incensed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>felon</td>
<td>b. person guilty of a major crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>plethora</td>
<td>c. unfortunate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>hapless</td>
<td>d. excess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>irate</td>
<td>e. secret, stealthy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Today’s Idiom**

*Pyrrhic* (ˌpɪr-ɪk) *victory*—a too costly victory

*(King Pyrrhus defeated the Romans, but his losses were extremely heavy)*

In heavy fighting the troops managed to recapture the hill, but it could only be considered a *Pyrrhic victory*, given the significant loss of life.
DR. JEKYLL OR MR. HYDE?

Under the pretext of being a surgeon he gained entry to the hospital. When interviewed by the director, he had to fabricate a tale of his medical experience, but he was so adroit at lying that he got away with it. It was not until the phony “doctor” began to gesticulate wildly with his scalpel that a vigilant nurse was able to detect the fraud. In the annals* of medical history there have been a number of such cases.

NEW WORDS

- pretext
  `prē - tekst`

- fabricate
  `fa - brə - kāt`

- adroit
  `ə - ˈdrōit`

- gesticulate
  `je - ˈstĭ - kyə - lāt`

- vigilant
  `ˈvi - əl - ənt`

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The shootings at Columbine High School made educators much more ________________.
2. My nephew is quite ________________ at making model airplanes.
3. Most fishermen can ________________ a story about the size of the one that got away.
4. Her ________________ of being tired did not fool us for an instant.
5. It’s difficult to miss the traffic officer when he ________________ at the onrushing cars.
Definitions Pick the letter of the definition that matches your new word and write it in the answer space.

6. pretext _____ a. to lie, construct
7. fabricate _____ b. skillful
8. adroit _____ c. an excuse
9. gesticulate_____ d. watchful
10. vigilant _____ e. to move the arms energetically

Today’s Idiom

*湿毯子*—one who spoils the fun

Everyone wanted the party to go on, but Ronnie, the *wet blanket*, decided to go home to bed.
YOU’VE GOT TO BE A FOOTBALL EXPERT

As an avid football fan, I try to see every game the Jets play. Whenever I can cajole my father into accompanying me, I try to do so. He has only a rudimentary knowledge of the game, and since I am steeped* in it, I enjoy explaining its intricate details to him. It certainly does enhance your appreciation of football when you are aware of every nuance of the sport.

NEW WORDS

avid
\( \text{a} - \text{vid} \)

cajole
\( \text{kə} - \text{ˈjōl} \)

rudimentary
\( \text{rū} - \text{ˈdo} - \text{ˈmen} - \text{tə} - \text{ˈrē} \)

enhance
\( \text{ɛn} - \text{ˈhәns} \)

nuance
\( \text{ˈn(y)ū} - \text{ˈæns} \)

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences. You may have to change the ending of a word.

1. Since my grasp of calculus is _____________, I cannot solve the problem.
2. The parakeet refused to be _____________ into entering her cage.
3. It will _____________ your enjoyment of an opera if you know what the plot is about in advance.
4. In reading the satires of Jonathan Swift, one must be vigilant* in order to catch each _____________.
5. President Trump was an ________________ user of social media, regularly tweeting comments about issues and people.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. avid _____ a. eager
7. cajole _____ b. slight variation in meaning, tone, etc.
8. rudimentary _____ c. to coax
9. enhance _____ d. to intensify, heighten
10. nuance _____ e. elementary

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

*the stars align*—when an unexpected event takes place

It seemed *the stars had aligned* when Demetrius got his wish to play first violin in the orchestra.
Keep adding to your vocabulary, as it is one of the most useful tools a student can possess. Let's go over the twenty new words and four idioms you studied during this week.

In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

### REVIEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1. accost</td>
<td>a. uncommunicative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 2. adroit</td>
<td>b. enthusiastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 3. avid</td>
<td>c. alert</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 4. cajole</td>
<td>d. overabundance</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 5. enhance</td>
<td>e. courageous</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 6. fabricate</td>
<td>f. to aggressively approach</td>
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<td>_____ 7. felon</td>
<td>g. an excuse</td>
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<td>_____ 8. furtive</td>
<td>h. unlucky</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 9. gesticulate</td>
<td>i. angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 10. hapless</td>
<td>j. criminal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 11. intrepid</td>
<td>k. basic, elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 12. irate</td>
<td>l. clever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 13. laconic</td>
<td>m. to make up a lie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 14. nuance</td>
<td>n. great number of people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 15. plethora</td>
<td>o. concise, pithy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 16. pretext</td>
<td>p. to use lively gestures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. reticent</td>
<td>q. shade of difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. rudimentary</td>
<td>r. sly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. throng</td>
<td>s. to coax, wheedle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 20. vigilant</td>
<td>t. to make greater</td>
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</table>

### IDIOMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 21. sword of Damocles</td>
<td>u. an expensive conquest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 22. Pyrrhic victory</td>
<td>v. spoilsport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 23. wet blanket</td>
<td>w. a happy and unexpected event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 24. the stars align</td>
<td>x. any threatening danger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed. You can learn them successfully by studying them and using them in your own original sentences. If you expend the effort in building up your vocabulary, it will be worth your while.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. ______________________</td>
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<td>3. ______________________</td>
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<td>4. ______________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. ______________________</td>
<td>__________________________</td>
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</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**The Best Laid Plans**

Gloria Rogers overslept and then had to sprint to catch the same Greyhound Bus that she boarded on the last Thursday of every month. After a three-hour uneventful ride, she finally arrived at the bus terminal where a courtesy van was ready to transport bus passengers to Visitors Day at the State Penitentiary.

Although Gloria tried to act casual, she was more than a little nervous. Her boyfriend, Art, a convicted [blank], had managed to gain admittance to the prison’s hospital on the [blank] of having a gall bladder attack. Under her own slacks and bulky sweater, Gloria was wearing a set of clothes that she removed in the hospital bathroom and passed on to Art. He planned to use them after making his escape in the back of the prison ambulance that was parked outside his ward.

Art had spelled out his escape plan during Gloria’s last visit, spending an hour trying to [blank] her into being his accomplice. All that she had to do was appear to have a seizure. Then she would [blank] a story about her epilepsy while Art, with the smuggled clothes concealed under his prison bathrobe, would slip out of the ward during the excitement. Unfortunately for the schemers, a [blank] hospital guard spotted Art climbing into the rear of the ambulance and quickly foiled the escape attempt. The result was that Art had three years added to his sentence and Gloria was imprisoned for her role in the misadventure.

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day  
2. 3rd Day  
3. 4th Day  
4. 3rd Day  
5. 3rd Day
THE PEP TALK

“If there’s one thing I loathe,” the coach said, “it’s a quitter.” He had good reason to reprimand us at half-time, because the scoreboard revealed that we were losing, 45–20. Our lackluster performance indicated to him that we had forgotten the rudimentary* aspects of basketball. His caustic remarks fired us up, however, and we dashed out, determined to wrest control of the game from our rivals.

New Words

loathe
ˈloʊθ

reprimand (v.)
ˈre-prə-mand

lackluster
ˈlak-ˈlû-stər

ciaustic
ˈkɑːstɪk

wrest
ˈrest

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. With the help of his brothers he was able to ______________ the leadership of the company from his partner.

2. Speaking in a monotone, the politician was booed for his ______________ address.

3. In a ______________ article, the drama critic savaged the hapless* actors.

4. I ______________ spinach, but I love other green vegetables.

5. When Ed arrived late, he knew that the grocer would ______________ him.
**Definitions** Match the new words with their dictionary definitions.

6. loathe _____ a. dull

7. reprimand_____ b. to hate
   (v.)

8. lackluster_____ c. sarcastic, biting

9. caustic _____ d. to take by force

10. wrest _____ e. to show sharp disapproval

---

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

*crocodile tears*—*insincere tears*
(crocodiles are said to cry while eating their prey)

When the football player broke his leg, his substitute wept *crocodile tears.*
THE HANDCUFF IS QUICKER THAN THE EYE

Slippery Eddie, the infamous pickpocket, was back at work, and every detective had to be especially vigilant.* Eddie’s technique was to jostle a victim toward a partner in crime who would then slip the man’s wallet out of his back pocket while Eddie was stammering an apology to the confused dupe. Within a week the incipient crimewave came to an end when Slippery Eddie inadvertently chose the chief of police for his victim. Although Eddie loathes* the county jail, it’s his permanent address for now.

NEW WORDS

infamous
ˈɪnfəməs
jostle
ˈjoʊstl
dupe (n.)
ˈduːp
incipient
ˈɪnsɪpiənt
inadvertent
ˈɪnədvərənt

Sample Sentences Can you put the new words in the right sentences?

1. By telling the truth, we stopped the ________________ rumor from spreading.
2. The bombing of Pearl Harbor was referred to as an ________________ deed.
3. The ________________ consented to buy the often-sold Brooklyn Bridge.
4. When he attempted to ________________ the old lady, she struck him with her umbrella.
5. Through an ________________ error, the guided missile sped out of control.
Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. infamous ____  a. having a bad reputation
7. jostle ____  b. just beginning to exist
8. dupe (n.) ____  c. to bump into
9. incipient ____  d. person easily tricked
10. inadvertent____  e. unintentional

**Today’s Idiom**

*carry the day*—to win the approval of the majority

The secretary’s motion that we adjourn for lunch *carried the day*, and we headed for the restaurant.
COURTROOM DRAMA

There was an ominous silence when the jittery defendant rose in court. He explained in a tremulous voice what had led him to repudiate his confession made at the police station on the night of the crime. The audience began to buzz excitedly until the judge demanded a cessation of the noise. Although the district attorney bristled with anger, the defendant kept insisting that his rights had been violated because he had not been told that he could see a lawyer before confessing.

NEW WORDS

ominous
ˈoʊmənəs

tremulous
ˈtremləs

repudiate
riˈpyudət

cessation
ˈsɛsəʃn

bristle (v.)
ˈbriːl

Sample Sentences Fit the new words into the blanks.

1. After the weatherman had seen the _______________ clouds, he prognosticated* rain.
2. The general attempted to _______________ the testimony of the lieutenant, claiming that the young officer was not an authority on low level bombing.
3. Upon seeing the snake, the cat began to _______________ with fear.
4. The widow’s _______________ hands revealed her nervousness.
5. The _______________ of the bombing in Iraq was urged by the United Nations.
**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>ominous</td>
<td><strong>a.</strong> a stopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>tremulous</td>
<td><strong>b.</strong> to reject, decline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>repudiate</td>
<td><strong>c.</strong> to stiffen with fear or anger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>cessation</td>
<td><strong>d.</strong> threatening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>bristle (v.)</td>
<td><strong>e.</strong> quivering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Today’s Idiom**

*paint oneself into a corner*—leave no means of escape or room to maneuver

With her three-year unbreakable contract, Donna had *painted herself into a corner*, unable to take a better job when it came along.
CALL ME BY MY RIGHT NAME

My cousin refers to himself as a “sanitary engineer”—a *euphemism* for garbage collector. There are any number of people who try to find more respectable or glamorous titles for the *mundane* jobs they hold. It may seem *incongruous* to call an undertaker a “*condolence* counselor,” or to refer to a taxi driver as a “transportation expediter,” but some prefer those titles. As a matter of fact, our butcher has *stipulated* that from now on he wants to be known as the chief “meat coordinator.” He became irate* when I inadvertently* called him “Meathead.”

NEW WORDS

*euphemism*

*yū- fə- mi- zəm*

*mundane*

*mûn- dān*

*incongruous*

*in- ə-konj- grū- əs*

*condolence*

*kən- ə-dō- ləns*

*stipulate*

*sti- pyu- lāt*

Sample Sentences In which blanks do the new words belong?

1. We repudiated* the contract because it did not __________________ a cost of living bonus.
2. The word “expired” is a __________________ for “died.”
3. When my neighbor’s dog was run over, we sent a __________________ card.
4. The philosopher dealt with spiritual things, ignoring the __________________ ones.
5. His outburst seemed ________________ to those who knew him as a patient man.
Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. euphemism____ a. ordinary
7. mundane _____ b. less offensive term
8. incongruous____ c. to specify a condition
9. condolence____ d. out of place
10. stipulate _____ e. pity

**Today’s Idiom**

*go up in smoke*—to come to no practical result (kindling smokes, but it will not light a fire)

The mayor’s plans to get the gubernatorial nomination *went up in smoke* when he couldn’t end the costly strike.
The word “review” means “to view again” and that is the purpose of our weekly review. You will have noticed, of course, that many of the words that appear as new words are repeated in subsequent lessons. Sometimes they are in the paragraph, sometimes in the sample sentences, and occasionally in the idioms or directions. This continued emphasis on “viewing again” will help you to become familiar with the vocabulary.

In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. bristle (v.)</td>
<td>b. menacing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>c. evil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. caustic</td>
<td>d. a pause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>e. just starting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. cessation</td>
<td>f. trembling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>g. to have one’s hair stand up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. condolence</td>
<td>h. stinging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>i. lacking excitement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. dupe (n.)</td>
<td>j. due to an oversight, negligent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>k. to make a specific demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. euphemism</td>
<td>l. to push, to elbow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>m. an easily fooled person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. inadvertent</td>
<td>n. expression of sympathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>o. to scold severely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. incipient</td>
<td>p. to seize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>q. having inconsistent elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. incongruous</td>
<td>r. to disown, refuse to accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>s. lacking brightness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. infamous</td>
<td>t. saying something in a less direct way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>u. to limit one’s choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. jostle</td>
<td>v. hypocritical sympathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>w. to win the honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. lackluster</td>
<td>x. to end fruitlessly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. loathe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>______</td>
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<td>14. mundane</td>
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<td>______</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. ominous</td>
<td></td>
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<td>______</td>
<td></td>
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<td>16. reprimand (v.)</td>
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<td>______</td>
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<td>17. repudiate</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18. stipulate</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>19. tremulous</td>
<td></td>
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<td>______</td>
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<td>20. wrest</td>
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IDIOMS

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<td>______</td>
<td>a. to despise</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td>c. evil</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. carry the day</td>
<td>d. a pause</td>
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<td>e. just starting</td>
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<td>23. paint oneself into a corner</td>
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<td>g. to have one’s hair stand up</td>
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<td>24. go up in smoke</td>
<td>h. stinging</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Make a record of those words you missed. You can learn them successfully by studying them and using them regularly in speech and in your writing.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**  |  **MEANINGS**
---|---
1. |  
2. |  
3. |  
4. |  
5. |  

Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Desert Storm Decision**

In the 1991 Persian Gulf War, where the United Nations forces, led by Americans, ousted the invading Iraqi army from Kuwait’s soil, the __________ of combat took place in short order after the Allies were able to __________ control of the skies from Saddam Hussein’s __________ air force.

General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the U.S. field commander, __________ when asked by the media why he hadn’t pursued the enemy all the way to Baghdad, saying:

“It would have been foolhardy for us to try to occupy that capital city and pile up American casualties from sniper attacks by Iraq’s guerillas. That may be hard for you Monday morning quarterbacks to understand, but I thoroughly agreed with the president who was convinced that such an action would have sent a bad message to the world and would have splintered the Allied partnership.”

Schwarzkopf reiterated that it was his mission to hurl back the invaders with a minimum of bloodshed but not, he added in a __________ tone, “to splatter Saddam over the desert sands. That dictator’s days are numbered,” the general concluded, “but I expect his end is likely to come at the hands of his own people.”

After his capture by American forces in December 2003, Saddam was tried and later executed by the new Iraqi government.

**Clues**

1. 3rd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 1st Day
MULLINS A K.O. VICTIM

When the bell sounded, K.O. Mullins responded with alacrity. He sprang from his stool and charged across the ring, showing disdain for the champion’s strength. Although this belligerent attitude impressed the referee, it failed to intimidate the champ. That intrepid battler laid the hapless Mullins low with an adroit feint and an uppercut.

NEW WORDS

alacrity
ə - ˈla - krə - tē

disdain (n.)
dis - ˈdān

belligerent
bə - ˈli - jə - rənt

intimidate
in - ˈti - mə - dāt

feint
ˈfānt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The new wave of computer hacking did not ______________ our company.
2. The German army was duped* by the Allies’ ______________ toward the south, leaving the way open for the Normandy invasion.
3. The waiter moved with ______________ because he perceived* they were big tippers.
4. His ______________ manner caused him to lose one friend after another.
5. When the curtain came down, the critic’s face registered the ______________ she felt for the lackluster* play.
Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. alacrity _____ a. contempt
7. disdain _____ b. false attack (n.)
8. belligerent____ c. warlike
9. intimidate____ d. to overawe
10. feint _____ e. briskness, lively action

**Today's Idiom**

*throw down the gauntlet (´gônt - lat)—to challenge someone*

*(when the gauntlet, or medieval glove, was thrown down, the challenged one was required to pick it up)*

The principal of our rival school *threw down the gauntlet*, and we had no choice but to accept the challenge.
MULLINS THROWS DOWN THE GAUNTLET*

The pugnacious K.O. Mullins demanded a rematch. He took a full-page newspaper advertisement to promulgate his challenge. When the champ’s manager saw the brash announcement, he accosted Mullins, who was surrounded by a throng of newsmen. The manager openly scoffed at Mullins and belittled his fighting ability. Mullins then lost his temper and fearlessly punched the manager, knocking them both off their feet.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. We implored* the faculty advisor to _______________ the requirements for the presidency of the club.
2. My mother enjoyed the salesman’s _______________ personality, but he irritated most people.
3. I don’t understand modern art, but I neither loathe* nor _______________ at it.
4. Since everyone can outpunch my cousin, he cannot afford to be _______________.
Although Ralph can’t play football, he unfortunately ________________ the efforts of those who do.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- **6. pugnacious**  a. quarrelsome
- **7. promulgate**  b. to make seem less important
- **8. brash**  c. to sneer at
- **9. scoff**  d. impudent
- **10. belittle**  e. to make known officially

**Today’s Idiom**

*feeling no pain*—numbed by the use of alcohol or drugs

Although the party had just begun, after his first drink he was *feeling no pain.*
Week 4 • Day 3

Mullins Forced to Eat Humble Pie*

The irate* 80-year-old manager pressed charges against K.O. Mullins, suing him for assault. As tangible evidence of the attack, he pointed to a deep laceration over his eyebrow that had required ten stitches. When the case was brought before the court, the judge castigated Mullins for the sordid incident. In addition to a costly financial settlement, Mullins was required to make a public apology to the octogenarian.

New Words

tangible
ˈtan-ə-bəl

laceration
la-ˈsər-ən-ən

castigate
ˈka-stə-gāt

sordid
ˈsôr-did

octogenarian
ˈok-tə-jen-iə-nər

Sample Sentences  Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The medic reached into his kit to find a bandage for the ugly ________________
2. Mr. Dixon belittled* our request for ________________ proof of his loyalty.
3. The kindly foreman was too reticent* to openly ________________ the clumsy new worker.
4. When the 22-year-old woman announced her engagement to the ________________, the public suspected it to be a publicity stunt.
5. Stories of their ________________ youth poured forth from the unhappy felons.*
**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

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<tbody>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>tangible</td>
<td>a.</td>
<td>having actual form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>laceration</td>
<td>b.</td>
<td>to correct by punishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>castigate</td>
<td>c.</td>
<td>jagged wound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>sordid</td>
<td>d.</td>
<td>dirty, base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>octogenarian</td>
<td>e.</td>
<td>person in his or her eighties</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Today’s Idiom**

*Hobson’s choice*—to have no real choice at all (Mr. Hobson owned a livery stable, but he did not allow the customers to pick their own horses)

Despite three candidates’ names on the ballot, the similarity of their unpopular positions on controversial issues left voters with a *Hobson’s choice.*
THE DECLINE OF MULLINS

Mullins sought solace in whiskey. Once a highly respected aspirant for the lightweight crown, he now found himself associating with the dregs of society. He would work himself into an alcoholic frenzy in which he would trumpet scurrilous attacks on the champ, the old manager, and the judge. One avid* fight fan attributed Mullins’ absence from the ring to sickness, saying that he was “recovering from a bad case of SCOTCH.”

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Vigilant* censors protect the public from listening to ________________ language on television.
2. The publisher scoffed* at the reports that he was an ________________ for the job of Secretary of State.
3. In a ________________, the teenager overturned every drawer while searching for the car keys.
4. At the bottom of the beautiful wine bottle, only the ________________ remained.

5. In trying to offer ________________ to the deceased’s wife, the reporter inadvertently* made the situation worse.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. solace ____ a. most worthless part
7. aspirant ____ b. coarse
8. dregs ____ c. easing of grief
9. frenzy ____ d. wild fit
10. scurrilous ____ e. candidate, striver, applicant

TODAY’S IDIOM

_rule the roost_—to be in charge, to be master
(a roost is a perch where domestic birds can sleep)

Although he is a lowly private in the army, at home he rules the roost.
Let’s see how many of the new words studied during the course of this week you remember. Incidentally, try to keep a record of the many times you find your new words in magazines, newspapers, and books. Before you knew the meanings of those words you probably skipped right over them.

In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the correct letter in the appropriate answer space.

### REVIEW WORDS

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### DEFINITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>a. scorn</th>
<th>b. to make afraid</th>
<th>c. frantic outburst</th>
<th>d. person of eighty</th>
<th>e. to mock</th>
<th>f. to make public, proclaim</th>
<th>g. pretense, sham</th>
<th>h. combative</th>
<th>i. candidate for better job</th>
<th>j. seeking war, hostile</th>
<th>k. to speak of as unimportant</th>
<th>l. vulgar, using indecent language</th>
<th>m. insolent</th>
<th>n. to punish, chastise</th>
<th>o. comfort</th>
<th>p. most worthless part</th>
<th>q. able to be touched</th>
<th>r. rough cut</th>
<th>s. filthy, ignoble</th>
<th>t. quick willingness</th>
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### Idioms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>21. throw down the gauntlet</th>
<th>22. feeling no pain</th>
<th>23. Hobson’s choice</th>
<th>24. rule the roost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>u. to be the boss, lay down the laws</td>
<td>v. numbled by alcohol</td>
<td>w. to offer a challenge</td>
<td>x. to have no meaningful option</td>
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Make a record of those words you missed. You can master them with additional review.
<table>
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<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<td>5.</td>
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</table>
Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. We were impressed with the new maid because she cleaned the house with (alacrity, solace).

2. All (aspirants, lacerations) for the basketball team must come to practice today.

3. Once he was highly respected, but after his scandal, he became one of the (dregs, octogenarians) of society.

4. The newspaper specialized in printing the (sordid, brash) details of crime in the city.

5. After finding the (pugnacious, tangible) evidence in his drawer, Roger took it to the police.

6. The normally (scurrilous, belligerent) police dog was unusually quiet this morning.

7. Bobby, who was extremely modest, always (belittled, castigated) his own achievements.

8. Treated with (frenzy, disdain) by his stepfather, Artie grew closer to his biological father.

9. When the results of the bar exam were (intimidated, promulgated) Adele saw that she had passed handsomely.

10. I used to (scoff, feint) at Hank’s stories of the fish he had caught, but he made a believer out of me.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Want to Run for Office?**
In recent years, we have seen the phenomenon of incumbent politicians retiring in record numbers. When interviewed, many of them admitted that they had lost their taste for the job because of the abuse to which an **office** is subjected.

“My last campaign was a **affair** in which my opponents did everything to **my record and air** charges about my private life,” said one congressman. “I won’t stand still for such treatment,” he added, “which was terribly embarrassing to me and my entire family.”

Citizen groups, appalled by the candidates’ mudslinging, have sought to do something about the situation. Committees have been formed in a number of states to study ways to elevate the tone of the process, reduce the emotionalism, and eliminate the **name-calling** that is generated as election day draws near.

“Unless we clean up this mess,” said the chairman of an Illinois caucus, “we will lose the best and the brightest from the political arena. After all, who but a masochist wants to be a punching bag, the subject of daily vilification in the media, and a target for every malcontent in town?”

**Clues**

1. 4th Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 4th Day
5. 4th Day
CHEATING

During my first weeks at the new school I observed that cheating was *rampant*. I had always considered it rather *inane* to cheat on a test because of my code of *ethics*, and because so much was at stake. Apparently the other students didn’t *concur*. In fact, even the presence of a proctor did not intimidate* them. Far from being a *clandestine* activity, the cheating was open and obvious.

---

**NEW WORDS**

- **rampant**
  - *ram - pənt*
- **inane**
  - *i - 'nän*
- **ethics**
  - *e - thiks*
- **concur**
  - *kən - 'kèr*
- **clandestine**
  - *klan - 'de - stən*

---

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. When the plague was ____________ on the island, Dr. Arrowsmith’s wife died.
2. The spies thought their meeting was a ____________ one, but a throng* of F.B.I. agents gathered outside the building.
3. A special management committee was asked to investigate business ____________ .
4. Orville Wright’s desire to fly was called ____________ by his critics.
5. If I can get my parents to ____________ , I’ll join the Peace Corps.
Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. rampant _____ a. secret, undercover
7. inane _____ b. code of principles
8. ethics _____ c. foolish
9. concur _____ d. to agree
10. clandestine_____ e. going unchecked, widespread

Today’s Idiom

stock-in-trade—the goods, tools, and other requisites of a profession

A quick wit and a warm smile were the salesman’s stock-in-trade.
CRACKING DOWN

Mr. Dorsey, our new principal, determined to do something about the flagrant cheating at our high school. He issued bulletins and began to admonish those teachers who did not proctor alertly. Under duress, the faculty reported the names of the culprits. Several cheat sheets were turned in as tangible* evidence of the offense. Mr. Dorsey’s inexorable campaign against the wrong-doers seemed to be paying off.

NEW WORDS

flagrant
ˈflā-grənt

admonish
ad-ˈmo-nish

duress
d(y)ə-ˈres

culprit
ˈkəl-prit

inexorable
ˈi-nék-ər-əb-l

Sample Sentences Into which sentences do the new words fit best?

1. The ________________ was caught with his fingers in the cookie jar.
2. Television sleuths are ________________ in their pursuit of lawbreakers.
3. The confession was signed under ________________ , the attorney claimed.
4. I suspect that my father will ________________ me for coming home late.
5. Parking in front of a hydrant is a ________________ violation of the city’s law.
Definitions  Match the new words with their meanings.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. flagrant</td>
<td>a. inflexible, unrelenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. admonish</td>
<td>b. compulsion, force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. duress</td>
<td>c. outrageous, glaringly bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. culprit</td>
<td>d. guilty person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. inexorable</td>
<td>e. to warn, reprove</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Today's Idiom**

*take down a peg*—to take the conceit out of a braggart (ship’s colors used to be raised or lowered by pegs—the higher the colors, the greater the honor)

The alumni thought they had a great basketball team, but our varsity *took them down a peg*. 
STAR PLAYER IS CAUGHT

The cheating scandal came to a head when Art Krause, our football captain, made the egregious mistake of getting caught cheating on a midterm exam. If Art were suspended for his part in that sordid* affair, our chances for winning the city championship would go up in smoke.* The distraught coach asked the principal to overlook Art’s duplicity, but Mr. Dorsey replied in an acrimonious fashion that the players had been given “a plethora”* of athletic instruction, but a paucity of moral guidance.”

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The bank teller’s _______________ error was difficult to correct.
2. We tried to ignore her _______________ comments, but that took considerable restraint.
3. _______________ is the stock in trade of all adroit* counterspies.
4. Although it was a creative writing class, the teacher complained about the _______________ of talent there.

NEW WORDS

egregious
ə - ˈgrē - ʒəs

distraught
di - ˈstrout

duplicity
d(y)ū - ˈpli - sə - tē

acrimonious
ə - kro - ˈmo - nē - əs

paucity
ˈpō - sə - tē
5. The soldiers were ________________ to learn that their furloughs had been canceled.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. egregious _____ a. scarcity
7. distraught _____ b. cunning, trickery
8. duplicity _____ c. confused, upset
9. acrimonious_____ d. remarkably bad
10. paucity _____ e. bitter

**Today's Idiom**

*pass the buck*—to evade responsibility (the “buck” may have been a piece of buckshot passed from one poker player to another to keep track of whose turn it was to deal)

He always gives me a straight answer and never tries to *pass the buck.*
OUR PYRRHIC VICTORY*

Mr. Dorsey summoned a representative group of teachers and student leaders to his office in order to *elicit* their reactions to the suspension of the football captain. He told them that cheating was a *pernicious* disease that could not be *tolerated* at our school. He loathed* having to discipline Art Krause so severely, but unless strict measures were taken, the student body would *construe* the incident as an open invitation to cheat with *impunity*. “We may lose a football game,” the principal said, “but we can salvage our self-respect.”

**NEW WORDS**

- *elicit*
  
  i - ˈli - sit

- *pernicious*
  
  per - ˈni - shəs

- *tolerate*
  
  ˈtō - lə - rāt

- *construe*
  
  kən - ˈstrū

- *impunity*
  
  im - ˈpyū - nē - tē

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The border guards allowed the doctor to cross the frontier with ________________ .
2. It isn’t easy to ________________ answers from a sleepy class on Monday morning.
3. Dentists appreciate patients who can ________________ pain.
4. She hoped that we would not ________________ her decision to run for office as a thirst for power.
5. The dictator’s ________________ rules failed to intimidate* the leaders of the underground.

Definitions Place the letter of the correct definition in the blank next to the new vocabulary word.

6. eliciting _____ a. freedom from punishment
7. pernicious _____ b. to make a deduction, to infer
8. tolerate _____ c. to put up with, to bear
9. construe _____ d. to draw forth
10. impunity _____ e. harmful, causing injury

TODAY’S IDIOM

*lionize a person*—to make a big fuss over someone (the lions at the Tower of London were considered its main attraction)

When Civil Rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lectured across the United States, he was *lionized* wherever he spoke.
Congratulations! You have covered the first one hundred words in the book. With the same diligence you should be able to tackle the remaining work and to master most of the challenging words.

Take the following quiz by matching the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. acrimonious</td>
<td>a. double-dealing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. admonish</td>
<td>b. cannot be moved by persuasion, inflexible</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. clandestine</td>
<td>c. silly</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. concur</td>
<td>d. widespread</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. construe</td>
<td>e. to scold, warn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. culprit</td>
<td>f. agitated</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. distraught</td>
<td>g. to permit, to put up with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. duplicity</td>
<td>h. to extract</td>
</tr>
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<td>9. duress</td>
<td>i. damaging, harmful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. egregious</td>
<td>j. outstanding for undesirable quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. elicit</td>
<td>k. notorious</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. ethics</td>
<td>l. force, coercion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. flagrant</td>
<td>m. exemption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. impunity</td>
<td>n. moral philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. inane</td>
<td>o. to agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. inexorable</td>
<td>p. hidden, secret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. paucity</td>
<td>q. to interpret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. pernicious</td>
<td>r. one who commits a crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. rampant</td>
<td>s. shortage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. tolerate</td>
<td>t. caustic, bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. stock-in-trade</td>
<td>u. to idolize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. take down a peg</td>
<td>v. to humiliate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. pass the buck</td>
<td>w. necessary equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. lionize a person</td>
<td>x. to refuse to take responsibility</td>
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Make a record of those words you missed. You can learn them successfully by studying them and by using them in original sentences. Use a word three times and it is yours forever, a wise man once said.
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Driving While Drunk**
Throughout literature we find recurring tales of forthright people who are outspoken in condemning illegal practices only to be brought low themselves when they, or members of their families, commit such acts. Since literature reflects life, we can expect to find similar instances in which a person's ① __________ are compromised, and he falls prey to the ② __________ evil that he had publicly denounced.

Take the story of Barry Vernon (not his real name), an aggressive Ohio district attorney. Vernon could be counted upon to make ③ __________ remarks about anyone who was driving while intoxicated. On numerous speaking engagements, he railed against drunkenness and swore that any such ④ __________ who was found behind the wheel of a car would be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

As fate would have it, Vernon’s own son smashed into several cars, injuring four people seriously, and then failed a sobriety test.

Following that ⑤ __________ violation of the law, Vernon resigned from office, saying that as a private citizen he would continue his crusade against those who drive under the influence of alcohol. Meanwhile, he wished to spend more time with his son to try to understand the young man’s behavior.

**Clues**
① 1st Day
② 4th Day
③ 3rd Day
④ 2nd Day
⑤ 2nd Day
THE NEWSPAPER UMBRELLA

Our neighbor is an affluent inventor whose latest brainstorm, a feasible umbrella substitute, has been featured in many magazines. As simply as the eye can discern, it is a hard plastic strip, about the size of a ruler, which fits comfortably into a woman’s handbag or a man’s suit jacket. If a person is caught in a sudden rainstorm, he swings the plastic open in the shape of a cross. Attached to each arm is a clip-like device. Next, he takes the newspaper he is carrying and slides it under each of the four clips. Now, equipped with a rigid head covering he can sally forth to face the elements. To the consternation of the umbrella manufacturers, it has been enjoying a brisk sale, especially among commuters. If it continues to do well, it could have a pernicious* effect upon the umbrella industry.

Sample Sentences Fit the new words into the proper blanks.

1. Some prisoners planned a disturbance while others would _____________ toward the gate.
2. Under duress* from the tax officer, the beggar admitted that he was truly ____________
3. To the _____________ of the sergeant, there was a paucity* of volunteers for the dangerous mission.
4. It’s now _____________ to build an electric car, and shopping malls have begun to add charging stations for them.
5. When we could _______________ the city lights, we knew we were safe at last.
**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. affluent</td>
<td>____</td>
<td>a. to suddenly rush</td>
<td>7. feasible</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. discern</td>
<td>____</td>
<td>c. dismay</td>
<td>9. sally (v.)</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. consternation</td>
<td>____</td>
<td>e. to perceive*</td>
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**Today's Idiom**

*meat and potatoes*—the most important or basic elements

The staff paid close attention when the boss began to explain the *meat and potatoes* of his plan.
My kid brother, Verne, a precocious teenage automotive wizard, and I were inspired to do some inventing on our own. We thought it might be feasible* to park a car parallel to a space on the street. Then, by pressing a button, we could raise the four tires off the ground slightly, while dropping two special wheels perpendicular to the curb. It would then be child’s play to roll into the narrowest of parking spaces. We took the idea to Ed Greene who runs the Ford agency in order to elicit* his reaction. After a perfunctory glance at our plans, to our chagrin Ed snorted that our idea was inane,* but we decided that he was just jealous of our brilliance. Tomorrow we are going to start on a computer that will enable us to measure the intelligence of perverse car dealers who like to deride the efforts of junior geniuses.

**NEW WORDS**

precocious
pri - ˈkoʊ - ʃəs

perfunctory
pər - ˈfʏŋk - to - rē

chagrin
shə - ˈɡrɪn

perverse
pər - ˈvɜrs

deride
də - ˈrɪd

**Sample Sentences** Use the clues above to help find the proper words.

1. The children in Shakespeare’s plays are so ________________ that they all sound like grandparents.

2. Edith gave only ________________ attention to the celebration of the new decade, skipping our
New Year’s Eve party.

3. The Wright brothers didn’t become distraught* when a skeptic would _______________ their work.

4. When I correct my kid brother’s math errors, he is _______________ enough to insist that he is right.

5. To the _______________ of many taxpayers, some citizens seem to cheat the government with impunity.*

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. precocious____ a. done without care, superficial
7. perfunctory____ b. reaching maturity early
8. chagrin _____ c. feeling of disappointment, humiliation
9. perverse _____ d. contrary, persisting in error
10. deride _____ e. to ridicule, scoff* at

Today’s Idiom

red-letter day—day of happiness, time for rejoicing (holidays are red-letter days on our calendars)

My red-letter day came when I was chosen as senior class president.
HOLD THAT NOBEL PRIZE!

Speaking of inventions and discoveries, I just learned that an eminent* scientist in Ohio has developed a pill that contains all the nutritive value of three complete meals. In addition to providing us with the vitamins and minerals we need daily, this pill also gives a feeling of fullness. According to its sponsors, the pill will nourish and satisfy. I hate to disparage such a laudable achievement, but to me it seems like a most objectionable discovery. Rather than a scientific triumph, I’d be inclined to label it as an egregious* blunder, a scientific disaster, a laboratory fiasco. Is there anyone in his right mind who thinks that a pill can replace the pleasures of devouring hot corn bread, masticating on a thick steak, biting into crisp french fries, or attacking a chocolate sundae? I’m afraid that this is one pill I’ll have to eschew chewing.

NEW WORDS

disparage
\[\text{dɪ - ˈspa - ri}\]

laudable
\[\text{ˈləʊ - də - bəl}\]

fiasco
\[\text{ʃeɪ - ˈas - kə}\]

masticate
\[\text{ˈmæs - tə - kæt}\]

eschew
\[\text{es - ˈʃu ə - ˈʃu}\]

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The paradox* is that Javert’s inexorable* pursuit of Jean Valjean was both ________________ and despicable.

2. The affluent* storeowner ________________ the efforts of her small competitor, saying her
products were better and her prices, cheaper.

3. To aid in digestion, you must ________________ each piece of meat one dozen times.

4. In an acrimonious* letter, her father described the project as a complete ________________ .

5. Once he sought the limelight, but now he ________________ all interviews.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. disparage_____ a. to discredit, belittle*

7. laudable _____ b. to avoid

8. fiasco _____ c. to chew up

9. masticate_____ d. praiseworthy

10. eschew _____ e. complete failure

TODAY’S IDIOM

let sleeping dogs lie—to let well enough alone, to avoid stirring up old hostilities

The lawyer wanted to open up the old case, but his partner advised him to let sleeping dogs lie.
PERFECT PRODUCTS

I guess we’ll never be able to quell those persistent rumors about the invention of auto tires that will never go flat, stockings that cannot run, and pens that won’t dry out. A verbose economist informed me that such products will never be marketed. “Can you imagine,” he asked, “a manufacturer cutting his own throat? Why would he sell you an item that you will never have to replace?” “No,” my confidant whispered, “it’s part of their scheme of planned obsolescence to sell you merchandise with a limited life span in order to keep you coming back for more.” I am dubious about the existence of those perfect products, but then I’m a skeptic.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. When the duplicity* was revealed, the jury became ________________ of Ed’s innocence.
2. In order to ________________ the riot, the police sallied* forth with tear gas.
3. A boy’s best friend will often be his true ________________ .
4. The ________________ built into many products could be regarded as a flagrant* insult toward
the duped* consumer.

5. I could not doze in the chair because of the ____________ barber.

Definitions Play the familiar matching game.

6. quell _____ a. one to whom you confide your secrets
7. verbose _____ b. talkative
8. confidant _____ c. process of wearing out
9. obsolescence_____ d. put an end to
10. dubious _____ e. doubtful

TODAY’S IDIOM

*thumbs down*—signal of rejection (Roman emperors could condemn a gladiator who fought poorly by turning their thumbs down)

My father turned *thumbs down* on our plan to hitchhike to Florida during Easter.
After reading about these new ideas, you should be inventive enough to handle this review. If there is a necessity for it, you may turn back to the original lesson to check on the meaning of a word. As someone once remarked, “Necessity is the mother of invention.”

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ 1. affluent</td>
<td>a. careless</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 2. chagrin</td>
<td>b. dread, dismay</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 3. confidant</td>
<td>c. to chew</td>
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<td>____ 4. consternation</td>
<td>d. complete failure</td>
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<td>____ 5. deride</td>
<td>e. reaching maturity early</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 6. discern</td>
<td>f. talkative</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 7. disparage</td>
<td>g. easy to do</td>
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<td>____ 8. dubious</td>
<td>h. to make fun of</td>
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<td>____ 9. eschew</td>
<td>i. contrary</td>
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<td>____ 10. feasible</td>
<td>j. wealthy</td>
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<td>____ 11. fiasco</td>
<td>k. to keep away from</td>
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<td>____ 12. laudable</td>
<td>l. to recognize</td>
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<td>____ 13. masticate</td>
<td>m. to crush, stop</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 14. obsolescence</td>
<td>n. to discredit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 15. perfunctory</td>
<td>o. person you tell your secrets to</td>
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<td>____ 16. perverse</td>
<td>p. disappointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 17. precocious</td>
<td>q. uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ 18. quell</td>
<td>r. commendable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 19. sally (v.)</td>
<td>s. to suddenly rush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ 20. verbose</td>
<td>t. process of wearing out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IDIOMS

| ____ 21. meat and potatoes | u. occasion for rejoicing |
| ____ 22. red-letter day    | v. the basic elements    |
| ____ 23. let sleeping dogs lie| w. don’t rake up old grievances|
| ____ 24. thumbs down       | x. to signal rejection  |

Make a record of those words you missed. Study them, work on them, use them in original sentences. Amaze your friends at parties!
<table>
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<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Trouble at Truman High
It was a quiet morning at Harry S. Truman High School. “Too quiet,” Principal Edna Suarez remarked to her secretary. “It’s just when things are this serene that I start to get an uneasy feeling.”

Ms. Suarez’s sensitivity to life among 3,000 teenagers quickly proved to be accurate. The first evidence of trouble came with a phone call from the teacher in charge of the cafeteria who needed help to ①___________ a disturbance. When Ms. Suarez arrived on the scene, much to her ②___________, students were pounding on their tables, throwing food on the lunchroom floor, and making a complete ③___________ of school regulations. It took the principal only a moment to ④___________ who the two ringleaders were and to summon them to her office.

Vincent, 16, and Elena, 15, admitted to having stirred up the protest. They gave as their reasons the poor quality of food served and the dirty environment. “It’s like a pigsty down there,” Elena declared, “and the food is fit only for animals!”

What they had done, Ms. Suarez told them, was inexcusable, and she ticked off a list of reasons that made their conduct dangerous and subject to school discipline. “What you were trying to do,” Ms. Suarez explained, “might be considered ⑤___________ by some, but you could have come to me, alone or with a committee, to register your complaints. I would have investigated and, if there was merit to your charges, would have taken the necessary action. Now I’ll have to ask you to bring your parents to see me on Monday and to stay home until then.”

Vincent and Elena seemed to be chastened by Ms. Suarez’s lecture. However, on leaving her office, Elena told an assistant principal that in a similar incident on a television show she learned that direct, dramatic action usually gets quicker results than lengthy debate. He advised her to bring that question up in her social studies class when she returned from suspension.

Clues
① 4th Day
② 1st Day
③ 3rd Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 3rd Day
MUCH ADO ABOUT DYED HAIR

Long after most schools had adopted more lenient policies regarding students’ hairstyles, ours had a widely reputed showdown on their practice of prohibiting brightly-dyed hair. Two honor students, Ron Harris and Jen Chester, were sent to the principal by their French teacher, an implacable rule enforcer, who went into a paroxysm of anger when she spied the students in the hall. At first it seemed like a simple case. The school would reprimand* the two for their untoward behavior and order them to return their hair to their natural colors, or be suspended. But the students’ parents decided that the school had overstepped its jurisdiction, and they took their case to the newspapers. What had started as a local skirmish now began to take on the appearance of a full-scale war.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The detective was ________________ in his search for the murder weapon.

2. Saying that it was beyond his ________________ , Judge Klein refused to rule on the case.

3. In a ________________ of rage, the tenant stormed out of the landlord’s office.
4. The precocious* boy enjoyed an intellectual ______________ with his elders.
5. The brash* student was forced to apologize for her ______________ conduct.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. implacable_____  a. fit, sudden outburst
7. paroxysm _____  b. cannot be pacified, inexorable*
8. untoward _____  c. small fight, brief encounter
9. jurisdiction____ d. not proper; bad or unfavorable
10. skirmish _____  e. power, range of authority

TODAY'S IDIOM

cause célèbre (ˈkôz sə - ˈleb)—a famous law case or controversy

It was a minor dispute, but the ambitious lawyer sought to turn it into a cause célèbre.
THE TEMPEST SPILLS OUT OF THE TEAPOT

Once the newspapers got the story, the case of the two students became a cause célèbre.* Ron and Jen were interviewed, seen on TV, and regarded by their fellow students as superstars. “These are not delinquents or hoods,” one reporter wrote, “but clean-cut American teens who are being harassed by a monolithic school system.” A caustic* editorial referred to the school’s decision as arbitrary and inane.* A false story even circulated about Ron and Jen being rock ’n’ roll performers whose indigent families needed their salaries. Finally, the Civil Liberties Union jumped into the fray with a court order stipulating* that the principal be required to show cause why the students should not be allowed to return to class.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After the ________________, the feuding families agreed to patch up their differences.

2. The social worker was surprised when she discovered her ________________ client in the elegant restaurant.

3. To my mind the decision was unreasonable and ________________ .
4. George Orwell’s *1984* depicts a frightening, ________________ government.

5. If anonymous telephone callers ________________ you, the phone company will give you an unlisted number.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. harass _____ a. based on whim, dictatorial

7. monolithic____ b. poor, needy

8. indigent _____ c. massively solid

9. arbitrary _____ d. fight

10. fray _____ e. to trouble, torment

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*for a song*—cheaply (as if the singing of a song was payment)

Thanks to her great negotiating strategy, my mom was able to get her new car *for a song*. 
HAIRCUT DILEMMA

The school authorities were *stymied*. Public opinion had been marshaled against them. No longer was it a simple case of disciplining two wayward students. Suddenly it had taken on the appearance of a nightmare in which the principal was pictured in cartoons as either hanged in *effigy* or making a villainous swipe at the two young heroes. But the officials could not allow Ron and Jen to *flout* their authority with impunity.* Members of the school board concurred* with the principal’s action, but they were *cognizant* of the popular support for the students. Clearly, action was called for to resolve the *turbulent* situation.

NEW WORDS

- **stymie**
  - *stī - mē*

- **effigy**
  - *ē - fō - jē*

- **flout**
  - *flout*

- **cognizant**
  - *kog - nō - zōnt*

- **turbulent**
  - *tōr - byō - lōnt*

Sample Sentences In which of the following newspaper headlines do the new words belong?

1. “HATED DICTATOR HANGED IN _____________ ”
2. “CAUSE OF CANCER CONTINUES TO _____________ DOCTORS”
3. “F.B.I. _____________ OF CLANDESTINE* ORGANIZED CRIME MEETING”
4. “MANY MOTORISTS _____________ TRAFFIC LAWS, STUDY REVEALS”
5. “________________ ATMOSPHERE IN ANGRY SENATE CHAMBER”

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. stymie _____ a. unruly, agitated
7. effigy _____ b. to hinder, impede
8. flout _____ c. to disregard
9. cognizant _____ d. aware
10. turbulent _____ e. likeness (usually of a hated person)

Today's Idiom

*a bitter pill to swallow*—a humiliating defeat

It was *a bitter pill to swallow* for the famous billiard player to be overwhelmed by the 12-year-old girl.
HAPPY ENDING?

Following an executive session, the school board ordered the principal to *terminate* the suspension and to send Ron and Jen back to class *forthwith*. Unless it could be shown that their presence disrupted the learning process, there was no reason to bar the two. It was a bitter pill to swallow* for the principal whose irritation was *exacerbated* by the ruling. But some of the sting was taken out of the victory when the students appeared in school the next day with their hair returned to their natural colors. Everyone breathed a sigh of relief. Just as things were about to *revert* to normalcy, however, the same French teacher then demanded that a girl be *ousted* from class for wearing a miniskirt.

**NEW WORDS**

*terminate*
ˈtɛr - mə - nāt

*forthwith*
fŏr - ˈθhwĭth

*exacerbate*
ig - ˈza - sər - bāt

*revert*
rŏ - ˈvĕrt

*oust*
ˈoust

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. It seemed incongruous* to ________________ his employment just when he was becoming so successful.

2. Upon seeing the show, he called the TV studio ________________ to protest.

3. The ushers moved with alacrity* to ________________ the disorderly patrons.
4. Whenever Dolores visited her parents, her behavior _______________ to the days of her childhood.

5. The arrest of the spy did much to _______________ relations between the two countries.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. terminate ______ a. to drive out, eject
7. forthwith______ b. to return
8. exacerbate______ c. to end
9. revert ______ d. immediately
10. oust ______ e. to irritate, make worse

**Today's Idiom**

*ax to grind*—selfish motive

I am always dubious* about the motives of a man who tells me that he has no *ax to grind.*
Pupils want to be individuals these days, and many of them refuse to conform to regulations unless there are good reasons for such rules. In the area of vocabulary study, however, the only rule that makes sense to all is that true mastery derives from continuous practice.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer spaces. (Which two review words are almost synonymous?)

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<tr>
<td>_____ 1. arbitrary</td>
<td>a. having a massive structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 2. cognizant</td>
<td>b. to hinder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 3. effigy</td>
<td>c. a conflict, fight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 4. exacerbate</td>
<td>d. relentless, unappeasable</td>
</tr>
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<td>_____ 5. flout</td>
<td>e. immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 6. forthwith</td>
<td>f. improper, inappropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 7. fray</td>
<td>g. range of authority</td>
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<td>_____ 8. harass</td>
<td>h. to disregard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 9. implacable</td>
<td>i. poverty-stricken</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 10. indigent</td>
<td>j. to irritate</td>
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<td>_____ 11. jurisdiction</td>
<td>k. violent outburst</td>
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<td>_____ 12. monolithic</td>
<td>l. to end</td>
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<td>_____ 13. oust</td>
<td>m. likeness</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 14. paroxysm</td>
<td>n. to go back</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 15. revert</td>
<td>o. to torment</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 16. skirmish</td>
<td>p. riotous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. stymie</td>
<td>q. to eject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. terminate</td>
<td>r. small battle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. turbulent</td>
<td>s. aware</td>
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<td>_____ 20. untoward</td>
<td>t. based on whim</td>
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| IDIOMS | |
|_____ 21. cause célèbre | u. selfish motive |
|_____ 22. for a song | v. humiliating defeat |
|_____ 23. a bitter pill to swallow | w. cheaply |
|_____ 24. ax to grind | x. famous law case |

Note: *fray* and *skirmish* are almost synonymous.
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

The Reading of the Will

One full week after the funeral, the immediate family of millionaire Charles Hudson was gathered in a law office to hear the reading of the deceased’s will. Mr. Hudson’s wife, thirty years his junior, was prepared for a bitter __________ with his former wife and his son. The lawyer, Don Rollins, anticipated a __________ session because he was the only one who was __________ of the contents of the revised will that Hudson had ordered drawn up six months prior to his death.

The current Mrs. Hudson, attired in her smart black clothing, expected that she would receive the lion’s share of the estate. The former Mrs. Hudson felt that she was entitled to most of the estate since she was practically __________ at the present time, despite her substantial alimony payments.

 Lawyer Rollins cleared his throat and began to read:

“To my present spouse I leave my town house where she can continue to store the jewels, shoes, dresses, and furs she accumulated in two years of shopping and marriage.

To my son, who has put off finding a career until my estate would enrich him, I leave the sum of ten dollars for cab fare to the unemployment office.

To my former wife whose __________ behavior I tolerated for three decades, I leave my beach house where she can continue to work on her tan, something that she prized above our happiness.

To the Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals I leave the remainder of my entire estate, knowing they will put it to better use than anyone in this room.”

The lawyer was wrong. No outcries. Silence, supreme silence, reigned among the shocked audience.

Clues

1. 1st Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 2nd Day
5. 1st Day
ENTER DR. THOMAS A. DOOLEY

In 1956, Look Magazine named Thomas Dooley as one of the year’s ten most outstanding men. Just under thirty years of age at the time, Dr. Dooley had already distinguished himself by caring for a half-million sick and *emaciated* Vietnamese refugees. When fighting broke out in the divided country of Vietnam, the northern communist Viet Minh forces *surged* southward, scattering thousands of refugees before them. At the time, Dr. Dooley was a lieutenant, assigned to a *tranquil* naval hospital in Yokosuka, Japan. Forthwith* he volunteered for duty on a navy ship that had been chosen to transport the refugees to *sanctuary* in Saigon. The curtain was beginning to *ascend* on Dooley’s real career.

**NEW WORDS**

emaciated

*em-a-sh-ē-ād*

surge (v.)

*sērj*

tranquil

*traŋ-kwōl*

sanctuary

*saŋk-chū-ē-rē*

ascend

*a-šend*

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Although they were __________ from hunger, the captives of the Warsaw Ghetto battled fiercely against the Nazi army.

2. A firecracker terminated* the __________ climate of the neighborhood.

3. When Richard III violated the __________ of the church to seize the princes, he
4. Chicago put its heaviest players up front, but they were helpless as the Giants’ line _______________ toward them.

5. Inexorably* the determined climber began to _______________ the Himalayan peak.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. **emaciated** _____ a. to rush suddenly
7. **surge** _____ b. shelter
8. **tranquil** _____ c. quiet
9. **sanctuary** _____ d. abnormally thin, wasted away
10. **ascend** _____ e. to rise

**Today’s Idiom**

*sour grapes*—to disparage* something that you cannot have (from Aesop’s fable about the fox who called the grapes sour because he could not reach them)

Left off the school’s Honor Roll, Marcia said it was a meaningless recognition, but we all knew that was just *sour grapes* on her part.
DOOLEY’S MISSION

Aboard the refugee ship, Dooley’s destiny took shape. He became painfully cognizant* of the malnutrition, disease, ignorance, and fear that afflicted the passengers. In addition, he discerned* how active the communists had been in spreading their anti-American propaganda. Tom Dooley pitched in to build shelters in Haiphong, and to comfort the residents there before that besieged city fell to the powerful Viet Minh forces. He was seemingly unconcerned by the many privations he had to endure. For his services, Dooley received the U.S. Navy’s Legion of Merit. He told the story of this exciting experience in Deliver Us from Evil, a bestseller that alerted America to the plight of the Vietnamese and what Dooley saw as the sinister intentions of Communism.

NEW WORDS

malnutrition
mal - n(y)ū - ərtrι - ʃən

afflict
ə - ˈflikt

besiege
bi - ˈsēj

privation
prī - ˈvā - ʃən

sinister
ˈsi - nə - stər

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The stool pigeon, the detective’s confidant,* told him about the ________________ plot.

2. By running up a white flag, the ________________ troops indicated their desire to withdraw from the fray.*

3. Citizens of several Kentucky mountain communities are ________________ by the worst
4. The emaciated* prisoners were obviously suffering from advanced ____________.

5. Albert Schweitzer endured considerable ____________ as a jungle doctor.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. malnutrition____ a. lack of necessities
7. afflict _____ b. faulty or inadequate diet
8. besiege _____ c. evil, ominous
9. privation _____ d. to surround, hem in
10. sinister _____ e. to trouble greatly, distress

**Today’s Idiom**

*change horses in midstream*—to vote against a candidate running for reelection, to change one’s mind

The mayor asked for our support, pointing out how foolish it would be to *change horses in midstream.*
STYMIED* BY PERSONAL SICKNESS

After an extensive lecture tour in 1956, Dr. Dooley returned to Laos to set up a mobile medical unit. Because the Geneva Agreement barred the entrance of military personnel to the country, he resigned from the Navy and went to work as a civilian. That story is told in The Edge of Tomorrow. The next year, despite a growing illness, the ubiquitous Dooley turned up in the remote village of Muong Sing, attempting to thwart his traditional enemies—disease, dirt, ignorance, starvation—and hoping to quell* the spread of Communism. But his trained medical eye soon told him that the pain in his chest and back was a harbinger of a malignant cancer.

NEW WORDS

ubiquitous
yū - ˈbi - kwi - təs

remote
ri - ˈmōt

thwart
ˈthwart

harbinger
ˈhär - bin - jər

malignant
mə - ˈlĭg - nənt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Sprinting all over the court, the ________________ referee called one foul after another.

2. Ben’s untoward* table manners led his fraternity brothers to seat him in a ________________ corner of the dining room.

3. The excellent soup was a ________________ of the delicious meal to follow.
4. In an attempt to ________________ the voracious* ants, he surrounded his house with a moat of burning oil.

5. The surgeon finally located the ________________ tumor that had afflicted* his patient for many months.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. ubiquitous_____ a. distant, hidden away
7. remote _____ b. being everywhere at the same time
8. thwart _____ c. destructive, diseased, deadly
9. harbinger_____ d. to hinder, defeat
10. malignant_____ e. forerunner, advance notice

TODAY’S IDIOM

cool one’s heels—to be kept waiting

The shrewd mayor made the angry delegates cool their heels in his outer office.
“PROMISES TO KEEP”

From August 1959 until his death in January 1961, Dooley suffered almost continuous, *excruciating* pain. His normal weight of 180 was cut in half, and even the pain-killing drugs could no longer bring relief. Knowing that he did not have long to live, Dr. Dooley worked without *respite* on behalf of MEDICO, the organization he had founded to bring medical aid and hope to the world’s sick and needy. The lines of Robert Frost kept *reverberating* in his mind during those *fretful* days: “The woods are lovely, dark and deep/ But I have promises to keep/ And miles to go before I sleep.” When he finally *succumbed*, millions throughout the world were stunned and grief-stricken by his death.

**New Words**

*excruciating*
ik - ˈskrū - ʃē - ā - tiŋ

*respite*
ˈre - spit

*reverberating*
ri - vər - bə - rā - tiŋ

*fretful*
ˈfret - fəl

*succumb*
sə - ˈkəm

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. With ______________ slowness, the minute hand inched its way around the clock.
2. The rescue team heard the miner’s voice ______________ through the caves.
3. Around income tax time ______________ faces are ubiquitous.*
4. The verbose* insurance salesman gave my father no ______________ .
5. Besieged* by debts, the corporation finally had to ________________ to bankruptcy.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. excruciating_____  a. interval of relief, delay
7. respite _____  b. worrisome, irritable
8. reverberating____  c. echoing, resounding
9. fretful _____  d. agonizing, torturous
10. succumb _____  e. to give way, yield

Today's Idiom

*a red herring*—something that diverts attention from the main issue (a red herring drawn across a fox’s path destroys the scent)

We felt that the publicity during the campaign over his war record was *a red herring* to keep us from inquiring into his corruption.
Shortly before his death, Dr. Dooley was selected by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce as one of America’s ten most outstanding young men. There may be no connection between success of that type and an expanded vocabulary—but one never knows.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.
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1. Eric was *(afflicted, besieged)* with an inoperable ailment.
2. The octogenarian refused to *(succumb, surge)* to pneumonia.
3. The *(remote, ubiquitous)* mayor was photographed in four different parts of the city yesterday.
4. We were worried lest the hostages be suffering from *(sanctuary, malnutrition)*.
5. The *(tranquil, sinister)* tone of the spring morning was suddenly broken by the loud explosion.
6. I heard his voice *(excruciating, reverberating)* through the corridors.
7. The senator’s bid for a second term was *(thwarted, respited)* by the electorate.
8. After the king’s death, his son *(ascended, succumbed)* to the throne in the normal order of succession.
9. The *(privations, harbingers)* that the poor people endured in their ghetto apartments were reprehensible.
10. The children were *(emaciated, fretful)* when awakened from their nap.
11. We were asked to *(change horses in midstream, cool our heels)* while waiting for the bus.

#### SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

*(From Week 8)*

*Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.*
Choose the noun, verb, or adjective that answers each of the questions and write the corresponding letter in the appropriate answer space.

a. affluent  
b. arbitrary  
c. avid  
d. cajole  
e. elicit  
f. euphemism  
g. fray  
h. harbinger  
i. indigent  
j. precocious  
k. pugnacious  
l. reprimand  
m. skirmish  
n. sour grapes  
o. wrest

1. Which noun tells you that something is on the way?  
2. Which verb means to extract, to get something out of?  
3. Which adjective describes an action that is based on a whim?  
4. Which adjective tells you about children who are very bright for their age?  
5. If a wealthy family moved into your neighborhood, which adjective would be suitable for them?  
6. Which adjective can be substituted for enthusiastic?  
7. If you had to coax someone into doing something, which verb would be appropriate?  
8. When we call death a “negative patient outcome,” which noun comes to mind?  
9. In seizing control, which verb is appropriate?  
10. Which adjective describes a combative, quarrelsome person?  
11. Which verb is a good synonym for scold?  
12. What do you indulge in when you belittle that which you cannot possess?
13. Which adjective describes a poverty-stricken person?
14. Which two nouns are almost synonymous?
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Aftermath of an Earthquake**

The Egyptian earthquake in October 1992 killed 600 residents of Cairo and hospitalized thousands of others, many of whom were expected to 1 to death as a result of their injuries. Especially hard hit were the people who inhabited the city’s slums, who had to seek 2 in those government buildings, schools, and factories that remained standing.

Religious Muslim groups were active in providing relief to the survivors in the form of food, water, blankets, and tents to house the more than 300 families made homeless by the disaster. Believers took the opportunity to spread the message that the earthquake was a 3 of worse things to come, and that a wayward population must follow God’s laws if they expected to 4 to heaven.

Throughout history, following volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, tidal waves, and other calamities that periodically 5 mankind, religious leaders have used such occurrences to bring the people back to their faith.

Since many Egyptians had expressed unhappiness about their government prior to the earthquake, there was a good chance for religious Muslim groups to win new converts by showing that the answer to recovery was not through man’s efforts, but through God’s.

**Clues**

1. 4th Day
2. 1st Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 1st Day
5. 2nd Day
P. T. Barnum, the great circus *impressario*, was once accosted* by a woman who showed him a scurrilous* manuscript about himself, and said that unless he paid her, she would have the book printed. Barnum rejected the *extortion* attempt. “Say what you please,” he replied, “but make sure that you mention me in some way. Then come to me and I will estimate the value of your services as a publicity agent.” Barnum obviously felt that *adverse* criticism was an *asset* for a public figure. He believed a man who seeks the limelight should not care what is written about him, but should be concerned only when they stop writing about him. Barnum’s philosophy suggests that we might do well to review the plethora* of publicity given to rabble-rousers and *bigots.*

**NEW WORDS**

*impressario*

im - prə - sā - rē - ə

*extortion*

ik - əstər - shən

*adverse*

ad - əvərs

*asset*

ə - set

*bigot*

əbət

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. When the business manager was accused of ____________, his colleagues sought to oust* him from the firm.

2. The eminent* ______________ brought headline acts to communities across the country.

3. Attacked by the irate* crowd, the ______________ asked the police for sanctuary.*
4. President Obama found that texting was an ______________ to his communication skills.

5. It was excruciatingly* painful for the actors to read the ______________ reviews that their performances had received.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. impresario_____  a. narrow-minded, prejudiced person
7. extortion _____  b. unfavorable, harmful
8. adverse _____  c. one who presents cultural series, organizer
9. asset _____  d. valuable thing to have
10. bigot _____  e. getting money by threats or favors

**Today's Idiom**

*spill the beans*—to give away a secret

Although he was reticent,* when the felon* was intimidated* by the members of the rival gang, he **spilled the beans**.
BIGOTS* GET PUBLICITY

Today, the blatant bigot, the leader of a lunatic fringe, and the hate-monger, each with his tiny entourage, find it relatively easy to attract publicity. Newspapers give space to the virulent activities of those agitators on the grounds that they are newsworthy. TV producers and radio executives, seeking sensationalism, often extend a welcome to such controversial characters. “Yes,” said the host of one such program, “we invite bigots, but it is only for the purpose of making them look ridiculous by displaying their inane* policies to the public.” Some civic-minded organizations have answered, however, that the hosts are not always equipped to demolish those guests, and even if they were, the audience would still be exposed to the venom they spew forth.

New Words

blatant
ˈblā - t(ə)nt
entourage
ˈon - tu - rāzh

virulent
ˈvi - rə - lənt

venom
ˈve - nəm

spew
ˈspyū

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The visiting dictator’s ubiquitous* ________________ of bodyguards disturbed our tranquil* city.

2. Europe’s population was afflicted* by a ________________ plague known as the Black Death.

3. From each candidate’s headquarters acrimonious* charges would ________________ forth
daily.
4. Clym Yeobright’s mother succumbed* to the ________________ of a snake bite.
5. With ________________ discourtesy the reporters continued to harass* the bereaved family.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. blatant _____ a. group of attendants
7. entourage_____ b. obvious, very showy
8. virulent _____ c. poison, spite, malice
9. venom _____ d. spout, eject
10. spew _____ e. full of hate, harmful

TODAY’S IDIOM

*keep a stiff upper lip—*to be courageous in the face of trouble*

It was admirable to see how the British managed to *keep a stiff upper lip* in spite of the German bombing.
COPING WITH BIGOTS*

Suppose a bigot* wished to organize a meeting in your neighborhood. Since we cherish freedom of speech, we are *loath to deny the request, even if he preaches hatred. As a result, hate-mongers are given the opportunity to rent halls, conduct meetings, publish abusive literature, and *solicit contributions. What can be done about them? One *astute observer, Prof. S. Andhil Fineberg, *advocates the “quarantine method.” His plan is to give such groups no publicity and to ignore them completely. Without the warmth of the spotlight, he feels that the bigot will freeze and become *ineffectual. Debating with such warped minds is not feasible* and only tends to exacerbate* the situation.

NEW WORDS

loath
ˈloʊθ
	solicit
soʊ-ˈli-sɪt

astute
ə-ˈst(y)ʊt

advocate (v.)
ˈad-əkt

ineffectual
ɪ-nəˈfɛktʃuəl

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Since we felt that the ruling was arbitrary,* we were ______________ to obey it.
2. Daily the volunteers went out to ______________ funds for the indigent* families.
3. My neighbor was ______________ enough to discern* the adverse* features of the mortgage.
4. The general was sure to _______________ that we give the enemy no respite* from the bombings.

5. The play was so blatantly* bad that the impresario* fired its _______________ director.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. loath _____ a. keen, shrewd
7. solicit _____ b. to be in favor of, support
8. astute _____ c. unable to accomplish anything
9. advocate _____ d. unwilling, reluctant
(v.)
10. ineffectual____ e. to beg, seek

TODAY’S IDIOM

have cold feet—to hesitate because of fear or uncertainty
My cousin was all set to join the paratroops, but at the last moment he had cold feet.
MORE THAN SILENCE

The quarantine method for handling bigots implies more than giving them the silent treatment. Prof. Fineberg urges community-relations organizations to *scrutinize* the *nefarious* activities of hate-mongers and to be prepared to furnish information about them to *amicable* inquirers. When a rabble-rouser is coming, those organizations should privately expose him to opinion-molders. In addition, constructive efforts should be taken to induce people to involve themselves in projects for improving intergroup relations. Bigger than the *vexatious* immediate problem is the need to find out the cause for such bigotry and to counteract this sinister* *malady* that afflicts* a segment of our society.

NEW WORDS

*scrutinize*
scrū - tō - nīz

*nefarious*
nī - fēr - ē - ās

*amicable*
ā - mi - kā - bāl

*vexatious*
vek - sā - shēs

*malady*
ma - lō - ðē

Sample Sentences  Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The ___________ buzzing of the mosquitoes as they surged* about our heads nearly drove us insane.
2. Our ___________ relations with Latin America are an asset* to hemispheric trade.
3. Once the virulent* ___________ had run its course, my temperature dropped.
4. We were distraught* upon hearing the venom* spewed* forth by the ________________ bigot.*

5. No sooner did the lawyer ________________ the extortion* note than she called the police.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. scrutinize____ a. annoying
7. nefarious____ b. villainous, vicious
8. amicable____ c. to examine closely
9. vexatious____ d. disease
10. malady ____ e. friendly, peaceful

TODAY'S IDIOM

look a gift horse in the mouth—to be critical of a present (from the practice of judging a horse’s age by his teeth)

Although I didn’t have much use for Uncle Roy’s present, I took it with a big smile since I have been taught never to look a gift horse in the mouth.
At times you may have to engage in a verbal skirmish* with a bigot.* It would be to your advantage if you had the proper words at your fingertips.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. adverse</td>
<td>a. to support</td>
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<td>2. advocate (v.)</td>
<td>b. keen, shrewd</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. amicable</td>
<td>c. something of value</td>
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<td>4. asset</td>
<td>d. villainous</td>
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<td>5. astute</td>
<td>e. to seek or beg</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. bigot</td>
<td>f. organizer of entertainment</td>
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<td>7. blatant</td>
<td>g. annoying</td>
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<td>8. entourage</td>
<td>h. followers</td>
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<td>9. extortion</td>
<td>i. obvious</td>
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<td>10. impresario</td>
<td>j. to examine closely</td>
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<td>11. ineffectual</td>
<td>k. poison</td>
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<td>12. loath</td>
<td>l. harmful</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. malady</td>
<td>m. unable to accomplish anything</td>
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<td>14. nefarious</td>
<td>n. prejudiced person</td>
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<td>15. scrutinize</td>
<td>o. unfavorable</td>
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<td>16. solicit</td>
<td>p. friendly</td>
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<td>q. unwilling</td>
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<td>18. venom</td>
<td>r. spout</td>
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<td>19. vexatious</td>
<td>s. disease</td>
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<td>20. virulent</td>
<td>t. getting money by threats or favors</td>
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<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21. spill the beans</td>
<td>u. to be critical of a present</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. keep a stiff upper lip</td>
<td>v. hesitation because of fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. have cold feet</td>
<td>w. to have courage in the face of trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. look a gift horse in the mouth</td>
<td>x. to give away a secret</td>
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</table>

Make a record of those words you missed. Once again, use those words in original sentences.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**The 20th Century’s Deadliest Disease**

When the general American public started to hear about the AIDS virus in the 1980s, there was a measure of concern, but no real alarm. After all, some said, it was a problem solely for intravenous drug users who shared dirty needles, and for the homosexual community.

But as the numbers of afflicted people grew during the 1980s and 1990s, we began to ①___________ the tragic news stories more closely. The deaths of young people like Ryan White and Kimberly Bergalis, not members of the at-risk groups referred to above, convinced us that what was at first regarded merely as a ②___________ illness was actually a ③___________ threat to the general community.

In the mid-1980s, ④___________ medical researchers were optimistic that a vaccine for AIDS would be found in short order. Those predictions proved to be inaccurate. In October 1992, former Surgeon-General C. Everett Koop said that he doubted we would ever find a cure for the disease. With over 200,000 Americans already having succumbed to the ⑤___________ killer, and another 300,000 who were HIV-positive and could contract a full-blown form of AIDS, Koop’s statement sent chills throughout the country.

A prominent AIDS expert, however, took issue with Koop. “The fight will be difficult,” said Dr. Harley Smith, “but we will find an answer very shortly.”

Although there is still no cure or sure HIV vaccine, treatment consists of antiretroviral therapy, which is effective in slowing progression of the disease.

**Clues**

1. 4th Day
2. 4th Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 4th Day
JERRY HART’S SIXTH SENSE

An uneasy feeling had made Jerry Hart miserable all day long. It was difficult to explain, but the similar sensations in the past had been accurate—trouble was on the way. Just as some people can predict the onset of inclement weather because of an aching in their bones, so could Jerry detect incipient disaster. He sat at his desk, trying to peruse a company report but his efforts were ineffectual.* The gnawing at his insides, the tinge of uneasiness, the premonition of calamity that besieged him would not desist. When the phone rang, he recoiled with fear—it was his wife and she was hysterical. Their son had been bitten by a mad dog!

NEW WORDS

inclement
in - 'kle - mənt

peruse
pə - 'rūz

premonition
pre - mə - 'ni - shən

desist
di - 'sist

recoil
ri - 'kōil

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After being admonished* by his father, he began to ________________ the job listings daily.
2. When the black cat crossed her path, Ellen had a ________________ of disaster.
3. The pickets promulgated* a warning that they would not ________________ in their efforts to enhance* their standard of living.
4. As the snake prepared to strike, the girls ________________ in horror.

5. She blamed her absence from the game on the ________________ weather, but we knew it was sour grapes.*

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. inclement _____ a. unfavorable, stormy
7. peruse _____ b. to read carefully
8. premonition_____ c. to cease
9. desist _____ d. forewarning
10. recoil _____ e. to draw back

**Today's Idiom**

*pay the piper*—to bear the consequences (from the story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin)

The cruel leader was doing well at the present time, but he knew that one day he might have to pay the piper.
CRISIS!

As soon as Jerry Hart could get the pertinent facts from his wife, he dashed out of the office on his way home. He jostled people in the hallway, implored the elevator operator to hurry, and with flagrant disregard for an elderly gentleman jumped into the cab he had hailed. The twenty-minute taxi ride seemed interminable, and all the while horrible thoughts occurred to Jerry. Visions of an ugly mastiff with foaming jaws obsessed him. A crowd of people had gathered in front of his house so that Jerry had to force his way through them. Little Bobby was on his bed, surrounded by a doctor, a police officer, Jerry’s doleful wife, his two daughters, and a half-dozen wan neighbors.

New Words

pertinent
ˈpər-tə-nənt

mastiff
ˈməst-if

obsess
əb-ˈses

doleful
ˈdo-ləf

wan
ˈwən

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The stockbroker was ________________ with the idea of becoming a painter.

2. My nervous neighbor bought a pugnacious* ________________ to frighten burglars.

3. ________________ expressions abounded* throughout headquarters on the night of the election.

4. During the trial the astute* lawyer was able to elicit* the ________________ information from
the key witness.

5. After the tension, his normally ruddy face was _______________ and tired.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. pertinent _____ a. sad, melancholy
7. mastiff _____ b. to the point
8. obsess _____ c. sickly pale
9. doleful _____ d. to haunt, preoccupy
10. wan _____ e. large dog

**Today's Idiom**

call on the carpet— to scold

Because of her repeated lateness, Betty’s boss *called her on the carpet.*
A TIME FOR DECISION

The doctor explained the situation calmly, avoiding *histrionics*. First of all, they didn’t know whether the dog had rabies. Secondly, the *elusive* dog had *frustrated* all attempts to find him so far. Finally, the decision would have to be made whether Bobby was to undergo the painful vaccination administered daily for two weeks. Mrs. Hart said that a neighbor who had seen the dog claimed that it had been foaming at the mouth, barking, and growling constantly—all *symptomatic* of rabies. But the policeman *interjected* that there hadn’t been a case of a mad dog in the county in over twenty years; he repudiated* the neighbor’s report, advocating* that they do nothing for at least another day. Mr. and Mrs. Hart sat down to think about their next step.

**NEW WORDS**

* histrionics
  hi - strē - ˈo - niks

* elusive
  i - ˈlū - siv

* frustrate
  ˈfrû - strāt

* symptomatic
  simp - to - ˈma - tik

* interject
  in - ˈtɔr - ˈjekt

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The warden __________ the prisoners’ attempt to escape by adding more guards.
2. Most viewers hate it when a commercial is ___________ into a TV drama.
3. Saying that he would not tolerate* her ___________, the director fired the temperamental actress.
4. All his life he found happiness _______________, but wealth easy to come by.
5. The growing homelessness was _______________ of the problems facing large cities.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. histrionics _____ a. having to do with signs or symptoms, indicative
7. elusive _____ b. hard to grasp
8. frustrate _____ c. to insert, interrupt
9. symptomatic_____ d. display of emotions
10. interject _____ e. to counteract, foil, thwart*

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

*show one’s hand*—to reveal one’s intentions

When the caterer delivered the food early, Jameson was forced to *show his hand* to his wife about the surprise party for her.
THE PERTINENT* FACTS ABOUT RABIES

“Give me some of the rudimentary* information about the disease, Doc,” said Jerry, glancing toward the inert figure of his son. “Well, as you know, the malady* used to be called ‘hydrophobia’ (fear of water) because one of the symptoms is an inability to swallow liquids. Actually, it is caused by a live virus from the saliva of an infected animal. If saliva gets into a bite wound, the victim may get rabies. The virus travels along the nerves to the spine and brain. Once the salient characteristics appear (ten days to six months) then death is imminent.” “What are the symptoms?” asked Mrs. Hart. “Pain and numbness, difficulty in swallowing, headaches and nervousness. Also, muscle spasms and convulsions.” The squeamish neighbors who were engrossed in the doctor’s remarks gasped. “I think we should go ahead with the injections,” the distraught* Mrs. Hart said. “I’ve heard enough.”

NEW WORDS

inert
i - ˈnɛrt

salient
ˈsā - lē - ənt

imminent
ˈi - mō - ənt

squeamish
ˈskwē - mish

engrossed
in - ˈgrōst

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The senator loathed* it when people said that a nuclear war was ________________.

2. When his ________________ partner complained about a lack of ethics,* the businessman laughed at his innocence.
3. ____________ in his crossword puzzle, he failed to notice the paucity* of customers in the restaurant.

4. One of the ____________ features of her poetry is a dependence upon euphemisms.*

5. Seeing the ____________ player, the manager dashed out onto the field.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. inert _____ a. important, prominent
7. salient _____ b. without power to move
8. imminent _____ c. likely to happen, threatening
9. squeamish_____ d. absorbed
10. engrossed_____ e. easily shocked, over sensitive

TODAY’S IDIOM

tilt at windmills—to fight imaginary enemies (from Don Quixote)

The vice president told the committee, “We’re really on your side, and if you fight us you’ll be tilting at windmills.”
At the end of this week’s study, you will have covered 200 words and 40 idioms. In addition, you will have seen many of those words used several times in subsequent lessons. If you have been operating at only 75% efficiency, you have, nevertheless, added substantially to your arsenal of words.

Here’s a thought: wouldn’t it be wonderful if through genuine attention to the daily dosage you could move up to 80%—or even 90%? Start by matching the 20 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. Did somebody say 100%?

### REVIEW WORDS

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<td>doleful</td>
<td>b</td>
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<td>elusive</td>
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<td>histrionics</td>
<td>f</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>mastiff</td>
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<td>to read over, examine</td>
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<td>premonition</td>
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<td>forewarning</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>recoil</td>
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<td>display of emotions</td>
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### DEFINITIONS

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<td>s</td>
<td>absorbed</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>display of emotions</td>
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### IDIOMS

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>pay the piper</td>
<td>u</td>
<td>to reveal one’s emotions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>call on the carpet</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>to scold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>show one’s hand</td>
<td>w</td>
<td>to fight imaginary enemies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>tilt at windmills</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>to bear the consequences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Make a record of those words you missed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**The Potato that Strangled Idaho**

People who are ①___________ about the sight of blood or ②___________ in horror from most forms of violence would do well to avoid some of the movies now being shown at their local cinemas. Producers have learned that films that scare the patrons out of their seats, ironically, put millions of fans into those seats, keeping them ③___________ in the goose pimple-inducing spectacles that flash across the screen.

Of course, each movie carries with it a rating that indicates its suitability for certain age groups, either because of its subject matter, language, presentation, or level of violence. Pictures with a “G” rating are approved for all audiences, while, at the other end of the scale, those that are given an “NC–17” rating are for adults only with no children allowed under any circumstance. Getting an “R” rating indicates that the movie is restricted (no one under 18 admitted without an adult), but some Hollywood moguls consider the “R” to be the magnet that insures box office success. And we can be sure that as long as shock films ring up a merry tune on the cash registers, producers will not ④___________ from making them.

A director who specializes in making gory films involving monsters, vampires, and brutal serial killers boasted in a college lecture that his work was in good taste. One student who disagreed was provoked to ⑤___________ that in his opinion the diet of “shock-schlock” movies was in worse taste than those pictures that contained vulgar language and nudity. “At least they’re honest,” he declared.

**Clues**

① 4th Day
② 1st Day
③ 4th Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 3rd Day
Meanwhile, the Harts had notified the local radio stations to broadcast a poignant appeal for the dog’s owner to come forward. The station was inundated with phone calls, but all leads were fruitless. From what Bobby had told them, a huge dog had leaped out from a red station wagon in the supermarket’s parking lot. After biting Bobby it vanished. The six-year-old was too concerned with the bites he had received to see where the dog had gone. The boy’s story was garbled, but he did remember that the animal was gray and had a collar. There was little tangible evidence to go on, but the police remained sanguine.

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The sermon was ____________ enough to bring tears to the brash* delinquent’s eyes.
2. Although the message was ____________, its salient* points were clear enough.
3. After a ____________ attempt to wrest* control of the government, the traitors were incarcerated.
4. Even though his boat was almost ________________, the skipper was loath* to radio for help.

5. Because the malignancy* had gone unchecked, the surgeons were not ________________ about the patient’s chances.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. poignant _____  a. useless
7. inundate _____  b. confused, mixed up
8. fruitless _____  c. optimistic
9. garbled _____  d. to flood
10. sanguine _____  e. moving, painful to the feelings

**Today’s Idiom**

*feather one’s nest*—to grow rich by taking advantage of circumstances

While working as the tax collector, he adroitly* feathered his own nest.
NO RELIEF

The normally phlegmatic Jerry Hart was deeply upset. Twenty-four hours had passed without results, and even if the rabies could not be corroborated, Jerry was determined to see that his son received the vaccine. At the suggestion of some friends, he organized a comprehensive search party, zealously fanning out in circles around the supermarket. They knocked on every door, inspected every dog, and came back empty-handed. Although the Harts were sick with worry (they had to be coerced into going to sleep), little Bobby seemed to be in great spirits. The excruciating* vigil continued.

NEW WORDS

phlegmatic
fleg - ma - tik

corroborate
kə - ro - bə - rāt

comprehensive
kom - prə - ˈhen - siv

zealous
ˈze - ləs

coerce
kō - ˈers

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Harriet’s egregious* error disturbed even her _______________ employer.

2. The fund-raiser was so _______________ that he solicited* money from a Salvation Army Santa Claus.

3. In order to get the job, you had to go through the drudgery* of filling out a ten-page _______________ questionnaire.
4. The elusive* fugitive was ________________ by his attorney into surrendering.

5. Even the swindler’s nefarious* accomplice refused to ________________ his alibi.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. phlegmatic _____ a. overly enthusiastic  
7. corroborate _____ b. calm, hard to rouse to action  
8. comprehensive_____ c. to confirm, support  
9. zealous _____ d. thorough  
10. coerce _____ e. to force

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*fair-weather friends*—unreliable, they fail one in times of distress

The general was chagrined* to learn that so many of his supposed supporters were actually *fair-weather friends.*
THE POLICE FIND THE DOG

Forty hours had elapsed before the police work and the publicity paid off. By meticulously checking the registrations of every red station wagon in the neighborhood and then cross-checking dog licenses, the police narrowed the search to four owners. After a few telephone calls, the apologetic owner was located and directed to bring her muzzled German shepherd to the Hart domicile. Bobby identified the dog, and the animal was taken to a veterinary’s clinic to have the necessary tests performed. The lax owner, Mrs. McGraw, admitted that the dog had a sporadic mean streak, but she scoffed* at the idea of rabies. Jerry Hart noticed for the first time in two days that his uneasy feeling had departed.

NEW WORDS

elapse
i - ·laps

meticulous
mə - ·ti - kə - ləs

domicile
ˈdo - mə - sīl

lax
ˈlaks

sporadic
spə - ˈra - dik

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Inadvertently,* Emma had allowed two months to ________________ before paying her rent.

2. The lackluster* battle was punctuated by ________________ mortar fire.

3. A man’s ________________ is his castle.

4. Because the watchman was ________________ , thievery was rampant* at the warehouse.
5. The ______________ musician had nothing but disdain* for his disorganized friends.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. elapse _____ a. careless, negligent
7. meticulous_____ b. to slip by (time)
8. domicile _____ c. occasional
9. lax _____ d. home
10. sporadic _____ e. careful

TODAY'S IDIOM

sow one’s wild oats—to lead a wild, carefree life

During his teen years, the millionaire avidly* sowed his wild oats.
ALL’S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

The Harts were greatly relieved to learn that the rash conjecture about the dog was not true. Because the German shepherd was not rabid, the necessity for the painful treatment was obviated. The police gave the dog’s owner a summons for allowing the animal to go unmuzzled. Little Bobby was treated to an ice cream sundae and a Walt Disney double feature. The neighbors searched for other lurid happenings, and Jerry Hart went back to his office. “What kind of dog was that?” his secretary asked. “Oh, his bark was worse than his bite,” quipped Jerry.

NEW WORDS

rash (adj.)
·rash

conjecture (n.)
kən - ˈjek - chər

obviate
·ob - vē - āt

lurid
·lu - rid

quip (v.)
·kwip

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. It was sheer ________________ on the detective’s part, but it led to the arrest of the vexatious* counterfeiters.

2. The newspaper switched from mundane* coverage to ________________ reporting.

3. It was exceedingly ________________ of the lightweight to insult the belligerent* longshoreman.
4. The necessity for preparing sandwiches was ________________ when the picnic was postponed.

5. Hamlet remembered that Yorick was always ready with a clever ________________ .

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. rash _____ a. do away with, eliminate
   (adj.)

7. conjecture____ b. to joke
   (n.)

8. obviate _____ c. guesswork

9. lurid _____ d. sensational

10. quip (v.) _____ e. too hasty, reckless

Today's Idiom

windfall—unexpected financial gain

When the bankrupt company struck oil, the surprised investor received a windfall of $20,000.
Many teachers have jested about their students who confused *rabies* with *rabbis*, Jewish clergymen. We know that those who get the message of this book, true vocabulary mastery, will make few such errors.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. coerce</td>
<td>a. to flood, to swamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. comprehensive</td>
<td>b. home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. conjecture (n.)</td>
<td>c. painful to the feelings, moving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. corroborate</td>
<td>d. useless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. domicile</td>
<td>e. reckless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. elapse</td>
<td>f. to confirm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. fruitless</td>
<td>g. calm, sluggish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. garbled</td>
<td>h. sensational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. inundate</td>
<td>i. hopeful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. lax</td>
<td>j. to do away with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. lurid</td>
<td>k. confused, mixed up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. meticulous</td>
<td>l. guess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. obviate</td>
<td>m. to pass by (time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. phlegmatic</td>
<td>n. careless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. poignant</td>
<td>o. occasional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. quip (v.)</td>
<td>p. thorough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. rash (adj.)</td>
<td>q. careful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. sanguine</td>
<td>r. to force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. sporadic</td>
<td>s. enthusiastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. zealous</td>
<td>t. to joke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IDIOMS**

| 21. feather one’s nest | u. to lead a wild life                           |
| 22. fair-weather friends | v. unexpected financial gain                     |
| 23. sow one’s wild oats | w. unreliable acquaintances                      |
| 24. windfall           | x. to provide for oneself at the expense of others |

Make a record of those words you missed. If you were able to get them all right, use the five spaces to create antonyms for numbers 7, 8, 10, 17, and 19.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>1. _____________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. _____________________</td>
<td>__________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Assuming Blunders

Teachers who train students to memorize and then do rote recitations sometimes find that the youngsters have a ①___________ interpretation of the actual words. Eliza Berman, an educator who is ②___________ about her own use of language, invited colleagues to send her examples of confusion in students’ writings. Little did she realize that they would quickly ③___________ her letterbox with their students’ mistakes. As a result, Ms. Berman was able to compile a fairly ④___________ list of howlers that include the following:

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for Richard Sands.”

“Deliver us from evil. Lead us not into Penn Station.”

“The inhabitants of ancient Egypt were called Mummies. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and traveled by Camelot.”

“Homer wrote The Oddity in which Penelope was the first hardship Ulysses endured on his journey.”

“Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock.”

“King Alfred conquered the Dames.”

“Under the Constitution, the people enjoy the right to keep bare arms.”

“In the Olympic Games, the Greeks ran, jumped, and hurled the biscuits and threw the java.”

“Lincoln was America’s greatest Precedent.”

Ms. Berman is not too ⑤___________ about eliminating such errors from pupils’ compositions and test papers. Her advice: enjoy!

Clues
① 1st Day
② 3rd Day
③ 1st Day
④ 2nd Day
⑤ 1st Day
When Monte Ziltch told his boss, Mr. Foy, that he was quitting as an accountant to become an actor, the man was convulsed with laughter. After Mr. Foy realized that Monte was obsessed* with the idea, he became quite serious, launching into a *diatribe* on the importance of responsibility in the younger generation. Monte confessed that he had been developing ulcers as an accountant, and when his psychiatrist suggested that the sickness was a result of *inhibitions*, Monte agreed. Now a *fortuitous* opportunity to get into show business required Monte to make an immediate decision. Mr. Foy stormed out of the office, muttering *incoherently* about hippies, millennials, and others of that *ilk*.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>diatribe</td>
<td>di-ə-trīb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inhibition</td>
<td>in-hi-bi-shən</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fortuitous</td>
<td>fôr-ə-tū-s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incoherent</td>
<td>in-kō-hir-ənt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ilk</td>
<td>ĭlk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. When a large expenditure is imminent,* my father goes into a long ________________ on the need for economizing.
2. It is often fruitless* to argue with racists, bigots,* and others of that ________________.
3. Since the patient’s speech was garbled* and ________________ , our determination of his message was only conjecture.*
4. The meeting was a ________________ one, but the jealous husband construed* it as pre-
arranged and clandestine.*

5. After two drinks the usually phlegmatic* dentist lost all his ________________ .

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. diatribe _____ a. kind, sort, type
7. inhibition_____ b. disjointed
8. fortuitous_____ c. lucky, accidental
9. incoherent_____ d. rant
10. ilk _____ e. restraint

Today's Idiom

wear one's heart on one's sleeve—to make one's feelings evident

People who wear their hearts on their sleeves frequently suffer emotional upsets.
AN ALL-ROUND MAN

The need for a decision came about when Monte was invited to join a *prestigious* summer stock company, starting in mid-June. As a mature “apprentice,” he would be required to take tickets, paint scenery, prepare *placards*, assist with lighting, costumes, and props, and carry an occasional spear in a walk-on role. Since the company would stage five major plays during the summer, as well as a half-dozen shows for children, there was a chance that Monte might actually get a part before too many weeks had elapsed.* In addition, he would be attending the drama classes that were an *integral* part of the summer theater. The *remuneration* would be *nominal*, but at last Monte Ziltch would be fulfilling a life-long ambition.

### NEW WORDS

**prestigious**
> pre - *stē - jəs OR
> pre - *sti - jəs

**placard**
> *pla - kārd

**integral**
> *in - əl - grəl

**remuneration**
> *ri - əmyū - nə - rā - shən

**nominal**
> *nə - məl - nəl

### Sample Sentences

Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The police posted a ____________ asking all citizens to desist* from looting.

2. A salient* feature of the ____________ company’s success was its fair treatment of employees.
3. Derek Jeter’s ______________ from the New York Yankees made him a millionaire many times over.

4. For allowing his ferocious mastiff* to appear on a commercial, the trainer was paid a ______________ sum.

5. She seemed to be an unimportant member of the president’s entourage,* but actually she played an ______________ role in White House affairs.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. prestigious _____ a. essential
7. placard _____ b. poster
8. integral _____ c. slight, in name only
9. remuneration____ d. reward, pay
10. nominal _____ e. distinguished

TODAY’S IDIOM

*air one’s dirty laundry in public—to openly discuss private affairs*

“Let’s talk about it privately,” his uncle said, “rather than _______________ in public.”
WEEK 12 • DAY 3

FROM LEDGERS TO SCRIPTS

During the first weeks of the summer, Monte Ziltch didn’t even have time to consider whether he had made an egregious* mistake. He was too engrossed* in his work, performing a thousand and one odd jobs around the theater. First there was the opening production of A Chorus Line, then two weeks of The Fantasticks, followed by a poignant* The Diary of Anne Frank, which did excellent business. All through those weeks, Monte painted, carried, nailed, collected, ran, studied, and perspired. He had expunged all traces of debits and credits from his mind, burying himself in the more flamboyant world of the theater. Accounting became anathema to him as the schism between his present utopia and his former drudgery* widened.

NEW WORDS

expunge
ik - ˈspʌŋj

flamboyant
flam - ˈbɒɪ - ənt

anathema
ə - ˈna - thə - mə

schism
ˈski - zəm

utopia
yū - ˈtō - pē - ə

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. In Lost Horizon a character recoiled* at the idea of living in a ________________.
2. A pernicious* ________________ developed between the two sisters.
3. The traitor’s name was ________________ in his father’s domicile.*
4. Our theatrical pages were inundated* with press releases from the ________________ producer.

5. After having made the rash* statements, the senator wished that he could ________________ them from the record.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. expunge _____ a. split
7. flamboyant_____ b. something greatly detested
8. anathema _____ c. place of perfection
9. schism _____ d. to erase
10. utopia _____ e. showy, colorful

TODAY'S IDIOM

save face—to avoid disgrace

Instead of firing the corrupt executive, they allowed him to retire in order that he might save face.
IRONY FOR MERRYWEATHER

At last, Monte’s chance to perform came. He had played the timorous Lion in a truncated version of The Wizard of Oz, which the apprentices had staged. But now there was an open audition to cast the final show of the season. It was to be a jaunty original comedy, given a summer tryout prior to a Broadway opening. Monte, who by now had adopted the stage name of Monte Merryweather, read for the producers, hoping to get the part of the hero’s fractious landlord. Unfortunately, the competition was too tough—but the director assigned Monte to a less ostentatious part. And so for the first two weeks in September the stage-struck accountant had a two-minute, two-line part. What was his role? The hero’s accountant!

NEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD</th>
<th>PRONUNCIATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>timorous</td>
<td>'ti - mə - rəs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>truncated</td>
<td>'trûŋ - kə - təd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jaunty</td>
<td>'jôn - tē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fractious</td>
<td>'frak - shəs</td>
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<tr>
<td>ostentatious</td>
<td>o - sten - 'tə - shəs</td>
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Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. It is frustrating* to have one’s lengthy remarks printed in ________________ form.
2. With his cap set at a ________________ angle, the amicable* sailor strutted down the street.
3. In an ________________ display of histrionics* the star refused to perform.
4. Under duress* the normally ________________ husband was coerced* into demanding a raise.

5. Roger’s ________________ behavior compounded* the bad relationship he had already had with his partner.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. timorous _____ a. fearful
7. truncated _____ b. cut short
8. jaunty _____ c. sprightly
9. fractious _____ d. showy
10. ostentatious____ e. quarrelsome

**Today's Idiom**

*Indian summer*—warm autumn weather

Parts of the country were deep in snow, but the East was enjoying an *Indian summer.*
Week 12 • Day 5

How many of the new words have now become a part of your “working vocabulary”? At first, their use may be conscious, even studied. However, the squeaks will soon disappear. Try a few this weekend.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. (Note the resemblance between flamboyant and ostentatious.)

**REVIEW WORDS**

_____ 1. anathema
_____ 2. diatribe
_____ 3. expunge
_____ 4. flamboyant
_____ 5. fortuitous
_____ 6. fractious
_____ 7. ilk
_____ 8. incoherent
_____ 9. inhibition
_____ 10. integral
_____ 11. jaunty
_____ 12. nominal
_____ 13. ostentatious
_____ 14. placard
_____ 15. prestigious
_____ 16. remuneration
_____ 17. schism
_____ 18. timorous
_____ 19. truncated
_____ 20. utopia

**DEFINITIONS**

a. well-known
b. quarrelsome
c. kind, sort, type
d. poster
e. disjointed
f. sprightly
g. lucky
h. in name only, slight
i. restraint
j. reward
k. something greatly detested
l. rant
m. to erase
n. colorful
o. cut short
p. essential
q. fearful
r. showy
s. split
t. place of perfection

**IDIOMS**

_____ 21. wear one’s heart on one’s sleeve
_____ 22. air one’s dirty laundry in public
_____ 23. save face
_____ 24. Indian summer

u. to make one’s feelings evident
v. warm autumn weather
w. to avoid disgrace
x. to openly discuss private affairs

Make a record of those words you missed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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</table>
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?
(From Week 12)

Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The senator went into a lengthy (diatribe, remuneration) about government waste in the military budget.
2. Most reformers are seeking to create a (schism, utopia).
3. Lorraine was criticized sharply for the (ostentatious, nominal) way in which she furnished her apartment.
4. Anyone so (ilk, timorous) should not have been selected to guard the castle.
5. My brother was promoted to a (prestigious, flamboyant) job in his company.
6. Although his speech was (anathema, jaunty) we were able to sense its underlying seriousness.
7. The failing grade was (expunged, truncated) from her record when she submitted the excellent term paper.
8. I got my job as a result of a (fractious, fortuitous) meeting with the director of personnel.
9. The bookkeeper is such an (integral, incoherent) part of our organization that we pay her a very high salary.
10. We marched in front of the embassy with (placards, inhibitions) held high.
11. Don’t (save face, air your dirty laundry in public) if you plan to run for office.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Dr. Phil, Oprah, Ellen, et al.**

The television talk shows of our era, featuring such ___________ public figures as Dr. Phil, Oprah Winfrey, and Ellen DeGeneres, attract millions of daytime viewers and constitute a powerful influence on the American scene. When the media can hold the attention of so sizable an audience, it pays to scrutinize* it closely.

A student at Stanford University, doing her doctoral thesis on the unusual popularity of the afternoon talk shows, noted the fierce competition among those programs for guests who are off the beaten track. According to her:

“Almost every irregular, ___________ lifestyle you can think of has already been featured on one of the programs and probably on all of them, when you add Maury Povich, Jerry Springer, and others of that ___________ who serve as tabloid talk show hosts. They have shown teenagers who marry octogenarians,* daughters and mothers who date the same man, people with unusual tattoos, and other people who are totally free of ___________.

“__________ for our guests is so small,” said a producer, “that these shows are inexpensive to put on. And say what you want about good taste, millions watch us every day, and as long as the ratings are that healthy, sponsors will pay good money to be identified with us.”

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 1st Day
4. 1st Day
5. 2nd Day
A VISIT TO THE PRESIDENT

In the winter of 1941, Enrico Fermi and a number of other distinguished scientists importuned President Franklin Roosevelt for authorization to begin an all-out effort in atomic energy research. The scientists were alarmed by incontrovertible evidence of surreptitious German experiments, and they asked for speedy approval. Italian-born Enrico Fermi was the ideal man to lead the atomic research. Already in 1938 he had won the Nobel Prize for work with radioactive elements and neutron bombardment. Fermi had found a haven from the Fascists (his wife was Jewish) and he knew that if the Germans were the first to develop an atomic bomb it would mean that Hitler could subjugate the entire world. The international race for atomic supremacy was on.

NEW WORDS

importune
im - pôr - ˈt(y)ūn

incontrovertible
in - kon - trə - vər - tə - bəl

surreptitious
sû - rəp - ˈti - shəs

haven
ˈhā - vən

subjugate
ˈsûb - jə - gät

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Although Eddie was not sanguine* about his chances, he continued to __________________ his boss for a winter vacation.

2. In inclement* weather our barn is a ________________ for many animals.

3. The dictator used duplicity* in order to ________________ his rivals.
4. With a __________ movement, the meticulous* bookkeeper emptied the ash tray.
5. The expert’s __________ testimony corroborated* the police report.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. importune _____ a. undeniable
7. incontrovertible____ b. to ask urgently
8. surreptitious _____ c. to conquer
9. haven _____ d. place of safety
10. subjugate _____ e. stealthy, accomplished by secret

TODAY’S IDIOM

*take the bull by the horns*—to face a problem directly

After several days of delay, the minister decided to *take the bull by the horns*, and so he sent for the vandals.
THE ULTIMATE WEAPON TAKES SHAPE

Enrico Fermi designed a device that could eventuate in a chain reaction. It consisted of layers of graphite, alternated with chunks of uranium. The uranium emitted neutrons, and the graphite slowed them down. Holes were left for long cadmium safety rods. By withdrawing those control rods Fermi could speed up the production of neutrons, thus increasing the number of uranium atoms that would be split (fission). When the rods were withdrawn to a critical point, then the neutrons would be produced so fast that the graphite and cadmium could not absorb them. In that manner a chain reaction would result. Slowly, Fermi’s first atomic pile began to grow in a subterranean room at Columbia University. The big question remained—was it viable?

NEW WORDS

ultimate
ûl - ti - mit

eventuate
i - ´ven - chû - åt

emit
i - ´mit

subterranean
sûb - tå - ´rā - nē - ən

viable
´vî - ə - bəl

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. A thorough investigation ________________ in a comprehensive* report.
2. After two years of confinement in a ________________ dungeon, the prisoner was thin and wan.*
3. The mayor issued a diatribe* against companies whose smokestacks ________________
poisonous fumes.

4. Gaining better housing for all was the ________________ goal of the zealous* reformer.

5. When the schism* in the company was healed, a ________________ arrangement was finalized.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. ultimate ____  a. underground
7. eventuate ____  b. final
8. emit ____  c. practicable, workable
9. subterranean____  d. to give off
10. viable ____  e. to result finally

TODAY’S IDIOM

the lion’s share—major portion

Because the salesman was essential to the business, he demanded the lion’s share of the profits.
THE SQUASH COURT EXPERIMENT

As the pile grew, so did the entire project. Fermi moved his materials to an abandoned squash court under a football stadium at the University of Chicago. His pace accelerated because they were proceeding on the premise that the Germans were close to atomic success. Six weeks after the pile had been started, its critical size was reached. Three brave young men jeopardized their lives by ascending the pile, ready to cover it with liquid cadmium if anything went wrong. Almost fifty scientists and several incredulous observers mounted a balcony to watch. One physicist remained on the floor; it was his job to extract the final cadmium control rod. Unbearable tension permeated the atmosphere. Fermi completed his calculations, waited for a propitious moment, and then gave the signal.

NEW WORDS

premise
ˈpre - mis
jeopardize
ˈje - pər - dīz
incredulous
in - ˈkre - jə - ləs
permeate
ˈpər - mē - āt
propitious
prə - ˈpi - shəs

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Acting on the _____________ that there were no burglars around, the police became quite lax.*
2. After I had perused* the Yankees lineup, I was _____________ about their chances of
The trapeze artist was squeamish* about having to ________________ his life.

A terrible odor that was impossible to expunge* ________________ the skunk handler’s clothing.

At a ________________ moment, the flamboyant* movie star made her grand entrance.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. premise _____ a. favorable
7. jeopardize_____ b. endanger
8. incredulous____ c. to spread through
9. permeate _____ d. skeptical
10. propitious____ e. basis of an argument

**Today’s Idiom**

*Out of the frying pan and into the fire*—to go from a difficult situation to a worse one

I thought I had escaped, but actually I went *out of the frying pan and into the fire.*
THE ITALIAN NAVIGATOR LANDS

The chain reaction took place precisely as Enrico Fermi had surmised. After twenty-eight minutes he curtailed the experiment, giving the signal to replace the control rod. The normally reserved scientists, unable to repress their excitement, let out a tremendous cheer and gathered around Fermi to shake his hand. Although it was time to celebrate, some of the men remarked soberly that “the world would never be the same again.” On December 2, 1942, the news of Fermi’s achievement was relayed in a cryptic telephone message:

“The Italian Navigator has reached the New World.”
“And how did he find the natives?”
“Very friendly.”
The Atomic Age was inchoate—but truly here!

NEW WORDS

surmise
sər - ˈmīz

curtail
kər - ˈtāl

repress
ri - ˈpres

cryptic
ˈkrip - tik

inchoate
in - ˈkō - ət

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Publication of the lurid* magazine was ________________ by the district attorney.
2. Although his remarks appeared ________________ at first, we began to see how really
pertinent* they were.

3. I had to ______________ my desire to interject* my criticism during the debate.

4. Edna had ______________ that she would be charged a nominal* sum, so she was outraged when she got the bill.

5. The young couple was disappointed to see the ______________ state of their new house.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. surmise _____ a. puzzling
7. curtail _____ b. guess
8. repress _____ c. to hold back, tamp down
9. cryptic _____ d. to cut short
10. inchoate _____ e. in an early stage

Today's Idiom

*keep the pot boiling*—to see that interest doesn’t die down

Dickens *kept the pot boiling* by ending each chapter on a note of uncertainty and suspense.
No matter what the theme, no matter what the source, we can expect that important concepts will require a mature vocabulary. This week’s topic, scientific and biographical in nature, serves as a vehicle for teaching you twenty worthwhile words. You now have the chance to see whether you remember their definitions. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ 1. cryptic</td>
<td>a. ask urgently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. curtail</td>
<td>b. undeniable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. emit</td>
<td>c. to guess</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. eventuate</td>
<td>d. accomplished secretly</td>
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<td>5. haven</td>
<td>e. to hold back</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. importune</td>
<td>f. favorable</td>
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<td>7. inchoate</td>
<td>g. cut short</td>
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<td>8. incontrovertible</td>
<td>h. workable</td>
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<td>9. incredulous</td>
<td>i. underground</td>
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<td>10. jeopardize</td>
<td>j. final</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. permeate</td>
<td>k. to result finally</td>
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<td>12. premise</td>
<td>l. to spread through</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. propitious</td>
<td>m. to conquer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. repress</td>
<td>n. place of safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. subjugate</td>
<td>o. endanger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. subterranean</td>
<td>p. proposition for argument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. surmise</td>
<td>q. skeptical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. surreptitious</td>
<td>r. in an early stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. ultimate</td>
<td>s. puzzling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. viable</td>
<td>t. to give off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| IDIOMS | | |
|--------|-----------------|
| ____ 21. take the bull by the horns | u. to maintain interest |
|  22. the lion’s share | v. from bad to worse |
|  23. out of the frying pan and into the fire | w. major portion |
|  24. keep the pot boiling | x. to face a problem directly |

Make a record of those words you missed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Drug Smugglers Beware**

The ①___________ message came to Officer Matt Jagusak: “Drug search tomorrow—bring pig.”

Jagusak, with the Union County New Jersey Sheriff’s Department Search and Rescue Unit, had to ②___________ his superiors to put Ferris E. Lucas, a super sniffer, to work. Lucas is a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig with a fantastic olfactory sense that is one million times greater than a human’s and could be our ③___________ weapon in breaking up the drug trade.

A canine trainer offered the pig to Union City, suggesting that its intelligence and unique skill will make Lucas a ④___________ fighter against illegal narcotics. Jagusak has already taught his 55-pound porker-detective how to find cocaine, hashish, and marijuana. While some law enforcement officials were ⑤___________ at first, they quickly became believers when they saw the Sherlock Holmes of the sty locate underground drug scents that had eluded trained dogs.

“I don’t care if it’s a dog, a pig, or an elephant,” Jagusak’s boss said. “If it benefits the department and our community, we’ll try it.”

**Clues**

① 4th Day
② 1st Day
③ 2nd Day
④ 2nd Day
⑤ 3rd Day
SUNDAY MORNING AT PEARL HARBOR

At breakfast time on Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, Dorie Miller was serving coffee aboard the battleship West Virginia. Dorie was black, and the highest job to which he could then aspire in the U.S. Navy was that of messman. While Dorie was technically a member of a great fighting fleet, he was not expected to fight. Most Army and Navy officers inveighed against blacks as fighting men. Although blacks were nettled by such overt prejudice, Dorie Miller apparently accepted being relegated to the role of a messhall servant. Now, as he poured the coffee, Dorie was wondering why the airplanes above were making so much noise on a peaceful Sunday morning.

**NEW WORDS**

**aspire**
ə - ˈspīr

**inveigh**
in - ˈvā

**nettle (v.)**
ˈne - t(ə)l

**overt**
ō - vērt

**relegate**
ˈre - lə - gāt

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. Although the stand-up comic’s quips* seemed to be mild, they began to __________ the nightclub’s owner.

2. I had a premonition* that Eli would __________ to the position of captain.

3. The pickets agreed to __________ against the law that curtailed* their freedom.

4. __________ acts of violence by the prisoner jeopardized* prospects for his parole.
5. When they tried to ______________ the star to a minor role she was furious.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. aspire _____ a. irritate
7. inveigh _____ b. open
8. nettle _____ c. assign to an inferior position
   (v.)
9. overt _____ d. to strive for
10. relegate _____ e. attack verbally

TODAY'S IDIOM

*bury the hatchet—to make peace*

After not speaking to each other for a year, they decided to *bury the hatchet.*
THE INFAMOUS* ATTACK

The coffee cups suddenly went spinning as an explosion knocked Dorie Miller flat on his back. Jumping up from his supine position, the powerfully built messman from Waco, Texas, headed for the deck. Everywhere that Dorie looked he saw smoke and mammoth warships lying on their sides. Overhead, dozens of Japanese dive bombers controlled the skies without a U.S. plane to repulse their attack. The havoc was enormous. Without hesitating, Dorie joined a team that was feeding ammunition to a machine gunner who was making an ineffectual* attempt to protect their battleship from being razed by the torpedo planes.

NEW WORDS

supine
sū - ˈpīn

mammoth
ˌma - məθ

repulse
rī - ˈpūls

havoc
ˈha - vək

raze
ˈrāz

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. From a ________________ position, the hunter emitted* the animal’s mating call.

2. Following the revolution, the people ________________ the subterranean* dungeons of the dictator.

3. Management is sure to ________________ any request for increased remuneration.*
4. ______________ placards* announced the opening of the new movie.
5. The virulent* plague caused ______________ among the populace.

Definitions Match the new words with their meaning.

6. supine _____ a. ruin
7. mammoth_____ b. to drive back, repel
8. repulse _____ c. huge
9. havoc _____ d. lying on one’s back
10. raze _____ e. to destroy

TODAY'S IDIOM

*Philadelphia lawyer—a lawyer of outstanding ability*

His case is so hopeless that it would take a *Philadelphia lawyer* to set him free.
THE HEROISM OF DORIE MILLER

Men all around Miller were succumbing* to the lethal spray of Japanese bullets. He dragged his captain to safety and turned back to see that the machine-gunner had been killed. Dorie took the big gun and trained it on the incoming bombers. Within the space of ten minutes, he was credited with destroying four bombers while dodging the bullets of their fighter escorts. The enemy scurried away, having struck the incisive blow that precipitated U.S. entrance into World War II. Amidst the dead bodies and the ruined fleet were the heroes such as Dorie Miller. The Navy had told him that he did not have to fight, but he hadn’t listened. The Navy had attempted to maintain a stereotype of him, but Dorie changed all that.

NEW WORDS

lethal
ˈlē- thəl

scurry
ˈskû- rī OR ˈskêr- ī

incisive
ˈin- ˈsī- siv

precipitate
pri- ˈsi- pə- tāt

stereotype (n.)
ˈste- rē- ō- tīp

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. Our editor castigated* the proposal with his ________________ commentary.
2. Poe’s hero watched the rats ________________ across his inert* body.
3. The jockey received a ________________ kick from the fractious* horse.
4. A quarrel was ________________ among the relatives after they heard the terms of the reprehensible* will.

5. The laconic* Clint Eastwood was a ________________ of the strong, silent Western hero.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

  6. lethal _____ a. clear, direct
  7. scurry _____ b. to run hastily
  8. incisive _____ c. oversimplified perception
  9. precipitate_____ d. deadly
  10. stereotype____ e. to hasten, cause

  *(n.)*

**Today's Idiom**

*gild the lily*—to praise extravagantly

There was no need for the announcer to *gild the lily* because we could see how beautiful the model was.
“FOR DISTINGUISHED DEVOTION TO DUTY”

Some months later, Dorie Miller was serving on an aircraft carrier when Admiral Chester Nimitz, the commander of the Pacific Fleet, came aboard to preside over a special awards ceremony. In stentorian tones the admiral presented Miller with the prestigious* Navy Cross, commending him for a singular act of valor and “disregard for his own personal safety.” Miller’s heroism helped to shatter the bias against African-Americans in the armed forces. Although he could have accepted a sinecure at a U.S. naval base, Dorie chose to remain in the combat zone where he was killed in action in December 1943.

NEW WORDS

stentorian
sten - ˈtōr - ēn

singular
ˈsɪŋ - ˈgaʊ - lər

valor
ˈva - lər

bias
ˈbɪ - əs

sinecure
ˈsɪn - ə - kyʊr

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. The director was ousted* from his ________________ when he angered the mayor.

2. In his customary ________________ tones, the sergeant reprimanded* those who thought the army was a haven* for incompetents.

3. The word “surrender” is anathema* to people of ________________ .
4. A viable* peace was brought about as a result of the diplomat’s ______________ contribution.

5. The bigot’s* ______________ precipitated* a fistfight.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. stentorian_____ a. prejudice
7. singular _____ b. easy job
8. valor _____ c. courage
9. bias _____ d. remarkable
10. sinecure _____ e. loud

Today’s Idiom

*steal one’s thunder*—to weaken one’s position by stating the argument before that person does

I had planned to be the first to resign from the club, but my cousin stole my thunder.
Many people agree that a lawyer should be skillful with words. A Philadelphia lawyer,* it goes without saying, must have an extensive vocabulary in order to help him or her present a case.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

### REVIEW WORDS
1. aspire
2. bias
3. havoc
4. incisive
5. inveigh
6. lethal
7. mammoth
8. nettle (v.)
9. overt
10. precipitate
11. raze
12. relegate
13. repulse
14. scurry
15. sinecure
16. singular
17. stentorian
18. stereotype (n.)
19. supine
20. valor

### DEFINITIONS
a. huge
b. evident, open
c. courage
d. to strive for
e. banish, assign to inferior position
f. deadly
g. easy job
h. prejudice
i. keen, acute
j. to run quickly
k. to cause, hasten
l. remarkable, uncommon
m. to attack verbally
n. to repel, drive back
o. lying on one’s back
p. destroy
q. oversimplified preception
r. irritate
s. ruin
t. loud
u. to praise extravagantly
v. outstandingly able
w. to beat someone to the punch
x. to make peace

### IDIOMS
21. bury the hatchet
22. Philadelphia lawyer
23. gild the lily
24. steal one’s thunder

Make a record of those words you missed.

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>u.</td>
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<tr>
<td>v.</td>
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<tr>
<td>w.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice

Teen Talk Barbie, the best-selling $50 model, has gone a step too far in the opinion of the American Association of University Women. Representatives of that group were ① ___________ to hear that one of the four phrases that the doll is programmed to utter is, “Math class is tough.”

For years the university professors, as well as members of feminist organizations, have ② ___________ against the ③ ___________ that portrays girls as weak math and science students. “Because that brainwashing message is conveyed to girls at an early age, they come to accept what we consider to be a blatant ④ ___________,” said Dr. Ellen Kaner, a Dallas chemist. “We are just beginning to make progress in our campaign to recruit women for challenging, well-paying careers in math and science,” she added, “and were shocked to learn that Barbie is spreading such harmful nonsense.”

Executives of the company that manufactures Teen Talk Barbie had to ⑤ ___________ to set matters right. They admitted that the phrase in question, one of 270 selected by computer chips, was a mistake. In a press release, their president said, “We didn’t fully consider the potentially negative implications of this phrase. Not only will we remove it immediately, but will exchange the offending doll for a new one.”

We wonder how Ken feels about the matter.

Clues
① 1st Day
② 1st Day
③ 3rd Day
④ 4th Day
⑤ 3rd Day
DANNY ESCOBEDO GOES TO JAIL

In 1960, a young Chicagoan, Danny Escobedo, was given a 20-year jail sentence for first-degree murder. Danny had confessed to *complicity* in the killing of his brother-in-law after the police had refused to allow him to see his lawyer. Actually, Danny was tricked into blaming a friend for the *liquidation* of his sister’s husband, thereby establishing himself as an *accomplice*. Despite the fact that Danny later recanted his confession, he was found *culpable* and jailed. Danny had been stereotyped* as a hoodlum and nobody raised an eyebrow over the hapless* felon’s* troubles.

**New Words**

*complicity*

kəm - ˈplɪ - sɪ - tɪ

*liquidation*

ˈli - kwə - dɑ - ʃən

*accomplice*

ə - ˈkɒm - plɪs

*recant*

rɪ - ˈkænt

*culpable*

ˈkʌl - pə - bəl

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Proceeding on the premise* that the broker was guilty of ________________ in the swindle, the detective followed him surreptitiously.*

2. After the ________________ of the gang leader, a mammoth* conflict arose among his ambitious lieutenants who aspired* to be boss.

3. Once the incontrovertible* evidence was offered, the servant was held ________________ in the theft of the jewels.
4. When the clergyman refused to _______________, his superiors were so nettled* that they relegate* him to an isolated parish in Alaska.

5. Although he was judged as a minor _______________, the driver had actually played an integral* part in planning the crime.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings. Two of the words are very close in meaning.

6. complicity_____  a. deserving blame
7. liquidation_____  b. partnership in wrongdoing
8. accomplice_____  c. associate in crime
9. recant _____  d. disposal of, killing
10. culpable _____  e. to withdraw previous statements

TODAY'S IDIOM

*put oneself in someone's shoes*—to try to look at a situation from a different point of view

Secretary of State Casey prepared for the peace treaty negotiations by putting himself in the enemy's shoes.
ESCOBEDO’S LAWYER APPEALS

Barry Kroll, a Chicago lawyer, took an interest in Danny Escobedo’s case. Kroll felt that his client’s rights under the Constitution had been *abrogated*. Since the *alleged* accomplice, *Escobedo*, had been denied *access* to an attorney, Kroll asked the courts to *invalidate* the conviction. He proposed that lawyers be entitled to sit in when the police question a suspect, but the Illinois courts rejected that on the grounds that it would effectively *preclude* all questioning by legal authorities. If such a law were upheld, the police felt that it would play havoc* with all criminal investigations.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abrogate</td>
<td>a-brogate</td>
<td>to make invalid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alleged</td>
<td>al-jeid <em>OR</em> al-jejd</td>
<td>claimed or stated to be true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>access</td>
<td>ak-ses</td>
<td>the right to enter or use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invalidate</td>
<td>in-va-lidate</td>
<td>to make invalid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preclude</td>
<td>pri-klüd</td>
<td>to prevent or stop</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The manager was distraught* when he realized that the slugger’s sickness would ______________ a World Series victory.

2. It is symptomatic* of some newspaper reporting that an ________________ criminal is regarded in print as guilty.

3. The wealthy uncle decided to ________________ his inane* nephew’s sinecure.*
4. The general was sure to ________________ the court-martial’s decision once he learned of the flagrant* bias* of the presiding officer.

5. Once the pharmacist had been duped* into opening the store, the addict gained ________________ to the pills.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. abrogate ____ a. admittance
7. alleged ____ b. reported, supposed
8. access ____ c. to deprive of legal force, to nullify
9. invalidate ____ d. to prevent
10. preclude ____ e. to revoke, treat as nonexistent

TODAY’S IDIOM

whitewash—to conceal defects, give a falsely virtuous appearance to something

Although a committee was appointed to investigate the corruption, many citizens felt that their report would be a whitewash of the culprits’* actions.
A HISTORIC SUPREME COURT RULING

Lawyer Kroll persevered in his defense of Danny Escobedo. The case was argued before the Supreme Court, and in 1964, in a landmark decision, the Court reversed Danny’s conviction. Legal aid, said the judges, must be instantly available to a suspect. “A system of law enforcement that comes to depend on the confession,” one justice declared, “will, in the long run, be less reliable than a system that depends on extrinsic evidence independently secured through skillful investigation.” A justice who declaimed against the decision said, however, “I think the rule is ill-conceived and that it seriously fetters perfectly legitimate methods of criminal enforcement.”

NEW WORDS

persevere
pər - sə - ˌvər

landmark (adj.)
ˈlænd - märk

extrinsic
ek - ˈstrin - sik

declaim
di - ˈklām

fetter (v.)
ˈfe - tər

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Collectors avidly* sought the rare coin for its ________________ value.
2. If we ________________ , we can overcome many of our inhibitions.*
3. The Battle of Midway was a ________________ victory in the U.S. campaign for ultimate* victory over the Japanese in World War II.
4. I knew that my father would _______________ against my mother’s choice of ostentatious* fabrics.

5. The senator inveighed* against the policy because he felt it would _______________ our Air Force.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. persevere_____ a. to hamper
7. landmark____ b. foreign, coming from outside
   (adj.)
8. extrinsic ____ c. to speak pompously
9. declaim ____ d. to persist
10. fetter (v.)____ e. historic, turning point of a period

TODAY’S IDIOM

break the ice—to make a start by overcoming initial difficulties

The auto salesman had a poor week, but he finally broke the ice by selling a fully equipped Cadillac.
THE EFFECTS OF THE ESCOBEDO DECISION

After Danny Escobedo’s release from prison, hundreds of inmates began lawsuits for their freedom on the grounds that their rights had been violated, too. Each case was heard on its merits, and in numerous instances people who had been convicted of serious offenses were freed because of the new standards established in the Escobedo case. After getting out, Danny was not a paragon of virtue, according to the police. He led a nomadic existence, drifting from job to job, and was arrested frequently. Danny referred to police harassment* with asperity, and a few choice epithets. Although the Escobedo case was a controversial one, most agree that it inspired better police training, improved law enforcement procedures, and increased scientific crime detection.

**NEW WORDS**

paragon
‘pa - rə - gon

nomadic
no - əmə - dik

asperity
a - əspe - rə - tī

epithet
‘e - pi - thet

controversial
kon - trə - əvər - shəl

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. In the desert, ___________ tribes wander back and forth, enduring much privation.*
2. The town planners looked upon their utopia* as a ___________ for other communities.
3. Some school principals attempt to repress* the publication of ___________ editorials.
4. We were amazed at the display of ________________ from our normally phlegmatic* neighbor.

5. A bitter quarrel was precipitated* when both politicians hurled vile ________________ at each other.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. paragon _____ a. harshness of temper
7. nomadic _____ b. model of excellence
8. asperity _____ c. wandering
9. epithet _____ d. debatable
10. controversial____ e. disparaging word or phrase

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*the grapevine*—an informal means of spreading information

I heard through *the grapevine* that Ernie is favored to be elected president of the school’s student council.
Police who have resorted to wire-tapping have been able to get evidence that was useful in gaining convictions. In a sense, everyone who listens to you is wire-tapping your conversation. Are the “detectives” impressed with the extent of your vocabulary? By the end of this week you will have gained a greater familiarity with 300 words and 60 idioms—enough to educate a conscientious wire-tapper.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. (Numbers 1 and 13 are close in meaning.)

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. abrogate  
2. access  
3. accomplice  
4. alleged  
5. asperity  
6. complicity  
7. controversial  
8. culpable  
9. declaim  
10. epithet  
11. extrinsic  
12. fetter (v.)  
13. invalidate  
14. landmark (adj.)  
15. liquidation  
16. nomadic  
17. paragon  
18. persevere  
19. preclude  
20. recant

**DEFINITIONS**

a. disparaging word or phrase  
b. coming from outside, foreign  
c. supposed, reported  
d. deserving blame  
e. destruction, disposal of  
f. an associate in crime  
g. model of excellence  
h. bitterness of temper  
i. to persist  
j. to repeal by law, treat as nonexistent  
k. to prevent  
l. speak pompously  
m. partnership in wrongdoing  
n. to deprive of legal force, cancel  
o. to renounce previous statements  
p. to hamper, chain  
q. admittance  
r. wandering  
s. historic  
t. debatable

**IDIOMS**

21. put oneself in someone’s shoes  
22. whitewash  
23. break the ice  
24. the grapevine  

u. a means of spreading information  
v. to empathize  
w. to conceal defects  
x. to make a start
Make a record of those words you missed.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Questionable Advertisements**

The Nostalgia Factory, a Boston art gallery, staged an exhibit of advertisements that had outraged various segments of the community. For example, one of the fast food chains ran a TV commercial that showed school cafeteria workers in hairnets, making that experience less tasty than a visit to Roy Rogers. Another ad that drew criticism from psychiatrists and groups such as the Alliance for the Mentally Ill suggested to readers that, if they had paid $100 for a dress shirt, they were fit candidates for a straitjacket. Similar sensitivity had restricted ad writers from using terms such as “nuts” or “crazy.”

Why such protests and where do they come from? Who is asking companies to ① _________ contracts with those agencies that are ②___________ in creating racist types of commercial messages? Parents who took exception to the Burger King spot that announced, “Sometimes You Gotta Break the Rules,” said no to it because it gave the wrong message to their children. And when a potato chip maker’s ad featured a “bandito,” angry Mexican-Americans used some choice ③___________ in denouncing such a stereotype.

The conclusion to be reached is that segments of the population have become increasingly vocal about insensitive ads, demanding that corporations ④___________ and never again commission advertisements that are clearly ⑤___________ , provocative, and harmful to good human relationships.

**Clues**

① 2nd Day
② 1st Day
③ 4th Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 4th Day
MEET THE BEES

One of the most interesting inhabitants of our world is the bee, an insect that is indigenous to all parts of the globe except the polar regions. The honeybee is a gregarious insect whose habitat is a colony that he shares with as many as 80,000 bees. Although the individual bees live for only a few days, their colony can be operative for several years. A cursory study of the activities of these insects reveals an orderliness and a social structure that is truly amazing. For example, bees in a particular hive have a distinct odor; therefore, when an interloper seeks access, they can identify him quickly and repulse his invasion.

NEW WORDS

indigenous
in - ˈdi - jə - nəs

gregarious
grə - ˈger - ē - əs

habitat
ˈha - bi - tat

cursory
ˈkər - sə - ré

interloper
ˈin - tər - lō - pər

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Sherlock Holmes took a ________________ glance at the cryptic* message and decoded it instantly.

2. The forest was replete* with the kind of wildlife that is ________________ to Africa.

3. Electric eyes, watchdogs, and other nuances* were there to keep out an ________________.
4. The alcoholic was found supine* in his favorite __________—Ryan’s Bar.

5. At the party, the ________________ hostess scurried* from group to group, making friends and influencing people.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. indigenous_____ a. hasty, not thorough
7. gregarious_____ b. native
8. habitat _____ c. natural environment
9. cursory _____ d. sociable
10. interloper_____ e. unauthorized person

TODAY’S IDIOM

beeline—straightest, shortest route (the way a bee flies back to the hive after he has gathered food)

When the couple left, the babysitter made a beeline for the refrigerator.
QUEENS, WORKERS, DRONES
Each colony of honeybees consists of three classes: a) the queen who is a prolific layer of eggs; b) the worker who is the bulwark of the colony; and c) the sedentary drone whose only function is to mate with a young queen. The queen lays the eggs that hatch into thousands of female workers; some queens live as long as five years and lay up to one million eggs. The frugal worker builds and maintains the nest, collects and stores the honey, and is the antithesis of the lazy drone, or male honeybee, who does not work and has no sting. When the drone is no longer needed, the workers, in effect, liquidate* him by letting him starve to death. It’s a cruel, cruel world!

NEW WORDS

prolific
prō - ĕli - fik

bulwark
bul - wərk

sedentary
se - dən - te - rī

frugal
frū - gəl

antithesis
an - əti - thə - sis

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The usually ________________ novelist was frustrated* by her failure to come up with a good plot.

2. Len, the gregarious* twin, was the ________________ of Lon, the reticent one.

3. The typist shook off the chains of her ________________ life and joined a mountain climbing expedition.
4. ________________ shoppers occasionally badger* supermarket managers for bargains.

5. Some feel that the United States should be a ________________ to the inchoate* democracies around the world.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. prolific _____ a. producing abundantly
7. bulwark _____ b. thrifty
8. sedentary_____ c. protection
9. frugal ______ d. exact opposite
10. antithesis____ e. largely inactive, accustomed to sitting

TODAY’S IDIOM

last straw—the final problem in a series of problems

Seeing her boyfriend kiss the neighbor was the last straw for the young woman, who immediately broke off the relationship.
SPOTLIGHT ON THE WORKER

Let us examine the activities of the altruistic workers in greater detail. After the workers have constructed a hive of waterproof honeycomb (made from beeswax), the queen begins to lay eggs in the first cells. While some workers embellish the hive, others fly out in search of nectar and pollen. With their long tongues they gather nectar, and use their hind legs to carry the pollen from the flowers. They fly directly back to the hive and then dance around the honeycomb, their movements indicating the direction of the flowers. Meanwhile, other workers have been cleaning cells, caring for the young, and guarding the precious cache of nectar. Another special coterie is entrusted with heating or cooling the hive. Dedicated to the welfare of the queen and the entire insect community, all of these workers display a complete absence of cupidity.

NEW WORDS

altruistic
al - trū - ´is - tik

embellish
em - ´be - lish

cache
ˈkash

coterie
ˈkō - tō - rē

cupidity
kyū - ´pi - dō - tē

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Through a fortuitous* remark, the ________________ of the art thieves was discovered.

2. We warned him that his reprehensible ________________ would eventuate* in a loss of all his friends.
3. The good-hearted doctor went into the jungle purely for ________________ reasons.

4. A ________________ of bridge players made our clubroom their permanent habitat.*

5. Everytime the irate* motorist told about the accident he had a tendency to ________________ the story.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. altruistic _____ a. secret hiding place
7. embellish_____ b. unselfish
8. cache _____ c. small group having something in common
9. coterie _____ d. adorn, touch up
10. cupidity _____ e. greed

**Today's Idiom**

*get a taste of one’s own medicine*—to be mistreated as you mistreated someone else

The notorious thief got a taste of his own medicine when his house was robbed.
THE SAGA OF THE QUEEN BEE

Although the *virtuosity* of the workers is remarkable, the queen bee is really the main story. Workers choose a few larvae to be queens, feeding them royal jelly, a substance rich in proteins and vitamins. While the queen is changing from a larva to a pupa, a team of workers builds a special cell for her. Soon the young queen hatches, eats the prepared honey, and grows strong. After she kills any rivals who have the *temerity* to challenge her, an *amorous* note is injected. She flies from the hive and mates with one or more drones on her first flight. Then the process of egg laying begins. When her *progeny* *saturate* the hive, scouts are dispatched to find a new location, and the bees swarm after their leader to begin the amazing cycle again.

**NEW WORDS**

- **virtuosity**
  
  věr - chů - řo - so - tě

- **temerity**
  
  tě - řme - ro - tě

- **amorous**
  
  'a - mə - rəs

- **progeny**
  
  'pro - jə - nē

- **saturate**
  
  'sa - chə - rāt

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences; remember, past tenses may be required.

1. A landmark* example of ________________ drama is *Romeo and Juliet*.

2. The eminent* artist, famous for his ________________ , was admired by classicists and beatniks alike.
3. The Bantu chief and all his ________________ were noted for their valor.*

4. For having the ________________ to declaim* against the majority leader, the freshman senator was given the worst committee assignments.

5. Television in the new century is ________________ with the rebirth of the old quiz shows.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. virtuosity_____  a. descendants
7. temerity _____  b. full of love
8. amorous ____  c. to soak, fill up completely
9. progeny ____  d. foolish boldness
10. saturate ____  e. great technical skill

TODAY'S IDIOM

*have the upper hand—to gain control*

I used to have him at my mercy, but now he has the upper hand.
Even if you are as busy as the proverbial bee, you can always manage the fifteen to twenty minutes that are required for these daily vocabulary sessions.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

### REVIEW WORDS

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### DEFINITIONS

|   | a. secret hiding place |   | b. thrifty |   | c. enjoying the company of others |   | d. exact opposite |   | e. to adorn |   | f. unselfish |   | g. small exclusive group |   | h. greed |   | i. not thorough, hasty |   | j. descendants |   | k. unauthorized person |   | l. native |   | m. largely inactive |   | n. natural environment |   | o. foolish boldness |   | p. to fill up completely |   | q. protection |   | r. full of love |   | s. great technical skill |   | t. fertile, productive |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|-----------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------------|---|-----------|---|-------------|---|----------------------|---|--------|---|------------------|---|------------|---|------------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|------------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|
|   |                        |   |           |   |                           |   |                       |   |            |   |             |   |                      |   |         |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |
|   |                        |   |           |   |                           |   |                       |   |            |   |             |   |                      |   |         |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |
|   |                        |   |           |   |                           |   |                       |   |            |   |             |   |                      |   |         |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |
|   |                        |   |           |   |                           |   |                       |   |            |   |             |   |                      |   |         |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |                  |   |             |   |                 |   |             |   |

### IDIOMS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>21. beeline</th>
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<th>u. direct route</th>
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<th>22. last straw</th>
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<th>v. to gain control</th>
<th></th>
<th>23. get a taste of one’s own medicine</th>
<th>w. to be mistreated as you mistreated</th>
<th>24. have the upper hand someone else</th>
<th>x. final problem in a series of problems</th>
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Make a record of those words you missed.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

_Cheating a Cheater_

“Our neighborhood was so tough,” the comedian joked, “that two guys held up a bank and were mugged as they ran to their getaway car.”

Later that evening, as Roy and Timmy were discussing the comic’s routine, Roy was reminded of a true (he said) story that went like this:

Mr. D., the gang kingpin in our community, loved money. Like Silas Marner, the _________ weaver of George Eliot’s novel, he enjoyed counting his treasure each Friday night. Mr. D’s _________ was concealed in a wall safe behind a painting in his office. The $50 and $100 bills made his hands dirty as he counted them but Mr. D didn’t mind. The filth of the lucre did not disturb him at all.

One Friday evening, Roy continued, a brash* _________ had the _________ to try to steal the ill-gotten gains. Having bought the combination from a relative who had installed Mr. D’s safe, he stuffed his loot into a laundry bag and was halfway out the door when he spied a $10 bill on the floor. His _________ made him go back for that small change, and in that moment, Mr. D. arrived on the scene.

The quick-thinking thief blurted out, “I’ll have the shirts back on Friday.” Hoisting the laundry bag over his shoulder, he was out the door before the confused mobster could figure out what had happened.

Timmy, who had listened patiently, said, “I don’t believe a word of that story because it would take a guy with a great deal of _starch_ to pull it off!”

_Clues_

1. 2nd Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 1st Day
4. 4th Day
5. 3rd Day
A PLAN TO FOOL THE NAZIS

One of the truly remarkable stories of World War II concerns a ruse* that was perpetrated with such consummate skill that it saved the lives of many Allied troops and helped to shorten the war. The simple, bold, and ingenious subterfuge, which British officers concocted, is the subject of Ewen Montagu’s classic, The Man Who Never Was. In short, the idea was to plant fallacious documents concerning the Allied invasion of Europe upon a dead officer, have his body recovered by agents who would transmit the false information to Germany, and then observe the effects of the plan.

NEW WORDS

perpetrate
ˈpər-ə-trat

consummate (adj.)
ˈkon-ə-mat OR kən-ə-mat

subterfuge
ˈsəb-tər-fij

concoct
kən-ə-kōt

fallacious
ˈfə-ˌlā-shəs

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Because the inspector had given only cursory* attention to the reports, I surmised* that his conclusion would be ________________.

2. Johnnie Cochran, the famous and controversial* lawyer, gave ________________ attention to the preparation of every case.

3. It was necessary for the interloper* to ________________ a convincing story in order to gain
access* to the exhibit.

4. In order to ______________ the swindle, the jaunty* con man adopted an amorous* approach toward the wealthy widow.

5. The experienced teacher realized that Ricky’s stomachache was merely a ________________ to keep him from taking the French test.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6.  perpetrate _____  a. to devise

7. consummate____  b. complete, of the highest degree
(adj.)

8. subterfuge _____  c. to commit

9. concoct _____  d. ruse, trick

10. fallacious _____  e. misleading

Today’s Idiom

draw in one’s horns—to check one’s anger, restrain oneself

The performer drew in his horns when he saw that his critic was an eight-year-old boy.
After Commander Montagu and his colleagues had been given official approval for their dangerous escapade, they encountered manifold problems. First, they conducted an assiduous search for a body that looked as though it had recently been killed in an airplane disaster. Then, a detailed history of the man had to be invented that would be so impeccable that the enemy would accept its authenticity. This meant documents, love letters, personal effects, keys, photographs, etc. Each step was fraught with difficulty, but the schemers were unbelievably resourceful. As a result, in the late spring of 1942, "Major Martin" was prepared to do his part for his country.

**NEW WORDS**

- **manifold**
  
  *ma - nɔ - fɔld*

- **assiduous**
  
  *ə - ˈsi - jʊ - ə*

- **impeccable**
  
  *ɪm - ˈpe - kə - bəl*

- **fraught**
  
  *ˈfrɔt*

- **resourceful**
  
  *re - ˈzɔr - sfəl*

**Sample Sentences**
Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Burdened by her ________________ responsibilities, the young executive was precluded* from enjoying her new wealth.

2. Fear permeated* the crippled airplane as the passengers realized that their situation was ________________ with danger.

3. Although basically frugal,* his taste in clothing is ________________ .
4. The store owner was ________________ enough to run a sale the day after his building had been razed* by the flames.

5. Florence Nightingale was a paragon* of mercy in her ________________ care for the wounded soldiers.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. manifold _____ a. able to meet any situation
7. assiduous _____ b. faultless
8. impeccable_____ c. complex, many
9. fraught _____ d. devoted, attentive
10. resourceful____ e. filled

TODAY’S IDIOM

*put the cart before the horse*—to reverse the proper order, do things backwards

My assistant was so eager to get the job done that he often *put the cart before the horse*. 
THE PLOT THICKENS

A submarine took the body out to sea. Then, “Major Martin,” the man who never existed, was slid into the murky Atlantic waters off the coast of Huelva, Spain. Attached to this courier’s coat was a briefcase that contained the components of the hoax. Shortly thereafter, the Spanish Embassy notified the British that the body had been recovered. But Commander Montagu learned that the important documents had already been scrutinized* and later resealed so that the British would not be suspicious. The secret information was transmitted to the German High Command, through a labyrinth of underground networks, to be evaluated. Now the true test of the months of assiduous* planning would come—the question remained, would the Germans swallow the bait?

NEW WORDS

murky
/mink/ - kē

component
/ˈkɔm pənt/ - nənt

hoax (n.)
/ˈhōks/

labyrinth
/ˈla bə rinth/

evaluate
/i ˈva lət/ - āt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The practical joker had the temerity* to perpetrate* a ________________ upon the dean.
2. A good motion picture producer should be skilled in all the manifold* ________________ of filmmaking.
3. After wandering through the ________________ , the young hero came face to face with the
4. When I asked the English teacher to _______________ my plan for the term paper, her incisive* comments were very helpful.

5. The _______________ quality of the artist’s latest painting is the antithesis* of her former style.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. murky _____ a. dark, obscure
7. component____ b. element
8. hoax (n.) _____ c. deception
9. labyrinth _____ d. arrangement of winding passages
10. evaluate _____ e. appraise, find the value of

Today’s Idiom

turn the tables—to change a situation to one’s own advantage

The wrestler thought that he could pin me to the mat, but I quickly turned the tables on him.
A PUZZLE FOR HIS MAJESTY

The conspirators had reason to exult, for all evidence attested to the fact that the German High Command was gullible about “Major Martin.” Their defense troops were moved away from the true invasion sites and deployed to areas that were inconsequential. Subsequently, when the actual attack took place, Allied casualties were minimized. After the war, Commander Montagu received a medal from the king of England. At the presentation ceremony, the king politely inquired where the young officer had earned his citation. “At the Admiralty,” Montagu replied, presenting the king with a genuine enigma.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Explaining that the bookkeeper was merely a ________________ dupe,* the judge freed him from complicity* in the crime.

2. As the audience watched the master ________________ his chess pieces, they applauded his virtuosity.*

3. An expert was summoned to ________________ to the authenticity of the Rembrandts found in
the Nazi cache* of stolen masterpieces.

4. When Osama Bin Laden was killed, the American public had reason to ____________.

5. I could not solve the ____________ of why an altruistic* person should exhibit such cupidity.*

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. exult _____ a. to certify
7. attest _____ b. easily cheated or fooled
8. gullible _____ c. to position forces according to a plan
9. deploy _____ d. riddle
10. enigma _____ e. to rejoice greatly

TODAY’S IDIOM

*a chip off the old block*—a child who is like his or her parent (from the same block of wood)

When we saw the alcoholic’s son enter the liquor store, we assumed that he was *a chip off the old block.*
Major Martin, if he had lived, would have used the word “bonnet” to refer to the hood of his auto, and he might have referred to a truck as a “lorry.” As you can see, there are differences between American and British English. But Major Martin, undoubtedly, would have known all the words below—do you?

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. (Note the similarity between numbers 13 and 20.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1. assiduous</td>
<td>a. spread out in battle formation</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 2. attest</td>
<td>b. a trick</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 3. component</td>
<td>c. attentive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 4. concoct</td>
<td>d. confirm as accurate, vouch for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 5. consummate (adj.)</td>
<td>e. to devise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 6. deploy</td>
<td>f. riddle, puzzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 7. enigma</td>
<td>g. element, part</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 8. evaluate</td>
<td>h. able to meet any situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 9. exult</td>
<td>i. perfect, complete</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 10. fallacious</td>
<td>j. filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 11. fraught</td>
<td>k. misleading, false</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 12. gullible</td>
<td>l. to rejoice greatly</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 13. hoax (n.)</td>
<td>m. faultless</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 14. impeccable</td>
<td>n. easily fooled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 15. labyrinth</td>
<td>o. winding passages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 16. manifold</td>
<td>p. to find the value of, review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. murky</td>
<td>q. many</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. perpetrate</td>
<td>r. deception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. resourceful</td>
<td>s. commit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 20. subterfuge</td>
<td>t. dark, obscure</td>
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<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 21. draw in one’s horns</td>
<td>u. to restrain oneself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 22. put the cart before the horse</td>
<td>v. to turn a situation to one’s own advantage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 23. turn the tables</td>
<td>w. to do things backwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 24. a chip off the old block</td>
<td>x. a child who is like his or her parent</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in an _________ review of Social Security disability payments, focused on Jack Benson, a _________ Seattle panhandler. Mr. Benson had claimed that whatever money he collects on the street can be compared to the funds raised by legitimate charities, and, therefore, he is entitled to a federal tax deduction. Government officials regard his analogy as _________ and disagree. It is their contention that, since Benson’s income is unearned, it should be subtracted from his disability payments.

Mr. Benson may not be highly regarded as a street beggar, but that didn’t stop him from going into the Federal District Court in Oregon to plead that his appeals for cash are an art form, thereby making him eligible for most of the $472 a month that he had been receiving. Not so, declared the government, quoting from a 1990 ruling that found that “money received through begging is better classified as ‘gifts’ rather than as ‘wages’ or ‘net earnings from self-employment.’”

Mr. Benson’s lawyer, plunging into the legal _________, has not given up. She countered that, if Jack merely sat on a street corner with his hand out, the government had a good case. However, in her words, “Jack Benson is a _________ professional who has elevated begging to a respectable level because of his skill in actively seeking contributions.”

It may take all of Benson’s talent as a salesman to get the government to put some money in his collection basket.

**Clues**

1 2nd Day
2 2nd Day
3 1st Day
4 3rd Day
5 1st Day
TEACHING CHIMPANZEEES TO TALK

Two resourceful* psychologists at the University of Nevada have made splendid progress in vocabulary development in chimpanzees. Following a number of abortive attempts to teach French, German, or English to chimps, the researchers persevered* until they hit upon the American Sign Language system that is often used by deaf persons. They have had to modify the language somewhat in order to accommodate the animals’ spontaneous gestures. With a mixture of innate movements and learned ones, some chimps now have an extensive vocabulary.

NEW WORDS

abortive
ə - 'bôr-tiv

modify
'mo - də - fī

accommodate
ə - 'kō - mə - dāt

spontaneous
spon - 'tā - nē - əs

innate
i - 'nāt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. His _____________ cunning allowed him to see through the spy’s subterfuge.*
2. The divers made an _____________ attempt to rescue the dog from the murky* waters.
3. Because Phil refused to _____________ his philosophy, the board of directors decided to invalidate* his appointment.
4. My English teacher admonished* me: “I realize that the speech was to be _____________ ,
but it was not supposed to be incoherent* or fraught* with fallacious* statements.”

5. A quarrel was precipitated* when the dietician refused to _______________ the patient’s special needs.

Definitions If vocabulary is getting to be your stock in trade,* you should have no trouble in matching the new words with their meanings.

6. abortive _____ a. fruitless,* useless, failing
7. modify _____ b. to make fit, adjust to
8. accommodate____ c. natural
9. spontaneous_____ d. without preparation, unrehearsed
10. innate _____ e. to change

TODAY’S IDIOM

**under the wire—just in time**

Hank hesitated about his term paper for two months and finally submitted it just *under the wire.*
CHIMPANZEE ARE SMART
Washoe, the chimpanzee, has more than a veneer of intelligence; she can signal her desire to eat, go in or out, be covered, or brush her teeth. In addition, she can make signs for “I’m sorry,” “I hurt,” “Hurry,” “Give me,” and a myriad of other terms that are familiar to young children. This urbane animal can indicate that she craves more dessert by putting her fingers together (“more”) and then placing her index and second fingers on top of her tongue (“sweet”). It is irrelevant that Washoe cannot actually talk. What is important, is the consummate* ease with which she has mastered her daily assignments.

NEW WORDS

veneer
vər-ə-nər

myriad
ˈmi-ri-əd

urbane
ˈər-bən

crave
ˈkrāv

irrelevant
i-rə-lə-vənt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Why did Silas Marner _______________ wealth and practice cupidity*?

2. Once the hoax had been concocted,* a _______________ of problems arose.

3. The defendant was alleged* to have been an army deserter, but the judge said that was _______________ to the case.
4. By embellishing* her work with ________________ humor, the sophisticated playwright succeeded on Broadway.

5. The lieutenant confessed to a ________________ of ignorance in order to properly evaluate* his corporal’s resourcefulness.*

Definitions Take the bull by the horns* and match the new words with their meanings.

6. veneer ______ a. to desire
7. myriad ______ b. countless number
8. urbane ______ c. polished, witty
9. crave ______ d. thin covering
10. irrelevant______ e. not related to the subject

TODAY'S IDIOM

*be at large—not confined or in jail

Since the dangerous criminal was at large, all the townspeople began to buy dogs for protection.
EASY TO TRAIN

The chimpanzees are deemed by scientists to be the closest to humans of all the living apes; consequently, they are fairly easy to train. Several years ago, two married researchers embarked on an interesting project: they reared and trained a chimp in almost the same manner as they would have raised a child. The animal did beautifully, convincing the couple of the inherent ability of the chimpanzee. Cinema buffs who have seen Tarzan’s clever apes romp through the jungle also recognize the latent intelligence of these animals.

NEW WORDS

deem
’dēm

inherent
in - ’hir - ənt OR
in - ’he - rənt

buff (n.)
’bûf

romp (v.)
’romp

latent
’lā - t(ə)nt

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Whom do you ________________ to be the bulwark* of the Republican party?

2. The TV meteorologist never had to cajole* enthusiastic ___________ into helping her report the locations of tornadoes.

3. When the intercity competition began, our team was supposed to ________________ over our hapless* rivals.
4. At the age of 42, the artist first became cognizant* of his ______________ genius.

5. Certain mice have an ______________ alertness that enables them to conquer the researchers’ labyrinths.*

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. deem _____ a. lying hidden
7. inherent _____ b. to move in a lively manner
8. buff (n.) _____ c. inborn
9. romp (v.) _____ d. a fan, follower
10. latent _____ e. to believe, judge

**Today’s Idiom**

*go against the grain*—to irritate, rebel

My uncle is in favor of some protests, but certain demonstrations *go against the grain.*
MORE FACTS ABOUT CHIMPS

Chimps in the laboratory have demonstrated their ability to find their way out of the most tortuous maze. They can press buttons, manipulate levers, avoid shocks, etc. When food is placed out of reach, the animals can prepare a ladder of boxes to reach it. In his natural habitat,* the chimpanzee is considered itinerant. He goes his nomadic* way through the jungle, living on fruit, insects, and vegetables. With the aid of his long, powerful hands he can swing rapidly from tree to tree and cover considerable ground in his peregrinations. Chimps are loyal in their conjugal relationships, taking only one mate at a time. That may be another barometer of these animals’ superior intelligence.

NEW WORDS

- tortuous
  "tôr - chū - əs"
- itinerant (adj.)
  "i - ti - na - rant"
- peregrination
  "pe - ra - gri - ən - shən"
- conjugal
  "kon - jə - gəl"
- barometer
  "ba - ər - o - mə - tər"

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The other drivers were nettled* about the ease with which our car ascended* the _____________ road.
2. Arguments over money have often led to ________________ havoc.*
3. The sedentary* twin was content to follow his brother’s ________________ on a map.
4. Signs were posted in the lobby to prevent ________________ beggars and others of that ilk* from entering.

5. The warmth of Mr. Smythe’s greeting each morning may be construed* as an excellent ________________ of his health.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. tortuous _____ a. wandering
7. itinerant _____ b. winding
7. (adj.)
8. peregrination____ c. a journey
9. conjugal _____ d. relating to marriage
10. barometer _____ e. instrument for measuring change

TODAY’S IDIOM

wink at—to pretend not to see

There was a plethora* of evidence to show that the border guards would wink at illegal shipments if they were bribed.
While it is true that scientists have had remarkable success in teaching chimpanzees to communicate, we can be certain that even super-monkeys would have difficulty with any of the words below. However, higher animals who apply themselves can master all of them.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. (Note the similarity between numbers 8 and 9.)

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<td>_____ 12. latent</td>
<td>l. inborn</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 13. modify</td>
<td>m. to believe, judge</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____ 14. myriad</td>
<td>n. going from place to place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 15. peregrination</td>
<td>o. fan, follower, enthusiast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 16. romp (v.)</td>
<td>p. travel (n.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. spontaneous</td>
<td>q. relating to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. tortuous</td>
<td>r. countless number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. urbane</td>
<td>s. to change</td>
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<td>_____ 20. veneer</td>
<td>t. lying hidden</td>
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

A Shameful Situation

The plight of the migrant farm worker continues to frustrate the U.S. Labor Department, court officials, legislators, religious groups, and community agencies. Men, women, and children toil six and seven days a week to earn as little as $50 to $60 a week after being overcharged for their food, medicine, and basic living needs. They are housed in ramshackle dormitories, often with non-functioning toilets—a _______ of their employers’ contempt for them; they lack hot water and showers, and are given food that is barely fit for human consumption.

Unscrupulous contractors scour the countryside in search of homeless, _______, and unemployed men and women, offering to put them to work at good jobs picking fruits and vegetables. The U.S. Labor Department investigates the ______ of complaints about abused workers, issues fines, and revokes the licenses of contractors. But many such shady employers pay the fines (which they _______ to be “operating expenses”) and continue to run company stores that cheat the workers, subjugate them with drugs and alcohol, _______ them with advances on their paltry wages at high interest rates, and use violence against those whom they regard as troublemakers.

Fred Jones, a typical migratory worker from South Carolina, claims to have been paid just $6 in cash, after deductions from his $158 paycheck. His story is repeated by hundreds of others who have been treated shabbily by corrupt contractors. Until sufficient funds are allocated by state and federal agencies, and until there is the proper public response, these abuses will continue.

Clues

1. 4th Day
2. 4th Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 1st Day
TROUBLE IN RURITANIA

King Andre of Ruritania was afflicted* with *megalomania*, and the people of his country suffered as a result. After ten years of his *profligate* rule, the treasury was bankrupt, unemployment was rampant,* domestic *strife* was mounting, and the number of the king’s opponents who were incarcerated* was *legion*. Following a bloodless *coup*, his nephew, Prince Schubert, took command of the poor nation.

Sample Sentences Based upon your understanding of the new words, as discovered from the context, place them in the spaced provided.

1. With a singular* disregard for his family, the __________ husband spent his salary on alcohol.

2. Each spouse said that the other was culpable* for their conjugal* ____________.

3. “The number of my followers is ____________,” said the flamboyant* politician.

4. The necessity for executing the leaders of the abortive* ____________ was obviated*
5. Hitler’s ______________ was a veneer* for his insecurity and feelings of inferiority.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. megalomania_____  a. discord, disagreement
7. profligate _____  b. revolution
8. strife _____  c. wasteful
9. legion _____  d. great in number
10. coup _____  e. abnormal desire for wealth and power

Today’s Idiom

*play possum—to try to fool someone; make believe one is asleep or dead*

Sensing that his life was in jeopardy,* the hunter *played possum* until the voracious* lion disappeared.
PRINCE SCHUBERT IN ACTION

Prince Schubert’s first move was to declare an amnesty for political prisoners and to invite home all Ruritanian expatriates. Those who had been jailed on false charges were exonerated by special tribunals. The young leader announced that he would abrogate all of the oppressive fiats that his predecessor had promulgated.* Things began to look up temporarily for the citizens who perceived in Prince Schubert the sincerity, idealism, and honesty that had been lacking in the mendacious King Andre.

**NEW WORDS**

- **amnesty**
  
  ām - nē - stē

- **expatriate**
  
  ek - ēspā - trē - ət

- **exonerate**
  
  ĭg - ēzo - nō - rāt

- **fiat**
  
  ēfē - ət OR ēfē - ot

- **mendacious**
  
  men - ədā - shōs

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The publisher’s __________ claims led to a myriad* of lawsuits.

2. When the jury began to deliberate, they were prepared to __________ the culprit.*

3. The itinerant* poet, living abroad for twenty years, was a voluntary __________.

4. One cannot govern by __________, the sedentary* mayor quickly learned; it is necessary to get out and meet the citizens if you want their cooperation.
5. We recognized the dictator’s ______________ as an obvious feint* that would be withdrawn after Christmas.

Definitions It will be a red letter day* for you if you can match the new words with their meanings.

6. amnesty _____ a. an exile
7. expatriate _____ b. lying, untrue
8. exonerate _____ c. general pardon
9. fiat _____ d. to free from guilt
10. mendacious_____ e. official order, decree

TODAY’S IDIOM

*it’s an ill wind that blows no good*—someone usually benefits from another person’s misfortune

When the star quarterback broke his leg, the coach gave the rookie his big chance and the youngster made good; the coach noted, “It’s an ill wind that blows no good.”
In order to improve Ruritania’s financial position, an astute* but parsimonious treasurer was installed and given wide pecuniary powers. He tried to get the little country back on its feet by slashing all waste from its budget, dismantling King Andre’s sumptuous palaces, and firing all incompetents. In addition, Prince Schubert was able to get the United States to underwrite a substantial loan that would enable him to start a program of public works. Even so, Ruritania was still in desperate trouble.

Sample Sentences Prove that you are not a flash in the pan* by using the new words correctly in the following sentences.

1. I plan to ________________ the stereo set and clean all the components.*
2. The ________________ feast was prepared with impeccable* care.
3. Unless my boss modifies* his ________________ attitude, a fractious* picket line is going to be erected.
4. _______________ matters are best handled by accountants.

5. When our rivals agreed to _______________ the cost of our trip, a myriad* of suspicions began to form in my mind.

**Definitions** If you made mistakes above, you can now save face* by matching the new words correctly with their meanings.

6. parsimonious_____ a. to agree to finance
7. pecuniary _____ b. financial
8. dismantle _____ c. to strip of covering, take apart
9. sumptuous _____ d. miserly
10. underwrite _____ e. lavish

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*know the ropes*—to be fully acquainted with the procedures

The president of the senior class *knew the ropes* and quickly taught me my duties.
DISAPPOINTMENT AND DEDICATION

When Prince Schubert asked for additional restrictive measures, the people began to balk. Speaking on radio, the young reformer explained the reasons for higher taxes and food rationing; he was blunt when he stated the need for personal sacrifices. Nevertheless, the resistance to reform was great, and nostalgia for the “good old days” of King Andre began to grow. The people admitted that graft and corruption had been rife under Andre, but at least “everybody got his slice of the pie.” Although Prince Schubert was tempted to quit, he determined that he would help the people in spite of themselves.

NEW WORDS

restrictive
ri - ’strik - tiv

balk (v.)
'bôk

blunt (adj.)
'blûnt

nostalgia
no - ’stal - jə

rife
'rîf

Sample Sentences Don’t pass the buck*! Use the new words in the following sentences yourself.

1. The rebel’s innate* hatred of ________________ decrees led him to crave* freedom all the more.
2. A string of caustic* epithets* was directed at the recruit by his ________________ sergeant.
3. Although the former farm girl pretended to be urbane,* a feeling of ________________ always came over her when she heard country music.
4. Criticism of the author was ________________ among the coterie* of intellectuals who used to praise him.

5. Jimmy was a lawbreaker, but he would ________________ at the idea of carrying a lethal* weapon.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. restrictive_____ a. widespread

7. balk (v.) _____ b. plainspoken

8. blunt _____ c. to be unwilling, refuse
   (adj.)

9. nostalgia _____ d. yearning for the past

10. rife _____ e. harsh, confining

TODAY’S IDIOM

*behind the eight ball— in trouble*

Susan found herself *behind the eight ball* in chemistry when she failed to do the term project.
Ruritania is a mythical kingdom, impossible to find on a map and difficult to find in a dictionary. The words that you are about to review, however, are all legitimate, acceptable dictionary words.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

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<td>a. revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. balk (v.)</td>
<td>b. unrest, discord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. blunt (adj.)</td>
<td>c. to take apart, disassemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. coup</td>
<td>d. lavish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. dismantle</td>
<td>e. to free from guilt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. exonerate</td>
<td>f. to agree to finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. expatriate</td>
<td>g. false, lying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. fiat</td>
<td>h. an exile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. legion (adj.)</td>
<td>i. abnormal desire for power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. megalomania</td>
<td>j. plainspoken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. mendacious</td>
<td>k. harsh, confining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. nostalgia</td>
<td>l. to be unwilling, refuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. parsimonious</td>
<td>m. wasteful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. pecuniary</td>
<td>n. official order, decree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. profligate</td>
<td>o. widespread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. restrictive</td>
<td>p. great in number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. rife</td>
<td>q. financial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. strife</td>
<td>r. general pardon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. sumptuous</td>
<td>s. miserly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. underwrite</td>
<td>t. yearning for the past</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21. play possum</td>
<td>u. someone profits from another’s misfortune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. it’s an ill wind that blows no good</td>
<td>v. to be fully acquainted with procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. know the ropes</td>
<td>w. in trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. behind the eight ball</td>
<td>x. to try to fool someone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Ogopogo**

Accounts of supersized creatures such as the Loch Ness Monster and the Abominable Snowman are __________. Despite the lack of hard evidence, some people continue to believe that the depths of our lakes and isolated mountain caves remain the dwelling places of fantasy figures.

Now, a new star for the credulous has surfaced. Japanese television was asked to __________ a search for Ogopogo, a long-necked reptilian creature said to inhabit Lake Okanagan in the mountains of south-central British Columbia. Ogopogo stories are __________ in that area as people produce photos of rippling water and shadows resembling an enormous serpent with flippers, gliding slowly in large circles.

Those who __________ at what they regard as nonsense and pagan superstition are quite __________ in belittling Ogopogo fans. Nevertheless, the legends, which have a life of their own, happily, have brought thousands of tourists and business to the Okanagan Valley.

Recognition of the creature now exists in British Columbia’s environmental law, which provides protection for Ogopogo. The official description reads, “An animal in Okanagan Lake, other than a sturgeon, that is more than three meters in length, and the mates or offspring of that animal.”

Been wondering about the creature’s name? Ogopogo comes from an English music hall song: “His mother was an earwig; his father was a whale; a little bit of head and hardly any tail—and Ogopogo was his name.”

**Clues**

1. 1st Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 4th Day
4. 4th Day
5. 4th Day
LA CUCARACHA—THE COCKROACH

The poor cockroach has been called the “most reviled creature on the face of the earth.” Nobody loves him—except, perhaps, another cockroach. Fiction, nonfiction, and poetry are replete* with derogatory references to these ubiquitous* bugs. Public health officials are quick to indict the insects as carriers of viruses that cause yellow fever and polio. Although past evidence was somewhat nebulous, studies show that an allergy to roaches may contribute significantly to asthma. Little wonder, therefore, that the pesky cockroach is under attack.

**NEW WORDS**

*reviled*  
ri-ˈvɪld

*derogatory*  
di-ˈro-ɡə-tô-ri

*indict*  
in-ˈdɪt

*nebulous*  
ˈne-bə-los

*pesky*  
ˈpes-ki

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Because the contract offer was a ____________ one, the union leaders balked* at it.
2. Ezra Pound, the expatriate* poet, was ____________ for his pro-Fascist remarks.
3. When the grand jury refused to ____________ him, the mobster was exonerated.*
4. Every time his accountant called with ____________ pecuniary* problems, Ben was very blunt* with him.
5. The columnist was ordered to recant* her ________________ statements.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. reviled ____ a. annoying
7. derogatory____ b. belittling*, disparaging*
8. indict _____ c. unclear, vague
9. nebulous ____ d. hated
10. pesky _____ e. to accuse

TODAY'S IDIOM

left holding the bag—to be left to suffer the blame

The profligate* businessman’s distraught* partner was left holding the bag.
**Week 20 • Day 2**

**Waiter, Please Take This Bowl of Soup Back to the Kitchen**

In addition to menacing our health, cockroaches are smelly, filthy, and ugly. Upon entering a cellar that is *redolent* with their aroma, you are not likely to forget the odor. And when you spy the foul culprits* creating havoc* in your sugar bowl or in *repose* atop your chocolate cake, your disposition may be exacerbated.* Roaches are *omnivorous* and will feast upon such *disparate* items as wallpaper, upholstery, nylon stockings, and beer. No one can accuse the hungry and thirsty bugs of being *abstemious*.

---

**New Words**

- **redolent**
  - re - də - lənt

- **repose (n.)**
  - ri - pəz

- **omnivorous**
  - om - ˈni - və - rəs

- **disparate**
  - ˈdis - pə - rit

- **abstemious**
  - əb - ˈstē - mē - ōs

---

**Sample Sentences** The words above fit into the blanks below.

1. While the palace guards were in ________________ , the rebels’ coup* began in earnest.
2. Coach Fischer issued a fiat* that required that his players be ________________ .
3. The ________________ scent that came from the bakery created in Eloise a sense of nostalgia* for her grandmother’s bread.
4. ____________ eaters are flexible enough to find something they like on most restaurant menus.

5. Regardless of how ____________ their crimes were, all the prisoners were freed by the general amnesty.*

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. redolent _____ a. different
7. repose (n.) _____ b. fragrant
8. omnivorous_____ c. moderate in eating or drinking
9. disparate _____ d. eating foods from both plants and animals
10. abstemious_____ e. state of rest

**Today’s Idiom**

*the whole nine yards*—everything

They rolled out *the whole nine yards* at the installation banquet for the new vice president.
THE ROACH LIVES ON

Cockroaches are the oldest *extant* winged insects, having been traced back over 350 million years. They have endured the *vicissitudes* of weather, natural disasters, war, and planned liquidation.* They reside comfortably in caves in South America, in transcontinental airplanes, on mountain tops, in Park Avenue *edifices*, and in television sets. The climate may be *sultry* or frigid but roaches persevere.* In the words of one writer, “The miraculous survival of the roach is explained by its inherent* adaptability.” In fact, a *trenchant* analysis made the point that roaches can survive a nuclear war.

**NEW WORDS**

*extant*
\(\text{ek - stont \textit{OR}}\)
\(\text{ex - stant}\)

*vicissitudes*
\(\text{vi - \textit{si - si - t(y)udz}}\)

*edifice*
\(\text{e - de - fis}\)

*sultry*
\(\text{syl - trē}\)

*trenchant*
\(\text{tren - chont}\)

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Hundreds of ________________ copies of Shakespeare’s signature came from the same prolific* forger.
2. The ________________ of life in the Medical Corps are not for the squeamish.*
3. We originally planned on a skyscraper but had to settle for a truncated* ________________ .
4. When he learned that the movie was to be replete* with ________________ scenes, the cautious banker refused to underwrite* its cost.

5. General Fox submitted a ________________ report on the enemy’s latent* strength.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. extant _____ a. keen, incisive*
7. vicissitudes____ b. difficulties
8. edifice _____ c. extremely hot and moist, torrid
9. sultry _____ d. still existing
10. trenchant _____ e. a building

TODAY’S IDIOM

tongue in cheek—insincerely

Speaking tongue in cheek, the parsimonious* employer promised to double everyone’s wages.
**TONGUE IN CHEEK**?

The U.S. Public Health Service admits to frustration* in its attempts to destroy the cockroach. As soon as the scientists devise a *puissant* chemical, some bugs succumb.* But the hardy ones survive and breed a resistant strain. Since the average female produces close to three hundred descendants, little hope is held out for a final solution to the roach problem. Nevertheless, extermination campaigns continue *unabated*. Surprisingly, some sentimental souls become *maudlin* as they consider the persecution of the insects. A writer noted for his *levity* made a *lugubrious* plea for a crash program of aid for the cockroach, calling him “a victim of his slum environment.”

---

**NEW WORDS**

- puissant
  -ˈpyə-sənt OR ˈpwi-sənt

- unabated
  -ˈə-nət-əd

- maudlin
  -ˈmōd-lin

- levity
  -ˈle-və-tē

- lugubrious
  -ˈlə-gə-bri-əs

---

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. She advocated* _______________ music as appropriate background for the funeral scene.
2. Although the debater’s rebuttal was _______________, it was totally irrelevant.*
3. The plague continued _______________, and the hapless* Friar John was unable to deliver the note to Romeo.
4. A good barometer* of the reunion’s success was the number of ________________ songs that the alumni sang.

5. Dean Flanigan admonished* us for our ________________ at the graduation exercises.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. puissant _____ a. sentimental
7. unabated _____ b. very sad
8. maudlin _____ c. lightness of disposition
9. levity _____ d. without subsiding
10. lugubrious_____ e. powerful

TODAY’S IDIOM

take the wind out of one’s sails—to make someone less confident or determined

Although Edna was bristling* with anger when she stormed in, I took the wind out of her sails by voicing my own displeasure at her misconduct.
There are many choice epithets* for cockroaches, and over the centuries man has been most resourceful* in concocting* adjectives to describe the insects. Whether you are going to get excited over a roach, write a poem, take a College Board examination, or compose a letter to a loved one, it helps to have a rich vocabulary.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

**REVIEW WORDS**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>abstemious</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>derogatory</td>
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<td>disparate</td>
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<td>edifice</td>
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<td>extant</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>indict</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>levity</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>lugubrious</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>maudlin</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>nebulous</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>omnivorous</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>pesky</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>puissant</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>redolent</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>repose (n.)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>reviled</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>sultry</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>trenchant</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>unabated</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>vicissitudes</td>
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**DEFINITIONS**

<p>| | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>different</td>
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<td>b</td>
<td>sentimental</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>a building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>very sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>humor, lightness of disposition</td>
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<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>vague, not clear</td>
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<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>expressing a low opinion</td>
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<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>eating foods from both plants and animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>to accuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>state of rest</td>
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<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>still existing</td>
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<td>l</td>
<td>powerful</td>
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<td>annoying</td>
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<td>n</td>
<td>fragrant</td>
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<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>moderate in eating or drinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>keen, sharp, biting</td>
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<tr>
<td>q</td>
<td>torrid</td>
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<td>r</td>
<td>difficulties</td>
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<td>s</td>
<td>without subsiding</td>
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<td>hated</td>
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<td>u</td>
<td>insincerely</td>
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<td>v</td>
<td>left to suffer the blame</td>
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<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>make someone less confident or determined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
HAPLESS HEADLINES
(From Week 20)

 Restore meaning to the headlines below by inserting the word that the careless typesetter omitted.

1. Rioting Continues ________________ in Men’s Correctional Facility
2. Torch Singer’s ________________ Songs Raise Temperature in Nightclub
3. ________________ Lifestyle Results in Huge Weight Loss for Actor
4. Architect Celebrated for New All-Glass ________________
5. Serious Judge Will Tolerate No ________________ in His Courtroom
6. Grand Jury Set to ________________ Bookkeeper in Million Dollar Fraud
7. Baseball Manager to Apologize for ________________ Remarks about Umpire
8. Only Three Copies of Shakespeare’s Handwriting ________________, Says Elizabethan Scholar
9. Handicapped Climbers Overcome Many ________________ to Scale Mt. Everest
10. Dictator ______________ by South American Patriots
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Chlorine Compounds on Trial**

The chances are that the water supply where you live is disinfected by chlorine, one of the elements on the periodic table. Yet, complaints about chlorine continue, identifying it as a health and environmental risk.

Greenpeace, the environmental activist group, stands ready to chlorinate organic elements, alleging that they are toxic. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency is reexamining the health hazards that are prevalent when materials containing chlorine are processed at high temperatures. And, worldwide, nations are banning chlorine compounds that destroy the earth’s protective ozone layer. Harsh treatment, it would seem, for one of nature’s basic elements, a component of the table salt we use.

When we enter a pool that is with the aroma of chlorine, we don’t associate it with the element now being blamed for tumors, reproductive problems, arrested development, destruction of wildlife, and sundry other ills that plague our planet.

A scientist with the Environmental Defense Fund thinks that chlorinated chemicals should be phased out. “We know they will be persistent if they get into the environment,” she said. “They are soluble, so they will build up in the fat of fish, birds, and people.”

**Clues**

1. 1st Day
2. 4th Day
3. 1st Day
4. 2nd Day
5. 1st Day
LOCKED IN AN IVORY EDIFICE*

Prince Siddhartha Gautama was the *scion* of a family of warrior kings in northern India. He was being *indoctrinated* for the time when he would assume his father’s throne. Growing up in an atmosphere of *opulence*, the young prince was constantly shielded from the cruel realities of the world. An army of *obsequious* servants and tutors catered to his every desire, providing Siddhartha with instruction in riding, fencing, dancing, and painting—while lavishing *fulsome* praise upon him. It wasn’t until the prince was thirty that he took the first step that led to his becoming the Buddha, one of the world’s greatest spiritual leaders.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>scion</td>
<td>sī̆ - ən</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>indoctrinate</td>
<td>in - dok - trə - nət</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opulence</td>
<td>əp - yə - ləns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obsequious</td>
<td>əb - sī̆ - kwī̆ - əs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fulsome</td>
<td>ʃul - səm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences. (Which two words are almost synonymous?)

1. It was not until the wreckers began to dismantle* the old edifice* that they discovered its real ________________

2. As the ________________ of a family of wealthy bankers, Rothschild never had to face the vicissitudes* of life.
3. Uriah Heep’s ________________ manner nettled* all but the most gullible.*

4. In order to ________________ the captive, his jailers repeatedly reviled* capitalism while praising communism.

5. The actress received ________________ compliments from her friends but trenchant* criticism from the reviewers.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. **scion** _____ a. seeking favor, fawning
7. **indoctrinate** _____ b. child, descendant
8. **opulence** _____ c. wealth, riches
9. **obsequious** _____ d. excessive, insincere
10. **fulsome** _____ e. to teach certain principles

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*piece of cake—job or task that is easy*

After 40 years on the job, Mark found the restocking of inventory a *piece of cake.*
One day, Prince Siddhartha expressed the desire to leave his lush surroundings and ride out among his people. He was profoundly shaken by the misery, destitution, disease, and excruciating pain with which his people were constantly afflicted. Retiring to his room to ponder over what he had seen, he remained there for several days, deaf to the supplication of those who pleaded with him to come forth. It seemed to Siddhartha that his life had been redolent with decadence, and he was determined to make amends.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The ________________ stage setting drew applause from the theater buffs.*
2. In the hospital, the alcoholic had time to ________________ over the need to be abstemious.*
3. As the traveler followed the tortuous* path up the Kentucky mountain, he was sickened by the ________________ he saw.
4. Through ________________, the fraternity head hoped to end the strife* among the members.
5. Rumors of Rome’s ________________ were rife* among the barbarian tribes.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. lush _____ a. self-indulgence  
7. destitution _____ b. extreme poverty  
8. ponder _____ c. to consider carefully  
9. supplication_____ d. earnest plea  
10. decadence _____ e. luxurious, elaborate

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*on tenter hooks*—in a state of anxiety (cloth used to be stretched or “tended” on hooks)

The indicted* clerk was kept on tenter hooks by the district attorney.
THE ENLIGHTENED ONE

Siddhartha exchanged his sumptuous* garments for a monk’s yellow robe and went out into the world to do penance for what he considered to be his previous life of sin. First he would cleanse himself by becoming an ascetic; then he would study Hindu wisdom in order to be prepared to help his suffering people. After six years of desultory wandering and attracting only a handful of disciples, Siddhartha came to a huge tree near the Indian city of Gaya. For seven weeks he sat beneath its branches, seeking an answer for his personal torment. Finally, it is said, he underwent a metamorphosis, becoming the Enlightened One—the Buddha.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Billy the Vampire is the only extant* ________________ of Count Dracula.
2. In a remarkable ________________, her lugubrious* mood changed to one of levity.*
3. Following a lengthy diatribe* against mendacity,* the priest imposed ________________ upon the sinner.
4. The cave of the ________________ lacked the opulence* and lush* decoration of his former mansion.

5. Larry’s compositions proceed in a ________________ manner despite the supplication* of his English teacher.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. penance ______ a. change

7. ascetic (n.) ______ b. atonement for sin

8. desultory ______ c. occurring by chance, disconnected

9. disciple ______ d. one who practices self-denial and devotion

10. metamorphosis____ e. follower

**Today’s Idiom**

*the fat is in the fire*—the mischief is done

We implored* him to desist,* but he said that *the fat was in the fire.*
Buddha outlined the three paths that men might travel: worldly pleasure, self-torment, and the middle path. Only through the middle path could man achieve *bona fide* peace and *salvation*. One had to repudiate* *materialism*, keep his self-control, restrict speech, be open-minded, never lie or steal, reject selfish drives, *nurture* goodness, etc. Buddha continued to preach until the age of eighty, spreading the philosophy that man has the power to shape his own destiny. Through good deeds and pure thoughts man may reach *nirvana*. Interestingly enough, the man who objected to traditional religious worship was to become idolized by millions throughout the world.

**NEW WORDS**

*bona fide*
ˈbō-ˌnə-ˌfīd

*salvation*
sal-ˌvā-ˌshən

*materialism*
ma-ˈtē-ᵲ rē-ə-li-zəm

*nurture*
ˈnər-ər-

*nirvana*
ˈnir-ə ˈvo-ə ˈnə ˈnər-ə ˈvo-ə ˈnə or

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. In order to ________________ good will, the management will do anything to accommodate* its guests’ special needs.

2. When we saw the hundreds of ________________ petitions, we realized that the number of people who supported the candidate was legion.*
3. The megalomaniac* believed that he alone had the answer to mankind’s ____________ .
4. Rosalie found solace* in the conviction that one day mankind would reach Shangri-la, utopia,* ____________ .
5. Disciples* of ____________ may know the price of everything but the value of nothing.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. bona fide _____ a. to nourish, support
7. salvation _____ b. attention to worldly things and neglect of spiritual needs
8. materialism_____ c. freedom from care and pain, Buddhist heaven
9. nurture _____ d. genuine
10. nirvana _____ e. deliverance from ruin

TODAY’S IDIOM

like Caesar’s (ˈse-ə) wife—above suspicion

Mrs. Drake would have to be like Caesar’s wife so that no tinge* of scandal would embarrass her husband, our new mayor.
**WEIGHT 21 ♯ DAY 5**

For the past twenty weeks, each of these review exercises has contained a bit of propaganda to point up the need for you to expand your vocabulary. This week is no exception.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____  1. ascetic (n.)</td>
<td>a. one who practices self-denial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  2. bona fide</td>
<td>b. wealth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  3. decadence</td>
<td>c. concern with possessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  4. destitution</td>
<td>d. luxurious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  5. desultory</td>
<td>e. self-indulgence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  6. disciple</td>
<td>f. disconnected, random</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  7. fulsome</td>
<td>g. deliverance from ruin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  8. indoctrinate</td>
<td>h. extreme poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____  9. lush</td>
<td>i. to teach certain principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 10. materialism</td>
<td>j. excessive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 11. metamorphosis</td>
<td>k. to nourish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 12. nirvana</td>
<td>l. heavenly place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 13. nurture</td>
<td>m. descendant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 14. obsequious</td>
<td>n. earnest plea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 15. opulence</td>
<td>o. to consider carefully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 16. penance</td>
<td>p. follower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. ponder</td>
<td>q. atonement for sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. salvation</td>
<td>r. seeking favor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. scion</td>
<td>s. change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 20. supplication</td>
<td>t. genuine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 21. piece of cake</td>
<td>u. in a state of anxiety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 22. on tenter hooks</td>
<td>v. job or task that is easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 23. the fat is in the fire</td>
<td>w. above suspicion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 24. like Caesar’s wife</td>
<td>x. the mischief is done</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**MEANINGS**
History’s Most Extraordinary Person?

In a celebrated essay about Joan of Arc, Mark Twain wrote movingly of her brief moment in the spotlight—two short years in which she made an indelible mark on world history. At age 16 she was illiterate, had never strayed from her sleepy little village, knew nothing of military combat, or courts of law. But at age 17, in a complete ①___________ she was named commander-in-chief of the French army, vowing to restore her king to his throne. Joan attracted many fervent followers, and a ②___________ called her “France’s ③___________.”

After much gallantry in battle, this ④___________ heroine was brought low by treachery at the French court and captured by the enemy. Joan defended herself brilliantly at a court trial, although she could neither read nor write. She was able to forecast future events with remarkable accuracy, correctly predicting her own martyrdom.

Mark Twain understood how geniuses such as Napoleon and Edison could develop, but one could ⑤___________ the facts for a lifetime without being able to explain how this humble peasant girl could display the qualities of a mature statesman, a learned jurist, and a military wizard. He concluded:

“Taking into account her origin, youth, sex, illiteracy, early environment, and the obstructing conditions under which she exploited her high gifts and made her conquests in the field and before the courts that tried her for her life—she is easily and by far the most extraordinary person the human race has ever produced.”

Clues

① 3rd Day
② 3rd Day
③ 4th Day
④ 4th Day
⑤ 2nd Day
WEEK 22 • DAY 1

FEMALE ALCOHOLICS

When we *juxtapose* the words “woman” and “alcoholic” many readers are surprised. However, the *plight* of America’s several million female alcoholics is rapidly increasing in intensity. But the statistics are inexact because it is estimated that there are nine *covert* alcoholics for every one under treatment. Women drink to help themselves to *cope* with life’s vicissitudes.* Like men, they drink because of financial pressures, *incompatibility*, frustration,* and related reasons.

**NEW WORDS**

*juxtapose*  
ˈjəktəpōz

*plight*  
ˈplīt

*covert*  
ˈkōvərt OR  
ˈkōvərt

*cope*  
ˈkōp

*incompatibility*  
in- kəm- pa- tə- ˈbi- lə- tē

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. If we were to ______________ our philosophies, your materialism* would conflict with my idealism.

2. Judge Felder commented with asperity* upon the wife’s charge of ______________.

3. Just how our club’s president is able to ______________ with so many disparate* personalities is something I’ll never understand.
4. The ______________ of the refugees who wandered about in a desultory* fashion moved us to tears.

5. Woodrow Wilson stated that he found ______________ agreements to be reprehensible.*

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. juxtapose _____ a. quality of being mismatched, lack of harmony
7. plight _____ b. to place side by side
8. covert _____ c. predicament, dangerous situation
9. cope _____ d. secret, hidden
10. incompatibility____ e. to deal effectively

Today’s Idiom

plea bargain—agreement to plead guilty to a lesser charge so as to avoid trial for a more serious offense

The defendant finally took his lawyer’s advice and agreed to a plea bargain of third-degree assault.
A PROFILE OF THE WOMAN WHO DRINKS TO EXCESS

The typical alcoholic woman is above average in intelligence, in her forties, married, with two children. She started drinking socially in high school or college. Although frequently incapacitated, she can fabricate a story skillfully and thus conceal her true physical condition. She often attributes her alcoholism to connubial stress, boredom, or depression. A large percentage of the women give family histories of alcoholism. Most female drinkers would demur at the appellation of “alcoholic”—and that makes their treatment all the more difficult.

IMPORTANT NOTE: How good a detective are you? Did you spot one of the new words that had been introduced earlier? (fabricate) It should be part of your vocabulary now. From time to time in the lessons that follow, your alertness will be tested as a previously learned word is reintroduced.

NEW WORDS

incapacitated
in - kə - ˈpa - sə - tā - tēd

fabricate
ˈfa - brə - kāt

connubial
kə - ˈn(y)ū - bē - ēl

demur
di - ˈmər

appellation
ə - pə - ˈlā - shən

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Dave’s metamorphosis* from an honest person to one who could ________________ an alibi so adroitly* was amazing.

2. The widow grew maudlin* as she reminisced about her former ________________ bliss.
3. I will have to ________________ even if I receive a bona fide* invitation to run for the student council.

4. Because he was the scion* of the richest family on our block, Lenny was given the ________________ of “Rockefeller.”

5. He was ashamed to admit that a pesky* skin rash ________________ him for weeks at a time.

Definitions  Match the new words with their meanings.

6. incapacitated_____   a. to object
7. fabricate _____   b. a name
8. connubial _____   c. to lie, concoct*
9. demur _____   d. related to marriage
10. appellation _____   e. disabled, made unfit

TODAY’S IDIOM

*in apple pie order*— in neat order, good condition
The house was in dreadful condition when Mrs. Maslow arrived, but when she left it was *in apple pie order.*
NEFARIOUS* EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL

Aside from the causes offered earlier, doctors have other interesting reasons for the *escalation* in female drinking. They also indict* social acceptance and *indifference* to alcohol’s *potential* danger as contributory factors. If women realized the harmful extent of the *cumulative* effect of alcohol, they might taper off in their public and *recondite* drinking. Forty-three percent of the female alcoholics in a survey showed evidence of liver damage, and a quarter of the whole group had a high white blood cell count. Almost five percent of the patients died shortly after their release from the hospital.

**NEW WORDS**

- **escalation**
  
  *eskə-lə-shən*

- **indifference**
  
  *in-dif-ər-əns*

- **potential**
  
  *pə-tən-shəl* OR

- **cumulative**
  
  *kə-myoo-lə-tiv*

- **recondite**
  
  *rē-kən-dīt*

**Sample Sentences** If you can still see clearly after all the references to liquor, use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Many derogatory* statements were heard from those who were opposed to further ____________ of the conflict.

2. With complete ____________ toward his personal safety, Lt. Regan openly challenged the puissant* forces of the enemy.
3. When destitution* grips an area, there is concern for ________________ trouble.

4. The ________________ effect of the summer’s sultry* weather was to shorten everyone’s temper.

5. The poet’s ________________ language precluded* any understanding of her theme.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. escalation ____ a. possible, prospective
7. indifference____ b. accumulated
8. potential ____ c. secret, hidden, obscure
   (adj.)
9. cumulative____ d. increase, intensification
10. recondite _____ e. lack of concern

Today’s Idiom

apple polishing—trying to gain favor by gifts or flattery

If the way to advancement in this company is through apple polishing, I quit!
DANGER SIGNALS

A potential* female alcoholic should be cognizant* of certain danger signals:

a. Using alcohol in an attempt to *palliate* her problems.
b. *Deluding* herself about the extent of her drinking habits.
c. Drinking at regular time periods, both day and night.
d. Reliance upon alcohol as a *prelude* to a major social obligation.
e. Making unrealistic promises about terminating* her drinking.
f. Using alcohol as a medication for real or *chimerical* illnesses.

If in evaluating* her drinking, a woman *acknowledges* that several of the danger signals apply to her, she should see a physician.

**New Words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>palliate</td>
<td>pā - lē - āt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>delude</td>
<td>di - l(yūd)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prelude</td>
<td>pre - lyūd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chimerical</td>
<td>ki - me - rə - kəl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acknowledge</td>
<td>ak - no - lij</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Monte refused to _______________ the extrinsic* pressures that were causing him to do poorly in his sophomore year.
2. We must not allow fulsome* praise to ________________ us about our actual abilities.

3. The drugs could only ________________ the symptoms, not provide the cure.

4. As a ________________ to his performance, the bullfighter vowed to do penance* for his sins.

5. The scheme sounded ________________, but we were indoctrinated* to believe that it could work.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. palliate _____ a. visionary, imaginary, fantastic
7. delude _____ b. alleviate, relieve without curing
8. prelude _____ c. introduction
9. chimerical _____ d. to fool
10. acknowledge____ e. admit

TODAY'S IDIOM

Draconian (drə - ˈkō - nē - ən) laws—a very severe set of rules (Draco, an Athenian lawmaker of the 7th century B.C., prescribed the death penalty for almost every violation)

The head counselor ran our camp according to his own Draconian laws.
If you’re driving, don’t drink! Alcohol does not mix with gasoline! We have seen those slogans on many billboards. Here’s a new one: “If you use words, use good ones!”

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1. acknowledge</td>
<td>a. accumulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 2. appellation</td>
<td>b. to admit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 3. chimerical</td>
<td>c. to relieve without curing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 4. connubial</td>
<td>d. to lie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 5. cope</td>
<td>e. to fool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 6. covert</td>
<td>f. a name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 7. cumulative</td>
<td>g. predicament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 8. delude</td>
<td>h. secret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 9. demur</td>
<td>i. intensification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 10. escalation</td>
<td>j. to deal effectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 11. fabricate</td>
<td>k. obscure, hidden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 12. incapacitated</td>
<td>l. imaginary, fantastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 13. incompatibility</td>
<td>m. related to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 14. indifference</td>
<td>n. possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 15. juxtapose</td>
<td>o. to place side by side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 16. palliate</td>
<td>p. to object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 17. plight</td>
<td>q. introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 18. potential (adj.)</td>
<td>r. lack of concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 19. prelude</td>
<td>s. lack of harmony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 20. recondite</td>
<td>t. disabled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IDIOMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____ 21. plea bargain</td>
<td>u. trying to gain favor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 22. in apple pie order</td>
<td>v. severe set of rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 23. apple polishing</td>
<td>w. agreement to admit guilt on a lesser charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 24. Draconian laws</td>
<td>x. in good condition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Hair Today, . . .**

The fact that a hair salon might charge $60 for a woman’s shampoo and haircut but only $20 for the same services for a man is a matter of ________ to most citizens. Not so to one city’s Department of Human Rights, which claimed that such a disparity is discriminatory. Commissioner Sophia Rodriguez has targeted “gender-based” pricing as a violation of city law.

Consider the ________ of the salon owners. They ________ the price difference, explaining that it takes much longer to cut a woman’s hair and requires the use of additional products. But a spokesperson for the Department of Consumer Affairs said that beauty parlors will have to ________ with the situation honestly, just as dry cleaners and used-car dealers did when they were apprised of the law.

“I know that women are fighting for equality,” said the owner of a chain of unisex hair salons, “but this is ridiculous. We cut a man’s hair in no time but we have to get more money from our female customers because their styling and cutting takes so much longer.”

The argument might be the ________ to an important court case. A city-proposed settlement, however, is to have those salons that are cited for violations of the law offer free haircuts to women for a period of three months before having to pay a stiff fine for repeated offenses.

“It’s easier to comply,” shrugged one owner (bald, himself).

Clues

① 3rd Day
② 1st Day
③ 4th Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 4th Day
Ellis Sloane, a teacher of science at a large metropolitan high school, first paid little attention to the fact that his two biology classes were so disparate in their performance. In most schools the classes are alphabetically heterogeneous, with youngsters’ names running the gamut from Adams to Zilch. But Biology 121 had only A’s and B’s, whereas Biology 128 had T’s, V’s, W’s, Y’s, and Z’s. Mr. Sloane, a perspicacious teacher, began to perceive differences between the two groups: while their reading scores and I.Q.’s were roughly analogous, it was apparent that Biology 128 was replete with maladjusted students, while Biology 121 had the normal ones.

### NEW WORDS

- **heterogeneous**
  
  he - tə - rō - ˌjē - nē - əs

- **gamut**
  
  ˈga - mət

- **perspicacious**
  
  pər - spə - ˈkā - shəs

- **analogous**
  
  ə - ˌnä - lə - ˈgəs

- **maladjusted**
  
  ma - ˌlō - ˌjū - əd

### Sample Sentences

1. The Bureau of Child Guidance has been the salvation for some ________________ children.

2. Our algebra class is a ________________ one in which senior students are juxtaposed with juniors.

3. Senator Thorpe was ________________ enough to realize that the scurrilous charge would have little effect upon the voters.
4. Although the lawyer acknowledged* that the two cases were hardly ________________, he still felt that he had a good precedent on his side.

5. The actress ran the ________________ of emotions in a poignant* performance that thrilled the audience.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. heterogeneous _____ a. range
7. gamut _____ b. acutely perceptive, shrewd
8. perspicacious _____ c. dysfunctional
9. analogous _____ d. comparable, similar
10. maladjusted _____ e. dissimilar

TODAY’S IDIOM

cut the mustard—to meet expectations

Thanks to his junior college degree, Raul knew he could cut the mustard in his new welding job.
WHAT’S IN A NAME?
As Mr. Sloane pursued his investigation of the *phenomenon*, he discovered that a Dr. Trevor Weston of the British Medical Association had corroborated* his findings. Dr. Weston had studied British *mortality* rates over a *decade*, finding that people whose names began with letters ranging from “S” to “Z” had a life expectancy that averaged twelve years fewer than the rest of the population. Furthermore, those at the bottom of the alphabet tended to contract more ulcers, were more *susceptible* to heart attacks, and were more likely to be *neurotic* than those at the top of the alphabet.

NEW WORDS

- *phenomenon* ˌfə-ˈnə-mən
- *mortality* ˌmôr-təl-i-tē
- *decade* ˈde-kād
- *susceptible* ˌsə-ˈsep-tə-bəl
- *neurotic* n(y)u-ˈro-tik

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Irritability is one of the salient* features of a ________________ personality.
2. After a ________________ of connubial* acrimony,* the couple decided to consult with a marriage counselor.
3. If a miner were to ponder* over the high ________________ rate in his occupation, he might want to quit.
4. Ethan soon learned that his wan* wife was ________________ to a variety of ailments.

5. There was no paucity* of witnesses to describe the ________________ of the flying saucer.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. phenomenon____ a. death
7. mortality _____ b. suffering from a nervous disorder
8. decade _____ c. ten years
9. susceptible_____ d. unusual occurrence
10. neurotic _____ e. easily affected

Today's Idiom

*bite the bullet*—to endure an unavoidably painful situation

Confronted with the evidence, Alex was forced to *bite the bullet* and admit his guilt.
THE PERILS OF THE ALPHABET

Dr. Weston is convinced that the *pedagogue* is the culprit.* Since teachers seat their pupils in alphabetical order, the “S” to “Z” child is usually the last to receive his test marks, the last to eat lunch, the last to be dismissed, and so on. As they are the last to recite, these youngsters feel frustrated* because what they had to say had usually been *enunciated* earlier. The *inordinate* amount of waiting that this group has to do causes them to become *irascible* and jittery. Some “S” to “Z” people also may become quite *introspective*, convinced that they are inferior to those at the top of the alphabet.

NEW WORDS

pedagogue
pe - də - gog

enunciate
i - ˈnən - sē - ət

inordinate
i - ˈnôr - di - nət

irascible
i - ˈra - sə - bəl

introspective
in - trə - ˈspek - tiv

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Reporters were expecting the candidate to ________________ his policy on the escalation* of the war.

2. His profligate* son made the parsimonious* old crank even more ________________ .

3. Since Alice is so gregarious* it surprised me to learn that she is also an ________________ girl.
4. Mr. Ford is proud to be called a teacher, but he demurs* at the title of ________________.

5. In an attempt to show how assiduous* he was, the executive spent an ________________ amount of time on his report.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. pedagogue _____ a. irritable
7. enunciate _____ b. excessive
8. inordinate _____ c. to express, proclaim
9. irascible _____ d. looking into one’s own feelings
10. introspective_____ e. teacher

---

**Today’s Idiom**

*get one’s back up*—to become angry

Every time his mother mentioned getting a haircut, the young guitarist *got his back up.*
IN THE NATURE OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Mr. Sloane did not want to *perpetuate* the disorders that stemmed from the alphabetical arrangement. Not only did he reverse the seating in his other classes, but he began to badger* the school’s administration for a *mandate* to bring about such changes throughout the building. He called it a *compensatory* factor to *neutralize* the *catastrophic* effects of the traditional policy. Soon, Mr. Sloane earned the appellation* of “Mr. Backwards.”

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Don Ricardo hoped that his son would ________________ the family business, but Manuel was too involved with chimerical* schemes to want to run a restaurant.

2. If the draconian* regulations are to continue unabated,* they will have ________________ results.

3. Dr. Meyers prescribed medication to ________________ the acid condition that had incapacitated* my uncle.
4. As a prelude* to his victory speech, the mayor announced that he considered the large vote to be a ________________ from the people.

5. ________________ education may help at-risk students to cope* with challenges.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. perpetuate _____ a. making up for a loss
7. mandate (n.) _____ b. authoritative order or command
8. compensatory_____ c. to counteract
9. neutralize _____ d. to cause to continue
10. catastrophic_____ e. disastrous

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

*bring home the bacon*—to earn a living, succeed

The man’s inability to *bring home the bacon* was the actual reason for the couple’s incompatibility.*
You may not know the alphabet from *aardvark* to *zymurgy*, but you can certainly cope* with analogous to *susceptible*.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

**REVIEW WORDS**

|---|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|

**DEFINITIONS**

|   | a. disastrous | b. irritable | c. teacher | d. dysfunctional | e. to cause to continue | f. comparable, similar | g. shrewd | h. authoritative command | i. dissimilar | j. range | k. to counteract | l. having a nervous disorder | m. excessive | n. looking into one’s own feelings | o. unusual occurrence | p. death | q. easily affected | r. making up for a loss | s. ten years | t. to express, proclaim |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---------|

**IDIOMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>21. cut the mustard</th>
<th>22. bite the bullet</th>
<th>23. get one’s back up</th>
<th>24. bring home the bacon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>u. to meet expectations</th>
<th>v. to endure an unavoidably painful situation</th>
<th>w. to become angry</th>
<th>x. to earn a living</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Make a record of those words you missed.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

<p>| | |</p>
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</table>

**MEANINGS**

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<th></th>
<th></th>
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</table>
YOU ARE NOW AT THE MID-POINT OF THE BOOK, AND YOU SHOULD PLAN TO DEVOTE SOME ADDITIONAL TIME TO A REVIEW OF THOSE WORDS THAT YOU MISSED DURING THE PAST TWENTY-THREE WEEKS.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Microsociety—An Antidote for School Boredom**

Money, taxes, employment, legislation—these are topics that we associate with the adult world. George Richmond, a Yale graduate who became a ①__________ in the New York City school system, felt that elementary school youngsters could also be interested, even excited, about such issues. He experimented in his own classes with the Microsociety in which basic instruction takes place and is reinforced as pupils operate their own businesses, pass laws, live within the parameters of a constitution that they drafted, seek redress within their own judicial system, buy and sell real estate, and so on.

Richmond’s book on the Microsociety came to the attention of the school board in Lowell, Massachusetts, and their members decided to give it a try in 1981. In much less than a ②__________ the results were quite remarkable: students exceeded the norm in reading and math; 8th graders passed college level exams; school attendance went up to 96%; and the dropout rate took a nosedive in Lowell.

In Microsociety’s ③__________ classes, mornings are given over to the traditional curriculum. In the afternoon, the students apply what they learned in activities that run the ④__________ from keeping double entry books, doing financial audits, running a bank, and conducting court sessions to engaging in light manufacture that leads to retail and wholesale commerce.

Other ⑤__________ school systems have since adopted George Richmond’s innovative ideas. “Microsociety,” said a Yonkers, New York, principal, “gets kids to role-play life!”

A Time Magazine reporter was much impressed with Microsociety’s results: “Such an approach would go a long way toward making U.S. public schools a cradle of national renewal.”

**Clues**

① 3rd Day  
② 2nd Day  
③ 1st Day  
④ 1st Day  
⑤ 1st Day
PRIMITIVE MAGIC

In the course of their studies of other cultures, anthropologists have reported numerous customs and practices that seem bizarre to the average American. Some indigenous* people believe that certain inanimate objects have a will of their own and possess magical powers. These fetishes may be simple things like a particular feather of a bird or a unique pebble. The fetish might have derived its power, according to some peoples, from a god who lives within the object and has changed it into a thing of magic. Fetishes need not only be natural objects, however. An artifact such as a sculpture or carving may also be believed to possess supernatural powers.

NEW WORDS

anthropologist
an - thrə - ˈpoʊ - lə - jist

bizarre
bi - ˈzar

inanimate
in - ˈə - ni - mət

fetish
ˈfe - tish

artifact
ˈær - ti - fakt

Sample Sentences Now use your new words in the following sentences.

1. Stones are ________________ objects that have no life of their own.

2. It has been suggested that the man who builds a better mousetrap will find the world beating a path to his door to possess this ________________ .

3. The explorers saw the golden statue and thought of how much money it would bring them. But their lives would be in danger if they moved it because it was a powerful ________________ to
the natives.

4. Margaret Mead, the famous ________________, fascinated thousands of readers with her studies of South Seas islanders.

5. It would be rather ________________ for a married couple to never have a disagreement.

Definitions If you have studied the reading selection and the sample sentences, now try your hand at matching your new words with their definitions.

6. anthropologist_____ a. object made by hand, rather than a thing as it occurs in nature
7. bizarre _____ b. lifeless
8. inanimate _____ c. object that is thought to have magic powers
9. fetish _____ d. expert in the study of the races, beliefs, customs, etc. of mankind
10. artifact _____ e. odd, peculiar, strange, weird

Today's Idiom

get down off one's high horse—to act like an ordinary person

When Susan discovered that the young man who was trying to make conversation with her was the son of a millionaire, she got down off her high horse.
FORBIDDEN

An outgrowth of the idea of a fetish* is the closely related practice of taboo. Whereas the gods or supernatural powers merely inhabit an object that is a fetish and lend it magic, they will punish the imprudent native who violates their prohibition of an act or use of an object or word that has become a taboo. If a taboo has been broken, it becomes imperative for the offender to be punished. In many cases, however, the taint on the community may be removed after the priests have performed a special ceremony. Often, the violator of the taboo will be punished or die merely through his own fears of the terrible thing he has done.

NEW WORDS

**taboo (n.)**

to - ˈbū OR ta - ˈbū

**imprudent**
im - ˈprū - dənt

**prohibition**
prō - (h)o - ˈbi - shən

**imperative**
im - ˈpe - rə - tiv

**taint (n.)**
ˈtānt

Sample Sentences Has the context in which your new words appear given you clues to their meaning? Try now to use them in these sample sentences.

1. Unsanitary conditions in the bottling factory resulted in the ____________ of hundreds of cases of soda by dirt and foreign objects. The health department refused to allow the soda to be sold.

2. Although a New Jersey high school principal placed a ____________ on boys wearing
their hair long, one student fought in the courts and won his case.

3. It is considered ______________ to give your email password to anyone not fully known to you.

4. It is a ______________ for certain South Seas islanders to eat some foods before they marry.

5. In the nuclear age it has become ______________ for the nations of the world to learn to live in peace.

Definitions Now is your chance to test your knowledge of your new words by matching them with their definitions.

6. taboo (n.) _____ a. contamination, undesirable substance that spoils something

7. imprudent_____ b. the act of banning certain behavior

8. prohibition_____ c. urgent, necessary, compulsory

9. imperative_____ d. custom forbidding a particular practice

10. taint (n.) _____ e. unwise, not careful

TODAY’S IDIOM

*cream of the crop*—the best quality, the greatest

LeBron James, a basketball player who is the *cream of the crop*, would be of enormous value to any team.
AN ABSURDITY

Although it is probably universal human behavior to be contemptuous of the bizarre superstitions practiced by inhabitants of unfamiliar cultures, it seems to be somewhat imprudent to laugh at others before one takes a good, hard look at the absurd taboos and fetishes one accepts as part of one’s own everyday life. For example, why do people fear a black cat crossing their paths? Why do we acknowledge a rabbit’s foot as good luck? Is it logical to believe that crosses or garlic will ward off abhorrent (although fictional) vampires? And why are some buildings built without an “unlucky” 13th floor? These may seem to be foolish superstitions, but what harm do they really do?

NEW WORDS

universal
yū - nə - ˈvɛr - səl

contemptuous
kən - ˈtemp - chū - əs

absurd
əb - ˈsərd OR əb - ˈzərd

abhorrent
əb - ˈhoʊ - rənt

superstition
s(y)ū - ˈpər - ˈsti - ən

Sample Sentences Did the starred review words seem familiar to you? Yet, how many were totally foreign several days ago? Keep up the good work now by using your new words in the following sentences.

1. Bob felt ______________ of his best friend after he saw him cheating during an exam.

2. The teacher felt like laughing after he heard Sally’s ______________ excuse for not having done her homework.
3. Actors abide by the ______________ never to say the word “Macbeth” in a theater, because Shakespeare’s play is said to be cursed.

4. I find it ____________ when someone constantly changes TV channels while I’m trying to read in the same room.

5. Would relations between countries be simpler if a ________________ language were spoken rather than hundreds of separate ones?

Definitions Match your new words with their definitions.

6. universal _____  a. ridiculous 
7. contemptuous____  b. present everywhere
8. absurd _____  c. expressing a feeling that something is worthless
9. abhorrent _____  d. irrational belief or practice
10. superstition ____  e. detestable, despised

TODAY'S IDIOM

dyed-in-the-wool—set in one’s ways

He was a dyed-in-the-wool Republican who would not consider voting for a Democrat.
GESUNDHEIT!

During the Middle Ages most people believed that the devil could enter our bodies when we sneezed, because at that propitious* moment we left our bodies **vulnerable**. However, this catastrophic* event could be avoided if another person immediately made an **entreaty** to God. This was how the practice began of saying “God bless you” after someone sneezes. Although the **tradition** continues today, few people are aware of its history. A superstition* **originates** in ignorance when people are unsure of the causes of events. But it remains **inviolable** over the years because it usually represents our deepest fears.

**New Words**

vulnerable

ˈvul-nər-ə-bəl

entreaty

ˈent-rē-tē

tradition

trə-ˈdi-shən

originate

ə-ˈrī-jə-nət

inviolable

ˈin-vī-ə-lə-bəl

**Sample Sentences** Use these new words in the following sentences.

1. Some bad habits ________________ in adolescence and continue throughout a person’s life.

2. The murderer made an ________________ to the governor for a pardon.

3. Despite the inexorable* torture, 007 kept the ________________ secret of the labyrinth* leading to the underground headquarters.
4. It appears that many computers are ______________ to viruses that can cause great damage.

5. Eskimos have a ______________ of rubbing noses to show affection.

**Definitions**

6. vulnerable_____  a. to begin, arise

7. entreaty _____  b. capable of being injured

8. tradition _____  c. custom that has been handed down

9. originate _____  d. appeal, plea

10. inviolable_____  e. safe (from destruction, etc.)

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*blue chip*—a highly valuable asset, stock, or property (in poker, the blue chips are those with the highest value)

My father’s broker recommended that for safety we invest in *blue chip* stocks only.
And today it’s time to strengthen your word knowledge again. You’ve noticed, of course, that the matching definitions are not always the definitions you may have been familiar with. This is the way language works. It is impossible to provide a one-word synonym or simple definition for a word that you will always be able to substitute for it. Therefore, in our weekly review we hope not only to check your learning, but also to teach you closely related meanings.

Match the best possible definition with the word you studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. abhorrent</td>
<td>a. a hand-made object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. absurd</td>
<td>b. unwise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. anthropologist</td>
<td>c. irrational belief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. artifact</td>
<td>d. completely protected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. bizarre</td>
<td>e. magical object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. contemptuous</td>
<td>f. widespread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. entreaty</td>
<td>g. to begin, arise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. fetish</td>
<td>h. person who studies mankind’s customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. imperative</td>
<td>i. custom forbidding a particular practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. imprudent</td>
<td>j. long-standing practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. inanimate</td>
<td>k. weird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. inviolable</td>
<td>l. able to be hurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. originate</td>
<td>m. looking down on someone or something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. prohibition</td>
<td>n. utterly hated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. superstition</td>
<td>o. without life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. taboo (n.)</td>
<td>p. banning of certain actions</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. taint (n.)</td>
<td>q. necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. tradition</td>
<td>r. ridiculous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. universal</td>
<td>s. plea, appeal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. vulnerable</td>
<td>t. contamination</td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21. get down off one’s high horse</td>
<td>u. the greatest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. cream of the crop</td>
<td>v. a highly valued asset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. dyed-in-the-wool</td>
<td>w. to act like an ordinary person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. blue chip</td>
<td>x. set in one’s ways</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Record your errors and their correct meanings. These words must be studied independently if you want to master them. Use them in original sentences. Also, study the several different definitions a good dictionary provides for each of these problem words.

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<tr>
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<tr>
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### ADJECTIVE LEADERS AND NOUN FOLLOWERS
(From Weeks 21–24)

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>fulsome</td>
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<td>b.</td>
<td>covert</td>
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<td>c.</td>
<td>bona fide</td>
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<td>d.</td>
<td>lush</td>
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<td>e.</td>
<td>bizarre</td>
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<td>f.</td>
<td>susceptible</td>
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<td>g.</td>
<td>inviolable</td>
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<td>h.</td>
<td>taboo</td>
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<td>i.</td>
<td>catastrophic</td>
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<td>j.</td>
<td>inanimate</td>
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<td>k.</td>
<td>imprudent</td>
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<tr>
<td>l.</td>
<td>maladjusted</td>
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<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>connubial</td>
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<tr>
<td>n.</td>
<td>heterogeneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>o.</td>
<td>inordinate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions** Write the letter corresponding to the vocabulary word (above) in the space provided opposite the noun (below) that it is most likely to precede.

1. bliss
2. diamond
3. praise
4. amount
5. incident
6. purchase
7. meeting
8. object
9. earthquake
10. law
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Map Makers at Work**

We are all caught up in the events that change history and the shape of the countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Each time a country changes its name or its borders, there are some people who have their work cut out for them. They are the map makers—the cartographers. These skilled artists know it is **impossible** to believe that this year’s borders will remain fixed. Has there ever been an **impossible** border?

Looking through an atlas of just a few years back, we realize it is simply an **ever-changing** of an ever-changing world. If there is one thing for map makers to do, it is to realize how **ever-changing** it is for them to keep abreast of world events.

The study of world history is replete with exciting events that have shaken the economic and political past. Geography is the physical rendering of these events. As history moves and changes our lives, it is up to the cartographer to take the **ever-changing** lines of a map and shape the picture of this world in motion. A quick search of Google Earth brings our ever-changing planet to our screens.

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day
2. 4th Day
3. 1st Day
4. 2nd Day
5. 1st Day
THE EXPLOSION OF KRAKATOA

There are few sights that are more impressive and awesome than the eruption of an active volcano. There are few natural events that so singularly* dwarf man’s puny attempts to control his environment. Perhaps the greatest volcanic eruption of modern times took place in 1883 when the island of Krakatoa in Indonesia blew up as the result of a volcanic explosion. An enormous tidal wave resulted that proved catastrophic* to the nearby coasts of Java and Sumatra. New islands were formed by the lava that poured out, and debris was scattered across the Indian Ocean for hundreds of miles. Volcanic material, dispersed seventeen miles into the atmosphere, created startlingly beautiful sunsets for years afterwards.

Sample Sentences  Relying on the contextual clues in the paragraph above, use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Fred had been known for his gentle ways, so his friends were stunned by the ______________ of angry words that issued from him.

2. We were surprised by the ______________ resistance put up by the voracious* tiger to its
3. After her house had burned to the ground, Mrs. Wiley searched through the ________________ for her valuable jewelry.

4. Many of those who witnessed the first atomic explosion reported that it was an ________________ sight.

5. The fluffy seeds of the milkweed are ________________ by the wind.

Definitions Now take the final step in learning the new words.

6. awesome _____  a. scattered, spread, broken up
7. eruption _____  b. weak, small, unimportant
8. puny _____  c. inspiring great admiration or fear
9. debris _____  d. ruins, fragments
10. dispersed_____  e. bursting out

TODAY’S IDIOM

six of one, half a dozen of the other—it makes very little difference

Since both jobs pay $7.25 an hour and are equally boring, it is *six of one, half a dozen of the other* which one I take.
A UNIVERSAL* DANGER

Man’s ability to obliterate life on this planet has increased at a rapid rate. We are now faced with the deplorable prospect of new weapons that can cause destruction of life and property on a scale far beyond our imagination. No matter who takes the first step to initiate a conflict, the possibility exists that the conflagration will spread and envelop the world. Much thought has been given to ways and means of preventing this catastrophe.* Some consider it mandatory* that the nuclear powers seek agreement on methods of limiting and controlling these weapons, for in the absence of such an agreement, we may rue the day atomic energy was made practical.

**NEW WORDS**

obliterate
ə - əbli - tə - rāt

deploirable
də - əplô - rə - bəl

initiate (v.)
i - əni - shē - āt

conflagration
kon - flə - əgrā - shən

rue (v.)
ˈrü

**Sample Sentences** Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks.

1. Who could imagine a more bizarre* story than the one having to do with a cow causing the _____________ in Chicago?

2. No matter how one tries to delete material from a computer, it is almost impossible to _____________ it.

3. You will _____________ that display of histrionics* when I asked you to help.
4. She could not imagine how she was going to get him to ______________ a conversation about marriage.

5. The hometown fans thought the umpire’s decision was ______________ .

**Definitions** Let’s put the new words together with their meanings.

6. obliterate _____ a. to regret

7. deplorable _____ b. sad, pitiable

8. initiate (v.) _____ c. to erase, wipe out

9. conflagration_____ d. to start, get going

10. rue (v.) _____ e. great fire

---

**Today’s Idiom**

*blow hot and cold*—to swing for and against something

I told Charlie to give up his summer job and come cross-country biking with us. He’s *blowing hot and cold* on the deal at this point.
TAKEN FOR GRANTED

The presence of an ever-flowing supply of fresh, clean water is taken for granted. Unfortunately, this congenial condition is fast disappearing. As our population increases, as industry consumes more water each year, the level of our underground water supply sinks measurably. There is no way to hoard water; there are many ways to conserve it. During a particularly dry spell, New York City found its reservoirs going dry. Only then did the residents begin to heed the sage advice to limit the wasteful uses of water. Under the aegis of the Water Commissioner, citizens were encouraged to develop habits that would save water. The continued imprudent* waste by each of us of this most basic resource will work to the detriment of all.

NEW WORDS

congenial
kən-ˈjē-nəl

hoard (v.)
ˈhôrd

sage (adj.)
ˈsāj

aegis
ˈē-ˌjēz

detriment
ˈdē-trə-mēnt

Sample Sentences  Here’s your opportunity to use your new words.

1. Isn’t it a pity we can’t _________________ the ideal days of autumn?

2. A man’s words may be considered _________________ everywhere, but at home he’s considered “old-fashioned” by his youngsters.

3. The tree in front of my house has the dubious* honor of being the spot voted the most
4. It was fortuitous* that at the last moment the mayor offered the ______________ of his office in finding a solution to the problem.

5. A settlement that causes ______________ to neither side is imperative.*

**Definitions** Remember, words may have many synonyms.

6. congenial_____ a. injury, damage, hurt

7. hoard _____ b. sympathetic, agreeable
   (v.)

8. sage _____ c. shield, protection, sponsorship
   (adj.)

9. aegis _____ d. to hide, store, accumulate

10. detriment_____ e. wise, intelligent

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*in the doldrums*—in a bored or depressed state

Mary has been *in the doldrums* since her best friend moved away.
AN AGELESS STORY

Every so often we can read about a man or woman who has reached an age far beyond the limits we ordinarily expect. Reports of a man in Chile or a woman in Turkey who has celebrated the 105th or 110th birthday occur regularly. The natural question is, to what do these people owe their longevity? Frequently, the answer concerns the fact that the ancient one liked to imbibe regularly of some hard liquor. The photograph will show an apparently virile man or robust woman. Somehow, people who reach this advanced age seem to remain eternally sturdy. There are no signs that they have become senile. Smoking a pipe, or sewing on some garment, these rare specimens of hardy humanity are far from the doddering folk we expect to see.

NEW WORDS

longevity
lon - 'je - vø - tē

imbibe
im - 'bib

virile
'ver - əl

senile
'sē - nīl

doddering (adj.)
'do - do - rin

Sample Sentences Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Far from being _______________, the old woman was considered the sage* of the neighborhood.

2. Scientists have placed the _______________ of the planet Earth unbelievably into the future.

3. It was deplorable* for us to see her _______________ figure move around the house with the
If you ________________, don’t drive!

The boys struck ________________ poses to attract the girls on the beach.

**Definitions** Here’s your chance to match the new words with their meaning.

6. longevity _____ a. long duration of life
7. imbibe _____ b. masterful, manly
8. virile _____ c. to drink
9. senile _____ d. showing a loss of mental ability in old age
10. doddering_____ e. shaky from old age

(adj.)

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*burn the midnight oil*—to study or work late into the night

If I’m going to pass the test tomorrow, I will have to *burn the midnight oil* tonight.
Week by week your word-power is being built. It’s like putting money in the bank. Remember, in our language there may be many synonyms and related meanings for each word. Knowing one synonym is good, but you will reap greater benefits from knowing several. Below is the matching review for this week.

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<thead>
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<tr>
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<td>a. shaky from old age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 2. awesome</td>
<td>b. to regret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 3. conflagration</td>
<td>c. bursting out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 4. congenial</td>
<td>d. decline in mental capacity as a result of old age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 5. debris</td>
<td>e. wise, intelligent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 6. deplorable</td>
<td>f. ruins, fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 7. detriment</td>
<td>g. weak, small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 8. dispersed</td>
<td>h. protection, sponsorship, shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 9. doddering (adj.)</td>
<td>i. agreeable, sympathetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 10. eruption</td>
<td>j. broken up, scattered, spread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 11. hoard (v.)</td>
<td>k. sad, pitiable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 12. imbibe</td>
<td>l. hurt, damage, injury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 13. initiate (v.)</td>
<td>m. to drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 14. longevity</td>
<td>n. great fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 15. obliterates</td>
<td>o. manly, masterful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 16. puny</td>
<td>p. inspiring great admiration or fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 17. rue (v.)</td>
<td>q. get going, start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 18. sage (adj.)</td>
<td>r. to accumulate, save, store up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 19. senile</td>
<td>s. long duration of life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 20. virile</td>
<td>t. to wipe out, erase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<td>___ 21. six of one, half a dozen of the other</td>
<td>u. in a bored or depressed state</td>
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<td>___ 22. blow hot and cold</td>
<td>v. makes very little difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 23. in the doldrums</td>
<td>w. to swing for and against something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ 24. burn the midnight oil</td>
<td>x. to work late into the night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don’t neglect words you fail to answer correctly. These problem words can be mastered quickly if you write them down, look up their meanings, and practice using them.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. _____________________</td>
<td>______________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. _____________________</td>
<td>______________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. _____________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Save the Whales, at Least

Have we all become tired of the much used word “environment”? How often we hear or read about the _______ state of the world’s rivers, forests, air, and earth. When we lose sight of the fact that countless numbers of creatures have become extinct because their environment could no longer sustain them, then we ignore the possibility that these same changes could _______ many species that we take for granted.

Our lifestyle, and that of the billions of others on this earth, puts waste into the air and water. We may _______ this careless behavior. While there may still be enough clean water and air for us, the loss of animals and plants can only be a _______ to a good life for the generations that follow.

No one suggests that the solutions to our environmental problems are easy. The nations and people of the world are in competition for the limited riches of this planet. It will take the sagest and most dedicated leaders, under whose _______ educated and concerned citizens will live and work, to protect the environment.

Clues

1 2nd Day
2 2nd Day
3 2nd Day
4 3rd Day
5 3rd Day
WEEK 26 • DAY 1

INFORMING THE PUBLIC

Public opinion has an important place in a democracy. The public, often lethargic, is susceptible* to a wide variety of influences. The most prevalent of these is the mass media. These communications media—the press, social media, radio, and television—have a paramount position in initiating,* influencing, and shaping public opinion. Bearing this responsibility, the mass media are often accused of being remiss in their duty to inform the public. There has been a great deal of hostile comment leveled against these opinion molders.

NEW WORDS

lethargic
lə - ˈthär - jik

prevalent
ˈpre - və - lənt

paramount
ˈpa - rə - mount

remiss
ri - ˈmɪs

hostile
ˈhoʊ - stəl

Sample Sentences Based upon your understanding of the new words as discovered from the context, place them in the spaces provided.

1. The audience became extremely ________________ when the bigot* began to attack minority groups.

2. Long hair among boys is so ________________ today, there is no longer a prohibition against it in most schools.

3. We are all susceptible* to a ________________ feeling after a heavy meal.
4. A good politician seeks the ________________ issue in his community.

5. We would be ________________ if we overlooked the importance of the Internet to the interchange of ideas and information.

Definitions Matching words and definitions will prove you’ve learned them.

6. lethargic _____  a. primary, common, general

7. prevalent_____  b. lazy, indifferent

8. paramount____  c. antagonistic, angry

9. remiss _____  d. supreme, foremost

10. hostile _____  e. careless, negligent

TODAY’S IDIOM

to split hairs— to make fine distinctions

The mother and child spent a great deal of time arguing about the hair-splitting question of whether “going to bed” meant lights out or not.
THE LACK OF FOREIGN NEWS

The critics rebuke the press for the fact that most newspapers devote somewhat less than 10 percent of their news space to foreign items. In many hundreds of papers, this falls below two percent. Why is there this aversion to foreign news? Newsmen claim that readers evince no interest in foreign affairs. In order to increase reader interest in foreign news, the vogue among editors is to sensationalize it to the point of distortion. Many other papers do only the most superficial kind of reporting in this area.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Jill’s ________________ to mice is considered absurd* by her sisters.
2. After a ________________ examination of the injured motorist, the doctor said that hospitalization was imperative.*
3. Many a husband has been ________________ for having imbibed* too fully at an office party.
4. Youngsters often do not ________________ any curiosity about the lives of their parents or grandparents.
5. Good manners are always in ________________.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. rebuke _____ a. on the surface, slight (v.)
7. aversion _____ b. to criticize, reproach, reprimand
8. evince _____ c. strong dislike, opposition
9. vogue _____ d. fashion
10. superficial_____ e. to show plainly, exhibit

TODAY'S IDIOM

strike while the iron is hot— to take an action at the right moment
As soon as John heard that his father had won the lottery, he struck while the iron was hot, and asked for an increase in his allowance.
PLAYING IT SAFE

The average newspaper office receives many times the amount of foreign news than it has space to print. An editor must include or *jettison* items as she sees fit. It is *inevitable* that her ideas of what the readers want to know, or should know, are decisive. Because the newspaper owners do not want to endanger a *lucrative* business, there is the constant *tussle* between personal opinion and the desire not to offend too many readers or advertisers. It is *intrinsic* to the operation of all mass media that they avoid being extremist in their news coverage or editorials.

**NEW WORDS**

*jettison*  
ˈje-ˈti-son

*inevitable*  
ˈi-nəvə-təl

*lucrative*  
ˈl(y)ü-trə-tiv

*tussle* (n.)  
ˈtûs-əl

*intrinsic*  
ˈin-trin-sik

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Our conscience is always in a ________________ with our yearning for what we know is taboo.*

2. Man sets the price of gold; it has no ________________ value.

3. The pilot decided it would be imprudent* to ________________ his fuel over the populated area.
4. It is ______________ that children question what their elders accept as tradition.*

5. Each year the contracts offered to star sports figures become more ______________.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. jettison _____ a. sure, certain, unavoidable
7. inevitable____ b. essential, natural, inborn
8. lucrative ____ c. rough struggle
9. tussle _____ d. profitable
   (n.)
10. intrinsic ____ e. to throw overboard, discard

TODAY’S IDIOM

once in a blue moon—on a very rare occasion

His wife complained that they go out to dinner and a show once in a blue moon.
A FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE

The electronic media—television and radio—have more *acute* problems than newspapers do when it comes to news reporting. A normal broadcast can cover only a small part of a news day. The object is to transmit the *gist* of a story without supplying its background. Another difficulty of electronic news broadcasting is its *transient* nature; the viewers or listeners may miss an important story if their attention wanders. On the other hand, because radio and television present news in a more *terse* and exciting way, they are accepted as the most *cogent* presentation of news and are preferred and believed above newspapers by most people.

**NEW WORDS**

- **acute**
  
  ə - ˈkyūt

- **gist**
  
  ˈjist

- **transient (adj.)**
  
  ˈtran - zē - ənt *OR*
  
  ˈtran - shōnt

- **terse**
  
  ˈtěrs

- **cogent**
  
  ˈkō - jənt

**Sample Sentences** A slow and thorough study is needed today.

1. After the catastrophe,* there was an ______________ need for emergency housing.

2. The young lover was susceptible* to ______________ feelings of jealousy when he saw his sweetheart dancing with his best friend.

3. She tried to get the ______________ of her message into a 140-character tweet.
4. The mayor issued a ________________ statement in which he rebuked* his election opponent for making a contemptuous* accusation.

5. The best debater makes the most ________________ presentation.

**Definitions** This day’s work requires careful study.

6. acute _____ a. forceful, convincing, persuasive
7. gist _____ b. concise, brief, compact
8. transient _____ c. essence, main point
   (adj.)
9. terse _____ d. passing, short-lived, fleeting
10. cogent _____ e. sharp, keen, severe

**TODAY'SIDIOM**

*sleep on it*—to postpone a decision while giving it some thought

He didn’t want to show his hand* immediately, so he agreed to *sleep on it* for a few more days.
If you’ve ever watched or played baseball, you know how important a base hit is to each batter. Before the game players spend as much time as possible taking their batting practice. During the game the batter concentrates on every pitch. In the same way, each day you are getting in your “batting practice,” and the weekly review is your chance to build up your “batting average.” Collect new words with the same concentration that baseball players collect base hits.

REVIEW WORDS

1. acute
2. aversion
3. cogent
4. evince
5. gist
6. hostile
7. inevitable
8. intrinsic
9. jettison
10. lethargic
11. lucrative
12. paramount
13. prevalent
14. rebuke (v.)
15. remiss
16. superficial
17. terse
18. transient (adj.)
19. tussle (n.)
20. vogue

DEFINITIONS

a. to show plainly, exhibit
b. fleeting, passing, short-lived
c. to throw overboard, discard
d. forceful, convincing, persuasive
e. on the surface, slight
f. rough struggle
g. compact, brief, concise
h. to reprimand, reproach, criticize
i. inborn, natural, essential
j. fashion
k. main point, essence
l. severe, keen, sharp
m. lazy, indifferent
n. negligent, careless
o. unavoidable, certain, sure
p. opposition, strong dislike
q. foremost, supreme
r. general, common
s. angry, antagonistic
t. profitable
u. on a very rare occasion
v. to postpone a decision
w. to take action at the right moment
x. to make a fine distinction

Take that extra moment now to review and study the words you got wrong.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

The Wild West

History tells us that, in a showdown in 1881, a notorious outlaw, Billy the Kid, was killed. At least that is the ①__________ belief. The real Billy the Kid, William Bonney, is believed to have escaped and lived for many years in Texas. In fact, a man named Brushy Bill Roberts claimed to be the grown-up Billy the Kid.

When Roberts died in 1950, there was the ②__________ question about his true identity. As a result, a computer was brought in to test whether there was anything other than a ③__________ resemblance between the two men. A photo of the Kid and a photo of Roberts were compared on the computer.

In a ④__________ report from the computer technician, the identity of Roberts was proved to be different from that of the real Billy the Kid. Thus, computer analysis allows us to ⑤__________ the idea that Billy the Kid survived the famous gun duel.

Clues

① 1st Day
② 3rd Day
③ 2nd Day
④ 4th Day
⑤ 3rd Day
A MUSICAL WORLD

Classical music reached its pinnacle in the nineteenth century. Every leading nation produced its share of great composers. There was a bewildering array of national schools and musical styles as the once obscure musician came into his own. Music became a widespread and democratic art. The ardent music lover turned to Vienna as the music center at the beginning of the nineteenth century. However, Paris was not far behind, especially in the field of operatic music. As the century progressed, the Germans became paramount* in orchestral and symphonic music. The growth of German music can be said to have culminated with Ludwig van Beethoven.

Sample Sentences Take command of the new words in these sentences.

1. The president faced an imposing ________________ of reporters.
2. The party will ________________ with the award for the most original costume.
3. The ________________ of fame and success is often a transient* stage.
4. The ________________ baseball fan went to every home game.
5. Space telescopes are making ____________ planets ever clearer.

**Definitions** Match-up time for new words and definitions.

6. pinnacle _____ a. passionate, eager
7. array (n.) _____ b. summit, peak, top, crown
8. obscure _____ c. arrangement, display (adj.)
9. ardent _____ d. unknown, lowly, unclear
10. culminate_____ e. to reach the highest point

**Today’s Idiom**

*at the drop of a hat*—without any hesitation

The obsequious* butler responded to his employer’s demands *at the drop of a hat.*
A GIANT COMPOSER
Beethoven was able to free music from the traditions* that had tended to constrict it. He was a child prodigy who held an important musical post at the age of 14. He was a successful concert pianist, but when his health began to fail, he turned to composing. Even though bereft of hearing at the age of 49, he did not falter in his work. Some of his later compositions reflect his sadness with his physical condition, but they also evince* an exultation about man and life.

NEW WORDS

constrict
kən - ˈstrikt

prodigy
ˈpro - də - jē

bereft
bi - ˈreft

falter
ˈfôl - tər

exultation
eg - zûl - ˈtā - shən

Sample Sentences Place the new words in these sentences.

1. The catastrophe* left him _______________ of all his possessions.
2. She was filled with _______________ when she learned her SAT score was near the maximum.
3. It is imprudent* for a youngster to _______________ her circle of friends so that there is no opportunity to meet new people.
4. There is universal* wonder when some _______________ appears on the stage to perform at
the age of 4 or 5.

5. Though he knew well the danger involved, the knight did not ________________ as he entered the dragon’s cave.

Definitions Your personal test follows through matching.

6. constrict _____  a. triumphant joy
7. prodigy _____  b. to stumble, hesitate, waver
8. bereft _____  c. deprived of
9. falter _____  d. to limit, bind, squeeze
10. exultation_____  e. marvel, phenomenon

TODAY’S IDIOM

loaded for bear—to be well prepared

When the enemy finally attacked the positions, the defenders were loaded for bear.
A WORTHY SUCCESSOR

A successor to Beethoven was Johannes Brahms. Also a prodigy,* he was the object of vitriolic attacks by other composers because of the individuality of his work. They heaped invective upon him for the intensely emotional quality and Germanic style of his writings. However, it was impossible to besmirch his talents for long, and he was soon one of the most popular composers in Europe. He produced voluminous varieties of compositions. Today, in retrospect, his originality is appreciated, and he is placed among the top romantic composers.

NEW WORDS

vitriolic
vi - trē - ȯ - lik

invective
in - ȯ - vek - tiv

besmirch
bi - ȯ - směrch

voluminous
vō - ȯ(l)yū - mē - nōs

retrospect
rē - trō - spekt

Sample Sentences Complete the following sentences with the new words.

1. It is difficult to keep _____________ out of our discussion about the enemy.
2. One has to be amazed at the _____________ amount of information that can be stored on a computer chip.
3. The candidate tried to _____________ his opponent’s record.
4. In the future we will, in _____________, regard today’s bizarre* behavior as quite
5. The ______________ language used by critics of the new play tended to obliterat* its good qualities.

Definitions Study the paragraph and sample sentences for the meanings.

6. vitriolic _____ a. insulting, abusive speech
7. invective _____ b. bulky, large
8. besmirch _____ c. to soil, stain, dim the reputation
9. voluminous_____ d. biting, burning
10. retrospect_____ e. looking backward

TODAY'S IDIOM

*bring down the house*—to cause great enthusiasm

Popular entertainers can be counted on to *bring down the house* at every public performance.
GRUFF BUT LIKEABLE

In his private life Brahms was considered by his friends as an egotist. He had an extremely lofty opinion of himself and his talents. He was not noted for his humility. Along with this quality, Brahms was known for his pungent sense of humor. While his closest friends could accept his biting jokes, others found him difficult to warm up to. Brahms was an inveterate stay-at-home. Cambridge University conferred an honorary degree upon him, but he was adamant about staying at home and did not go to receive the honor. Despite the ardent and romantic nature of his music, Brahms remained single throughout his life.

Sample Sentences Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Doctors agree that it is imperative* that _________________ smokers give up that imprudent* habit.
2. The _________________ odor of burning leaves marks the autumn season.
3. The umpire was _________________ about his decision to call the runner out.
4. We all expect ________________ from the actors and actresses who win the Academy Awards.

5. However, we should not be surprised that an award winner is an ________________ about his or her performance.

Definitions Make the new words yours through the match-ups.

6. egotist _____ a. humbleness, modesty
7. humility _____ b. vain, conceited person
8. pungent _____ c. unyielding, inflexible
9. inveterate _____ d. sharply stimulating, biting
10. adamant _____ e. habitual, firmly established

TODAY’S IDIOM

pull one’s weight— to do a fair share of the work

Everyone in a pioneer family had to pull his or her own weight.
Another week to build your vocabulary. Words stand for “things.” The more “things” you can recognize, the better able you are to deal with the complicated and changing world. New and unusual situations are more easily handled by those who can utilize the largest number of “things” we call words.

REVIEW WORDS

1. adamant  a. to reach the highest or final point
2. ardent  b. inflexible, unyielding
3. array (n.)  c. triumphant joy
4. bereft  d. looking backward
5. besmirch  e. peak, crown, summit
6. constrict  f. conceited, vain person
7. culminate  g. to bind, limit, squeeze
8. egotist  h. biting, burning
9. exultation  i. insulting, abusive speech
10. falter  j. display, arrangement
11. humility  k. modesty, humbleness
12. invective  l. phenomenon, marvel
13. inveterate  m. to stain, soil, dim the reputation
14. obscure (adj.)  n. sharply stimulating
15. pinnacle  o. deprived of
16. prodigy  p. bulky, large
17. pungent  q. to hesitate, waver, stumble
18. retrospect  r. eager, passionate
19. vitriolic  s. firmly established, habitual
20. voluminous  t. unclear, unknown, lowly

IDIOMS

21. at the drop of a hat  u. to be well-prepared
22. loaded for bear  v. to cause great enthusiasm
23. bring down the house  w. without any hesitation
24. pull one’s own weight  x. to do a fair share of the work

A word missed can now be made part of your vocabulary quite easily. Review the paragraph, sample sentence, definition, and then write your own sentence using the word.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Hot Enough For You?**

In ①_________, the year 2017 was a year of record high temperatures across the United States. The cause of this problem is complex. There are many proposed explanations, from an increase of population to the greenhouse effect. If, in fact, temperatures are continuing to rise as a result of human activity, there should be an ②_________ search for the causes and the cures.

Scientists are looking into even the most ③_________ aspects of modern society to determine what might be the long-range effects of our activities. They hope that investigations will ④_________ in a program to change the harmful ways we contribute to a dangerous trend.

A small increase in Earth’s temperature may lead to major difficulties for everyone. We should not ⑤_________ in our efforts to avoid such disasters.

**Clues**

① 3rd Day
② 1st Day
③ 1st Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 2nd Day
A DANGEROUS SPORT

Racing car drivers are vulnerable to dangers that other sportsmen seldom face. Drivers agree that controlling a car at top speeds on a winding course is a singularly awesome experience. There is the bedlam caused by the roaring motors that move the car from a standing start to 100 miles an hour in eight seconds. One is shaken by the cacophony of the brakes, larger than the wheels and producing, during the course of a 350-mile race, enough heat to warm an eight-room house through a hard winter. The driver needs to be on the alert to exploit any mistake by an opponent, and he must be constantly aware of the propinquity of sudden death. All of this makes car racing one of the most demanding games of all.

How was your recall today? Did you spot vulnerable as a reintroduced word?

**NEW WORDS**

vulnerable
ˈvûl - nəl - rə - bəl

t /n //m //l

b edlam
ˈbed - ləm

c acophony
kə - ˈkoʊ - fə - nē

t /n/k /t /m /t

exploit (v.)
ik - ˈsplōit

propinquity
pro - ˈpiŋ - kwə - tē

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the sentences.

1. Astronauts are alert to the ________________ of sudden accidents.
2. The egotist* is rarely ________________ to minor slights and insults.
3. Electronic dance music is considered nothing more than ________________ by many.

4. Advertisers spend large sums to ________________ the lucrative* teenage market.

5. The winning team’s dressing room was a scene of ________________.

**Definitions** Match your new words to their definitions.

6. vulnerable_____ a. discord, harsh sound, dissonance

7. bedlam ____ b. open to attack, susceptible

8. cacophony_____ c. to profit by, utilize

9. exploit ____ d. nearness in time or place (v.)

10. propinquity____ e. confusion, uproar

**Today’s Idiom**

*white elephant*—costly and useless possession

When he discovered the 30-volume encyclopedia, dated 1895, in his attic, he knew he had a white elephant on his hands.
THE MYSTERY OF CREATIVITY

In order to create, it is said that a person must be disgruntled. The creative individual is usually one who is dissatisfied with things as they are; he wants to bring something new into the world—to make it a different place. There is no infallible way to identify a potentially creative person. The speed-up in the sciences has forced schools and industry to seek a panacea for the shortages that they face. The need to discover and develop the creative person has been the source of much study. The paramount* objectives of the research are to eradicate anything that will impede the discovery of creative talent and to exploit* this talent to the limit.

**New Words**

disgruntled
dis - grûn - təld

infallible
in - fə - lə - bəl

panacea
pa - nə - sē - ə

eradicate
i - ra - də - kāt

impede
im - pēd

**Sample Sentences** Place the new words in these sentences.

1. It is the prevalent* view among citizens to be ________________ with rising taxes.
2. Many people hoped that the United Nations would be the ________________ for the problems of our time.
3. The criminal tried to ________________ all of the evidence of the bizarre* murder.
4. An ________________ sign of spring is the blooming of the crocus.
5. Nothing could ________________ the bigot* from his vitriolic* verbal attack.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. disgruntled_____ a. exempt from error, right
7. infallible _____ b. unhappy, displeased
8. panacea _____ c. to wipe out
9. eradicate _____ d. cure-all
10. impede _____ e. to interfere, block, hinder

TODAY’S IDIOM

lock, stock, and barrel—entirely, completely

The company moved its operations to another state lock, stock, and barrel.
THE DUTCH

The first impression one gets of Holland is that it is a calm, *sedate*, and simple land. The slow rhythm of life is even seen in the barges on the canals and the bicycles on the roads. One gradually discovers this *equanimity* of daily existence is not in accord with the intrinsic* nature of the Dutch. These people are moved by strong feelings that are not *compatible* with the *serenity* of the world around them. There is a conflict between the rigid, traditional* social rules and the desire for liberty and independence, both of which the Dutch *revere*.

**NEW WORDS**

*sedate* (adj.)

si - *dåt*

equanimit[y]

de - kwe - *ni - mə - tē OR
e - kwə - *ni - mə - tē

*compatible*

kəm - *pa - tə - bəl*

*serenity*

sə - *re - nə - tē*

*revere*

rə - *vir*

**Sample Sentences** Pay attention to the fine differences in meaning.

1. There is something absurd* about a well-dressed, ____________ man throwing snowballs.
2. The ____________ of the countryside was shattered by the explosion.
3. The speaker lost his ____________ and began to use invective* when the audience started to laugh.
4. The boy and girl discovered they had many __________________ interests.
5. There are many historical figures whom one can ________________.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. sedate _____ a. peaceful repose  
    (adj.)
7. equanimity_____ b. quiet, still, undisturbed, sober
8. compatible______ c. evenness of mind, composure
9. serenity _____ d. to honor, respect, admire
10. revere _____ e. harmonious, well-matched

Today's Idiom

*feather in one’s cap*—something to be proud of

If she could get the movie star’s autograph, she knew it would be a *feather in her cap.*
TULIP FEVER

The tulip reached Holland in 1593 and was, at first, looked upon as a curiosity. There soon developed an *irrational* demand for new species. Specimens were sold at awesomely* high prices. In their *avarice*, speculators bought and sold the same tulip ten times in one day. The entire Dutch population got swept up in the craze. There was an *insatiable* desire for each new color or shape. At one point a man purchased a house for three bulbs! Before long the inevitable* crash came and the demand for bulbs quickly reached its *nadir*. A $1,500 bulb could be bought for $1.50. With the *moribund* tulip market came financial disaster for thousands of people.

**NEW WORDS**

| irrational | i - ˈra - shə - nəl |
| avarice | ˈa - və - ris |
| insatiable | in - ˈsā - shə - bəl |
| nadir | ˈnā - dər |
| moribund | ˈmô - rə - bûnd |

**Sample Sentences** Fill in the blank spaces with the new words.

1. Who is not vulnerable* to some measure of ________________?
2. The American consumer appears to have an ________________ need for new products.
3. He looked upon the last-place finish of his team with equanimity,* from this ________________ the only place to go was up.
4. We ought to expect some ________________ behavior from a toddler who hasn’t napped.

5. With the expansion of the supermarket, our small, local grocery store was in a ________________ state.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. irrational _____ a. lowest point
7. avarice _____ b. dying, at the point of death
8. insatiable_____ c. unreasonable, absurd
9. nadir _____ d. greed, passion for riches
10. moribund_____ e. cannot be satisfied

Today's Idiom

out on a limb— in a dangerous or exposed position

He went out on a limb and predicted he would win the election by a wide margin.
You have been learning how to use many new words by seeing them in a natural situation. Each day’s story is the setting in which you meet the new words. The weekly review enables you to isolate the word and its many meanings. In this way you can reinforce your understanding and word power. At this point you have learned almost 600 words. Keep up the good work.

### REVIEW WORDS

-  1. avarice
-  2. bedlam
-  3. cacophony
-  4. compatible
-  5. disgruntled
-  6. equanimity
-  7. eradicate
-  8. exploit (v.)
-  9. impede
- 10. infallible
- 11. insatiable
- 12. irrational
- 13. moribund
- 14. nadir
- 15. panacea
- 16. propinquity
- 17. revere
- 18. sedate (adj.)
- 19. serenity
- 20. vulnerable

### DEFINITIONS

- a. susceptible, open to attack
- b. exempt from error, right
- c. well-matched, harmonious
- d. lowest point
- e. at the point of death, dying
- f. peaceful repose
- g. cure-all
- h. uproar, confusion
- i. harsh sound, discord, dissonance
- j. to wipe out
- k. sober, still, quiet, undisturbed
- l. nearness in time and place
- m. displeased, unhappy
- n. absurd, unreasonable
- o. cannot be satisfied
- p. to utilize, profit by
- q. composure, evenness of mind
- r. passion for riches, greed
- s. to hinder, interfere, block
- t. to admire, respect, honor
- u. costly and useless possession
- v. entirely, completely
- w. in a dangerous or exposed position
- x. something to be proud of

### IDIOMS

- 21. white elephant
- 22. lock, stock, and barrel
- 23. feather in one’s cap
- 24. out on a limb

Consistent study and use of difficult words will work quickly to bring them into your daily vocabulary.

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

- MEANINGS
Select seven of the eleven words below that can be used as more than one part of speech (for example: noun and verb, noun and adjective). Then compose sentences using each word both ways.

1. hoard
2. doddering
3. transient
4. tussle
5. initiate
6. sedate
7. sage
8. rebuke
9. array
10. obscure
11. exploit
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Read My Lips
For many years it had been the goal of computer specialists to perfect a machine that would understand human speech. The problem was that the speaker had to be alone and in a quiet room. Noise would __________ the computer’s ability. In the __________ of a special room, the computer worked well.

Now, math wizards have developed a computer that reads lips despite any surrounding __________. While once we thought it __________ to believe that a computer could read lips, scientists have actually had great success.

Progress in all aspects of computer science has been so remarkable that we hesitate to rule out any possibility. There is one __________ rule about the world of technology*: the seemingly impossible gets done more quickly than we ever imagined.

Clues
① 2nd Day
② 3rd Day
③ 1st Day
④ 4th Day
⑤ 2nd Day
A SPORT FOR EVERYONE

Of the many highly popular sports in the United States, football must be rated at or near the top. This sport allows the speedy and *lithe* athlete to join with the slower and *burly* one in a team effort. The skills and strengths of many men are welded together so that one team may work as a unit to gain mastery over its opponent. The knowledgeable *adherent* of a team enjoys following action covering many parts of the playing field at the same time. He is in a state of *bliss* when his team executes a movement to perfection. However, there is no one more *forlorn* than the same fan when the opposition functions to equal perfection.

**NEW WORDS**

- **lithe**
  
  *liTH*

- **burly**
  
  *bër - lë*

- **adherent (n.)**
  
  *əd - əhir - ənt*

- **bliss**
  
  *blis*

- **forlorn**
  
  *för - ëlôrn*

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in these sentences.

1. The disgruntled* ____________ switched his loyalty to the opposition party.

2. It was a pleasure to watch the ____________ body of the ballet dancer as she performed the most difficult steps.

3. Emily was ____________ when she did not receive the promotion she had anticipated.
4. The ________________ man went to the gym every day to improve his stamina.

5. Oh, what ________________ could be seen in the eyes of the ardent* couple as they announced their engagement!

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. lithe _____ a. backer, supporter
7. burly _____ b. strongly built, husky (person)
8. adherent _____ c. sad, pitiful, distressed (n.)
9. bliss _____ d. graceful
10. forlorn _____ e. happiness, pleasure

TODAY’S IDIOM

spur of the moment—on impulse, without thinking

On the spur of the moment he turned thumbs down* on the new job.
RAH! RAH! RAH!

The spectators at a football game play more than a superficial* role. A spirited cheer from the stands often gives the player on the field a reason to try even harder. Cheer leaders *exhort* the fans, who may be in a state of *apathy* because their team is losing, to spur on the players. In particularly close games between rivals of long standing, feelings begin to run high, and from time to time a *fracas* may break out in the stands. While the teams compete below, the fan who is a bit *inebriated* may seek out a personal *adversary*. On the whole, the enthusiasm of the spectators is usually constricted* to cheering and shouting for their favorite teams.

**NEW WORDS**

- **exhort**
  
  ɪ - ˈzɔrt

- **apathy**
  
  ˈa - pə - thē

- **fracas**
  
  ˈfrā - kəs OR ˈfrā - kəs

- **inebriated**
  
  ɪ - ˈnē - brē - ā - təd

- **adversary**
  
  ˈad - vər - se - rī

**Sample Sentences** Complete the sentences with the new words.

1. The feeling of _______________ was so prevalent* during the election campaign that the candidates hardly bothered to make speeches.

2. Doctors _______________ their patients to exercise.

3. He was usually sedate,* but when _______________ he became hostile.*
4. The ________________ started when he besmirched* my good name.
5. My ________________ became disgruntled* because my arguments were so cogent.*

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. exhort  ____  a. opponent, enemy, foe
7. apathy  ____  b. drunk, intoxicated
8. fracas  ____  c. lack of interest
9. inebriated____  d. to urge strongly, advise
10. adversary____  e. noisy fight, brawl

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*fly in the ointment*—some small thing that spoils or lessens the enjoyment

He was offered a lucrative* position with the firm, but the *fly in the ointment* was that he would have to work on Saturday and Sunday.
THE 32-INCH FOOTBALL FIELD

The football fan who cannot attend a contest in person may watch any number of games on television. This has the great advantage of permitting an indolent fan to sit in the comfort of his living room and watch two teams play in the most inclement weather. However, some of the spirit, the gusto, is missing when one watches a game on a small screen away from the actual scene of the contest. Also, the viewer is constantly exposed to a garrulous group of announcers who continue to chatter in an endless way throughout the afternoon. Should the game be a dull one, the announcers discuss the most banal bits of information. Even in the poorest game there is constant chatter involving one platitude after another about the laudable performances of each and every player.

NEW WORDS

indolent
ˈɪn-dəl-ənt

gusto
ˈɡʌ-sto

garrulous
ˈɡær-ə-ləs

banal
ˈbə-nəl

platitude
ˈplə-ti-t(y)əd

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the sentences.

1. He began to eat the food served at the sumptuous feast with ________________.
2. Jerry thought that Bernice’s friends filled their conversation with ________________ comments.
3. During the most sultry days of summer, one often hears the ________________, “Is it hot
4. Adhering to stereotypes,* some people believe an ________________ person goes to great lengths to eschew* work.

5. She was usually so ________________ , we considered anything under a five minute speech as a cryptic* remark.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. indolent _____ a. enthusiasm, enjoyment, zest
7. gusto _____ b. commonplace or trite saying
8. garrulous_____ c. lazy
9. banal _____ d. talkative, wordy
10. platitude _____ e. trivial, meaningless from overuse

TODAY’S IDIOM

miss the boat—to fail to take advantage of an opportunity

She missed the boat by not buying the inexpensive airline ticket during the sale.
WHAT’S ON?

The majority of college football games are played on Saturdays, and most professional ones are on Sundays. Most fans enjoy both varieties. Nothing can put an avid* viewer into a *pike more quickly than missing an important contest. It is the *dilettante who eschews* the amateur variety and watches only the professional games. The *atypical fan will watch only his home team play; however, enthusiasts will continue to view the most *nondescript contests involving teams that have no connection with their own town or school. Some intrepid* fans have been known to watch high school games when that was all that was offered. Public interest in football grows each year, while interest in some other sports may be on the *wane.

NEW WORDS

pike (n.)
ˈpēk

*dilettante
ˈdi - le - tənt OR
di - lə - tənt

atypical
ə - ˌti - pə - kəl

*nondescript
nɔn - do - ˌskripə

wane (n.)
ˈwān

Sample Sentences Complete these sentences with the new words.

1. The ____________ will scoff* at those who admit that they know very little about modern art.

2. It is the ____________ fisherman who does not embellish* the story about the fish that got
3. The detective had little to go on because of the ____________ nature of the criminal.
4. Many virulent* diseases are now on the ____________ .
5. He showed his ____________ by slamming the door.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. pique (n.) ______ a. decrease, decline
7. dilettante ______ b. fit of resentment
8. atypical ______ c. one who has great interest, but little knowledge
9. nondescript______ d. nonconforming
10. wane (n.) ______ e. undistinguished, difficult to describe

Today’s Idiom

in the arms of Morpheus (ˈmôr-ˌfē -əs)—asleep
(Morpheus was the Roman god of dreams)
The day’s activities were so enervating, he was soon in the arms of Morpheus.
The regular, consistent study of these daily stories is the salient* clue to your success. Sporadic* study tends to disrupt the learning process. Don’t give in to the temptation to put your work aside and then rush to catch up.

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. adherent (n.)
2. adversary
3. apathy
4. atypical
5. banal
6. bliss
7. burly
8. dilettante
9. exhort
10. forlorn
11. fracas
12. garrulous
13. gusto
14. indolent
15. inebriated
16. lithe
17. nondescript
18. pique (n.)
19. platitude
20. wane (n.)

**DEFINITIONS**

a. to urge strongly, advise
b. enemy, foe, opponent
c. graceful
d. pitiful, sad, distressed
e. lazy
f. meaningless from overuse, trivial
g. fit of resentment
h. difficult to describe, undistinguished
i. unconcern, lack of interest
j. intoxicated, drunk
k. husky (person)
l. pleasure, happiness
m. zest, enjoyment, enthusiasm
n. trite saying
o. one with little knowledge and great interest
p. nonconforming
q. brawl, noisy fight
r. supporter, backer
s. wordy, talkative
t. decline, decrease

**IDIOMS**

21. spur of the moment
22. fly in the ointment
23. miss the boat
24. in the arms of Morpheus

u. asleep
v. something that spoils or lessens the enjoyment
w. to fail to take advantage of an opportunity
x. without thinking, on impulse

Quick reinforcement of words you do not yet know will help you retain them. Right now . . . put down the words and meanings. Then, write a sentence using the word correctly.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Each Citizen’s Obligation

Of all the democracies in the world, the United States has the most lackluster record when it comes to citizen participation in elections. Every four years the experts try to analyze the reasons for voter ___________. Often the eligible voter turnout at election time falls below 50%. This, after months of political campaigning, including televised debates, leaves concerned citizens feeling ___________.

No matter how hard the candidates woo the voters, the end results are often disappointing. Are the voters so ___________ that they would rather stay home watching television than cast a ballot? Does the voter feel that the candidates are stating one ___________ after another and is he or she therefore turned off?

The right to vote is so precious that revolutions have taken place where it didn’t exist. The civil rights struggles of the past were sparked by those who had been denied this right. The greatest ___________ of democracy in this country is said to be the failure of citizen participation in the election process.

Clues

1. 2nd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 2nd Day
IN DAYS GONE BY

The man who best described the now extinct life aboard a steamer on the Mississippi River is Mark Twain. Having actually worked aboard the river boats, his writing captures the tranquil* or turbulent* events of those days. In his book about life on the Mississippi, Twain recalls the idyllic times when man was not in such a great rush to get from one place to another. One chapter deals with the races conducted between the swiftest of the boats. When a race was set, the excitement would galvanize activity along the river. Politics and the weather were forgotten, and people talked with gusto* only of the coming race. The two steamers “stripped” and got ready; every encumbrance that might slow the passage was removed. Captains went to extremes to lighten their boats. Twain writes of one captain who scraped the paint from the gaudy figure that hung between the chimneys of his steamer.

New Words

extinct
ik - ˈstɪŋkt

idyllic
i - ˈdi-lik

galvanize
ˈgal - və - nīz

encumbrance
in - ˈkūm- brəns

gaudy
ˈgō - dē

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Today, the trend* is toward more and more __________________ dress.

2. It is amazing how lithe* football players can be, despite the _________________ of the safety features of their uniforms.
3. The dinosaur is an ________________ species.
4. City dwellers often yearn for the ________________ life in the country.
5. A dictator will use any pretext* to ________________ his people into aggressive actions.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. extinct _____ a. burden, handicap, load
7. idyllic _____ b. showy, flashy
8. galvanize _____ c. simple, peaceful
9. encumbrance_____ d. to excite or arouse to activity
10. gaudy _____ e. no longer existing

TODAY’S IDIOM

*forty winks—a short nap*

During the night before the big test, he studied continuously, catching *forty winks* now and then.
THE JOHN J. ROE

Mark Twain’s boat was so slow no other steamer would condescend to race with it. With the utmost candor, Twain comments that his boat moved at such a pathetic pace, they used to forget in which year they left port. Nothing would mortify Twain more than the fact that ferryboats, waiting to cross the river, would lose valuable trips because their passengers died waiting for his boat, the John J. Roe, to pass. Mark Twain wrote in a jocose manner about the races his steamer had with islands and rafts. With quiet humor he continued to malign the riverboat, but his book is replete* with love for this sort of life.

NEW WORDS

condescend
kon - də - ‘send

candor
ˈkan - dər

mortify
ˈmɔr - tə - fə

jocose
jə - ˈkəs OR
jō - ˈkəs

malign (v.)
maŋ - ˈlɪn

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He had such disdain* for us, he would not ________________ to speak before our group.
2. It is most common to ________________ the wealthy for their avarice.*
3. It is difficult to be ________________ in the presence of so many doleful* people.
4. When we cannot speak with ________________ , we utilize euphemisms.*
5. Good sportsmanship requires that one not ________________ a defeated adversary.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. condescend____ a. humorous, merry
7. candor ____ b. to abuse, slander
8. mortify ____ c. to stoop, lower oneself
9. jocose ____ d. frankness, honesty
10. malign ____ e. to embarrass, humiliate

(TODAY’S IDIOM)

*from pillar to post— from one place to another

The company was so large and spread out, he was sent from pillar to post before he found the proper official.
THE RIVERBOAT PILOT

The riverboat pilot was a man considered omnipotent by all. Mark Twain once held that high position. He writes that he felt at the zenith of his life at that time. Starting out as a fledgling pilot’s apprentice, he could not give up dreams of the time he would become “the only unfettered and entirely independent human being that lived in the earth.” Kings, parliaments, and newspaper editors, Twain comments, are hampered and restricted. The river pilot issued peremptory commands as absolute monarch. The captain was powerless to interfere. Even though the pilot was much younger than the captain, and the steamer seemed to be in imminent danger, the older man was helpless. The captain had to behave impeccably, for any criticism of the pilot would establish a pernicious precedent that would have undermined the pilot’s limitless authority.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Under the aegis of an adroit master, he reached the ________________ of his career.
2. We would scoff at anyone calling himself ________________.
3. There is no ________________ for voting when there is no quorum.
4. The ________________ poet lived a frugal* life.

5. No one had the temerity* to disobey the officer’s ________________ order.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. omnipotent_____  a. summit, top, prime
7. zenith _____  b. little-known, newly developed
8. fledgling _____  c. absolute, compulsory, binding
9. peremptory______  d. earlier example of something similar
10. precedent _____  e. almighty, unlimited in power or authority

TODAY’S IDIOM

*think on one’s feet—to adjust quickly to change, improvise*

When the debater brought up an unexpected argument, her opponent had to think on her feet to respond.
THE DOUBLE CROSS

Many incidents that took place aboard his ship are retold by Twain. One has to do with a wealthy cattle man who was approached by three gamblers. The cattle farmer had let it be known that he had a great deal of money, and the gamblers were trying to wheedle him into a card game. He protested that he knew nothing about cards. His rustic appearance confirmed that fact. On the last night before landing, the three gamblers got him drunk. When the first hand was dealt, a jubilant expression came over his face. The betting became furious. All of the proper decorum was put aside, and ten thousand dollars soon lay on the table. With the last wager, one of the gamblers showed a hand of four kings. His partner was to have dealt the sucker a hand of four queens. At this point the victim, the charlatan, removed the veneer* of respectability, and showed a hand of four aces! One of the three professional gamblers was a clandestine* confederate of the “rich cattle farmer.” They had been planning this duplicity* for many weeks.

NEW WORDS

wheedle
´hwē - dol

rustic
´rû - stik

jubilant
´j(y)ü - bi - lont

decorum
dō - ·kō - rōm

charlatan
´shär - lō - tōn

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The child tried to ______________ from her mother the place where the cookies had been cached.*
2. They could discern* that the faith healer was a ________________.
3. The ________________ life is supposed to be a tranquil* one.
4. Repress* your uncouth manners and act with ________________ at the party.
5. We were ________________ when our indolent* cousin got a job.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. wheedle _____ a. to coax, persuade, cajole*
7. rustic _____ b. joyful, in high spirits
8. jubilant _____ c. politeness, correct behavior
9. decorum _____ d. pretender, fraud
10. charlatan_____ e. countrified, unpolished

Today's Idiom

*Achilles’ (ə - ˈki - lēz) heel—weak spot*

He wanted to lead an ascetic* life, but his obsession with liquor was his Achilles’ heel.
Because you are learning these new words in context, they will stay with you. It is the natural method for seeing new words. Your ability to master words as they appear in normal situations should carry over to your learning many other words as you read.

### REVIEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. candor</td>
<td>a. to arouse or excite to activity</td>
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<td>2. charlatan</td>
<td>b. to humiliate, embarrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. condescend</td>
<td>c. little known, newly developed</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. decorum</td>
<td>d. in high spirits, joyful</td>
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<td>e. peaceful, simple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. extinct</td>
<td>f. honesty, frankness</td>
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<td>7. fledgling</td>
<td>g. unpolished, countrified</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. galvanize</td>
<td>h. top, prime, summit</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. gaudy</td>
<td>i. load, handicap, burden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. idyllic</td>
<td>j. merry, humorous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. jocose</td>
<td>k. correct behavior, politeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. jubilant</td>
<td>l. unlimited in power or authority, almighty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. malign (v.)</td>
<td>m. no longer existing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. mortify</td>
<td>n. to lower oneself, stoop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. omnipotent</td>
<td>o. to persuade, coax, cajole*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. peremptory</td>
<td>p. binding, compulsory, absolute</td>
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<td>20. zenith</td>
<td>t. earlier example of something similar</td>
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### IDIOMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>21. forty winks</td>
<td>u. short nap</td>
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<td>23. think on one’s feet</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Achilles’ heel</td>
<td>x. to improvise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Go right to it. Learn the words you have missed. Make them as much a part of your vocabulary as the other words you know correctly.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**The Environmental Society**

A great deal of controversy surrounds the efforts of environmentalists to protect species of animals and birds from becoming ___________. In order to save these creatures from destruction stemming from a loss of forests or water pollution, environmentalists try to ___________ large numbers of people to pressure politicians into passing conservation legislation. Some argue these proposed ___________ laws are a burden placed upon business, resulting in a loss of employment.

In the 21st century, however, the goals of supplying energy and food for an increasing population and preserving land for birds and animals are not necessarily incompatible.* There may be a temptation to ___________ the motives of either side, so it will take people of good will and ___________ to resolve the difficulties that lie ahead.

**Clues**

1. 1st Day
2. 1st Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 2nd Day
5. 2nd Day
Today, one significant influence in the forming of public opinion is propaganda. It is not *heresy* to our democratic beliefs to state that pressure groups play an important part in our lives. Propaganda makes one vulnerable* to the influences of others. The *prudent* person will face both credible and deceptive propaganda efforts. While propaganda has the *ostensible* purpose of informing the public, the most *fervid* propagandists use methods that must be examined by the thoughtful citizen. The ability to distinguish the *spurious* from the true facts requires more than a perfunctory* examination of prevalent* propaganda efforts.

**NEW WORDS**

*heresy*  
ˈhe-rə-sē

*prudent*  
ˈprū-dənt

*ostensible*  
ˈo-stən-sə-bəl

*fervid*  
ˈfër-vid

*spurious*  
ˈspyə-rəs

**Sample Sentences** Use care. The words have many meanings.

1. His __________ appeal for action threw his adherents* into a frenzy.*
   
2. He accused the leader of the opposition of political __________, and the mob was exhorted* to burn his effigy.*
   
3. In the bedlam* that followed it was not __________ to appear too apathetic.*
4. While the ________________ enemy was the opposition leader, the main purpose of this rash* behavior was the eradication* of all opponents.

5. In the conflagration* that followed, no one questioned whether the original charge had been ________________ .

Definitions Study the fine differences. Be sure how to use them.

6. heresy _____ a. intense, enthusiastic, passionate
7. prudent _____ b. false, counterfeit
8. ostensible____ c. unbelief, blasphemy, lack of faith
9. fervid _____ d. wise, cautious
10. spurious ____ e. outward, seeming

TODAY'S IDIOM
give one the cold shoulder—to disregard or ignore
She was so piqued* at his rude behavior, she gave him the cold shoulder for over a week.
A FREE SOCIETY

In a free society it is understood that individuals and groups have the inherent* right to propagate ideas and try to win converts. We do not look upon an idea different from ours as an anomaly that should be avoided. Nor do we permit only innocuous or congenial* beliefs and forbid those that we believe are dubious* or spurious.* In a country of competing pressures we are accosted* by a surfeit of propaganda that tends to overwhelm us. Thus, we live in a milieu of ubiquitous* bombardment from countless, and often unrecognized, propagandists.

NEW WORDS

propagate
ˈproʊ pəˌgæt

anomaly
əˌnoʊˈməlē

innocuous
ˈɪnəˈkjuəs

surfeit (n.)
ˈsərˌfēt

milieu
ˈmēlˌyōo

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. I must inveigh* against your attempt to ________________ the belief that your political system will result in a panacea* for all problems.
2. It is incongruous* to find an abstemious* person in a ________________ of avarice.*
3. Conjoined twins are considered a birth ________________ .
4. There appears to be no such thing as an ________________ heresy.*
5. When can we expect a respite* from the _______________ of TV commercials?

Definitions  Match the new words with their definitions.

6. propagate_____  a. excess, superabundance

7. anomaly _____  b. environment, setting

8. innocuous_____  c. irregularity, abnormality

9. surfeit _____  d. to multiply, spread
   (n.)

10. milieu _____  e. harmless, mild, innocent

TODAY’S IDIOM

without rhyme or reason—making no sense

Without rhyme or reason, the pennant-winning baseball team decided to jettison* its manager.
WHO LISTENS?

As the quantity of propaganda becomes greater, ideas are presented in more strident tones in order to overcome the increased competition. Those who are the targets of the propaganda can find it more difficult to discern* between or analyze the new and expanded pressures. The concomitant situation that develops with the stepped-up propaganda is one in which the individual may retreat into a state of lassitude. He has an aversion* to all attempts to influence him. So we can see the intrinsic* weakness inherent* in an increased level of propaganda. It has the deleterious result of reducing its efficacy upon the individuals or groups who were its objective.

NEW WORDS

strident
ˈstrɪdənt

concomitant
ˌkənˌkəmənt

lassitude
ˈlæsət(y)ʊd

deleterious
dəˈlɛtəriəs

efficacy
ˈɛfɪsɪsɪ

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. There are many _________________ factors that lead to poverty.
2. Her ________________ voice added to the bedlam.*
3. After the frenzy* that accompanied the burning of the effigy,* they were all acutely* aware of a feeling of ________________ .
4. The gist* of the report was that smoking will have a __________ effect on one’s health.

5. The __________ of new drugs cannot be determined without a plethora* of evidence.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. strident _____ a. power to produce an effect
7. concomitant_____ b. bad, harmful
8. lassitude _____ c. accompanying, attending
9. deleterious_____ d. weariness, fatigue
10. efficacy _____ e. shrill, harsh, rough

TODAY’S IDIOM

*swan song*—final or last (swans are said to sing before they die)

The ex-champion said that if he lost this fight it would be his *swan song*. 
THE PEOPLE DECIDE

The place of propaganda in a milieu* that is not free differs from its place in an open society. In a dictatorship there is rarely competing propaganda. Those who dissent from the official line may do so only in a clandestine* manner. Where there is no open ferment of ideas, the possibility of discerning* the true from the spurious* is attenuated. In a democracy, the inevitable* arbiter of what propaganda is to be permitted is the people. It is incumbent upon each citizen to choose between competing propagandas while remaining cognizant* of the value for a democracy of the existence of all points of view.

NEW WORDS

dissent (v.)
di - ˈsent

ferment (n.)
ˈfēr - mənt

attenuated
ə - ˈten - yū - ə - təd

arbiter
ˈär - bi - tər

incumbent (adj.)
in - ˈkəm - bənt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. It is ________________ on us to be zealous* in combatting the deleterious* effects of drugs.
2. In the 1960s, it was the vogue* for American youth to be in a state of ________________.
3. The gist* of his ominous* suggestion was that we ________________ from the majority opinion.
4. The strength of her appeal was ________________ by the flamboyant* embellishments* for which many had a strong aversion.*

5. The Supreme Court is our ultimate* ________________ of legality.

Definitions Always be cognizant* of the fact that words are used in the paragraphs and sentences with only one meaning. They often have many others. Look up the word *incumbent* for a good example.

6. dissent _____ a. morally required
   (v.)

7. ferment _____ b. weakened, thinned, decreased
   (n.)

8. attenuated_____ c. to differ, disagree, protest

9. arbiter _____ d. uproar, agitation, turmoil

10. incumbent_____ e. judge
   (adj.)

TODAY’S IDIOM

*get the sack*—to be discharged or fired

Despite the fact that he was so obsequious* toward the boss, he *got the sack* because he was lethargic* about doing his job.
Once more it is time to review this week’s words. Always keep in mind that the use of the word, its context, determines its meaning. Used as a noun, a word has a different meaning than when it is used as an adjective or a verb. First, master the words as they appear in the daily stories. Next, look up other meanings in your dictionary. Try writing sentences with the additional meanings.

### REVIEW WORDS

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<td>1</td>
<td>anomaly</td>
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<td>arbiter</td>
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<td>fervid</td>
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<td>incumbent (adj.)</td>
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<td>spurious</td>
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<td>strident</td>
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<td>surfeit (n.)</td>
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### DEFINITIONS

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<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>agitation, turmoil, uproar</td>
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<td>b</td>
<td>attending, accompanying</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>abnormality, irregularity</td>
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<td>d</td>
<td>cautious, wise</td>
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<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>to protest, differ, disagree</td>
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<td>f</td>
<td>rough, harsh, shrill</td>
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<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>to multiply, spread</td>
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<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>lack of faith, blasphemy, unbelief</td>
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<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>morally required</td>
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<td>j</td>
<td>power to produce an effect</td>
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<td>k</td>
<td>setting, environment</td>
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<td>l</td>
<td>counterfeit, false</td>
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<td>m</td>
<td>judge</td>
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<td>n</td>
<td>harmful, bad</td>
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<td>o</td>
<td>superabundance, excess</td>
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<td>p</td>
<td>enthusiastic, passionate, intense</td>
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<td>q</td>
<td>decreased, weakened, thinned</td>
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<td>r</td>
<td>mild, innocent, harmless</td>
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<td>s</td>
<td>fatigue, weariness</td>
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<td>t</td>
<td>seeming, outward</td>
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### IDIOMS

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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>give one the cold shoulder</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>without rhyme or reason</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>swan song</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>get the sack</td>
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<td>u</td>
<td>to be discharged or fired</td>
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<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>making no sense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>final, last</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>to disregard or ignore</td>
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Get to work learning the words that gave you trouble.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Toss Me a “Life Line”**

People are fascinated by those who say they can predict the future. Fortune tellers continue to attract gullible customers, and horoscopes are examined daily to see if there is something **1**___________ to worry about in the day ahead. One specialist who seems to have found a way to predict something of our future is the palm reader. It is her belief that a long “life line” in the hand means the customer will enjoy longevity.

While this appears to be a **2**___________ way to predict long life, a study done in England measured “life lines” of 100 corpses and came up with **3**___________ support for the claim: the length of life matched the length of line. The longer the line, the older the person lived to be.

However, there are scientists who **4**___________ with believers in this apparent connection. They say the “life line” of older people is longer only because the hand becomes more wrinkled with age. Length of line is a **5**___________ of length of life, not the reverse, according to scientists.

**Clues**

1. 3rd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 1st Day
4. 4th Day
5. 3rd Day
ANYONE FOR GOOGLE?

As automation permeates many new areas of life, its effect upon us becomes concomitantly more profound. Information processing, blogs, search engines of all types have found their ways into businesses, as well as our homes, schools, and libraries. Here they alleviate the burden of storing and providing us with an accumulation of information that is becoming more prodigious in this era of specialization and threatening to inundate our society.

Youngsters in the primary grades now know how to manipulate their computers to extract information that would have taken their grandparents an eternity to produce. Machines whose celerity can scan thousands of words in nanoseconds help expedite the selection of pertinent information for those schoolchildren.

Sample Sentences Insert your new words below.

1. We hoped that the arbiter would _______________ the solution to the dispute that had been elusive for such a long time.
2. He accepted the lucrative* position with ________________.
3. It is easy to construe* a superficial* remark to be a ________________ one.
4. If we cannot ________________ the harmful effects entirely, at least we can attenuate* them.
5. The dictator made a ________________ effort to repress* the uprising.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. profound _____ a. to carry out promptly
7. alleviate _____ b. speed, rapidity
8. prodigious____ c. to make easier, lighten
9. celerity _____ d. deep, intense
10. expedite ____ e. extraordinary, enormous

**Today's Idiom**

*ivory tower*—isolated, not in touch with life’s problems

Many artists have been said to be living in an *ivory tower.*
EVERYONE IS TALKING

Can anyone under the age of 30 remember a time when the dial telephone was the only method of voice communication over long distances? What a bizarre concept this must seem for today’s youth. It has become an antiquated* cultural form of personal contact. The instrument for the modern communicator is the cell phone, which has usurped the wire-connected stationary model. With cell phone companies competing for customers, they eschew* offering a paltry amount of data to browse the Internet. The cell phone user can also take advantage of a plethora* of special deals and carry on with significant or trivial phone conversations for seemingly endless time, and in almost any location. Often, these personal talks are held in the most public places, and those within hearing find it difficult to condone the inconvenience caused by the indiscriminate* use of this ubiquitous* instrument.

Don’t look back at the “new words.” Did you spot bizarre as a reintroduced word?

Sample Sentences (note the similarity of trivial and paltry)

1. Most of us scoff* at and belittle* ________________ behavior.
2. They expanded a ________________ difference of opinion into a prodigious* conflict.
3. It is during a period of ferment* that a dictator can ________________ power.
4. Do you expect me to ________________ that reprehensible* act with such celerity?*
5. The most ________________ defects may have a deleterious* effect upon the efficacy* of that new process.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. bizarre _____  a. petty, worthless
7. usurp _____  b. to excuse, pardon
8. paltry _____  c. to seize, annex, grab
9. trivial _____  d. of little importance, insignificant
10. condone _____  e. fantastic, odd

Today's Idiom

fill someone’s shoes—to take the place or take on the responsibilities of someone else

The pressure was on when Alicia had to fill Soffy’s shoes for the work week.
THE FUTURE IS HERE

We have ardently* taken to the cell phone as a replacement for the venerable land line model. The most striking feature of the cell phone is the variety of uses to which it can be put. The land line phone is restricted to the menial task of mere conversation. For the garrulous* person who isn’t restricted to one place, the mobile cell phone has a myriad* of uses. Should one be in an area that requires silence, there is an ability to utilize the succinct text messaging feature. Should one come upon an ambiguous situation, one may photograph it or make it into a video for further study. Do not preclude* from the list of uses, the access to your computer, music, and weather reports. It’s hard to imagine an extraneous technical application that will not be controlled from the cell phone in the future.

NEW WORDS

venerable
ˈve-ər-ə-bal
menial
ˈmē-nē-əl
succinct
sək-ˈsiŋkt OR sə-ˈsiŋkt
ambiguous
ˈam-big-ə-əs
extraneous
ˈek-trə-nē-əs

Sample Sentences Complete the sentences with the new words.

1. The prodigy* revered* the ________________ master.
2. To those who could understand every nuance* of the cryptic* message, there was nothing ________________ about it.
3. He could say the most vitriolic* things in a __________________ way.

4. Although she did not find it congenial,* we cajoled* our daughter into doing some of the _________________ tasks around the house.

5. The astute* voter is not susceptible* to the many ________________ slogans that permeate* a politician’s speech.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. venerable____ a. vague, undefined, not specific
7. menial ____ b. humble, degrading
8. succinct ____ c. respected, worshiped
9. ambiguous____ d. foreign, not belonging
10. extraneous____ e. brief, concise

TODAY’S IDIOM

_the writing on the wall_—an incident or event that shows what will happen in the future

In retrospect* he should have seen _the writing on the wall_ when his girlfriend gave him only a cursory* greeting on his birthday.
**Week 32 • Day 4**

**It’s Happening Now**

The flood of new technology makes each modern marvel appear *archaic* within the briefest time period. An assiduous* examination of today’s communication methods will make clear how quickly a *rabid* purchaser of the newest product will want to *emulate* friends and buy the next one. The most basic cell phones and music-downloading devices are being replaced with more powerful and exciting products. It would not be *facetious* to claim that engineers will persevere* in devising new ways for us to contact each other by voice, photographs, and print messages that give us access* to ever more *salubrious* features.

### New Words

- **archaic**
  - är-ˈkā-ik
- **rabid**
  - ˈra - bid
- **emulate**
  - ˈem - yə - lāt
- **facetious**
  - ˈfə - ˈsē - shəs
- **salubrious**
  - ˈsə - ˈl(y)ū - brē - əs

### Sample Sentences

1. Some maintain that the ascetic* leads a ________________ life.
2. With all candor,* I cannot wish for a return to the ________________ times when a moribund* society provided an opulent* existence for some, but a loathsome* life for the majority.
3. There is something ________________ about an egotist* who has the temerity* to begin a speech with, “In all humility* . . . .”
4. It is not prudent* to malign* or be derogatory* in any way toward a ________________ political adherent.*

5. The wish to ________________ a great person is laudable.*

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. archaic _____ a. healthful, wholesome

7. rabid _____ b. out-of-date

8. emulate _____ c. strive to equal, surpass

9. facetious _____ d. sarcastic, comical, humorous

10. salubrious_____ e. fanatical, furious, mad

---

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

_on the bandwagon_*—joining with the majority; going along with the trend*

Most advertisements showing many people using a product hope to convince the viewer to get _on the bandwagon_ and buy the item.
When you can analyze a sentence and determine from the context the meaning of a previously unknown word, you are functioning at the best level. These words will become a permanent part of your ever-growing vocabulary.

**REVIEW WORDS**

____ 1. alleviate
____ 2. ambiguous
____ 3. archaic
____ 4. bizarre
____ 5. celerity
____ 6. condone
____ 7. emulate
____ 8. expedite
____ 9. extraneous
____ 10. facetious
____ 11. menial
____ 12. paltry
____ 13. prodigious
____ 14. profound
____ 15. rabid
____ 16. salubrious
____ 17. succinct
____ 18. trivial
____ 19. usurp
____ 20. venerable

**DEFINITIONS**

a. out-of-date
b. concise, brief
c. intense, deep
d. to annex, grab, seize
e. wholesome, healthful
f. degrading, humble
g. rapidity, speed
h. fantastic, odd
i. sarcastic, humorous, comical
j. not belonging, foreign
k. enormous, extraordinary
l. to pardon, excuse
m. furious, mad, fanatical
n. undefined, vague, not specific
o. to carry out promptly
p. to lighten, make easier
q. respected, worshiped
r. to strive to equal
s. insignificant
t. petty, worthless

**IDIOMS**

____ 21. ivory tower
____ 22. fill someone’s shoes
____ 23. the writing on the wall
____ 24. on the bandwagon

u. joining with the majority
v. an event that predicts the future
w. out of touch with life
x. take on responsibilities of someone else

Take that extra moment now to review and study the words you got wrong.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

1. ___________________________
SELECTING ANTONYMS
(From Weeks 29–32)

Here are fifteen words taken from the last four weeks of study. Select and underline the correct antonym for each.

1. adversary (partner, foe)
2. dilettante (amateur, professional)
3. indolent (lazy, active)
4. inebriated (drunk, sober)
5. candor (falsehood, honesty)
6. gaudy (conservative, showy)
7. zenith (acme, nadir)
8. prodigious (huge, tiny)
9. condone (condemn, approve)
10. ambiguous (clear, confusing)
11. spurious (authentic, false)
12. innocuous (harmful, harmless)
13. deleterious (harmful, helpful)
14. succinct (concise, wordy)
15. rustic (rural, urbane)
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**A Formidable Opponent**

One of the most interesting tests of a computer’s ability to “think” occurred in 1992. The world’s chess champion, a man of ①_________ mental ability in this sport, was challenged to compete against the most powerful computer programmed to play chess. The question was: Could a machine ②_________ a human’s place as the best chess player in the world?

The match took place before hundreds of chess enthusiasts and was recorded on film. While the computer lacked the champion’s experience and emotional capacity, it worked with such ③_________ that it could search ahead for many thousands of choices, well beyond what any human could envision. In fact, the computer had already defeated many ④_________ chess masters in preparation for the contest.

The result of this test match was ⑤_________ as far as human self-esteem was concerned. The champion won fairly easily. However there was almost total agreement that it was only a matter of time before we had an electronic chess champion, one incapable of making a blunder. By the late 1990s, computers were regularly defeating humans in world chess championship matches.

**Clues**

1. 1st Day
2. 2nd Day
3. 1st Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 4th Day
AT A LOSS

With the trivial* sum of $10 in his pockets, Robert Lacy was feeling far from complacent about the future. In fact, it was his somber estimate that no matter how frugal* he was, his money would run out before the next day. He owed $5 in debts to friends; with the remainder he would have to eat enough to maintain his strength. Hunger would debilitate him to the point where he could not continue his fervid* search for Evelyn. There was no hope of an impetuous stranger suddenly thrusting money upon him. There was still less solace* for him in the hope that, after all this time, he might develop the occult power that would give him a mental image of where Evelyn could be found.

NEW WORDS

complacent
kəm-ˈplā-sənt

somber
ˈsom-bər

debilitate
di-ˈbi-lə-tāt

impetuous
im-ˈpe-chū-əs

occult (adj.)
ə-ˈkült

Sample Sentences Use the new words in these sentences.

1. The guard was so ______________ about the danger of escape that he gave the prisoner only a cursory* inspection.

2. We should be prudent* in our play or work during very hot weather, because the sun has the power to enervate* and ______________ those that scoff* at its effects.

3. He looked for a propitious* moment to exhibit his ______________ abilities.
4. The deleterious\(^*\) results of his irate\(^*\) outburst put the previously jocose\(^*\) audience in a ____________ mood.

5. They were so moved by the idyllic\(^*\) setting, they exchanged surreptitious,\(^*\) ____________ kisses.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. complacent_____ a. mysterious, supernatural
7. somber _____ b. impulsive
8. debilitate _____ c. self-satisfied
9. impetuous_____ d. to weaken
10. occult _____ e. gloomy, sad

(adj.)

**Today's Idiom**

*hit the nail on the head*—to state or guess something correctly

When Charlie said there were 3,627 beans in that jar, he *hit the nail on the head.*
MAKING PLANS

Robert had arrived in New York a week earlier. He had begun by asking *discreet* questions of Evelyn’s former landlord. There was no need to *foment* opposition at the very beginning. The landlord was recondite,* and all Robert had been able to *glean* from the cryptic* replies was that Evelyn had moved to a residence that catered to single women. Robert was in a hopeless situation; in this immense city his *quarry* could be hiding in one of dozens of such places. This would obviate* the possibility of his dashing from one place to another in an impetuous* manner. His search, while it had to be concluded with celerity,* could not be carried out in such *slovenly* fashion. He required a succinct* and meticulous* plan.

**NEW WORDS**

- **discreet**: *di-skreit*
- **foment**: *fö-ment*
- **glean**: *gLên*
- **quarry**: *kwô-ri*
- **slovenly**: *slô-ven-lô  OR slô-ven-le*

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in these sentences.

1. In order to __________ trouble, they fabricated* a deplorable* and blatant* untruth.
2. She loathed* doing menial* tasks, and she did them in a __________ manner.
3. Although it seemed inane,* they sought their __________ in the midst of rustic*
surroundings that were not its natural habitat.*

4. Despite the plethora* of offers to write her life story, the recently divorced movie queen kept a _______________ silence.

5. The reporters could not _______________ anything from her servants.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. discreet _____ a. careful, cautious, prudent*

7. foment _____ b. to gather, collect

8. glean _____ c. something hunted or pursued

9. quarry _____ d. disorderly, carelessly

10. slovenly _____ e. to stir up, instigate

TODAY'S IDIOM

*on the dot—exactly on time*

Despite his having taken forty winks,* he got to his appointment *on the dot.*
A NEWSPAPER AD
On the premise* that Evelyn knew she was being sought, Robert’s first step was to abjure fruitless* searching and place an ad in the leading morning newspaper. He would importune* in a most careful way for her return. The ad read, “Evelyn. Come out of hiding. I do not reproach you for your actions. I expect no penitent confession. There is nothing ambiguous* about my offer. Please contact. Robert.” He added a box number for a reply. When Robert went to the paper the next morning, he felt sanguine* about the chances of locating her. His evanescent concerns disappeared; there was a letter for him, and with tremulous* fingers he tore it open. It contained one sentence, and it was tantamount to a challenge; “If you really care about me, you will find me by midnight, Friday, Evelyn.”

NEW WORDS
abjure
ab - `jur
reproach (v.)
ri - `prōch
penitent
`pe - ni - tənt
evanescent
e - və - `ve - sənt
tantamount
`tan - tə - mount

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The inveterate* gambler became _______________ and contrite when faced with the results of his reprehensible* behavior.

2. The optimist knows that the vicissitudes* of life are _______________, and she always looks on the sanguine* side of things.
3. You should not condone* his sordid* behavior; rather, ________________ him for his fractious* manner.

4. At the zenith* of his career, he was ________________ to a final arbiter* on matters of economic policy.

5. In vain, the entire family tried to importune* him to ________________ gambling.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. abjure _____  a. equivalent, identical
7. reproach _____  b. to rebuke,* reprimand*
8. penitent _____  c. to renounce, abstain from
9. evanescent____  d. regretful, confessing guilt
10. tantamount____  e. fleeting, passing, momentary

Today’s Idiom

*take under one’s wing*—to become responsible for, look out for

As the new term began, the senior chose the freshman to *take under her wing.*
WEEK 33 ♦ DAY 4

AT THE BALLET

Evelyn was an anomaly*: she had a propensity for folk music and rock and roll dancing, and, at the same time, she was an avid* fan of classical ballet. At one time she had been a fledgling* ballet dancer. Robert headed for a theater where a venerable* ballet company was performing. He knew he had to be wary so that Evelyn might not see him first. It was Tuesday evening; two days gone with so little to show. Only three more remaining before the deadline set by Evelyn. He tried hard to allay the sudden fear that came over him that he might not locate her. Nothing would deter him from succeeding! And so, although he was far from a connoisseur of the dance, he was standing among the throng* in the lobby, hoping it would be a propitious* evening for him.

NEW WORDS

propensity
prə-ˈpen-sə-tē

wary
ˈwer-ē

allay
ə-ˈlā

deter
di-ˈtər

connoisseur
ko-ˈna-ər

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The ________________ scoffs* at the dilettante,* who has only a veneer* of knowledge.
2. It is difficult to ________________ the concern of parents about how susceptible* their children are and how easily they succumb* to drugs.
3. Some women have a ________________ for men who wear gaudy* clothes.
4. Her father warned her to be __________________ of adding the encumbrance* of a steady boyfriend, as this would attenuate* her chances of finishing college.

5. This did not __________________ her from getting into a deplorable* situation due to her rash* and perverse* actions.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. propensity ______ a. to hinder, discourage
7. wary ______ b. expert
8. allay ______ c. disposition, inclination, bent
9. deter ______ d. to calm, soothe
10. connoisseur______ e. watchful, shrewd

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*out of one’s depth*—in a situation that is too difficult to handle

We thought he knew the ropes,* but we found him behind the eight ball* because he was *out of his depth.*
While each day’s story has five new words, there are many others that are repeated from previous weeks. These words are placed within the stories so that you might practice your grasp of their meanings. Repetition will help guarantee that these words will be firmly fixed as part of your ever-expanding vocabulary.

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. abjure
2. allay
3. complacent
4. connoisseur
5. debilitate
6. deter
7. discreet
8. evanescent
9. foment
10. glean
11. impetuous
12. occult (adj.)
13. penitent
14. propensity
15. quarry
16. reproach (v.)
17. slovenly
18. somber
19. tantamount
20. wary

**DEFINITIONS**

a. to stir up, instigate
b. disorderly, carelessly
c. regretful, confessing guilt
d. to abstain from, renounce
e. to weaken
f. self-satisfied
g. to discourage, hinder
h. inclination, disposition
i. sad, gloomy
j. identical, equivalent
k. something hunted or pursued
l. watchful, shrewd
m. supernatural, mysterious
n. impulsive
o. to rebuke, reprimand*
p. momentary, passing, fleeting
q. prudent,* careful, cautious
r. to collect, gather
s. expert
t. to soothe, calm

**IDIOMS**

21. hit the nail on the head
22. on the dot
23. take under one’s wing
24. out of one’s depth

u. exactly on time
v. in a situation that is too difficult to handle
w. to look out for
x. to state or guess something correctly

The routine for checking and study should be well implemented by now. Some weeks you will have no words wrong. At other times, you may have several. Don’t be discouraged by the differences from week to week.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

MEANINGS
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Good Enough to Eat?**
There seems to be universal agreement that exposure to the ultraviolet light from the sun is deleterious* to one’s health. Also, except for tobacco industry spokesmen, there is no dispute about the damage done to us from cigarette smoke. What is shocking is the fact that almost everything we once regarded as either beneficial, or harmless, soon gets challenged by scientists. We are urged to ①__________ foods that have high fat content. There go butter and cheese. Even milk has now been added to the list of foods of which we must be ②___________.

Whatever diet we are on, we cannot become ③__________ about its nutritional value. We are left, ultimately, with the ④__________ thought that, sooner or later, almost everything we eat or drink may be found to jeopardize* our health.

Given that there are many obstacles to maintaining good health, would it be wise to embrace every new laboratory report in order to ⑤__________ information? Let’s not discard old, proven, sensible food habits. Also, there is always the possibility that ice cream sundaes will be found to cure baldness, and that chocolate chip cookies will eliminate our cholesterol problems.

**Clues**

① 3rd Day
② 4th Day
③ 1st Day
④ 1st Day
⑤ 2nd Day
ANOTHER PLAN

Robert was far from tranquil* as he waited in the lobby for almost an hour after the performance had begun. Disgruntled,* he quit the site of his vigil. He had to face the fact that he was making no tangible* progress. Tomorrow he would telephone several women’s residences. It was a cumbersome way of going about the hunt, but it was all that he could think of at the moment. He would interrogate the desk clerks, and perhaps he might uncover a pertinent* clue to Evelyn’s whereabouts. If he could only get someone to divulge her hiding place! Perhaps tomorrow would culminate* in success.

NEW WORDS

- site ˈsɪt
- vigil ˈvɪl
- cumbersome ˈkʌmbərsəm
- interrogate ɪnˈteɡrəte
- divulge ˈdɪvəlj

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. With bitterness he faced the ________________ job of transporting the voluminous* records to his new office.

2. Before they began to ________________ the criminal, they had to admonish* him that his testimony might be used to implicate him.

3. The hunter maintained a discreet* and wary* ________________ as he waited for the propitious* moment to bag his quarry.*
4. Even under duress,* he was adamant* and would not ______________ the secret.

5. The newly married couple selected the ______________ for their new home with meticulous* care.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. site _____ a. unwieldy, burdensome
7. vigil _____ b. to question
8. cumbersome _____ c. wakeful watching
9. interrogate _____ d. to disclose, reveal
10. divulge _____ e. location

**Today's Idiom**

*take a leaf out of someone’s book*—to imitate or follow the example

The chip off the old block* took a leaf out of his father’s book and never sowed his wild oats.*
A HOPE DASHED

The next day, Wednesday, saw Robert become more frustrated.* He would fluctuate between high hopes of finding Evelyn and unmitigated despair when he was almost ready to desist* in his search. The phone calls had elicited* almost nothing. Robert had rushed to one women’s residence when the clerk described a girl who might just be Evelyn. The desk clerk phoned to her room on the pretext* that she had a special delivery letter. Robert waited in the commodious lobby, replete* with large, antiquated pieces of furniture. He watched from a discreet* distance as she came down the stairs. One look at her wan* face, slovenly* dress, and disheveled hair was enough to inform Robert that he needed no further scrutiny.* This could not be his impeccable* Evelyn.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He wasn’t exactly an ________________ liar; he merely embellished* the truth a little.
2. In his sumptuous* house he had a ________________ den in which he kept an array* of trophies as incontrovertible* evidence of his skill.
3. Is it banal* to say that good manners are ________________ in our milieu?*
4. The current trend* in the stock market is for stocks to ________________ in a sporadic* fashion.

5. The nondescript,* indolent* beggar was in a ________________ condition.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. fluctuate _____ a. large, spacious
7. unmitigated____ b. to shift, alternate
8. commodious____ c. disorderly appearance
9. antiquated _____ d. unrelieved, as bad as can be
10. disheveled ____ e. out-of-date, obsolete

TODAY'S IDIOM

* brass tacks—the real problem or situation

After some moments of congenial* levity,* they got down to brass tacks.
TO THE POLICE

Thursday was Robert’s next-to-last day. He had been tenacious in following up every lead. Now he was behind the eight ball.* He could hardly galvanize* himself to do anything else. The façade of hope he had worn for almost a week was crumbling; there was nothing left to be sanguine* about. In desperation he turned to the police and placed his problem within their jurisdiction.* They asked many questions, and they requested that he not leave anything out. Some of the questions seemed asinine. When they inquired about his relationship to the missing girl, he replied, with a grimace, “Fiancé.” When they suggested she might be hiding in that part of the city where the “punk” coterie* congregated, he was incredulous* and accused the police of calumny against her good name and reputation.

**New Words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>tenacious</td>
<td>tə-nə-shəs</td>
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<td>façade</td>
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<td>asinine</td>
<td>ˈa-sə-nīn</td>
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<td>grimace (n.)</td>
<td>ˈɡri - məs</td>
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<tr>
<td>calumny</td>
<td>ˈka-ləm-nē</td>
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**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He held on to his antiquated* beliefs with a ____________ obsession.*
2. The woman was noted for her inappropriate ____________ against her innocuous* neighbor.
3. She could not abjure* a ______________ when she saw the disheveled figure.

4. How ______________ of the boy to fabricate* that bizarre* story!

5. His face wore the most doleful* ______________.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. tenacious_____ a. false accusation, slander

7. façade _____ b. silly, stupid

8. asinine _____ c. front, superficial appearance

9. grimace _____ d. tough, stubborn
   (n.)

10. calumny _____ e. facial expression of disgust

TODAY'S IDIOM

hook, line, and sinker—completely, all the way

The teacher fell for the practical joke hook, line, and sinker.
EVELYN DISCOVERED

Failure was imminent,* and Robert was bereft* of hope. It was now Friday. Despite his abstemious* and parsimonious* way of living, his money had been reduced to a mere *pittance. A perverse* impulse brought him to an unfamiliar section of the city. Always *fastidious about proper dress and behavior, he had never been *au courant with this neighborhood’s fashions and music. A moment later he saw her! Evelyn! She was sitting at a table in a coffee shop, surrounded by a coterie* of the most *noisome individuals he had ever seen. Evelyn was not incongruous,* for she herself was *unkempt. So this was her new habitat!* At that instant Robert knew as an incontrovertible* fact that he had lost her. With a grimace,* he turned and walked, a doleful* and melancholy figure, toward the bus depot and home.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Styles are such transient* things that what is ________________ today, is archaic* tomorrow.
2. The tip he had been offered was a mere ________________, and the taxi driver threw it on the ground in disdain.*
3. Children think parents are asinine* to get upset about ________________ rooms.
4. It was inevitable* that they discover the hidden body by its ________________ aroma.
5. He was so ________________ about table manners that he lost his equanimity* when his son reached for the bread.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. pittance _____ a. untidy, neglected
7. fastidious_____ b. foul, unwholesome
8. au _____ c. small amount
courant
9. noisome _____ d. particular, choosy
10. unkempt _____ e. up-to-date

TODAY'S IDIOM

*lily-livered*—cowardly

The *lily-livered* gangster got cold feet* and spilled the beans.*
As an “old hand” at vocabulary-building by the context method, you realize that this is the most natural and effective way. However, you also know that there is work and self-discipline too. You should carry these fine qualities right through life. The words you learn are valuable; the method is equally so.

The method of study and learning requires quick review and re-use of difficult words. Start now!

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

The method of study and learning requires quick review and re-use of difficult words. Start now!
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Women in the Ring**

What sport requires the timing of tennis, the energy of aerobics, the stamina of cross-country running, and the physical contact of football? The answer is: boxing. And now that seemingly male spectacle is attracting women. What was once viewed as __________ brutality has been transformed in gymnasiums across the country into the latest form of workout, weight reduction, and energy stimulator.

To suggest that women should not expose themselves to the sharp jabs and powerful uppercuts of boxing because they are the “weaker” sex is __________. Properly trained by experts, in good shape from punching bags and jumping rope, women can be as __________ in the ring as men.

With women jockeys, race car drivers, hockey goalies, and basketball players, it would require a man with __________ prejudice, if not sheer ignorance, to argue that boxing is solely a man’s sport. Anyone who is __________ with the status of today’s women need not be surprised by their entry into the ring.

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day
2. 3rd Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 2nd Day
5. 4th Day
A MODERN AESOP

The telling of a story in simple terms that has an inherently important message is a venerable art form. The *parable* may be found teaching a moral lesson in the Bible. Aesop is an incontrovertible master of the fable. This story form is far from antiquated as shown by the whimsical approach to life taken by the modern Aesop, James Thurber. His stories *lampoon* the strange behavior of his fellow men. Thurber seems unable to *countenance* the ideas that permeate our society regarding the rules by which we should live. Least of all is he able to accept the sanctimonious notion that some people promulgate that good always wins out against evil. Thurber’s stories often take an exactly opposite point of view.

**New Words**

*parable*
\[ \text{ˈpa-ər-əl} \]

*whimsical*
\[ \text{ˈhwim-zi-kəl} \]

*lampoon (v.)*
\[ \text{ˈlām-pōn} \]

*countenance (v.)*
\[ \text{ˈkoun-ən-səns} \]

*sanctimonious*
\[ \text{ˈsan-kəm-ən-əs} \]

**Sample Sentences** Note that some words do not have a one word definition. Frequently, several words, or an entire sentence, is required.

1. Jonathan Swift was never reticent to __________________ the egotist* in order to bring him down with alacrity.*

2. What one person finds __________________ , the other may find asinine.*
3. The expression “sour grapes*” is the gist* of a famous __________________ about a fox who couldn’t get what he wanted.

4. We should eschew* our ________________ façade* and do away with pretext!*

5. If we want to live in a salubrious* milieu,* we cannot ________________ the noisome* fumes that are deleterious* to health.

Definitions Note the distinction between *countenance* as a noun and as a verb.

6. parable _____  a. humorous, witty

7. whimsical _____  b. hypocritical, claiming moral superiority

8. lampoon (v.) _____  c. to tolerate,* approve

9. countenance _____  d. moralistic story (v.)

10. sanctimonious_____  e. to ridicule

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*pull up stakes*—to quit a place

He could no longer rule the roost* or get the lion’s share,* so he *pulled up stakes* and moved on.
MODERNIZING A PARABLE*

Thurber punctures in an incisive* way the platitudes* that come from stories handed down through the
generations. These old saws are accepted by everyone. One such tale is about a tortoise who had read
in an ancient book that a tortoise had beaten a hare in a race. The sage* old tortoise construed* this
story to mean that he could outrun a hare. With equanimity he hunted for a hare and soon found one.
“Do you have the effrontery to challenge me?” asked the incredulous* hare. “You are a nonentity,” he
scoffed* at the tortoise. A course of fifty feet was set out. The other animals gathered around the site.*
At the sound of the gun they were off. When the hare crossed the finish line, the flabbergasted tortoise
had gone approximately eight and three-quarter inches. The moral Thurber draws from this debacle
for the tortoise: A new broom may sweep clean, but never trust an old saw.

Which of the five “new words” have you seen before? Answer with equanimity.

NEW WORDS

equanimité
é - kwə - ŋi - mə - tē OR
e - kwə - ŋi - mə - tē

effrontery
ə - ŋrən - tə - rē

nonentity
nɔn - ŋən - tə - tə

flabbergasted
ˈflæ - bər - ɡəs - təd

debacle
də - bə - kəl OR
də - bə - kəl

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.
1. He was a precocious* youngster, but he soon reached the nadir* of his career, lost all of his prestige,* and became a ________________.

2. Why do you have the ________________ to take that facetious* attitude toward something as innocuous* as this?

3. These turbulent* times require a leader who does not go into a capricious* pique,* but rather one who faces acrimonious* criticism with ________________.

4. When the judge exonerated* the charlatan,* we were all ________________.

5. The fortuitous* appearance of a security guard led to the avoidance of an imminent* ________________.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. equanimity _____ a. calmness, self-control
7. effrontery _____ b. astounded
8. nonentity _____ c. boldness
9. flabbergasted_____ d. fiasco,* catastrophe*
10. debacle _____ e. one of no importance

TODAY’S IDIOM

raise Cain (ˈkān)—to cause trouble, make a fuss

When he found he was left holding the bag,* he decided to raise Cain.
THINGS HAVE CHANGED

Thurber modernizes an old story that everyone has read or heard. It has to do with a nefarious* wolf who kept a vigil* in an ominous* forest until a little girl came along carrying a basket of food for her grandmother. With alacrity,* this vivacious youngster told the wolf the address to which she was going. Hungry and gaunt, the wolf rushed to the house. When the girl arrived and entered, she saw someone in bed wearing a nightcap and a nightgown. While the figure was dressed like her grandmother, the little girl surmised* with only a perfunctory* glance that it didn’t have the old lady’s mien. The girl approached and became cognizant* of the hirsute face of the wolf. She drew a revolver from her purse and shot the interloper* dead. Thurber arrives at a moral for this story that anyone would find difficult to refute: It is not so easy to fool little girls nowadays as it used to be.

NEW WORDS

vivacious
vi - ˈvā- shəs OR
vī - ˈvā - shəs

gaunt
ˈgōnt

mien
ˈmēn

hirsute
hir - ˈs(y)ūt

refute
ri - ˈf(y)ūt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. She had a ________________ of humility,* but it was only a façade.*
2. He did not waste time trying to ________________ an irrelevant* and tortuous* argument.
3. You may have discerned* that it is no longer the latest vogue* among men to permit their faces to become ________________ .

4. They were struck by the anomaly* of one twin who was phlegmatic* while the other was ________________ .

5. Fashion models often strive for the slender and au courant* ________________ look.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. vivacious_____  a. thin, haggard
7. gaunt _____  b. lively
8. mien _____  c. hairy
9. hirsute _____  d. appearance, bearing
10. refute _____  e. to prove wrong or false

TODAY’S IDIOM

leave no stone unturned— to try one’s best, to make every effort

Since you’re skeptical, I’ll leave no stone unturned to convince you.
ANOTHER SURPRISE

Thurber’s stories are written in a jocose* manner, but they contain enough serious matter to make one pensive. He tells of some builders who left a pane of glass standing upright in a field near a house they were constructing. A goldfinch flew across the field, struck the glass, and was knocked inert.* He rushed back and divulged* to his friends that the air had crystallized. The other birds derided* him, said he had become irrational,* and gave a number of reasons for the accident. The only bird who believed the goldfinch was the swallow. The goldfinch challenged the large birds to follow the same path he had flown. This challenge served to whet their interest, and they agreed with gusto.* Only the swallow abjured.* The large birds flew together and struck the glass; they were knocked into a stupor. This caused the astute* swallow to wince with pain. Thurber drew a moral that is the antithesis* of the cliché we all accept: He who hesitates is sometimes saved.

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He was in such a ______________ as a result of the accident that this precluded* his hearing my condolence.*
If you juxtapose* one ________________ with another, you often get completely opposite lessons about life.

The hostile* rebuke* made the usually phlegmatic* boy ________________ .

You cannot ________________ his desire for the theater with dubious* histrionics.*

The fervid* marriage proposal made the shy girl ________________ .

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. pensive _____ a. thoughtful, reflective

7. whet _____ b. to stimulate, stir up

8. stupor _____ c. commonplace phrase

9. wince _____ d. to draw back, flinch

10. cliché _____ e. daze, insensible condition

TODAY’S IDIOM

jump the gun—to do something prematurely, over-anticipate

When he heard of the stock market’s decline, Jai jumped the gun and sold off all his holdings.
To strengthen your word power, keep adding words from all the sources you use during the day. The words learned while reading this book give you a firm basis. School texts, newspapers, magazines, etc., should all give you the opportunity to corroborate* the fact that your vocabulary is growing, and they should also be the source for new words.

REVIEW WORDS

_____ 1. cliché
_____ 2. countenance (v.)
_____ 3. debacle
_____ 4. effrontery
_____ 5. equanimity
_____ 6. flabbergasted
_____ 7. gaunt
_____ 8. hirsute
_____ 9. lampoon (v.)
____ 10. mien
_____ 11. nonentity
_____ 12. parable
_____ 13. pensive
_____ 14. refute
_____ 15. sanctimonious
_____ 16. stupor
_____ 17. vivacious
_____ 18. whet
_____ 19. whimsical
_____ 20. wince

DEFINITIONS

a. astounded
b. one of no importance
c. witty, humorous
d. to ridicule
e. hairy
f. to prove wrong, disprove
g. to flinch, draw back
h. self-control
i. fiasco,* catastrophe*
j. hypocritical, self-righteous
k. moralistic story
l. lively
m. bearing, appearance
n. to stir up, stimulate
o. boldness
p. to approve, tolerate*
q. haggard, thin
r. reflective, thoughtful
s. commonplace phrase
t. insensible condition, daze

IDIOMS

_____ 21. pull up stakes
_____ 22. raise Cain
_____ 23. leave no stone unturned
_____ 24. jump the gun

u. to make a fuss, cause trouble
v. to make every effort, try one’s best
w. to do something prematurely
x. to quit a place

Look back at the story to check the use of each word in its context. This will help fix it in your mind.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Beam Me Up, Scotty**

In 1966, a television program appeared that quickly established itself as the most successful science fiction series, moved on to become a series of popular films, and continues in reruns to be seen somewhere in this country every night of the year. This original series, *Star Trek*, became so popular that there are huge fan clubs across the country and the stars of the original series are mobbed when they make personal appearances.

What makes this form of science fiction so popular? Some may say that each story of the future is a ①___________ showing us our own world through a presentation of other worlds. There are those who would ②___________ this analysis and argue that it is the odd characters, the sometimes ③___________ aliens, who attract us. We watch with ④___________ as worlds battle, knowing it will turn out well in the end.

After many years and many TV episodes and movies, *Star Trek* and its successors continue to ⑤___________ our appetite and bring excitement to our screens. As long as space remains mysterious, the unexplained will capture our imaginations.

**Clues**

① 1st Day  
② 3rd Day  
③ 3rd Day  
④ 2nd Day  
⑤ 4th Day
The nineteenth century saw the female novelist attain the same prestige* as men. England was prolific* in producing women writers. One of the foremost in this genre was Charlotte Brontë. In Jane Eyre, she presented a candid portrait of a woman caught up in a clandestine* affair with a married man. Bronte’s readers were engrossed* in this story. She took this unsavory subject and presented it in a way that did not degrade the relationship. She showed that true passion can be healthy. Brontë did not disparage* Jane’s feelings or besmirch* her character. The author was generous in her verdict. The affair was considered merely a venial sin because Jane was never false in her feelings or her actions.

**NEW WORDS**

**genre**

ˈzhän - rə

**candid**

ˈkan - did

**unsavory**

ˈən - ˈsä - və - rē

**degrade**

di - ˈgräd

**venial**

ˈvē - nē - āl

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Harry held the fallacious* belief that the menial* job would ____________ him in the eyes of his friends.

2. Betty’s childish fabrications* were judged ____________ sins, although they mortified* her mother.
3. Modern abstract painting is a highly lucrative* ________________ .

4. It is reprehensible,* but it doesn’t require much gossip to give a person a(n) ________________ reputation.

5. In my ________________ opinion, he is a sanctimonious* fool.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. genre _____ a. to make contemptible, lower
7. candid _____ b. disagreeable, offensive, morally bad
8. unsavory _____ c. certain form or style in painting or literature
9. degrade _____ d. pardonable, forgivable
10. venial _____ e. frank, open, honest

TODAY’S IDIOM

*crack one up*—to make laugh

When I visit my neighbor, his baby daughter’s funny expressions never fail to *crack me up.*
VICTOR HUGO

The epitome of French romantic writers in the nineteenth century was Victor Hugo. With the utmost dexterity he wrote poetry, novels, and drama. His highly popular novels, Notre Dame de Paris and Les Misérables, are replete* with melo-dramatic situations and grotesque characters. He had a profound* sense of social justice and a compassion for the poor, hapless,* and downtrodden. He could not work under the aegis* of Napoleon III and fled into exile. When the repugnant rule came to an end, the expatriate* returned. He was received with adulation* and acclaim as the idol of the Third Republic.

NEW WORDS

epitome
i - ˈpi-toʊ -mē

dexterity
dek - ˈste -rə -tē

grotesque
grō - ˈtesk

compassion
kəm - ˈpa - ˌshən

repugnant
ri - ˈpù-gə nənt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He was made up in the most __________________ way for his role as an alien from outer space.

2. We all felt deep ________________ for the innocent progeny,* who were bereft* of their parents who had succumbed* during the conflagration.*

3. The Taj Mahal in India is said to be the ________________ of grace as an edifice.*
4. The sight of the corpse was ________________ to the squeamish* onlookers.
5. With ________________ he thwarted* the pugnacious* and belligerent* adversary.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. epitome ____ a. strange, bizarre,* misshapen
7. dexterity ____ b. person or thing that embodies or represents the best
8. grotesque ____ c. distasteful, repulsive
9. compassion____ d. sympathetic feeling, kindness
10. repugnant ____ e. mental or physical skill

TODAY'S IDIOM

throw the book at someone—to give the maximum punishment

The judge got his back up* and threw the book at the criminal.
AN ENGLISH REALIST

The movement toward realism in the English novel of the nineteenth century reached its acme with the works of Charles Dickens and William Makepeace Thackeray. Charles Dickens was a prolific writer. Among his copious works are Oliver Twist, a candid exposure of England’s repugnant Poor Laws; Nicholas Nickleby, in which the life of boys in a boarding school is vehemently attacked; Hard Times, in which the author wanted to depict the infamous life in a factory during an early period of the industrial revolution; and The Pickwick Papers, about a naive gentleman who has numerous misadventures. The novels, aimed at exposing the sordid and pernicious elements of English life, were said to have helped galvanize people into action leading to improvement in these conditions.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. At the ________________ of his power, the dictator was obsessed* with the belief that those who dissented* were trying to usurp* his position.

2. As a perspicacious* newspaper reporter, he felt it appropriate to _________________ the
abortive* coup* as a reprehensible* act.

3. The urbane* gentleman was flabbergasted* by the fervid* interest in wrestling shown by the ________________ young girl.

4. She lost her decorum* and wept ________________ tears at the poignant* story.

5. He objected ________________ to a vote taking place in the absence of a quorum.*

Definitions

Match the new words with their definitions.

6. acme _____ a. unworldly, unsophisticated
7. copious _____ b. violently, eagerly, passionately
8. vehemently____ c. peak, pinnacle,* zenith*
9. depict _____ d. ample, abundant, plentiful
10. naive _____ e. to describe clearly, picture, portray

TODAY'S IDIOM

*terra firma*—solid, firm land

The rough ocean crossing took the wind out of his sails,* and he was happy to be on *terra firma* again.
A SCHEMING HEROINE

William Makepeace Thackeray was known for his moralistic study of upper and middle class English life. His best known work, *Vanity Fair*, has as its central character Becky Sharp. She is a *perfidious* woman who has an insatiable* desire to get ahead in the world. She *covets* the wealth of one man, but when marriage is not feasible* she succeeds in a plan to *ingratiate* herself into the heart of her employer’s son. Their marriage is not a salubrious* one and Becky, who lives ostentatiously,* forms a surreptitious* liaison with another man. The affair culminates* in a debacle.* She is exposed, her husband leaves her, and she must live in *penury* in Europe. This is the *ignominious* end for a clever, but misguided, woman.

**NEW WORDS**

`perfidious`
pər-ˈfī-ˈdē-əs

`covet`
ˈkə-vət

`ingratiate`
in-ˈɡrā-ʃē-ət

`penury`
ˈpən-ər-ē

`ignominious`
ig-ˈnə-mən-əs

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Under the aegis* of a zealous* campaign manager, the candidate was able to ___________ herself into the hearts of the public.

2. Many parables* teach the lesson that one should not ___________ that which belongs to someone else.
3. His fortune fluctuated between ________________ and wealth.

4. They made an effigy of their ________________ enemy.

5. There was bedlam as the favored team went down to ________________ defeat at the hands of the underdog.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. perfidious _____ a. treacherous, false
7. covet _____ b. to want, envy, wish
8. ingratiate _____ c. humiliating, disgraceful
9. penury _____ d. poverty
10. ignominious_____ e. to win confidence, charm

TODAY'S IDIOM

in seventh heaven—the highest happiness or delight

The oldest child was in seventh heaven when her mother let her rule the roost for a day.
Whether you read a classic novel or a modern one, the one thing they have in common is their use of a rather extensive vocabulary. Don’t be handicapped in your reading—increase your vocabulary by constant study and review.

REVIEW WORDS

____ 1. acme
____ 2. candid
____ 3. compassion
____ 4. copious
____ 5. covet
____ 6. degrade
____ 7. depict
____ 8. dexterity
____ 9. epitome
____ 10. genre
____ 11. grotesque
____ 12. ignominious
____ 13. ingratiate
____ 14. naive
____ 15. penury
____ 16. perfidious
____ 17. repugnant
____ 18. unsavory
____ 19. vehemently
____ 20. venial

DEFINITIONS

a. open, honest, frank
b. kindness, sympathetic feeling
c. zenith,* pinnacle,* peak
d. to wish, envy, want
e. false, treacherous
f. unsophisticated, unworldly
g. strange, bizarre,* misshapen
h. to lower, make contemptible
i. certain form or style in painting or literature
j. repulsive, distasteful
k. plentiful, abundant, ample
l. poverty
m. to portray, picture, describe clearly
n. person or thing that represents the best
o. morally bad, disagreeable, offensive
p. physical or mental skill
q. passionately, violently, eagerly
r. to charm, win confidence
s. forgivable, pardonable
t. disgraceful, humiliating

IDIOMS

____ 21. crack one up
____ 22. throw the book at someone
____ 23. terra firma
____ 24. in seventh heaven

u. to make laugh
v. to give maximum punishment
w. solid, firm land
x. the highest happiness or delight

Review incorrect words.
Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. We tried to (deter, divulge) him, but he was determined to submit to open heart surgery.
2. The reporter lost his job when he labeled the senator’s remarks as (unmitigated, asinine).
3. Freddie had the (effrontery, propensity) to ask Robin for a date after having criticized her appearance.
4. Ordinarily, Jonathan was especially neat, but he looked quite (disheveled, fastidious) at the end of our camping trip.
5. After hearing the bad news, the students left the auditorium with (venial, somber) faces.
6. My Uncle Robert, who is really conservative about his investments, made money on Wall Street by not being (impetuous, wary).
7. I knew I could confide in Caryl-Sue because she has a reputation for being (discreet, sanctimonious).
8. The traitor’s (perfidious, pensive) action resulted in the loss of many lives.
9. Our water commissioner was (complacent, flabbergasted) to learn that his own lawn sprinkler had been turned on during the water emergency.
10. Sophie was accepted by our wide circle of friends because of her (vivacious, tenacious) personality.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

1492–1992
During 1992, there were ________ reminders that the year marked the 500th anniversary of Columbus’s arrival in this part of the hemisphere. Along with the celebrations and historical reenactments, there was controversy regarding the lives of those who had been here for many centuries before that fateful event.

Historical research shows that it would be extremely ________ to believe that “civilization” began on this continent with Columbus’s arrival. The Native American tribes had come together in an organization known as the Five Nations. They had regulations for governance that were the ________ of self-rule and that became the models on which our Constitution was partly based.

It was to remove the ________ portrayal of the Native American as savage and wild that historians adopted 1992 as the year to ________ them in their true light as members of civilizations worthy of study and respect.

Clues
1  3rd Day
2  3rd Day
3  2nd Day
4  4th Day
5  3rd Day
A MAN OF NATURE

Henry Thoreau attempted to confront the problem and solve the enigma* of how one might earn a living and yet not become an ignominious* slave to the task. He viewed the industrial revolution with antipathy. Man in a servile role to extraneous* possessions was a main target of his writings. He believed that one could attain genuine wealth not by accumulating objects or money, but through enjoyment and perusal* of nature. By his own volition he gave up friends and comforts for a two-year sojourn by himself at Walden Pond. What others might judge as penury* was seen by Thoreau as the epitome* of wealth.

New Words

confront
  kon - ˈfrʌnt

antipathy
  an - ˈti - pó - thē

servile
  ˈsɛr - və ˈsər - vēl OR ˈsər - vēl

volition
  ˈvə - ˈli - ˈshən

sojourn (n.)
  ˈsō - ˈjörn

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He found his ________________ position a degrading* one and could not accept it with equanimity.*

2. The expatriate* decided to make his ________________ in France a permanent one in order to give up his nomadic* way of life.

3. Why do we refuse to ________________ the unsavory* problems of our times in a candid* and
incisive* way?

4. He was a tenacious* competitor, and at his own ________________ he placed his title in jeopardy* on many occasions.

5. Her ________________ towards men was based on rather nebulous* events that she construed* to prove that they were all perfidious.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. confront _____ a. temporary stay
7. antipathy _____ b. willpower, choice
8. servile _____ c. dislike, distaste, hate
9. volition _____ d. to come face-to-face with
10. sojourn _____ e. slavish, submissive

(n.)

TODAY’S IDIOM

tighten one’s belt— to cut one’s spending

He knew he would have to draw in his horns* and tighten his belt or he would wind up in debt.
The Good Life

Thoreau’s book about the *austere* but happy life at Walden Pond propagated his fame around the world. He built a small hut and began living an ascetic existence. He found it to be a *felicitous* experience. In this idyllic setting he was able to spend his time reading, studying nature, writing, and thinking. Far from being indolent, he kept busy in many ways. At the end of the experiment, he recalled the *halcyon* days with pleasure. He believed he had learned the secret of a truly happy existence. The only *tenable* way of life is one in harmony with nature; material possessions are *superfluous*.

**New Words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>austere</td>
<td>ðə - 'stir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>felicitous</td>
<td>fə - 'li - sə - təs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>halcyon</td>
<td>'hal - sē - ən</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tenable</td>
<td>'te - nə - bəl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>superfluous</td>
<td>su - 'për - flū - əs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. When he found his sinecure was no longer ________________, he felt it a propitious time to resign.
2. Far from being ostentatious, she was considered the acme of fashion because of her ________________ manner of dress.
3. Because he was an itinerant worker, he had to refrain from carrying ________________
equipment.

4. On that ________________ occasion, the amount of money he spent was irrelevant.*

5. During the turbulent* days of the war, they wished for the ________________ days of earlier times.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. austere _____ a. supportable, defendable
7. felicitous _____ b. simple, unadorned, hard
8. halcyon _____ c. idyllically* peaceful, calm
9. tenable _____ d. happy
10. superfluous____ e. excessive, surplus

TODAY'S IDIOM

*off the beaten path*—not usual, out of the ordinary

Because their vacation destinations were always *off the beaten path*, they found it difficult to make inexpensive airline connections.
The study of the human mind and behavior has had many prominent practitioners, but few are as revered* as Sigmund Freud. An Austrian physician, he is said to be the father of psychoanalysis. He taught that man has a subconscious mind in which he keeps repugnant* memories that come to the surface surreptitiously* and motivate behavior. Man often tries to rationalize his actions, when, in reality, they are really the result of suppressed memories coming to the surface. Freud’s approach was to attempt therapy by examining the dreams that make cognizant* what the cause of a patient’s troubles might be. Only with the airing of deleterious,* buried emotions can the person move from the nascent stage to that of full health. Freud was considered an iconoclast in the field of psychology when his ideas first appeared at the beginning of the twentieth century.

**NEW WORDS**

motivate
\[\text{ˌmō-ə-tə-vāt}\]

rationalize
\[\text{ˈrə-ʃə-nə-līz}\]

therapy
\[\text{ˈthē-ə-pē}\]

nascent
\[\text{ˈnās-ənt}\]

iconoclast
\[\text{ˌi-kən-əklāst}\]

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The ______________ was in favor of jettisoning* one of the traditions that had become an intrinsic* part of his life.

2. In order to complete the ______________ , the doctor said a trip to a warm, dry climate was
3. Complacent* people are difficult to _______________ to altruistic* actions.
4. It is unfortunate that some citizens _______________ their apathy* during election years.
5. His beard was in its _______________ state; it would soon be a hirsute* masterpiece.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. motivate _____ a. beginning to exist or develop
7. rationalize______ b. to give a reason other than the real one
8. therapy ____ c. to inspire, stimulate, provoke
9. nascent ____ d. image-breaker, attacker of beliefs
10. iconoclast____ e. healing or curing process

TODAY'S IDIOM

*a square peg in a round hole—misfit, able person in the wrong job*

It was a bitter pill to swallow* when they had to fire him because he was a square peg in a round hole.
AMATEUR PSYCHOLOGISTS

The ideas of Freudian psychology have become part of our everyday life. Our language is replete* with clichés* that have their origin in Freud’s writings. There is a surfeit* of amateur psychologists who, with celerity,* analyze an individual’s problems from the slightest evidence. Despite their dubious* education and training in this field, they discuss symptoms and cures in a most erudite fashion. Should a person express a fear of heights, this phobia is examined; events from childhood are considered germane to the problem. Is it possible he or she was dropped as an infant? Perhaps something in a dream is pertinent* to explain the feelings of vertigo that accompany height. For some reason, non-trained people find the Freudian approach to the workings of the human mind most conducive to their practicing as amateur psychologists.

**NEW WORDS**

- **erudite**
  - er - (y)u - dît
- **phobia**
  - fō - bē - ō
- **germane**
  - jer - mān
- **vertigo**
  - vēr - tō - gō
- **conducive**
  - kən - d(y)ū - siv

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. She could not countenance* the sight of a lethal* weapon; it was tantamount* to a ____________ with her.
2. The ____________ man was more than merely bilingual; he spoke five languages.
3. I would never have the temerity* to walk across the steel girders high up on a new building; an onset of ______________ would surely follow.

4. The bedlam* in the study hall was not ______________ to good work habits.

5. When projecting an athlete’s ability to perform, it may be ______________ to examine his social behavior.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. erudite _____ a. very scholarly
7. phobia _____ b. dizziness
8. germane _____ c. persistent fear, strong dislike
9. vertigo _____ d. leading, helpful
10. conducive____ e. appropriate, relevant

TODAY’S IDIOM

*upset the apple cart—to overturn or disturb a plan or intention*

It was a bitter pill to swallow* when they *upset the apple cart* and elected a radical candidate.
The writings of Thoreau and Freud are replete* with ideas that require deep thought. In order to tackle their writings, one must understand their vocabulary. Therefore, word mastery is the key to unlocking ideas of some of our greatest thinkers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. antipathy</td>
<td>a. choice, willpower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. austere</td>
<td>b. supportable, defendable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. conducive</td>
<td>c. to provoke, stimulate, inspire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. confront</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. erudite</td>
<td>e. unadorned, simple, hard</td>
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<td>f. hate, distaste, dislike</td>
</tr>
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<td>g. attacker of beliefs, image-breaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. halcyon</td>
<td>h. relevant, appropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. iconoclast</td>
<td>i. idyllically* peaceful, calm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. motivate</td>
<td>j. to come face-to-face with</td>
</tr>
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<td>k. curing or healing process</td>
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<td>l. very scholarly</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. rationalize</td>
<td>m. happy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. servile</td>
<td>n. submissive, slavish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. sojourn (n.)</td>
<td>o. beginning to develop or exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. superfluous</td>
<td>p. dizziness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. tenable</td>
<td>q. surplus, excessive</td>
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<td>18. therapy</td>
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<td>24. upset the apple cart</td>
<td>x. to overturn or disturb a plan or intention</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Make My Ostrich Burger Well-Done

Just about 100 years ago, there arose an industry in the state of Arizona that seems very odd to us today. We know of cattle ranches and sheep ranches, but would you believe . . . ostrich ranches? This business became popular as women found ostrich feathers a addition to their wardrobes.

Ostriches are easy to raise. They eat and drink less than cattle, and their eggs are large enough to feed ten people! During the days of ostrich ranching, feathers were sold for as much as $300 a pound, so it is easy to see why that business was so attractive.

However, women's fashions changed after World War I, and the market for ostrich plumes fell. Growers had to a shrinking market. The price tumbled to about $10 for a bird. As ostrich feathers became in the fashion world, ostrich ranching came to an end.

Interestingly enough, ostrich ranchers may be coming back into vogue* because nutritionists tell us that ostrich meat is low in cholesterol. We may not go wild over the feathers, but pass the lean meat, please. Hold the mayo, too.

Clues

1. 3rd Day
2. 2nd Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 1st Day
5. 2nd Day
THE ENIGMA* OF FASHION

My friend Will, who is so glib when he speaks of “individuality,” becomes part of a homogenous mass when he takes notice of the latest craze in fashion. How can some people become so malleable in the hands of those who “make” fashion? Perhaps the sudden shifts in fashion occur fortuitously.* Or are designers, through legerdemain, switching styles and customs on us right before our eyes? Will seems to be quite gullible* when it comes to embracing the latest trend in fashion. But then, he has me as an example to follow!

NEW WORDS

glib
glib

homogenous
hō - mō - jē - nē - os

malleable
ma - lē - o - bəl

legerdemain
lē - jər - də - män

trend (n.)
trend

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The charlatan* was able to wheedle* money out of the naive* audience with a ________________ talk on the medicine that would expunge* pain.

2. They could not follow the ________________ of all the arguments he was making, but his verbal dexterity* galvanized* the gullible* listeners.

3. They were engrossed* as an ill man was “cured” before their eyes; some of the more urbane* said it was ________________ .
4. He ingratiated* himself into their confidence, and the ______________ crowd was shaped into a subjugated* mass.

5. While they started out as individuals, they became a ________________ group whom he could motivate as he willed.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. glib ______ a. capable of being shaped or formed
7. homogeneous____ b. sleight of hand, deceptive adroitness*
8. malleable _____ c. smooth of speech
9. legerdemain____ d. same, uniform
10. trend (n.) _____ e. general direction, fashion

**Today's Idiom**

*by hook or by crook*—any way at all, at any cost

He had bought the white elephant* without rhyme or reason*; now he had to get rid of it *by hook or by crook.*
THE ECONOMICS OF FASHION

In dress, the fashion appears to be “set” by a few designers and a handful of affluent* individuals who purchase these designs. The fashion industry is cognizant* of the fact that fashions must change rapidly and often, or their economy would become stagnant. For this industry it would prove fatal if it were not vigilant* and prepared well in advance for a new fashion trend.* As the old fashion becomes passé and a new fashion seems to be in the making, the garment manufacturers cannot afford to procrastinate. They rush large sums of money into production for a mass market. Having invested heavily, the manufacturers do everything possible to influence and motivate* the purchasers. Through every facet of publicity and advertising, the industry exploits* the natural desire for people to be au courant* with the latest fashions.

NEW WORDS

stagnant
ˈstag - nənt

fatal
ˈfā - təl

passé
pa - ˈsā

procrastinate
prō - ˈkra - stə - nāt

facet
ˈfa - sit

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. To the consternation* of the distraught* parents, they learned their son was accused of using the lethal* weapon on that ________________ occasion.

2. We wish for halcyon* days when the warlike solutions will have become ________________.
3. Edna recalled with nostalgia many ________________ of her school days.

4. We all tend to ________________ when faced with an unsavory* task.

5. The iconoclast* has the propensity* for reproaching* those who feel complacent* leading a ________________ existence.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. stagnant _____ a. to delay, put off
7. fatal _____ b. motionless, dull, inactive
8. passé _____ c. deadly, disastrous
9. procrastinate_____ d. one side or view of person or situation
10. facet _____ e. outmoded, old-fashioned

TODAY'S IDIOM

*get up on the wrong side of the bed*—to be in a bad mood

When his mother raised Cain* about his slovenly* room, he accused her of getting up on the wrong side of the bed.
WHAT NEXT?
Once the fashion industry has been able to foist a new style on the public, some tend to stigmatize it as a form of rebellion. What is often misunderstood is that trend-setting consumers capitulate to what is originated* by someone outside of their group. The feelings of individuality and audacity that one may get from a new style of dress result from the propensity* of others to disparage* them. While people are becoming complacent* about the “new,” the clothing industry is busy planning how to tantalize the consumer with next year’s “fashion.” This arbitrary* decision is guaranteed to foment* consternation* among naysayers once again in the following year.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Despite tenacious* resistance, they were ousted* from the fort and had to ________________ to the enemy.

2. It was an asinine* thing to do—to ________________ his opponent as a bigot* and thus exacerbate* an already bitter campaign.

3. It is common to hear people disparage* those who paint in the modern genre*; they speak about
the ________________ of the artist who submits a simple white canvas with a black border as a serious work.

4. They are dubious* of such an artist and accuse him of trying to ________________ on the public a work of art as a rudimentary* exercise.

5. It is reprehensible* to ________________ a young child with the promise of a reward for being good when you have no intention of giving it.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. foist ______ a. to surrender, make terms
7. stigmatize____ b. to mark with a disgrace
8. capitulate____ c. boldness, daring
9. audacity _____ d. to force upon, pass off slyly
10. tantalize ____ e. to tease or torment by offering something good

TODAY'S IDIOM

*castles in the air*—unattainable dream

Despite his firing, Joe built *castles in the air* that he would be rehired and promoted to company president.
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

To derogatory* comments from the general public, trendsetters might retort that new fashions and styles are eventually adopted by others with alacrity.* Though she complains, Emma emulates* her daughter Meryl by shortening or lengthening her hems. Emma may appear reticent about the bother and expense of altering her wardrobe, but she gives tacit approval to the change by rushing to the department stores where shoppers jostle* each other to buy copies of the more expensive dresses. The conclusion one might reach after observing how members of the public countenance* the arbitrary* changes year after year is that they are naive* or victims of some chicanery practiced by the clothing industry. But the real truth may lie in the fact that they are so obliging because they secretly enjoy the yearly excitement around the latest fashions.

There's another familiar word reintroduced today. Did you recognize reticent?

**New Words**

- **retort (v.)**
  ri - tôrt

- **reticent**
  re - ti - sant

- **tacit**
  ta - sit

- **chicanery**
  shi - kä - nō - rē

- **obliging (adj.)**
  o - blī - ūŋ

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The reporter divulged* the blatant* ________________ involved in the awarding of the contract.
2. Even the most ____________ person may become fractious* when he gets only a pittance* for his hard labor.

3. His egregious* behavior brought a ____________ reproach* to his mother’s eyes.

4. Most politicians are ____________ when asked to divulge* their ambitions.

5. He refused to ____________ to the rash* question about his propensity* for imbibing.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. retort ***** a. understood, implied, not stated (v.)

7. reticent ***** b. accommodating, helpful

8. tacit ***** c. to answer, reply

9. chicanery***** d. silent, reserved

10. obliging ***** e. trickery, underhandedness (adj.)

TODAY’S IDIOM

*maintain the status quo*—to keep things as they are

You hit the nail on the head* when you said we ought to *maintain the status quo* and not change horses in midstream.*
No matter what the fashion in dress, the fashion in education is an extensive vocabulary. Keep up with the fashion; build your vocabulary wardrobe.

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. audacity  
2. capitulate  
3. chicanery  
4. facet  
5. fatal  
6. foist  
7. glib  
8. homogeneous  
9. legerdemain  
10. malleable  
11. obliging (adj.)  
12. passé  
13. procrastinate  
14. reticent  
15. retort (v.)  
16. stagnant  
17. stigmatize  
18. tacit  
19. tantalize  
20. trend (n.)

**DEFINITIONS**

a. reserved, silent  
b. to force upon, pass off slyly  
c. disastrous, deadly  
d. smooth of speech  
e. one side or view of person or situation  
f. daring, boldness  
g. to reply, answer  
h. uniform, same  
i. capable of being formed or shaped  
j. to put off, delay  
k. to make terms, surrender  
l. underhandedness, trickery  
m. not stated, understood, implied  
n. to mark with a disgrace  
o. inactive, dull, motionless  
p. general direction, fashion  
q. old-fashioned, outmoded  
r. accommodating, helpful  
s. deceptive adroitness,* sleight of hand  
t. to tease or torment by offering something good

**IDIOMS**

21. by hook or by crook  
22. get up on the wrong side of the bed  
23. castles in the air  
24. maintain the status quo

u. to be in a bad mood  
v. unattainable dream  
w. at any cost, any way at all  
x. to keep things as they are

Take that extra few minutes now to master the few words you made errors with.

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

1. ____________________________

**MEANINGS**

_____________________________
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**TV—The Octopus**

Is there anyone you know who can remember a time when there was no television? Perhaps a grandparent, but no one much younger is able to do so. At the beginning, only a handful of stations existed. Early programs imitated each other and tended to be ①___________. Some time later, there was the cable TV expansion and greater variety was available. The developing ②___________ was for ever-larger numbers of programs dealing with information as well as entertainment.

The TV industry, never ③___________ when it comes to expanding viewer interests, brought even more channels to the air, broadcasting 24 hours every day of the week. The objective was to ④___________ special groups with programs directed to specific tastes and interests. Soon channels devoted to games, to how to fix or make things, to romance dramas, to cartoons, etc., sprang into existence. It appears that every ⑤___________ of a viewer’s interest is being addressed. As more and more channels come on the air, as the result of new technology, the variety is expanding beyond anything imagined by those who can recall the beginnings of this magical medium.

**Clues**

① 1st Day  
② 1st Day  
③ 4th Day  
④ 3rd Day  
⑤ 2nd Day
RULE, BRITANNIA

An unforgettable saga of World War II has to do with the small French coastal town of Dunkirk. There, in 1940, thousands of British troops made a belated escape from the awesome* power of the German army and air force. They were removed by an array* of private boats, from huge yachts to decrepit fishing boats. At their own volition,* the skippers came close to the shore, while German planes bombed implacably.* They remained imperturbable under heavy fire. When their vessels were loaded, they dashed back to England. Once unloaded, they did not vacillate, but returned with equanimity* to their vigil* in the danger zone. The British proved once again that they are paragons* of comradeship in times of jeopardy.*

NEW WORDS

saga
ˈsä - gə

belated
bi - ˈlātəd

decrepit
di - ˈkre - pit

imperturbable
im - per - ˈtər - bə - bəl

vacillate
ˈva - si - lət

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The _______________ of a lone man confronting* the turbulent* oceans in a small boat is an exploit* we find laudable.*

2. The speaker remained _______________ while his audience shouted caustic* comments about his mendacious* activities.
3. The ingrate refused to accept Cindy’s ________________ gift.
4. When released from incarceration,* he was gaunt* and ________________ .
5. We are all familiar with the cliché* that he who ________________ is lost.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. saga ______ a. to hesitate, fluctuate
7. belated ______ b. long heroic story
8. decrepit ______ c. broken down, worn out
9. imperturbable____ d. late, delayed
10. vacillate _____ e. calm, steady, serene

**Today’s Idiom**

*sacred cow*—person or thing that cannot be criticized (from India, where cows may not be harmed because of religious rules)

I decided to throw down the gauntlet* by exposing the boss’s son, who had been ruling the roost* as the *sacred cow* of the business.
THE GOOD GUYS VS. THE BAD GUYS

The international adventure stories prevalent* on television follow meticulously* a plot that is inexorable* in its development. Those on the side of law and justice face perfidious* men and organizations. These are anathema* to those values the staunch heroes would defend. These infamous* men have no capacity for compassion,* and they treat the lovely women with opprobrium. The intrepid* heroes are placed in deleterious* situations as a result of the Machiavellian maneuvers of their opponents. One unconscionable act of duplicity* follows another until the total destruction of the “good guys” seems at hand. At the last moment, usually amidst the pandemonium of a battle, the cause for which the heroes strive triumphs. However, evil is ubiquitous,* and next week another fracas* will erupt.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The coach heaped ________________ upon the fledgling* ball player.
2. We are ready to rationalize* ________________ activities on the part of our side if they are to the detriment* of our adversary.*
3. It was ________________ to Abraham Lincoln to keep a book he had borrowed without making tenacious* efforts to return it.

4. There was ________________ as the presidential nominee entered the convention site.*

5. She is such a ________________ friend, my reprehensible* actions do not cause a schism* between us.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. staunch _____ a. scorn, insult
7. opprobrium _____ b. strong, trusty, firm
8. Machiavellian_____ c. unreasonable, unjust
9. unconscionable_____ d. governed by opportunity, not principled
10. pandemonium_____ e. disorder, uproar

TODAY’S IDIOM

*through thick and thin*—in spite of all sorts of difficulties

He decided to stick with his fair-weather friends* *through thick and thin.*
A FAMOUS MUTINY

One of the most repugnant* names in popular legend is that of Captain William Bligh. He was the captain of the H.M.S. *Bounty in 1789, and the mutiny that erupted* aboard that ship was the basis for a film in which Charles Laughton portrayed Bligh as an unmitigated* bully and villain. He would *flay both the body and the spirit of anyone who crossed him. The crew developed such an aversion* to Bligh’s mortifying actions and *demeanor that, led by Fletcher Christian, they set the captain and 17 shipmates off in a lifeboat in the South Pacific. The ship continued to the Pitcairn Islands where the crew remained to live with the islanders. Laughton’s *delineation of Bligh remains as the image we have of him. Only recently has any attempt been made to *vindicate Captain Bligh and to remove the *heinous reputation that permeates* history.

**NEW WORDS**

*flay
`flā`

de-manor
di - `mē - nər

delineation
di - li - nē - `ā - shən

*vindicate
`vin - di - kāt

*heinous
`hā - nəs

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The mayor tried to ________________ his actions that had been called capricious* and irrational* by critics.

2. He castigated* his opponents and went to great lengths to ________________ them with
accusations of megalomania.*

3. His _______________ was atypical*; usually phlegmatic,* he was belligerent* and garrulous* during the broadcast.

4. “The most ______________ thing I did,” he said in a stentorian* voice, “was to defend the lie that my party was compatible* with progress.”

5. Then he gave an incisive* ______________ of his fulsome* opponents as an antiquated* group, complacent* about the noisome* conditions in a moribund* city.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. flay ______ a. hatefully evil
7. demeanor _____ b. to absolve, justify
8. delineation____ c. sketch, description in words
9. vindicate _____ d. conduct, bearing
10. heinous _____ e. to strip off skin, scold harshly

TODAY’S IDIOM

*take something or someone by storm—make a fast impression*

The new opera star took the critics by storm and carried the day.*
FAIR PLAY!

Recently, there has been an attempt to improve Captain Bligh’s tainted* image. Historians maintain that there was no turpitude in Bligh’s actions aboard the H.M.S. Bounty. Perhaps he was imprudent* in failing to keep his temper under control. While an infraction aboard ship was quickly criticized, Bligh never carried out those callous actions the movie dramatized in order to depict* an evil man, say his defenders. After the mutiny, Captain Bligh astutely* navigated the lifeboat with the other 17 men for over 3,000 miles to safety. This prodigious* feat alone, say those who would restore Bligh’s good name, should be enough to redress wrongs that have been blamed on him for over 150 years. While the coterie* defending Captain Bligh do not ask the public to praise him, they do request a more benevolent* attitude toward this traditionally* reprehensible* figure, and an end to the vituperation* heaped upon him for these many years.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. We do not condone* or tolerate* an ________________ of even the most trivial kind.
2. It takes a ________________ person to watch with equanimity* as a gullible,* naive* girl falls for the line of a loathsome* boy.

3. How easy it is to heap ________________ upon someone at the nadir* of his career.

4. There seems to be no way to ________________ a grievance against an omnipotent* ruler.

5. From any facet* of his life, the acme* of moral ________________ was reached by Adolf Hitler.

Definitions  Match the new words with their definitions.

6. turpitude _____ a. unfeeling
7. infraction _____ b. vileness, evil wickedness
8. callous _____ c. to right a wrong, remedy
9. redress _____ d. violation
   (v.)
10. vituperation____ e. blame, abuse

TODAY’S IDIOM

*in fine fettle—to be in high spirits, or feeling well*

As an avid* bicyclist, he was *in fine fettle* during the whole of the Indian summer.*
Our British cousins have a vocabulary that differs from ours in many ways. Isn’t it fortunate that we have to be responsible for the American version of this language only?

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. belated
2. callous
3. decrepit
4. delineation
5. demeanor
6. flay
7. heinous
8. imperturbable
9. infraction
10. Machiavellian
11. opprobrium
12. pandemonium
13. redress (v.)
14. saga
15. staunch
16. turpitude
17. unconscionable
18. vacillate
19. vindicate
20. vituperation

**DEFINITIONS**

a. description in words, sketch
b. firm, trusty, strong
c. to fluctuate, hesitate
d. violation
e. abuse, blame
f. serene, steady, calm
g. uproar, disorder
h. hatefully evil
i. to scold harshly, strip off the skin
j. bearing, conduct
k. not principled, governed by opportunity
l. long heroic story
m. delayed, late
n. unfeeling
o. evil, wickedness, vileness
p. worn out, broken down
q. unreasonable, unjust
r. to right a wrong
s. to justify, absolve
t. insult, scorn

**IDIOMS**

21. sacred cow
22. through thick and thin
23. take something or someone by storm
24. in fine fettle

u. to make a fast impression
v. in spite of all sorts of difficulties
w. to be in high spirits, feeling well
x. person who cannot be criticized

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

1. ______________________
Psst . . . Need World Series Tickets?

Think about this for a moment. Is there anything wrong in buying something for one dollar and reselling it for two dollars? Naturally, you would be correct if you saw nothing amiss with this transaction; it’s the way a capitalist economy works. But, if you bought a ticket to a rock concert or baseball game for ten dollars and sold it for twenty, you would be committing an \( \text{__________} \) of the law. You might ask, “What’s so \( \text{__________} \) about this?” The answer is that you might be guilty of the practice known as “scalping.” Does an individual who offers a scarce ticket at a price above the original price deserve the \( \text{__________} \) connected with the word “scalping”?

These hard-working and risk-taking individuals see themselves as go-betweens in a world where people are willing to spend additional money for a popular event. However, in many cities, law enforcement officials remain \( \text{__________} \) in the face of all reason as they arrest and fine these enterprising salesmen. Those \( \text{__________} \) believers in punishing law-breakers find nothing wrong with trying to halt the scalping of tickets. For others, it is a way of doing business that they claim hurts no one and is in keeping with a profit-driven economy.

Clues

\( 1 \) 4th Day
\( 2 \) 3rd Day
\( 3 \) 2nd Day
\( 4 \) 1st Day
\( 5 \) 2nd Day
A POLITICAL SHOW

Most elections offer us examples of politics as show business. Politicians have prepared speeches dealing with the prevalent* topics of the day. They can maintain a fervid* flow of rhetoric for hours at a time. In each locality where he is to appear, the advance work is prepared by a clique of trustworthy aides. In preparation for the show, they have dispersed* leaflets, put up posters, and sent out cars and trucks with loudspeakers to extol the erudite* qualities of their candidate. Soon, the crowd gathers. Loyal party workers come forward to shake the hand of their mentor. Now, with the facile solutions to complex problems carefully memorized, the show is ready to begin. One moment facetious,* the next moment profound,* the candidate works to convince the incredulous* among the voters.

NEW WORDS

rhetoric
(h)re - tə - rik

clique
ˈklik

extol
ik - ˈstôl

mentor (n.)
ˈmen - tər

facile
ˈfa - səl

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. It is not long before a young star has a ________________ around him who sporadically* get their names into the newspapers.

2. At a time that requires tangible* proposals, all he offers is unconscionable*
3. The detective interrogated* the adamant* prisoner in such a ________________ way that he confessed after giving incontrovertible* evidence.

4. Youngsters scoff* when their elders ________________ the halcyon* days of long ago.

5. Amidst the adulation of the throng,* the film star, in all humility,* credited her ________________ as the one most responsible.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. rhetoric _____ a. counselor, coach, tutor
7. clique _____ b. use (sometimes exaggerated) of language
8. extol _____ c. easily accomplished or attained
9. mentor _____ d. to praise highly
    (n.)
10. facile _____ e. small, exclusive group of people

Today's Idiom

/live in a fool’s paradise—to be happy without a real basis/
He lived in a fool’s paradise while he sowed wild oats,* but he soon had to pay the piper.*
**WEEK 40 ♦ DAY 2**

**GETTING A GOOD LOOK**

The television press interview is conducive* to close scrutiny* of a candidate. His public speeches may contain many *cant* phrases, but a sharp question by an astute* reporter can destroy a cliché* filled statement. The politician now will procrastinate* in his answer; a new facet* of his personality may be revealed by his demeanor.* Perhaps he will take *umbrage* at a suggestion that he favors the affluent.* His record is searched for evidence that he has been equally *magnanimous* to the indigent.* He accuses the reporter of attempting to *vilify* him. Is he being accused of turpitude* in office? It is time to discreetly* go on to another topic. The candidate wishes to extol* the virtues of his program and record. The press wants to allude* to things that keep him in the midst of controversy. They insist that he *elucidate* positions that the politician would rather leave in a nebulous* state.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cant</td>
<td>kant</td>
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<td>umbrage</td>
<td>üm - brij</td>
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<tr>
<td>magnanimous</td>
<td>mag - na - ni - məs</td>
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<td>vilify</td>
<td>vi - li - fī</td>
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<tr>
<td>elucidate</td>
<td>i - l(y)ü - si - dāt</td>
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</table>

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. We feel so sanctimonious* when we ________________ the character of a felon.*
2. The diplomat was astute* enough to see through the ________________ of the Machiavellian* ambassador.
3. A somber* examination of those indigent* families, bereft* of hope, sunken in apathy,* should motivate* us to be more ________________ in our attempts to improve their lot.

4. I was flabbergasted* when he took ________________ at my whimsical* remarks.

5. The judge ordered the censor to ________________ his reasons for removing passages from the book in such a capricious* manner.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. cant _____ a. insincere or almost meaningless talk
7. umbrage _____ b. to make clear
8. magnanimous_____ c. resentment, offense
9. vilify _____ d. to malign,* slander
10. elucidate _____ e. generous, noble

**Today's Idiom**

*the sum and substance*—the heart or substantial part

*The sum and substance* of our pyrrhic victory* was that our hopes for a stable future had gone up in smoke.*
SEEING IS LEARNING

While we are all cognizant* of the importance of words to create certain impressions, gesture is relegated* to a much lesser role. Gestures are an important concomitant* to even the most vapid speech, enhancing it and giving the hearer something to look at while he listens. The value of seeing at the same time as listening was shown when a class at a university, unwieldy because of its large size, was split up. One group was put into a room in proximity to good loudspeakers. Every nuance* of the lecturer’s voice could be heard clearly. Because they had no person on whom to place their attention, they soon took on the appearance of extreme lassitude; most students became lethargic* and rested their heads on their desks. The separation of visual and aural communication tended to vitiate the learning process. The listening group received grades lower than those received by those who could look at as well as hear the instructor.

Once more your keen eye and memory were being tested. Did you recognize lassitude as being from an earlier lesson?

NEW WORDS

vapid
ˈva - pid

unwieldy
ˈun - wēl - dē

proximity
ˈprok - ˈsi - mō - tē

lassitude
ˈla - si - t(y)ūd

vitiate
ˈvi - shē - āt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.
1. As the scion* of an affluent* family, he was often in ________________ to opulence.*

2. After playing with his progeny* in the heat of the afternoon, he staggered back to his room where he was overcome with ________________.

3. As a concomitant* to his belligerent* and vituperative* antipathy* toward his government, he became an expatriate,* but he found it a ________________ life.

4. Kyra was so disgruntled* about having to move the ________________ piano, she procrastinated* for days.

5. The irrelevant* evidence seemed to ________________ the prosecutor’s case and precluded* a conviction.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. vapid _____ a. bulky, difficult to handle
7. unwieldy _____ b. to destroy the use or value
8. proximity _____ c. uninteresting, dull
9. lassitude _____ d. nearness
10. vitiate _____ e. weariness, weakness

TODAY’S IDIOM

*on pins and needles*—on edge, jumpy

He was on pins and needles while he cooled his heels* in the principal’s office.
THE HAMMY OLD DAYS

Actors depend upon their ability to gesticulate almost as much as upon speech to obtain their desired histrionic effects. With them, gesture serves much more than merely to augment speech. When their communication is by gesture alone, it is called pantomime. In the early silent motion picture period, gestures were flamboyant. To show that he was distraught about the danger in which the heroine had been placed, the hero would go through the most fatuous actions. He would stagger, beat his breast, tear his hair, and contort his face into the most doleful appearance. There weren’t many simple or restrained gestures in his repertoire. The heroine, to indicate her love, would fling her arms wide and ardently jump into her sweetheart’s arms. It was only much later that it became in vogue for actors to communicate with the audience through discreet gestures and almost imperceptible changes in facial expression that could transmit nuances of emotion.

NEW WORDS

augment
ôg - ment

fatuous
·fa - chū - əs

contort
kən - ətôrt

repertoire
·re - pər - twä

imperceptible
im - pər - əsep - tə - bəl

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The new employee wanted to gain favor with his boss, and his obsequious desires led to the most ________________ behavior.

2. Her virtuosity was demonstrated by the works she performed from her ________________.
3. He had always appeared virile,* so that the ________________ decline toward senility* went unnoticed for a long time.

4. The paroxysm* of coughing served to ________________ her body until she could gain a respite.*

5. The parsimonious* octogenarian* sought to ________________ his wealth by removing it from its cache* and placing it in a bank.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. augment _____ a. extremely slight or gradual
7. fatuous _____ b. to enlarge, increase
8. contort _____ c. foolish, silly, inane*
9. repertoire _____ d. to twist violently
10. imperceptible____ e. works that an artist is prepared to perform

TODAY'S IDIOM

*have at one’s fingertips—to have thorough knowledge, to have ready*

He had at his fingertips an extensive repertoire.*
If there’s one thing a politician must know how to do, it is to use words effectively. He must weigh carefully each and every utterance. He must also select the proper word for the audience he is addressing. You may never run for office, but it would be comforting to know you were ready for it—vocabulary-wise!

### REVIEW WORDS

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. augment</td>
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<td>2. cant</td>
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<td>3. clique</td>
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<td>4. contort</td>
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<td>5. elucidate</td>
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<td>6. extol</td>
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<td>7. facile</td>
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<td>8. fatuous</td>
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<td>9. imperceptible</td>
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<td>10. lassitude</td>
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<td>11. magnanimous</td>
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<td>12. mentor (n.)</td>
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<td>19. vilify</td>
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### DEFINITIONS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. to twist violently</td>
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<td>b. to increase, enlarge</td>
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<td>c. nearness</td>
<td></td>
<td>d. to destroy the use or value</td>
<td></td>
<td>e. to praise highly</td>
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<td>f. use (sometimes exaggerated) of language</td>
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<td></td>
<td>g. to make clear</td>
<td></td>
<td>h. slander, malign*</td>
<td></td>
<td>i. difficult to handle, bulky</td>
<td></td>
<td>j. works that an artist is prepared to perform</td>
<td></td>
<td>k. tutor, counselor, coach</td>
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<td>l. noble, generous</td>
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<td></td>
<td>m. insincere or almost meaningless talk</td>
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<td>n. small, exclusive group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td>o. extremely slight or gradual</td>
<td></td>
<td>p. dull, uninteresting</td>
<td></td>
<td>q. weakness, weariness</td>
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<td>r. inane,* foolish, silly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>s. easily accomplished or attained</td>
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<td>t. offense, resentment</td>
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### IDIOMS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 21. live in a fool’s paradise |   | u. the heart or substantial part |   |   |
|   | 22. the sum and substance |   | v. on edge, jumpy |   |
|   | 23. on pins and needles |   | w. to have ready, to have a thorough knowledge |   |
|   | 24. have at one’s fingertips |   | x. to be happy without a real basis |   |

Get to work learning the words that gave you trouble.
HAPLESS HEADLINES
(From Weeks 36–40)

From the list of vocabulary words below choose the best ones to complete each of the newspaper headlines.

a. Therapy
b. Facile
c. Fatal
d. Decrepit
e. Confront
f. Retort
g. Vehemently
h. Tacit
i. Legerdemain
j. Vapid
k. Phobia
l. Clique
m. Fatuous
n. Repertoire
o. Motivate
p. Capitulate
q. Glib
r. Lassitude
s. Mentor
t. Vertigo

2. Psychologist Claims Success in Treating Flying _________
3. Rebels _________, Throw Down Arms
4. Auto Accident Proves _________ to Family
5. _________ Salesman Arrested in Con Game
6. Witness _________ Denies Allegation
7. Pentagon Asks for Funds to Replace “_________” Aircraft
8. New Company Director Praises Former _________
9. La Bohème Is Mainstay of Opera Star’s _________
Speech ________ Urged After Stroke
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

In Thailand, Mum’s the Word

In this country we take for granted our right to speak out about our elected officials in any way we wish, without fear of arrest or imprisonment. The most disrespectful language is allowed. While some may take ______ at an insult against the president, our Constitution protects that right.

Now, consider the country of Thailand. That land in southeastern Asia is ruled by a king. What happens to an individual who fails to ______ this monarch? There is a case of a person who joked that if he were king he could sleep late every day and drink wine in the afternoon. For this somewhat ______ remark, he was sent to prison for seven years. Or take the story of the woman who was hanging up the king’s photograph. When the police asked her what she was doing, she replied, “I’m nailing it up there on my wall.” She said “it” instead of “the king’s photograph” and for this ______ alleged insult, she also was sent away for seven years.

While some U.S. citizens may ______ our leaders, in Thailand the less said the better.

Clues

1. 2nd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 4th Day
4. 1st Day
5. 2nd Day
WEEK 41 ♦ DAY 1

IT’S A BUYER’S MARKET

Grocery manufacturers are well aware of the consumer’s power to make one product a success and another a failure. They spend huge sums developing new products with which to curry favor. Fearful that a successful product will soon begin to pall, the manufacturers, without cessation,* come out with “new and improved” versions to whet* the appetite. Sometimes it is only a box or package that has been changed—perhaps a colorful photo of a succulent meal on a frozen dinner box. In larger supermarkets, the shopper is faced with a satiety of merchandise, particularly in the copiously* stocked laundry detergent section. While there may be no intrinsic difference among the many brands, advertising and packaging serve to importune* the customer to buy one rather than another.

Did you spot it? The “new word” you’ve seen before? It’s intrinsic.

NEW WORDS

curry (v.)
CURRY ˈkû - rē OR ˈkè - rē

pall (v.)
POLL ˈpôl

succulent (adj.)
SUCCULENT ˈsûk - yə - lənt

satiety
SÂ - ˈtē - ə - tē

intrinsic
INTRINSIC in - ˈtrin - sik

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The connoisseur* of fine foods declared the restaurant the ultimate* in the preparation of _________________ meat dishes.

2. She coveted* the antiquated* locket even though it had only an _________________ value.
3. He discreetly* tried to ______________ favor with his employer.

4. The host exhorted* his guests to eat to ______________.

5. Those conditions were not conducive* to a felicitous* evening as the dance would soon ______________ for the lack of partners.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. curry (v.) ______ a. excess, overly full, surfeit*

7. pall (v.) ______ b. within itself, inherent*

8. succulent______ c. to seek favor by flattery

(adj.)

9. satiety _____ d. juicy

10. intrinsic—— e. to cease to please, become dull

**Today's Idiom**

*a fine kettle of fish—a mess, troubles*

He thought it was an innocent white lie, but it got him into *a fine kettle of fish.*
IT’S WHAT’S OUTSIDE THAT COUNTS

Packaging of grocery items is a facet* of advertising that is too little appreciated by consumers. Walking up and down the aisles of a supermarket, one seldom stops to analyze the individual package in the potpourri of items on the shelves. The manufacturer had to glean* and test many different designs before he accepted the one you see in the array* before you. Before he will sanction the use of a particular can, box, or bottle, he must know many things about its efficacy.* He wants to know if the colors attract: a white box may denote cleanliness, a red one, strength. There may be a photo or a drawing that will allude to the product’s use or special qualities. A lackluster* package may be fatal.* Next, the size and shape are important elements. The buyer may want a small package for easy storing, but a larger package may suggest economy. A round bottle may look attractive, but a square one is easier to stack. These are some of the insidious aspects of packaging, the main purpose of which is to attract your attention as you peruse* the crowded supermarket shelves.

NEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>potpourri</td>
<td>pō - pu - ɾē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sanction (v.)</td>
<td>ə-sankJ - shən</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>denote</td>
<td>di - ɾōt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allude</td>
<td>ə - ɬ(ɬ)yʊd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>insidious</td>
<td>in - ɾi - dē - əs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. I cannot ________________ your lax* attitude towards the imminent* threat of a conflagration.*
2. In some ________________ way the glib* salesman played upon my repressed* desires and sold me a gaudy* sports car.

3. You can be sure the candidate will ________________ to the moribund* state of our economy and offer his panacea.*

4. Fernando thought that a ________________ of today’s musical hits sounded more like cacophony* than harmony.

5. His levity* at such a serious moment ________________ a lack of feeling.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. potpourri _____ a. sly, seductive, treacherous
7. sanction _____ b. to hint, suggest
   (v.)
8. denote _____ c. to endorse, certify
9. allude _____ d. medley, mixture
10. insidious _____ e. to indicate, show, mean

TODAY’S IDIOM

acid test—conclusive situation or task

The new job was an acid test of his ability to bring home the bacon.*
"TRIED AND TRUE"

Few question the propriety of the current haste on the part of manufacturers to bring out “new and improved” products at the prevalent rate. At one time, in the dim, distant past before the advent of television, it was the vogue for products to be advertised on the merits of their “tried and true” qualities. Few advertisers were impious enough to jettison any part of a product that had been accepted by the public. Year after year, the local grocery store owner would proffer the same box of cereal, the same house cleaner. The acceptance was of the time-tested product, and it appeared almost unconscionable for the manufacturer to change his merchandise. Today’s spate of transient products would have been considered an anomaly in those days.

**New Words**

- propriety
  - prə-ˈprē-ə-tē
- advent
  - ˈad-vent
- impious
  - ˈim-ˈpē-əs OR ˈim-ˈpē-əs
- proffer
  - ˈpro-fər
- spate
  - ˈspāt

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. A few years ago there was a ______________ of science-fiction films about awesome* monsters causing pandemonium* on our planet, but after a surfeit* of that genre,* their popularity began to wane.*
2. With the ____________ of text messaging, Roger was busy night and day.

3. We condemn the ____________ of making fun of people with disabilities.

4. I’d like to ____________ my belated* congratulations on your 25 years of married serenity.*

5. At the congressman’s town hall meetings, it was not atypical* to hear ____________ comments about authority.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

6. propriety ______ a. suitability, correctness
7. advent ______ b. to offer for acceptance
8. impious ______ c. arrival of an important event
9. proffer ______ d. lacking respect, irreverent
10. spate ______ e. rush, flood

Today’s Idiom

*a blind alley—a direction that leads nowhere*

The detective’s flawed investigation had led them up a blind alley.
WHAT’S IN A NAME?

Supermarkets often carry their own products to compete with the national brands. These “house” brands are not in a felicitous* position because they cannot be advertised widely. Supermarkets overcome this encumbrance* by making these brands less expensive. Many people believe the shibboleth, “You get what you pay for,” and they purchase items on the premise* that quality varies as the price does. Are the claims made by nationally advertised brands bogus? How can one bread company substantiate its nutritive superiority over another? As there is no incontrovertible* evidence, the more expensive bread (or coffee, etc.) must compensate* by increased advertising. They make inordinate* claims, using those raucous techniques proven so successful in convincing the frugal* consumer to switch to a more costly brand.

NEW WORDS

shibboleth
\(\text{ˌʃi-bə-ˈləθ}\)

bogus
\(\text{ˈbō-gəs}\)

substantiate
\(\text{səb-ˈstən-chət}\)

nutritive
\(\text{n(y)ū-trə-tiv}\)

raucous
\(\text{ˈrō-kəs}\)

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Parents should be vigilant* that their children’s food has the proper ________________ value.
2. There were ________________ complaints about the inordinate* number of fatal* accidents caused by inebriated* drivers.
3. People often try to compensate* for their lack of adventure by repeating the ________________, “I know what I like.”

4. He had the audacity* to try to foist* a ________________ dollar on me.

5. The reporter wanted to elicit* the pertinent* facts from the reticent* witness so he could ________________ the charge of moral turpitude* against the mayor.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. shibboleth_____ a. pet phrase, slogan
7. bogus _____ b. noisy
8. substantiate_____ c. counterfeit, fake
9. nutritive _____ d. having nourishing properties
10. raucous _____ e. to confirm, ratify

**Today’s Idiom**

*Twist around one’s finger*—to control completely

He winked at* the little girl’s bad behavior; she had him twisted around her finger.
You can be sure of a balanced language if you are well acquainted with all the products (words) available in your supermarket (vocabulary).

**REVIEW WORDS**

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<td>advent</td>
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<td>curry (v.)</td>
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<td>impious</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>insidious</td>
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<td>intrinsic</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>nutritive</td>
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<td>pall (v.)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>potpourri</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>proffer</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>propriety</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>raucous</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>sanction (v.)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>satiety</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>shibboleth</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>spate</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>substantiate</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>succulent (adj.)</td>
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**DEFINITIONS**

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<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>to suggest, hint</td>
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<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>surfeit,* excess, fullness</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>arrival of an important event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>having nourishing properties</td>
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<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>slogan, pet phrase</td>
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<td>f</td>
<td>correctness, suitability</td>
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<td>g</td>
<td>juicy</td>
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<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>mixture, medley</td>
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<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>to mean, show, indicate</td>
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<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>to seek favor by flattery</td>
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<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>irreverent, lacking respect</td>
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<td>l</td>
<td>fake, counterfeit</td>
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<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>to ratify, confirm</td>
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<td>n</td>
<td>rush, flood</td>
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<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>to become dull, cease to please</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>treacherous, sly, seductive</td>
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<tr>
<td>q</td>
<td>to certify, endorse</td>
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<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>inherent,* within itself</td>
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<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>to offer for acceptance</td>
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<td>t</td>
<td>noisy</td>
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**IDIOMS**

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>a fine kettle of fish</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>acid test</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>a blind alley</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>twist around one’s finger</td>
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<td>u</td>
<td>conclusive situation or task</td>
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<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>a direction that leads nowhere</td>
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<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>a mess, trouble</td>
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<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>to control completely</td>
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**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

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**MEANINGS**

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</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Age Discrimination**

One of the most ______ forms of discrimination is that based upon age. We have become aware through publicity and education that bias and discrimination based upon race, color, creed, and gender are not to be accepted. Through laws passed by the Congress of the United States and by individual states, we agree that using these criteria for hiring, promoting, or firing in the workplace is a ______ and undemocratic excuse. Many lawsuits have supported this most basic right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” protected by our Constitution.

Why is it, then, that so few question the ______ of preventing those viewed as “too old” from getting positions, or, if already on the job, promotions? Advanced age also leads to the firing of such employees and their replacement with younger applicants. Is there something ______ in youth that suggests that older workers cannot do the job as well? Until age discrimination is eradicated, we must continue to ______ efforts to address this prejudice.

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day
2. 4th Day
3. 3rd Day
4. 1st Day
5. 2nd Day
YOU CAN’T HELP BUT WATCH

The consumer is in a *quandary* about making a felicitous* selection among the array* of products. The advertisers must influence the malleable* consumer, and often they do it in the most *callous* ways. Television offers many tangible* advantages for reaching the consumer. As a result, the consumer is inundated* by commercials. The advertiser knows that a television commercial is the most *expedient* way to reach large numbers of people. The cost for each commercial film is prodigious,* but because the audience is so large, the cost per viewer is *negligible*. Each commercial is prepared in the most meticulous* way in order to catch the attention of even the most *blasé* viewer and hold it until the message is through.

*The reintroduced “new word” should have stood out immediately. Did it? It’s callous, of course.*

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>quandary</td>
<td>′kwan - drē OR ′kwan - də - rē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>callous</td>
<td>′ka - ləs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expedient (adj.)</td>
<td>ik - ′spē - dē - ənt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negligible</td>
<td>′neg - li - jə - bəl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blasé</td>
<td>blä - ′zə</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. It was fortuitous* that the accident occurred when there were _____________ numbers of children in the buses.
2. He was in a ________________ about which selection from his extensive repertoire* it would be feasible* to perform for the children.

3. Because she had committed only a venial* offense, he thought it ________________ to abjure* a severe punishment.

4. Who can be ________________ about the presence of many indigent* families in proximity* to affluence?*

5. People have become so ________________ about the once thrilling, now mundane* flights into space.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. quandary _____ a. indifferent, not responsive to excitement
7. callous _____ b. hardened, unfeeling
8. expedient_____ c. doubt, dilemma
   (adj.)
9. negligible____ d. convenient, opportunistic
10. blasé _____ e. trifling, inconsiderable

**Today’s Idiom**

*do one’s heart good*—to make one feel happy or better

It *did my heart good* to see that inveterate* egotist* eat humble pie.*
Some television commercials, trying to break through the *ennui* built up in the viewer by the plethora* of competition, employ humor. Others feature *comely* models as a pretext* for getting the viewer to stay tuned in. At times raucous* music, accompanied by some *frenetic* activities, is designed to preclude* the viewer’s loss of attention. The advertiser will employ every bit of *artifice* at the filmmaker’s command to make a trenchant* commercial. The *diversity* of appeals made to the viewer is a concomitant* of the many ways people react to commercials. A great deal of time and money has gone into placing the consumer’s psychological makeup under scrutiny.*

**New Words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ennui</td>
<td>ēn - wē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comely</td>
<td>kūm - lē</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frenetic</td>
<td>frə - ne - tik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>artifice</td>
<td>ār - tə - fis</td>
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<tr>
<td>diversity</td>
<td>də - vər - sə - tē</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The omnipotent* dictator employed all of his rhetoric* to vilify* those who would be brash* enough to suggest that a ________________ of opinions should be expressed.

2. The fledgling* pianist knew that his mentor* would take umbrage* at his yawning during the lesson, but the feeling of ________________ was overwhelming.

3. He was reticent* about revealing his clandestine* meetings with a ________________ married
They furtively* employed every kind of ________________ to be able to meet.

They were vigilant* in order that their surreptitious* meetings would not be discovered, and it often required ________________ changes of plans to preclude* exposure.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. ennui _____ a. frantic, frenzied*
7. comely _____ b. boredom
8. frenetic _____ c. beautiful, handsome
9. artifice _____ d. strategy, trickery
10. diversity _____ e. variety

TODAY’S IDIOM

worth one’s weight in gold—extremely valuable, very useful

The coach said the new star center was worth his weight in gold.
GOING TO THE SOURCE

The wide diversity* of reasons people have for buying one product rather than another are investigated by the advertising people in order to prepare efficacious* commercials. They do not have the slightest qualm about questioning the consumer about personal things in her own domicile.* The consumer is requested not to expurgate* her answers. Generally, people are not reticent* and do not begrudge giving the time and effort. The questions delve rather deeply, and what the artless responses divulge* will help the advertiser decide what to put into his next commercial. After a large number of interviews, the copious* results make it feasible* to prognosticate* how well the commercial will do. The interviewer usually offers no gratuity to the person who has helped, but often a sample of the product is proffered* as thanks.

NEW WORDS

qualm
·kwäm
expurgate
·ek - spär - gāt
begrudge
bi - ˈgrūdʒ
artless
·ärt - lis
gratuity
grə - ˈt(y)ū - ə - tē

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. A successful television program can be built around the _____________ comments of very young children.

2. At times, the producer must _____________ some of the things said by these children because they are too candid.*
3. He had a serious ________________ about hunting for the nearly extinct* quarry.*

4. He took umbrage* when I offered a ________________ to augment* his small salary.

5. She did not ________________ paying the pittance* extra for a better coat.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. qualm _____ a. remove objectionable parts or passages
7. expurgate_____ b. to be resentful or reluctant
8. begrudge_____ c. innocent, naive*
9. artless _____ d. tip, gift
10. gratuity _____ e. twinge of conscience

**Today's Idiom**

*make the best of a bad bargain*—to change or go along with a poor situation

After he bought the white elephant,* he *made the best of a bad bargain* and let sleeping dogs lie.*
IT SEEMS TO WORK

Despite the antipathy* toward commercials expressed by the viewers, the remarkable success of television commercials in selling products makes it manifest that the advertiser has gleaned* what the viewer wants to see and hear from his research interview. This has helped the advertiser delve deeply into what motivates* people when they go into the supermarket to purchase products. The advertising agency is never capricious and can vindicate* spending large sums of money on research. Having uncovered what the public wants, the advertiser expedites* putting the requisite words, music, and photographs of the product on film. He will thus replenish the never-ending, ubiquitous* television commercial supply in the hope that the consumer will remember some facet* of the film and buy the product.

NEW WORDS

manifest (adj.)
ˈma - ni - fest

delve
ˈdelv

capricious
ˈka - pri - shəs

requisite
ˈre - kwə - zit

replenish
ˈri - ple - nish

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. If we ______________ below and behind the rhetoric* and invective,* we may discover the profound* reasons for the ferment* in our land.

2. He was reticent* about emulating* those who, after eating almost to satiety,* rushed to
the food on their plates.

3. It was _____________ that an arbiter* would be needed because neither side would capitulate* to a plan foisted* on them by the other side.

4. When the acrimonious* discussion about his ________________ actions had attenuated,* he was able to vindicate* his conduct.

5. One mortifying* ________________ for the position was that he would have to work for one year under the aegis* of a fatuous* egotist.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. manifest _____ a. requirement (adj.)
7. delve _____ b. evident, obvious
8. capricious_____ c. unpredictable, careless
9. requisite _____ d. to fill again, restock
10. replenish_____ e. to dig, do research

TODAY’S IDIOM

make ends meet—to manage on a given income

He turned thumbs down* on a new car; he was having enough trouble making ends meet, as it was.
As you watch your next television commercial try to imagine what questions were asked by the research people as they interviewed the possible consumers. Advertisers have to select their words carefully. You can select words only when you have large numbers at your command.

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. artifice
2. artless
3. begrudge
4. blasé
5. callous
6. capricious
7. comely
8. delve
9. diversity
10. ennui
11. expedient (adj.)
12. expurgate
13. frenetic
14. gratuity
15. manifest (adj.)
16. negligible
17. qualm
18. quandary
19. replenish
20. requisite

**DEFINITIONS**

a. to remove objectionable parts or passages
b. twinge of conscience
c. handsome, beautiful
d. strategy, trickery
e. convenient, opportunistic
f. indifferent, not responsive to excitement
g. unpredictable, careless
h. to do research, dig
 i. to be resentful or reluctant
 j. inconsiderable, trifling
k. boredom
l. obvious, evident
m. to restock, fill again
n. variety
o. dilemma, doubt
p. unfeeling, hardened
q. frenzied,* frantic
r. requirement
s. tip, gift
t. naive, innocent

**IDIOMS**

21. do one’s heart good
22. worth one’s weight in gold
23. make the best of a bad bargain
24. make ends meet

u. extremely valuable, very useful
v. to make one feel happy or better
w. to manage on a given income
x. to change or go along with a poor situation

Learn those words you missed!
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Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

An Historic Date
One event that takes place so rarely that almost no one alive when it happens can remember the previous occurrence is the changing of the century number. The passing of the ①__________ number of years brought about the end of the 20th century and the advent of the 21st. Was there anyone ②__________ enough to reach this historic date without experiencing the excitement of this once-in-a-lifetime moment?

While we may feel that events in our lifetime happen in a ③__________ way, the stroke of midnight on December 31, 2000, ushered in a new century. It served as a time to reflect upon the ④__________ of events in our lives, both positive and negative, that the 20th century encompassed. It was obvious to all that the previous 100 years had altered the world in ways no one could have anticipated at the end of the 19th century. There were many who ⑤__________ into the past and made predictions for the new century. December 31, 2000, was a time for reflection and promise.

Clues
① 4th Day
② 1st Day
③ 4th Day
④ 2nd Day
⑤ 4th Day
IT TAKES MORE THAN MEDICINE

If one were to look at the roster of physical disabilities, one would reach the somber* conclusion that the list is a long one. Included would be stunted development of an arm or leg due to a birth anomaly.* Others would be the result of a crippling disease that has caused muscles to atrophy. The list would go on with illnesses and injuries that maim and debilitate.* Modern medicine has done much to ameliorate the physical problems. However, there are an inordinate* number of issues of disabled persons that have yet to be addressed. Most people are not naturally callous,* but some repress* their concerns about people with disabilities.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. If you heap opprobrium* on an impious* child, it probably will not ________________ the conditions that led to the rebelliousness.
2. The coach knew he would have to add experienced players to the ________________ to compensate* for the spate* of freshmen on the team.
3. There seems to be voluminous* evidence that the mother’s smoking will ________________
the baby’s growth.

4. The prodigy* allowed his musical talent to _______________ as he redirected his career.

5. When it seemed that Reggie would _______________ his opponent, we broke up the fight.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. roster _____ a. checked in natural growth, held back in growth

7. stunted _____ b. to waste away

8. atrophy _____ c. list of names
   (v.)

9. maim _____ d. improve, relieve

10. ameliorate _____ e. to disable, impair, wound

TODAY’S IDIOM

*loose cannon*—uninhibited or unpredictable person

The feisty manager became a *loose cannon* when he disagreed with the umpire’s call.
DOING THE RIGHT THING

The obstacles that frustrate a disabled person seeking employment may turn him into a cynic. Sometimes a prospective employer, with an unctuous manner, may proffer employment that is really beneath the abilities of the jobseeker. The employer appears to be acting in a benevolent manner, but his attitude shows no compassion, for he really expects the person seeking the job to remain subservient. This iniquity cannot but give people with disabilities a feeling that they are being discriminated against.

NEW WORDS

- cynic
  - 'si - nik

- unctuous
  - 'ûŋk - chû - əs

- benevolent
  - bə - 'ne - və - lənt

- subservient
  - sūb - 'sər - vē - ənt

- iniquity
  - i - 'nik - wə - tē

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. We had to wince as we watched the newcomer try to wheedle and ingratiate himself into the teacher’s favor in the most _______________ manner.

2. It is easy to become a _______________ when the same adults who inveigh most vehemently against the uncouth actions that they say permeate our youth drink to satiety and behave fatuously.*

3. We all have moments when we vacillate between selfish and _______________ desires.
4. While his demeanor* remained imperturbable,* there was latent* anger at the ignominious* and ______________ role he had to play.

5. Those who are complacent* about any ______________ in our society should be wary* of the unsavory* consequences for all.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. cynic _____ a. servile,* obsequious*
7. unctuous _____ b. pessimist, skeptic
8. benevolent_____ c. insincere, fawning
9. subservient____ d. kindly, charitable
10. iniquity _____ e. injustice, wickedness

TODAY’S IDIOM

lay one’s cards on the table—from talk frankly

He knew he was out of his depth* so he laid his cards on the table and asked for assistance.
A BETTER WAY

Why is there ever a question about the propriety* of hiring people with disabilities? No one can condone* this attitude. The offering of employment should not be considered a largess. There should be no need to vindicate* the hiring of any person; the only criterion should be what he is capable of doing. If this is the approach, no worker will feel he is an encumbrance* to his boss. The employer, on the other hand, will find it conducive* to good work, and will not repent his having tried something new just to mollify his conscience. Even for the most mercenary employer, there should be no reticence* in eliciting* the best that is possible from any worker, including a person with a disability.

NEW WORDS

largess
lär - ˈjes

criterion
krī - ˈtir - ē - on

repent
ri - ˈpent

mollify
ˈmo - li - fī

mercenary (adj.)
ˈmɛr - sə - nɛ - rē

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He felt it would be ignominious* for him to accept any ______________ from the charlatan* whose Machiavellian* schemes had made him affluent.*

2. Behind the façade* of ostensible* benevolence* there was a ______________ streak.

3. The platitude, “I know what I like,” is often used to rationalize* our lack of a
for things about which we are dubious.*

4. When Mother is in a pique* about some infraction* of a rule, it takes all of our dexterity* to ______________ her.

5. After every election we ______________ , in a belated* criticism, the apathy* and complacency* of so many people who failed to vote.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. largess _____ a. gift, gratuity,* liberality

7. criterion _____ b. model, standard, test

8. repent _____ c. motivated* by desire for gain, greedy

9. mollify _____ d. to pacify, appease

10. mercenary____ e. to regret, desire to make amends

(adj.)

Today's Idiom

*a bolt from the blue—a great surprise*

The windfall* from his distant cousin came like a bolt from the blue.
**JUST BE YOURSELF**

As a result of citizen *activism*, new laws have ensured greater accessibility* and acceptance for people with disabilities. Historically, many held themselves *aloof* from contact with those who were “different.” For some, this social separation propagated* additional feelings of antipathy.* But when able individuals engage with those with disabilities, they learn in a *pragmatic* way that a disability does not make a person any less “human.” As long as there is a *vestige* of stigmatizing* others, the work to transform society is not yet complete. Although still more needs to be accomplished, by rejecting the discredited *guise* of physical superiority, we demonstrate an attitude that is helpful to all.

**NEW WORDS**

- *activism* ək - tı - vi - zəm
- *aloof* ə - lūf
- *pragmatic* prag - ˈma - tik
- *vestige* ˈves - tij
- *guise* ˈgīz

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. After therapy,* there remained hardly a _____________ of his phobia.*
2. Students who attended the conference on climate change learned first-hand how their political _____________ could affect national policy.
3. Although many people say this is a propitious* time to invest in the stock market, there is a
Tenable* argument for remaining ________________.

4. In the ________________ of maintaining national unity under military rule, there was a paucity* of even innocuous* dissent.*

5. “You can’t argue with success,” was his ________________ reply to derogatory* remarks about a movie star who had only superficial* talent as an actor.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. activism _____ a. manner, appearance, mien*
7. aloof _____ b. vigorous campaigning, advocacy*
8. pragmatic_____ c. distant, apart, reserved
9. vestige _____ d. trace, evidence
10. guise _____ e. practical, based on experience

TODAY'S IDIOM

tell tales out of school—to reveal harmful secrets

The fat was in the fire* for the politician when his private secretary started telling tales out of school about his secret sources of income.
There are various kinds of shortcomings. One that we can do something about, and you are now doing it, is the language deficit. Our fullest potential can be realized only when there is no barrier between what we want to say or write and our ability to express ourselves.

### REVIEW WORDS

1. activism
2. aloof
3. ameliorate
4. atrophy (v.)
5. benevolent
6. criterion
7. cynic
8. guise
9. iniquity
10. largess
11. maim
12. mercenary (adj.)
13. mollify
14. pragmatic
15. repent
16. roster
17. stunted
18. subservient
19. unctuous
20. vestige

### DEFINITIONS

a. based on experience, practical
b. mien,* appearance, manner
c. list of names
d. skeptic, pessimist
e. test, model, standard
f. to desire to make amends, regret
g. obsequious,* servile*
h. held back or checked in natural growth
i. advocacy,* rigorous campaigning
j. evidence, trace
k. to waste away
l. charitable, kindly
m. to appease, pacify
n. wickedness, injustice
o. to disable, impair, wound
p. reserved, apart, distant
q. greedy, motivated* by desire for gain
r. liberality, gift, gratuity*
s. insincere, fawning
t. to relieve, improve

### IDIOMS

21. loose cannon
22. lay one’s cards on the table
23. tell tales out of school
24. a bolt from the blue

u. to reveal harmful secrets
v. a great surprise
w. to talk frankly
x. uninhibited or unpredictable person

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. ___________________
2. __________________________

3. __________________________
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Whistle Blowing

There appears to be a question of how much loyalty employees owe to their employers—whether private or governmental. Many companies go out of their way to encourage employees to make suggestions that will improve the way they operate. A __________ employer will not criticize or reprimand an employee who points out problems having to do with the way other employees are harming the business. In fact, it should be in the bosses’ interest that the person who has become known as a “whistle blower” is encouraged to alert them to a problem.

However, many such whistle blowers face harsh punishment for calling attention to illegal or unethical actions. The whistle blower soon becomes an outcast for his __________ in the workplace. Under the __________ of some minor error, or other excuse, the informer might be demoted, transferred, or fired. This __________ often goes unreported. As a result, the employees go back to “business as usual” without any change. They become used to whatever they may see around them and to the belief that they should not make waves. Thus, no attempt to __________ the situation actually takes place.

Clues

① 2nd Day
② 4th Day
③ 4th Day
④ 2nd Day
⑤ 1st Day
HAVE WE MASTERED OUR ENVIRONMENT?

Natural disasters tend to *nullify* the best efforts of mankind. It is as though there are forces at work that are contumacious* of our proud achievements. Who has not read of or seen the waters that *deluge* our towns and cities, jeopardizing* lives and culminating* in the destruction of the results of endless work in the space of a few moments? We are all vulnerable* to feelings of *futility* as we view the *carnage* caused to cattle from the sudden inundation.* Despite the laudable* advances made in technology,* it can be seen that we cannot yet say we have mastered our environment. Disasters of this type, leaving only *pathetic* vestiges* of homes and shops, are accepted as inevitable,* and all we can do is to attempt to ameliorate* the conditions that result.

**NEW WORDS**

nullify

 nullifying

 deluge (v.)

 futility

 carnage

 pathetic

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. In spite of his efforts to cajole* the girl, she remained aloof,* and the ________________ of his efforts made him lugubrious.*

2. My dad is convinced there is something ________________ about a great athlete who continues to compete long after he has been bereft* of his talents.
3. In order to ________________ the height advantage of his adversary,* he abjured* smoking and did an inordinate amount of exercise until he was the acme* of litheness* and dexterity.*

4. We found it impossible to mollify* the irate* owner of three prize cats as he viewed the ________________ caused by our large dog.

5. The office was ________________ with requests for his autograph as the girls became cognizant* of his identity.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. nullify ____ a. slaughter, devastation
7. deluge ____ b. to flood
   (v.)
8. futility ____ c. to abolish, cancel
9. carnage ____ d. pitiful, woeful, sad
10. pathetic ____ e. uselessness

TODAY'S IDIOM

build on sand—to have a poor base, or insufficient preparation

Because they were amateurs and without money, the political campaign was built on sand and the candidate was a flash in the pan.*
GOOD NEWS—AND BAD

One of the latent* dangers indigenous* to our constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press has to do with the protection of the individual against the detriment* that might come from news reports involving him. There are libel laws that protect against false charges. If an individual believes his character or livelihood has been damaged by a defamatory article, he can sue. As the plaintiff, he must refute* the story and show how the defendant caused him harm by printing a canard. The defendant attempts to substantiate* the truth of the article. The printing of news may besmirch* an individual’s character, but there is no way to alleviate* this problem without changes in the Constitution. This would be tantamount* to destroying the efficacy* of our coveted* right to learn the truth from the press. We all deprecate a situation in which someone suffers because of exposure in the newspapers. Only when the harm is caused by someone with a desire to malign* under the guise* of printing the news can the individual expect to win compensation* through the courts.

NEW WORDS

libel (n.)
ˈlī - bəl

defamatory
di - ˈfa - mə - tō - rē

plaintiff
ˈplān - tēf

canard
kə - ˈnär - də

deprecate
ˈdē - prə - kāt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The mayor vehemently* denied there was any antipathy* between the governor and himself and blamed this ________________ on their political opponents.
2. I resent your ________________ remark that depicts* me as a culprit.*

3. The egregious* calumny* of the defendant worked to the advantage of the ________________ .

4. Publishers of newspapers and magazines augment* their staff with lawyers to represent them when they are sued for ________________ .

5. The cynic* will ________________ the motives of anyone who tries to ameliorate* the iniquities* in our society.

Definitions  Study these carefully for the fine differences in meaning.

6. libel (n.) ——  a. to express disapproval

7. defamatory____  b. complaining party (in law)

8. plaintiff ____  c. degradation by writing or publishing

9. canard _____  d. damaging character by false reports

10. deprecate______  e. made-up sensational story

TODAY'S IDIOM

sixth sense—keen intuition, an understanding that goes beyond the five senses

Her sixth sense told her that her days at the company were numbered.
A PHILOSOPHER FOR OUR TIME

Soren Kierkegaard was a Danish philosopher who is reputed to be the forerunner of the current vogue of existentialism. In appearance he was a frail and ungainly man. An extremely erudite thinker and writer, he was a potent force in propagating the new approach to life. His philosophy would excoriate those who believed that man could stand aside from life. In his philosophy it is a heresy to take a detached point of view; it is incumbent upon the individual to get involved. What is germane is not that we exist, but that our existence is determined by our acts. He was a religiously devout man who fervidly believed that the individual is always paramount.*

NEW WORDS

reputed
ri-‘p(y)ʊ-təd

frail
‘frāl

potent
‘po-tənt

excoriate
ek-‘skô-rē-ət

devout
di-‘vōut

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Even though she was piqued at his indolent manner, it was pathetic to listen to her _____________ him in public.

2. His awesome mental dexterity compensated for his ________________ physical condition.

3. When Ben’s muscles began to atrophy, the doctor initiated therapy with a ________________ new drug.
4. The drug is _______________ to have a salubrious* effect on nascent* conditions of this type.

5. Although he was a _______________ adherent* of the political party, he remained aloof* during the vitriolic* primary campaign.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. reputed _____ a. thought, supposed, believed
7. frail _____ b. religious, sincere
8. potent _____ c. delicate, weak
9. excoriate _____ d. to criticize severely
10. devout _____ e. powerful, strong, intense

TODAY'S IDIOM

*toe the mark*—to obey or stick to a rule or policy

He was inclined to rebel against authority, but his parents made him *toe the mark.*
THE ISLAND OF WILD DOGS

The saga* of the introduction of that diminutive songbird, the canary, into the homes of the world as tame pets is an interesting one. In the sixteenth century, a trading ship going to Italy stopped at an island named “Canis,” from the Latin word for wild dog, which could be found there in profuse numbers, off the coast of Africa. The dulcet song of the wild birds whetted* the interest of the captain. In impromptu cages, hundreds were taken aboard to be traded. The sailors called these gray-green birds, spotted with yellow, “canaries.” As they approached the island of Elba, near Italy, a malevolent storm put the boat in jeopardy* of sinking. A member of the crew released the birds, and the intrepid* canaries instinctively flew towards land. The peasants on Elba took the wild canaries in as pets. Eventually, the birds found their way into homes throughout Europe where they were domesticated and bred for variety of song and shades of colors. The canaries prevalent* today differ greatly from the ones discovered over four hundred years ago.

NEW WORDS

diminutive

di - min - yə - tiv

profuse

prô - ˈfyūs

dulcet

ˈdûl - sət

impromptu

im - ˈprɒmp - tə

malevolent

mə - ˈle - və - ˈlənt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. As the music reached a frenetic* tempo, the audience lost all decorum* and broke into _______________ dancing.
2. He had no qualms* about opposing the clique,* which insidiously* exerted a _______________ influence on the president.

3. The connoisseur* was able to glean* a worthwhile painting from the _______________ variety of poor ones at the exhibit.

4. Europeans drive _______________ cars because their narrow roads and high prices for gasoline are not conducive* to or compatible* with our large ones.

5. The blasé* devotee of the opera was awakened from his ennui* by the _______________ tones of the new soprano.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. diminutive_____ a. ill-disposed, ill-intentioned
7. profuse _____ b. tiny, small
8. dulcet _____ c. spur of the moment, offhand
9. impromptu_____ d. sweet or melodious to the ear
10. malevolent_____ e. overflowing, abundant

Today’s Idiom

to be under a cloud—to be in temporary disgrace or trouble

Until they discovered the real thief, he was under a cloud.
The history, or derivation, of words is called “etymology.” This is a fascinating study and it gives insight to the background of words such as “canary,” and thousands of others. Knowing the history of a word helps you remember it.

**REVIEW WORDS**

1. canard
2. carnage
3. defamatory
4. deluge (v.)
5. depurate
6. devout
7. diminutive
8. dulcet
9. excoriating
10. frail
11. futility
12. impromptu
13. libel (n.)
14. malevolent
15. nullify
16. pathetic
17. plaintiff
18. potent
19. profuse
20. reputed

**DEFINITIONS**

a. to flood
b. to express disapproval
c. intense, strong, powerful
d. sincere, religious
e. sweet or melodious to the ear
f. abundant, overflowing
g. slaughter, devastation
h. uselessness
i. to criticize severely
j. damaging character by false reports
k. made-up sensational story
l. small, tiny
m. to cancel, abolish
n. ill-disposed, ill-intentioned
o. weak, delicate
p. complaining party (in law)
q. sad, pitiful, woeful
r. believed, thought, supposed
s. offhand, spur of the moment
t. degradation by writing or publishing

**IDIOMS**

21. build on sand
22. sixth sense
23. toe the mark
24. to be under a cloud

u. to be in temporary disgrace or trouble
v. to obey or stick to a rule or policy
w. keen intuition
x. to have a poor base, or insufficient preparation

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

1. __________________________

**MEANINGS**

____________________________
Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The station’s switchboard was *(deluged, deprecated)* by phone calls when the popular soap opera was cancelled.
2. The *(diminutive, frail)* ballplayer proved that size doesn’t matter in some sports.
3. Peter was surprised when his normally nervous boss seemed so *(blasé, devout)* about the bad financial news.
4. Our mouths began to water when the *(dulcet, succulent)* dish was set upon the table.
5. Coming from a small city in Costa Rica, Ligia was not used to the *(potent, frenetic)* pace of life in Boston.
6. With *(bogus, insidious)* I.D.s, the underage students attempted to order alcoholic drinks.
7. When the time came for Lisa to select a subject to major in, she found herself in a *(quandary, potpourri)*.
8. The *(malevolent, benevolent)* dictator was generally beloved by his people even though he limited their freedoms.
9. Only a *(negligible, manifest)* amount of gas escaped from the laboratory during the experiment.
10. The president of the School Board intended to *(excoriate, nullify)* the teachers on strike at the opening meeting.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Reprieve for Wolves

One of the most difficult problems to resolve has to do with the conflicting interests of environmentalists and profit-making businesses. Examples of this dilemma appear frequently. While a dispute about cutting down a forest to preserve owls was in the news, there appeared another conflict in Alaska. Hoping to increase the number of tourists who seek to hunt deer and caribou, the State of Alaska ordered the killing of some of the _________ number of wolves that prey on those animals.

This resulted in a _________ of letters and articles condemning the _________ that would result from the anti-wolf policy. So, once again, the environmentalists, who maintain that the natural balance should not be interfered with, ran up against the Alaskan tourist industry, which wants to attract hunters who will increase the state’s revenue. After much publicity about the wolf hunt and articles that tended to _________ this policy, Alaska decided to _________ the proposed action.

Clues

1. 4th Day
2. 1st Day
3. 1st Day
4. 3rd Day
5. 1st Day
IN DAYS OF YORE

Current novels are replete* with lurid* crimes, carnage,* and death. Do you get *wistful* when you recall the romantic tales that begin with an innocent maiden travelling through the rustic* countryside? She is dressed in glittering *raiment.* The scene is idyllic.* Without warning, the group is set upon by a virile* *brigand,* who, in the most perfunctory* and callous* fashion, carries her off. Pandemonium* results! Her entourage* is in a state of bedlam.* Her *corpulent* escort is irate,* but unable to do anything to thwart* this debacle.* All he can do is *rail* against the catastrophe.* What to do? What to do?

NEW WORDS

wistful
ˈwist - fəl

raiment
ˈrā - mənt

brigand
ˈbri - gənd

corpulent
ˈkôr - pyə - lənt

rail (v.)
ˈrāl

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The potpourri* of au courant* fashionable __________________ includes the fatuous* and the discreet.*

2. While all disgruntled* men may __________________ against malevolent* or Machiavellian* leaders, democracy offers a way to ameliorate* iniquities* through the ballot.

3. Is there any veracity in the platitude* that __________________ men are jocose?*
4. To be candid,* there is little to be ________________ about in the “good old days.”

5. They captured the ________________, and he was incarcerated* for a mandatory* period.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. wistful _____ a. dress, clothing
7. raiment _____ b. to scold, use abusive language
8. brigand _____ c. longing, pensive,* wishful
9. corpulent_____ d. robber, bandit
10. rail (v.) _____ e. fleshy, burly,* fat

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*flog a dead horse*—to continue to make an issue of something that is over

He thought he could keep the pot boiling* about his opponent’s winking at* crime, but he was *flogging a dead horse.*
WOE IS ME!

The *raconteur* of our story about idyllic* times gone by goes on to elucidate* how the comely* heroine is taken to the bandits’ hideout. There, a *sullen* crew of cutthroats is gathered. They don’t wish to procrastinate*; she must be taken immediately to a foreign land where much treasure will be paid for her. Their cupidity* knows no bounds. The leader wants to hold her for ransom from her wealthy parents. The gang demurs*; they are reticent.* There is a *rift* among the criminals. Their leader remains belligerent,* and they agree to wait for just two days for the ransom money. An *emissary* from the grief-stricken parents is expected at any moment. The wan* maiden, her spirits at their nadir,* has time to *ruminate* about her lugubrious* fate.

**NEW WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>raconteur</td>
<td><em>ra-kon-ˈtər</em></td>
<td>storyteller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sullen</td>
<td><em>ˈsələn</em></td>
<td>somber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rift</td>
<td><em>ˈrift</em></td>
<td>breach, division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>emissary</td>
<td><em>ˈe-mi-se-rē</em></td>
<td>messenger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ruminate</td>
<td><em>ˈrū-mi-nāt</em></td>
<td>dwell on repeatedly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. He alluded* to the ________________ caused in the school by the plethora* of trouble-makers who ignored all rules and regulations.

2. Well known as a ________________, he was never chagrined* when asked to tell a story from his large repertoire.*
3. Despite all attempts to mollify* her, she remained _______________ about the levity* caused by her slovenly* raiment.*

4. The obscure* country, an aspirant* for membership in the United Nations, sent a(n) _______________.

5. An anomaly* of our modern technology* is that the more we need to know, the less time we have to _______________.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. raconteur _____ a. ill-humored, grim
7. sullen _____ b. ponder, reflect upon
8. rift _____ c. skilled storyteller
9. emissary _____ d. split, opening
10. ruminate _____ e. envoy, representative

**Today's Idiom**

*the die is cast*—an unchangeable decision has been made

The fat was in the fire* and *the die was cast* when he decided to lie about how he had found the money.
TO THE RESCUE

Back at the castle, the situation is *taut* with emotion. The fair maiden’s mother is *livid* with fear and anxiety; she has attacks of vertigo.* She talks about her daughter’s audacity* in riding out into the ominous* forests despite many similar kidnappings. The girl’s father, a *martinet* who rules his family with an iron hand, staunchly* refuses to pay the ransom. Iniquity* shall not be rewarded! At this moment of crisis, a heroic knight volunteers to rescue our heroine; he has had a secret *yen* for the young beauty. Avoiding rhetoric,* he pledges his all to castigate* those responsible for this ignominious* deed. He holds his life as a mere *bagatelle* against the duty he owes his beloved mistress. At the propitious* moment, he rides off to do or die for her.

NEW WORDS

- taut
  - tōt
- vivid
  - lī - vid
- martinet
  - mär - tə - net
- yen
  - yen
- bagatelle
  - ba - gə - tel

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The rabid* baseball fan lost his equanimity* and was ________________ when the star pitcher became pugnacious* and was removed from the game.

2. There was a ________________ international situation caused by the proximity* of unidentified submarines to our coasts.
3. When one enlists in the army, one expects to be under the aegis* of a _______________ .

4. His ________________ for imbibing* and romping* with women worked to his detriment.*

5. The little boy tried to wheedle* a larger allowance from his father by the caustic* observation that it was a mere ________________ when compared to the allowances of his friends.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. taut _____ a. strict disciplinarian
7. livid _____ b. tense, keyed up, on edge
8. martinet _____ c. pale (usually with anger)
9. yen _____ d. thing of little importance
10. bagatelle _____ e. strong desire or longing

TODAY'S IDIOM

smell a rat— to suspect that something is amiss

When the man on the phone told her that if she shared her personal information she would win a new car, the woman smelled a rat.
WELL DONE, SIR KNIGHT!

Seeking his adversaries,* the knight rides to their hideout. Despite his callow appearance, he is reputed* to disdain* danger and to be a prodigious* horseman. The kidnappers lose their equanimity* at his approach. They are appalled at the prospect, and they are in a quandary* as to which one will meet him on the field of combat. The leader, under duress,* rides out. “Do you have a penchant to die?” derides* the knight. More vituperative* remarks follow. They spur their horses toward each other. It takes but one blow for our hero to decapitate the villain. The others flee to avoid their imminent* destruction. The knight takes the maiden on his horse, and they ride back to the castle. Their wedding soon follows. Little do the two realize that they have strongly divergent opinions on politics and morality, and they will spend their days trading caustic* remarks. Still the cliché,* “And they lived happily ever after,” must conclude our fabricated* tale.

NEW WORDS

callow
ˈka - lō

appalled
ə - ˈpôld

penchant
ˈpen - shənt

decapitate
dı - ˈka - pi - tät

divergent
dᵰ - ˈvər - jənt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. We do not ________________ criminals because of our aversion* to such repugnant* punishments.

2. I do not wish to deprecate* your ________________ for cowboy music, but I find it banal.*
3. The political party went out of its way to ensure that ________________ opinions would be represented in its platform statement.

4. Each long holiday weekend we are ________________ at the carnage* on our highways.

5. It was deplorable* the way the capricious* girl led the ________________ youth on a merry chase.

Definition Match the new words with their definitions.

6. callow _____ a. youthful, inexperienced
7. appalled _____ b. to behead
8. penchant _____ c. a strong leaning in favor
9. decapitate____ d. deviating, veering from a common point
10. divergent____ e. dismayed, shocked

TODAY'S IDIOM

coup de grâce (kū - də - ˈgrā)—finishing stroke

When my girlfriend left me, it was a bitter pill to swallow,* but the coup de grâce was that she kept my engagement ring.
Language grows and changes. In “days of yore” there were not nearly as many words in our language as we have today. Within the next 50 years hundreds of new words will be added. Educated and alert individuals make new words part of their vocabulary as quickly as they come into accepted use.

**REVIEW WORDS**

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. appalled</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. bagatelle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. brigand</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. callow</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5. corpulent</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6. decapitate</td>
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<td>7. divergent</td>
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<td>8. emissary</td>
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<td>9. livid</td>
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<td>10. martinet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11. penchant</td>
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<td>12. raconteur</td>
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<td>13. rail (v.)</td>
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<td>14. raiment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15. riff</td>
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<td>16. ruminate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17. sullen</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>18. taut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19. wistful</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>20. yen</td>
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**DEFINITIONS**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>to behead</td>
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<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>shocked, dismayed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>pale (usually from anger)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>thing of little importance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>bandit, robber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>representative, envoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>grim, ill-humored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h.</td>
<td>clothing, dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>on edge, keyed up, tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j.</td>
<td>strict disciplinarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>k.</td>
<td>wishful, pensive,* longing</td>
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<tr>
<td>l.</td>
<td>strong leaning in favor</td>
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<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>opening, split</td>
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<tr>
<td>n.</td>
<td>skilled storyteller</td>
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<tr>
<td>o.</td>
<td>inexperienced, youthful</td>
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<tr>
<td>p.</td>
<td>fleshy, burly,* fat</td>
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<tr>
<td>q.</td>
<td>to reflect upon, ponder</td>
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<tr>
<td>r.</td>
<td>veering from a common point</td>
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<tr>
<td>s.</td>
<td>to use abusive language, scold</td>
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<tr>
<td>t.</td>
<td>strong desire or longing</td>
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**IDIOMS**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>u.</td>
<td>finishing stroke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td>an unchangeable decision has been made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w.</td>
<td>to continue to make an issue of something that is over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x.</td>
<td>to suspect that something is amiss</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>flog a dead horse</td>
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<td></td>
<td>the die is cast</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>smell a rat</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>coup de grâce</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Henry VIII and British History**

Students in the United States should consider themselves lucky when it comes to studying the country’s history. The United States has been a nation for almost 250 years. We would be ① _________ if we had to learn as much history as students in Great Britain, for their history goes back some 1,000 years! In that time England has had many interesting and unusual rulers. One who has fascinated us is Henry VIII. Ruling some 500 years ago, he became well known because of his many marriages and his ② _________ for doing away with some wives who displeased him.

In physical appearance he was large and ③ _________ . When his first wife could not bear him a son who would be heir to the throne, he divorced her. This caused a break with the Pope who refused to recognize the divorce. Henry VIII sent an ④ _________ to the Pope and renounced Catholicism. He then married Anne Boleyn but decided to ⑤ _________ her after quickly tiring of her. His third wife died in childbirth, and he divorced his fourth. His fifth, Katherine Howard, was also beheaded. Only his sixth wife was able to live on after Henry’s death in 1547. From this brief history of only one English ruler, it is easy to imagine how much an English history student must learn in order to prepare for an exam. In Henry VIII’s case, one would have to get a “head start.”

**Clues**

① 4th Day  
② 4th Day  
③ 1st Day  
④ 2nd Day  
⑤ 4th Day
A MIGHTY EMPIRE

One of the anomalies* of our approach to history is the propensity* to study the venerable* empires of Europe, but we do not feel it incumbent* upon us to ascertain much about the civilizations in our own hemisphere. Americans often deprecate* the history of this part of the world as though progress lay dormant and that other peoples were irrelevant* until the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock. In South America, from 2000 B.C. until their empire reached its acme* at the beginning of the 16th century, lived the Incas. The site* of the capital city of the Inca empire, Cusco, lay at a height of 11,000 feet. This civilization is reputed* to have burgeoned until it covered more than 2,500 miles of the western part of the continent. Its population fluctuated* between 4 and 7 million. This empire had a highly efficacious* political and social system. Its potentate ruled with absolute power. As the empire conquered new lands, it would disseminate its language, religion, and social customs.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. While some moribund* economies atrophied* after World War II, others ____________________ under the salubrious* effects of loans from the U.S.
2. In order to ________________ the relationship between his girlfriend and his brother, he kept a wary* and discreet* vigil.*

3. Donald was quick to ________________ calumny,* but reticent* about things that may be construed* as compliments.

4. He was appalled* at the apathy* concerning the important issue that had remained ________________ for so long a time.

5. The callous* ________________ kept an imperturbable* mien* when requested to alleviate* the unconscionable* conditions existing in his land.

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. ascertain _____ a. to spread, scatter
7. dormant _____ b. to discover, find out about
8. burgeoned_____ c. resting, asleep
9. potentate _____ d. flourished, grew
10. disseminate_____ e. ruler, monarch

Today's Idiom

*straight from the shoulder*—in a direct, open way

I took the wind out of his sails* by telling him *straight from the shoulder* that I was not going to wink at* his apple polishing.*
A BATTLE FOR POWER

The Inca emperor derived his prodigious* power and authority from the gods. The paramount* god was the sun god. It was from him the ruler passed on his prerogative to rule to his most astute* son. This nepotism had worked with great efficacy* for centuries. The land holdings were immense*; there were rich farmlands and llamas and alpacas for wool. Precious metals were plentiful: silver, copper, bronze, and the most sacred of all, gold. This metal resembled the sun god whom they extolled.* There was no dearth of idols and ornaments hammered from this gleaming metal. There was always more gold coming from the mines to replenish* the supply. At the acme* of his power, the Inca ruler died without naming the requisite* successor. In 1528, two sons began an internecine struggle for control. For the next four years, the empire sank into the lassitude* caused by civil war.

NEW WORDS

derived
di - rīvd

prerogative
pri - ˈroʊ - ɡə - tiv

nepotism
ˈne - pə - ti - zəm

dearth
ˈdɛrθ

internecine
in - tər - ˈne - sən OR
in - tər - ˈnə - sən

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The emissary* from the president tried to allay* the fears that a deleterious* __________________ feud was inevitable within the party.

2. A pragmatic* philosopher __________________ the theory that we have noses in order to hold up
Your efforts to ingratiate* yourself into your boss’s favor are nullified* by the unmitigated* _______________ manifest* in this firm.

He gave his adversary* the dubious* _______________ of choosing the weapon by which he was to meet his inevitable* end.

In the potpourri* of restaurants there is no _______________ of succulent* dishes.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. derived _____ a. scarcity, lack
7. prerogative____ b. involving conflict within a group, mutually destructive
8. nepotism _____ c. exclusive right or power
9. dearth _____ d. descended from, received from a source
10. internecine____ e. favoritism toward relatives

**Today's Idiom**

*Rub someone the wrong way*—to do something that irritates or annoys

The quickest way to *rub someone the wrong way* is to give him the cold shoulder.*
A PERFIDIOUS* CONQUEROR
The feuding between the rival sons reached its pinnacle* in 1532; at that moment Francisco Pizarro came onto the scene. A native of Spain, he was sojourning* in Panama when he heard of the riches of the Incas. Overwhelmed with cupidity,* but still a tyro when it came to wresting* power and wealth from hapless* people, he joined with an inveterate* adventurer. They gathered a small band of mercenaries.* The first two attempts failed, and Pizarro returned to Spain to request authority and money in order to conquer the West Coast of South America. Whether by sophistry or cajolery,* he was given the requisite* aid. With a force of 180 men, the dregs* of society, he invaded Inca territory. He reached the city where the current ruler, Atahualpa, was holding court. The Incas welcomed Pizarro who, in a factitious display of friendship, heaped encomiums upon Atahualpa. Unknown to the Incas, Pizarro had brought guns that were still beyond the technology* of these people. The obloquy of his next act, ambushing the Incas and taking Atahualpa prisoner, will live in the history books that are replete* with tales of conquest.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Although he was erudite* about a copious* number of things, he was a naive,* callow*
1. When it came to relating to girls.

2. John Wilkes Booth’s egregious* act remains an infamous* ________________.

3. Her ________________ made use of every glib* artifice.*

4. In the office he played the ________________ role of a martinet,* while at home he was filled with compassion.*

5. The modest prodigy* treated the fervid* ________________ that followed his performance as though they were a mere bagatelle.*

Definitions Match the new words with their definitions.

6. tyro _____ a. high praise
7. sophistry _____ b. beginner, novice
8. factitious _____ c. false reasoning or argument
9. encomium____ d. sham, artificial
10. obloquy _____ e. disgrace, shame, dishonor

TODAY’S IDIOM

icing on the cake—unexpected additional benefit

Discovering that her new apartment would also accept pets was the icing on the cake for Ellyn.
THE END OF AN EMPIRE

The Machiavellian* Pizarro held the captured Atahualpa for ransom. He was adamant* about receiving a room filled with gold to the height of a man’s shoulder. This was taken as hyperbole at first, but Pizarro knew the gullible* Incas would be munificent when it came to rescuing their sacred ruler. They did not procrastinate,* and a frenetic* collection of gold took place. Pizarro, to whom prevarication was natural in dealing with the Incas, had no qualms* about executing their ruler as soon as he had the gold. The Inca empire was moribund,* but the charisma that surrounded Atahualpa was such that, after his death, the Incas fought on tenaciously* in his name for several years. Eventually, superior weapons quelled* all opposition. A policy of genocide was adopted by the Spanish conquerors, and almost two million of the proud Incas died in the carnage* that followed. The saga* of an ancient civilization thus came to an end.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Even those who were not fans of the movie star candidly* admit the __________________ that surrounded him.
2. The United Nations has outlawed ________________ as the ultimate* crime, which must be eradicated.*

3. Her constant ________________ made her an annoyance to her friends.

4. The rhetoric* soared into flagrant* ________________ .

5. He was surprised by the ________________ gratuity* given by the usually parsimonious* woman.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their definitions.

6. hyperbole _____ a. quality of leadership inspiring enthusiasm
7. munificent _____ b. planned destruction of an entire people
8. prevarication____ c. deviation from the truth, lie
9. charisma _____ d. generous
10. genocide _____ e. exaggerated figure of speech

**TODAY’S IDIOM**

*throw cold water—to discourage a plan or idea*

I was going to pull up stakes* and move out lock, stock, and barrel,* but my wife *threw cold water on the whole thing.*
This is your last week. At this point you have worked with over 1100 of the most useful words and idioms in our language. The final review test will give you some idea of how well you have mastered them. From time to time you should re-read sections of this book to refresh your memory. Remember, keep learning new words at every opportunity!

### REVIEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORDS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ascertain</td>
<td>a. lack, scarcity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. burgeoned</td>
<td>b. favoritism towards relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. charisma</td>
<td>c. novice, beginner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. dearth</td>
<td>d. artificial, sham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. derived</td>
<td>e. lie, deviation from the truth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. disseminate</td>
<td>f. ruler, monarch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. dormant</td>
<td>g. to scatter, spread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. encomium</td>
<td>h. exclusive power or right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. factitious</td>
<td>i. dishonor, disgrace, shame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. genocide</td>
<td>j. high praise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. hyperbole</td>
<td>k. quality of leadership inspiring enthusiasm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. internecine</td>
<td>l. asleep, resting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. munificent</td>
<td>m. grew, flourished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. nepotism</td>
<td>n. planned destruction of an entire people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. obloquy</td>
<td>o. false reasoning or argument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. potentate</td>
<td>p. mutually destructive, involving conflict in a group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. prerogative</td>
<td>q. received from a source, descended from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. prevarication</td>
<td>r. generous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. sophistry</td>
<td>s. exaggerated figure of speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. tyro</td>
<td>t. to find out about, discover</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IDIOMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDIOMS</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21. straight from the shoulder</td>
<td>u. in a direct, open way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. rub someone the wrong way</td>
<td>v. to discourage a plan or idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. icing on the cake</td>
<td>w. unexpected additional benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. throw cold water</td>
<td>x. to do something to irritate or annoy</td>
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### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

<table>
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<th>WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY</th>
<th>MEANINGS</th>
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</table>
WHICH WORD COMES TO MIND?
(From Weeks 45–46)

Write the letter of the vocabulary word in the space adjacent to the sentence or phrase that brings it to mind.

a. appalled
b. brigand
c. yen
d. tyro
e. corpulent
f. prerogative
g. genocide
h. nepotism
i. potentate
j. dearth
k. livid
l. decapitate
m. prevarication
n. raconteur
o. taut
p. internecine

____  1. “Hiring your nephew, eh?”
____  2. “All hail the sultan!”
____  3. “I just looked in the mirror; tomorrow we start our diet.”
____  4. The descent of the guillotine
____  5. “I have a strong desire to own Japanese currency.”
____  7. Now showing: The Pirates of Penzance
____  8. Best storyteller in town
____  9. The Civil War
____ 10. “He claims to have the right to change his mind.”
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

*Words, Words, Words*

You have been strengthening and building a basic vocabulary as you have progressed through this book. The tests, quizzes, and exercises have helped you ①__________ how far you have advanced. We hope you have come to the end of *1100 Words You Need to Know* with a command of vocabulary that has ②__________ from week to week. Your interest and attention have paid off in many ways. You have ③__________ pleasure and knowledge from reading passages on varied topics. You are better equipped to read, study, converse, and write with confidence.

The objectives that started you working on building your vocabulary should not now become ④__________ . A permanent desire to master new words should be an added value obtained from this book. We hope that any ⑤__________ you receive for your command of English vocabulary will spur you on to more and greater mastery of words you need to know.

**Clues**

1. 1st Day
2. 1st Day
3. 2nd Day
4. 1st Day
5. 3rd Day
Locate the word being defined from the review words of the week indicated. Then find the embedded word that fits the definition (e.g., the answer to the first example is *automaton*, which contains the “buried” word *tomato*).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW WORD</th>
<th>BURIED WORD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st Week:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>machine that behaves like a person</td>
<td>a common vegetable</td>
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<tr>
<td>unending</td>
<td>a fixed limit, definite period of time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>to use lively gestures</td>
<td>a twitching of face muscles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basic, elementary</td>
<td>10 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>expression of sympathy</td>
<td>a small portion, gratuity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lacking brightness</td>
<td>a strong passion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4th Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>able to be touched</td>
<td>a sharp taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>publish</td>
<td>a school dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5th Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exemption</td>
<td>a joke, play on words</td>
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<tr>
<td>shortage</td>
<td>a large community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6th Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>contrary</td>
<td>a part of a poem or song</td>
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<tr>
<td>dread, dismay</td>
<td>rear end of a boat</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7th Week:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>to end</td>
<td>school semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relentless, unappeasable</td>
<td>a heavy rope or chain</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8th Week:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>forerunner</td>
<td>spree</td>
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<tr>
<td>distant</td>
<td>give expression to feelings</td>
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<td><strong>9th Week:</strong></td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Word</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>harmful followers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>anger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>read carefully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>outstanding, prominent</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>to pass by</td>
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<td></td>
<td>confirm</td>
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<td>13th</td>
<td>bitter criticism</td>
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<td>perfection</td>
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<td>13th</td>
<td>undeniable</td>
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<td>in an early stage</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>soft job</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to strive for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>debatable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>an associate in crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>exact opposite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>perfect, complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>spread out in battle formation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>polished, civilized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>going from place to place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>lavish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>agree to finance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20th Week:
very sad
to drag, move heavily
moderate in eating or drinking
stop, hold back

21st Week:
descendant
an electrically charged part of an atom or molecule
self-indulgence
a vulgar person, a heel

22nd Week:
relieve without curing
cease to please, a cloud
related to marriage
the core or point

23rd Week:
serving to pay back
a political conservative, an outlaw
unusual occurrence
a prophetic sign

24th Week:
unwise
an overly modest person
looking down on someone or something
entice, attract, lure

25th Week:
trembling, shaking with old age
strange
hurt, damage, injury
reduce by cutting, decorate

26th Week:
prevailing, common, general
a valley (poetical)
angry, antagonistic
steps over a fence

27th Week:
hesitate, waver, stumble
change, vary, transform
inflexible, unyielding
an obstruction

28th Week:
hinder, interfere, block
mischievous child
discord, hard sound, dissonance
false, cheap imitation

29th Week:
lack of interest
walkway
difficult to describe, undistinguished
style of writing

30th Week:
to slander, abuse
to arrange in line
persuade, coax, cajole  pay attention

31st Week:
rough, harsh, shrill  three-pronged instrument
harmful, bad  take out, remove

32nd Week:
out-of-date  a bowlike curve or structure
pardon, excuse  to put on as a garment

33rd Week:
momentary, passing, fleeting  thin plate giving wind direction
self-satisfied  fine thread sewn in patterns

34th Week:
facial expression of disgust  a spice, a club carried by an official
spacious, large  disgusting, distasteful

35th Week:
a moralistic story  can be cultivated
haggard, thin  female relative

36th Week:
person or thing that embodies or represents the best  a large book or volume
wish, envy, want  a small bay

37th Week:
temporary stay  a round vase
beginning, to develop or exist  the act of going up

38th Week:
easy to manage  a shaded walk
underhandedness, trickery  stylish, elegant

39th Week:
unreasonable, without conscience  child, or descendant
abuse, blame  to give out in measured amounts

40th Week:
works that an artist is ready to perform  forward, free, saucy
weakness, weariness  a young woman
41st Week:
slogan, pet phrase	trunk of a tree
rush, flood	the top of the head

42nd Week:
requirement	locale, position
variety	plunge into

43rd Week:
waste away	a memento of victory or success
desire to make amends, regret
closely confined

44th Week:
il-disposed, ill-intentioned	a brewed beverage
abundant, overflowing	to blend by melting

45th Week:
a strong leaning in favor
to delight, fascinate, charm
inexperienced, youthful
to permit

46th Week:
artificial, sham	perform, behave
mutually destructive, conflict within a group
to shut up, confine
With the advent of the video games, many set owners have become engrossed in trying to outwit the electronic toys. The tyro finds it almost impossible to react quickly enough. Before he or she can ascertain what is going on, the little lights have sped by. Those who have a penchant for thinking and reacting quickly find these games a problem. While the experts' behavior appears ambiguous, they really are aloof and demeaning. If one is tenacious about trying again and again, then the repertoire of video games can be mastered.

It is manifest that women have advanced into fields of work that were, until recently, the prerogative of men. It did not happen because of the largess of the males, but it was largely due to the complicity insistence by women that they occupy their rightful place in our society. While some men still tenacious women who seek to fill jobs previously closed to them, others take the felonious view that the only obstacles have no place in a democracy.
16. (a) deprecate  (b) aspire  (c) permeate  (d) covet
17. (a) discreet  (b) pragmatic  (c) precocious  (d) rash
18. (a) remuneration  (b) reproach  (c) duplicity  (d) criterion
19. (a) puissant  (b) sporadic  (c) capricious  (d) zealous
Week 1

Day 1

1. replete
2. eminent
3. steeped
4. voracious
5. indiscriminate
6. d
7. c
8. a
9. e
10. b
Day 2

1. prognosticate
2. automatons
3. abode
4. abound
5. technology
6. d
7. b
8. e
10. c
Day 3

1. compounded
2. annals
3. paradoxes
tinge
5. realm
6. b
7. e
8. d
10. a
Day 4

1. drudgery
2. badgers *or* badgered
3. perceives or perceived
4. implored
5. interminable
6. e
7. c
8. a
9. b
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. j
4. \[ r \]
5. d
9. h
10. e
15. c
16. q
18. f
19. k
20. m
23. w
24. x
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. voracious
2. interminable
3. tinge
4. realm
5. eminent
6. abound
7. perceive
8. badgers
9. automatons
technology
11. yes
12. yes
13. yes
yes
1. annals
2. replete
3. technology
4. implore
5. interminable
Week 2

Day 1

1. laconic
2. accost
3. reticent
4. throng
5. intrepid
6. a
7. d
8. b
Day 2

1. hapless
2. irate
3. furtive
4. plethora
5. felon
7. b
8. d
Day 3

1. vigilant
2. adroit
3. fabricate
4. pretext
5. gesticulates
7. a
8. b
9. e
1. rudimentary
2. cajoled
3. enhance
4. nuance
5. avid
6. a
7. c
9. d
1. f
3. b
6. m
7. j
11. e
12. i
15. d
17. a
18.  k
19. n
21. x
22. u
1. felon
2. pretext
3. cajole
4. fabricate
5. vigilant
WEEK 3

Day 1

1. wrest
2. lackluster
3. caustic
4. loathe
5. reprimand
7. e
8. a
10. d
Day 2

1. incipient
2. infamous
3. dupe
4. jostle
5. inadvertent
7. c
8. d
9. b
10. e
Day 3

1. ominous
2. repudiate
3. bristle
4. tremulous
5. cessation
6. d
8. b
9. a
10. c
Day 4

1. stipulate
2. euphemism
3. condolence
4. mundane
5. incongruous
8. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. g
2. h
3. d
4. n
5. m
7. j
8. e
9. q
10. c
12. s
13. a
15. b
18. k
19. f
23. u
1. cessation
2. wrest
3. infamous
4. bristled
5. caustic
Week 4

Day 1

1. intimidate
2. feint
3. alacrity
4. belligerent
5. disdain
9. d
Day 2

1. promulgate
2. brash
3. scoff
4. pugnacious
5. belittles
6. a
8. d
10. b
Day 3

1. laceration
2. tangible
3. castigate
4. octogenarian
5. sordid
7. c
8. b
9. d
10. e
Day 4

1. scurrilous
2. aspirant
3. frenzy
4. dregs
5. solace
6. c
7. e
8. a
10. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. t
2. i
4. k
5. m
6. n
7. a
9. g
10. c
11. b
15. h
16. e
q
21. w
24.
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. alacrity
2. aspirants
3. dregs
4. sordid
5. tangible
6. belligerent
7. belittled
8. disdain
9. promulgated
10. scoff
1. aspirant
2. sordid
3. belittle
4. scurrilous
5. frenzy
Week 5

Day 1

1. rampant
2. clandestine
3. ethics
4. inane
5. concur
7. c
8. b
10. a
Day 2

1. culprit
2. inexorable
3. duress
4. admonish
flagrant
6. c
8. b
9. d
10. a
Day 3

1. egregious
2. acrimonious
3. duplicity
4. paucity
5. distraught
6. d
7.  c
9. e
10. a
1. impunity
2. elicit
3. tolerate
4. construe
5. pernicious
6. d
7. e
9. b
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. t
2. e
3. p
4. o
5. q
7. f
8. a
11. h
12. n
13. $k$
14. m
19.  d
20. g
21. w
24. u
1. ethics
2. pernicious
3. acrimonious
4. culprit
5. flagrant
Week 6

Day 1

1. sally
2. affluent
3. consternation
4. feasible
5. discern
6. d
7. b
9. a
10. c
1. precocious
2. perfunctory
3. deride
4. perverse
5. chagrin
6. b
7. a
9. d
Day 3

1. laudable
2. disparaged
3. masticate
4. fiasco
5. eschews
6. a
7. d
10. b
Day 4

1. dubious
2. quell
3. confidant
4. obsolescence
5. verbose
7. b
10. e
Day 5

REVIEW

1. j
5. h
7. n
8. q
9. k
10. g
11. d
18. m
23. w
1. quell
2. consternation
3. fiasco
4. discern
5. laudable
**WEEK 7**

**Day 1**

1. implacable
2. jurisdiction
3. paroxysm
4. skirmish
5. untoward
6. b
7. a
8. d
Day 2

1. fray
2. indigent
3. arbitrary
4. monolithic
5. harass
6. e
7. c
8. b
9. a
10. d
Day 3

1. effigy
2. stymie
3. cognizant
4. flout
5. turbulent
6. b
7. e
8. c
10. a
Day 4

1. terminate
2. forthwith
3. Oust
4. reverted
5. exacerbate
7. d
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. t
3. m
4. j
5. h
6. e
7. c
9. d
11. g
12.  a
13. q
14. k
15. n
17. b
20. f
21. x
22. W
24. u
1. skirmish
2. turbulent
3. cognizant
4. indigent
5. untoward
Week 8

Day 1

1. emaciated
2. tranquil
3. sanctuary
4. surged
5. ascend
6. d
7. a
9. b
Day 2

1. sinister
2. besieged
3. afflicted
4. malnutrition
5. privation
6. b
7. e
8. d
9. a
Day 3

1. ubiquitous
2. remote
3. harbinger
4. thwart
5. malignant
6. b
9. e
1. excruciating
2. reverberating
3. fretful
4. respite
5. succumb
6. d
7. a
8. c
9. b
10. e
Day 5

REVIEW

1. d
3. p
5. e
6. s
7. k
8. q
18. m
24. u
1. afflicted
2. succumb
3. ubiquitous
4. malnutrition
5. tranquil
6. reverberating
7. thwarted
8. ascended
9. privations
10. fretful
11. cool our heels
PARTS OF SPEECH

1. h
3. b
4. j
5. a
6. c
7. d
8. f
10. k
12. n
14. \( g, m \)
1. succumb
2. sanctuary
3. harbinger
4. ascend
5. afflict
Week 9

Day 1

1. extortion
2. impresario
3. bigot
4. asset
5. adverse
6. c
7. e
8. b
10. a
Day 2

1. entourage
2. virulent
3. spew
4. venom
5. blatant
6. b
7. a
8. e
10. d
Day 3

1. loath
2. solicit
3. astute
4. advocate
5. ineffectual
6. d
7. e
8. a
Day 4

1. vexatious
2. amicable
3. malady
4. nefarious
5. scrutinize
6. c
7. b
8. e
9. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. o
2. a
6. n
7. i
8. h
11. m
16. e
18. k
19. g
21. x
24. u
1. scrutinize
2. vexatious
3. virulent
4. astute
5. nefarious
Week 10

Day 1

1. peruse
2. premonition
3. desist
4. recoiled
5. inclement
7. d
8. a
9. c
10. e
Day 2

1. obsessed
2. mastiff
3. doleful
4. pertinent
5. wan
6. b
8. d
9. a
10. c
Day 3

1. frustrated
2. interjected
3. histrionics
4. elusive
5. symptomatic
7. b
8. e
9. a
Day 4

1. imminent
2. squeamish
3. engrossed
4. salient
5. inert
6. b
7. a
8. c
1. d
2. a
3. q
4. s
7. p
8. f
16. b
17. k
23. u
24. w
1. squeamish
2. recoil
3. engrossed
4. desist
5. interject
Week 11

Day 1

1. poignant
2. garbled
3. fruitless
4. inundated
5. sanguine
6. e
8. a
10. c
Day 2

1. phlegmatic
2. zealous
3. comprehensive
4. coerced
5. corroborate
6. b
7. c
9. a
10.  e
Day 3

1. elapse
2. sporadic
3. domicile
4. lax
5. meticulous
7. e
8. d
10. c
Day 4

1. conjecture
2. lurid
3. rash
4. obviated
5. quip
7. c
8. a
9. d
10. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. r
4. f
5. b
6. m
9. a
11. h
13. j
16. t
17. e
23. u
1. garbled
2. meticulous
3. inundate
4. comprehensive
5. sanguine
Week 12

Day 1

1. diatribe
2. ilk
3. incoherent
4. fortuitous
5. inhibitions
6. d
7. e
8. c
9. b
10. a
Day 2

1. placard
2. prestigious
3. remuneration
4. nominal
5. integral
6. e
7. b
8. a
9. d
Day 3

1. utopia
2. schism
3. anathema
4. flamboyant
5. expunge
6. d
8. b
10. c
Day 4

1. truncated
2. jaunty
3. ostentatious
4. timorous
5. fractious
6. a
7. b
8. c
9. e
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. k
3. m
4. n
5. g
6. b
7. c
10. p
12. h
14. d
15. a
21. u
23. w
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. diatribe
2. utopia
3. ostentatious
4. timorous
5. prestigious
6. jaunty
7. expunged
8. fortuitous
9. integral
10. placards
11. air your dirty laundry in public
1. prestigious
2. flamboyant
3. ilk
4. inhibitions
5. remuneration
Week 13

Day 1

1. importune
2. haven
3. subjugate
4. surreptitious
5. incontrovertible
6. b
7. a
8. e
9. d
Day 2

1. eventuated
2. subterranean
3. emit
4. ultimate
5. viable
7. e
8. d
9. a
10. c
Day 3

1. premise
2. incredulous
3. jeopardize
4. permeated
5. propitious
6. e
7. b
8. d
9. c
Day 4

1. curtailed
2. cryptic
3. repress
4. surmised
5. inchoate
6. b
7. d
8. c
REVIEW

1. s
g
4. k
n
6. a
7. r
q
13. f
15. m
c
21. x
23. v
24. u
1. cryptic
2. importune
3. ultimate
4. viable
5. incredulous
**WEEK 14**

Day 1

1. nettle
2. aspire
3. inveigh
4. overt
5. relegate
6. d
7. e
8. a
9. b
Day 2

1. supine
2. razed
repulse
4. mammoth
5. havoc
6. d
7. c
8. b
9. a
Day 3

1. incisive
2. scurry
3. lethal
4. precipitated
5. stereotype
6. d
7. b
10. c
Day 4

1. sinecure
2. stentorian
3. valor
4. singular
5. bias
7. d
8. c
9. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. d
4. i
5. m
6.  f
7. a
8. r
9. b
10. k
12. e
15. g
17. t
18. q
23. u
WORDSEARCH 14

1. nettled
2. inveighed
3. stereotype
4. bias
5. scurry
Day 1

1. complicity
2. liquidation
3. culpable
4. recant
5. accomplice
6. b
7. d
9. e
10. a
1. preclude
2. alleged
3. abrogate
4. invalidate
5. access
6. e
7. b
8. a
9. c
10. d
Day 3

1. extrinsic
2. persevere
3. landmark
4. declaim
fetter
6. d
7. e
8. b
9. c
10. a
Day 4

1. nomadic
2. paragon
3. controversial
4. asperity
5. epithets
6. b
7. c
8. a
9. e
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. j
2. q
3. f
4. c
5. h
6. m
7. t
8. d
10. a
n
17. g
21.
22. W
23. x
1. abrogate
2. culpable
3. epithets
4. recant
5. controversial
Week 16

Day 1

1. cursory
2. indigenous
3. interloper
4. habitat
5. gregarious
6. b
7. d
8. c
9. a
Day 2

1. prolific
2. antithesis
3. sedentary
4. frugal
5. bulwark
6. a
7. c
8. e
10. d
Day 3

1. cache
2. cupidity
3. altruistic
4. coterie
5. embellish
6. b
7. d
8. a
10. e
Day 4

1. amorous
2. virtuosity
3. progeny
4. temerity
5. saturated
7. d
9. a
10.  c
1. f
3. d
4. q
5. a
7. h
9. e
11. c
18. m
21. u
1. frugal
2. cache
3. interloper
4. temerity
5. cupidity
Week 17

Day 1

1. fallacious
2. consummate
3. concoct
4. perpetrate
5. subterfuge
7. b
8. d
9. a
10. e
1. manifold
2. fraught
3. impeccable
4. resourceful
5. assiduous
6. c
7. d
Day 3

1. hoax
2. components
3. labyrinth
4. evaluate
5. murky
8. c
9. d
10. e
Day 4

1. gullible
2. deploy
3. attest
4. exult
5. enigma
7. a
8. b
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. c
2. d
3.  g
5. i
7. f
8. p
14. m
20. b
21. u
22. \( w \)
24. x
1. assiduous
2. resourceful
3. fallacious
4. labyrinth
5. consummate
Week 18

Day 1

1. innate
2. abortive
3. modify
4. spontaneous
5. accommodate
6. a
7. e
8. b
9. d
Day 2

1. crave
2. myriad
3. irrelevant
4. urbane
5. veneer
6. d
7. b
8. c
9. a
10. e
Day 3

1. deem
2. buffs
3. romp
4. latent
5. inherent
6. e
7. c
8. d
9. b
10. a
Day 4

1. tortuous
2. conjugal
3. peregrination
4. itinerant
5. barometer
6. b
7. a
8. g
9. d
1. c
2. f
3. j
4. o
5. q
6. i
7. m
9. d
10. a
11. n
12. t
16. h
19. e
21. v
23. w
1. barometer
2. itinerant
3. myriad
4. deem
5. accommodate
Week 19

Day 1

1. profligate
2. strife
3. legion
4. coup
5. megalomania
7. c
9. d
10. b
Day 2

1. mendacious
2. exonerate
3. expatriate
4. fiat
5. amnesty
6. c
7. a
8. d
10. b
Day 3

1. dismantle
2. sumptuous
3. parsimonious
4. pecuniary
5. underwrite
6.  d
7. b
8. c
10. a
Day 4

1. restrictive
2. blunt
3. nostalgia
4. rife
5. balk
6. e
7. c
8. b
9. d
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. r
2. 1
3. j
4. a
6. e
7. h
8. n
11. g
14. q
15. m
16. k
18. b
19. d
20. f
22. u
1. legion
2. underwrite
3. rife
4. balk
5. blunt
Week 20

Day 1

1. nebulous
2. reviled
3. indict
4. pesky
5. derogatory
6. d
7. b
10. a
Day 2

1. repose
2. abstemious
3. redolent
4. omnivorous
5. disparate
6. b
7. e
8. d
9. a
10. c
Day 3

1. extant
2. vicissitudes
3. edifice
4. sultry
5. trenchant
6. d
10. a
Day 4

1. lugubrious
2. puissant
3. unabated
4. maudlin
levity
6. e
8. a
9. c
Day 5

REVIEW

1. o
3. a
5. k
6. i
8. d
9. b
10. f
11. h
12. m
n
15.  j
17. q
23. u
HAPLESS HEADLINES

1. j
2. e
3. d
4. t
5. h
6. q
7. i
8. r
9. f
10. k
1. pesky
unabated
3. indict
4. redolent
5. reviled
WEEK 21

Day 1

1. opulence
2. scion
3. obsequious
4. indoctrinate
5. fulsome
6. b
8. c
9. a
10. d
Day 2

1. lush
2. ponder
3. destitution
4. supplication
5. decadence
8. c
9. d
Day 3

1. disciple
2. metamorphosis
3. penance
4. ascetic
5. desultory
8. c
10. a
1. nurture
2. bona fide
3. salvation
4. nirvana
5. materialism
6.  d
7. e
8. b
10. c
Day 5

REVIEW

1. a
2. t
3. e
4. h
5. f
6. p
7. j
8. i
9. d
13. k
19. m
21. v
23.  x
24. w
1. metamorphosis
2. disciple
3. salvation
4. bona fide
5. ponder
Week 22

Day 1

1. juxtapose
2. incompatibility
3. cope
4. plight
5. covert
8. d
10. a
Day 2

1. fabricate
2. connubial
3. demur
4. appellation
5. incapacitated
7. c
8. d
9. a
Day 3

1. escalation
2. indifference
3. potential
4. cumulative
5. recondite
6. d
7. e
8. a
9. b
10. c
Day 4

1. acknowledge
2. delude
3. palliate
4. prelude
5. chimerical
6. b
9. a
10. e
Day 5

REVIEW

1. b
2. \( f \)
4. m
6. h
7. a
8. e
18. n
19. q
20. k
21. w
23. u
1. indifference
2. plight
3. acknowledge
4. cope
5. prelude
Week 23

Day 1

1. maladjusted
2. heterogeneous
3. perspicacious
4. analogous
5. gamut
6. e
7. a
8. b
10. c
Day 2

1. neurotic
2. decade
3. mortality
4. susceptible
5. phenomenon
6. d
7. a
8. c
10. b
Day 3

1. enunciate
2. irascible
3. introspective
4. pedagogue
5. inordinate
6. e
8. b
9. a
10. d
Day 4

1. perpetuate
2. catastrophic
3. neutralize
4. mandate
5. compensatory
6. d
7. b
8. a
10. e
Day 5

REVIEW

1. f
2. a
3. г
5. t
6. j
7. i
8. m
12. h
15. k
17. e
18. g
q
21. u
23. w
1. pedagogue
2. decade
3. heterogeneous
4. gamut
5. perspicacious
Week 24

Day 1

1. inanimate
2. artifact
3. fetish
4. anthropologist
5. bizarre
6. d
7. e
10. a
Day 2

1. taint
2. prohibition
3. imprudent
4. taboo
5. imperative
6. d
7. e
8. b
9. c
10. a
Day 3

1. contemptuous
2. absurd
3. superstition
4. abhorrent
5. universal
6. b
7. c
9. e
10. d
Day 4

1. originate
2. entreaty
3. inviolable
4. vulnerable
5. tradition
6. b
7. d
8. c
9. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. n
2. г
h
4. a
5. k
6. m
7. s
8. e
9. q
12. d
17. t
19. f
22. u
ADJ. LDRS./NOUN FOL.

1. m
5. e
6. k
7. b
8. j
10. g
1. imprudent
2. inviolable
3. artifact
4. imperative
5. inanimate
Week 25

Day 1

1. eruption
2. puny
3. debris
4. awesome
5. dispersed
6. c
7. e
8. b
9. d
10. a
Day 2

1. conflagration
2. obliterate
3. rue
4. initiate
5. deplorable
7. b
8. d
9. e
Day 3

1. hoard
2.  sage
3. congenial
4. aegis
5. detriment
6. b
7. d
8. e
9. c
10. a
Day 4

1. senile
2. longevity
3. doddering
4. imbibe
5. virile
7. c
8. b
9. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. h
2. p
3. n
4. i
5. f
6. k
7. 1
8. j
9. a
10. c
13. q
15. t
16. g
17. b
18. e
19. d
23. u
1. deplorable
2. obliterate
3. rue
4. detriment
aegis
WEEK 26

Day 1

1. hostile
2. prevalent
3. lethargic
4. paramount
5. remiss
7. a
8. d
9. e
10. c
Day 2

1. aversion
2. superficial
3. rebuked
4. evince
5. vogue
6. b
7. c
8. e
Day 3

1. tussle
2. intrinsic
3. jettison
4. inevitable
5. lucrative
6. e
7. a
8. d
Day 4

1. acute
2. transient
3. gist
4. terse
5. cogent
8. d
9. b
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. 1
2. p
3. \( d \)
4. a
5. k
7. o
9. c
10. m
12. q
14. h
15. n
16. e
17. g
18.  b
19. f
20. j
21. x
1. prevalent
2. inevitable
3. superficial
4. cogent
5. jettison
Week 27

Day 1

1. array
2. culminate
3. pinnacle
4. ardent
5. obscure
6. b
7. c
8. d
10. e
Day 2

1. bereft
2. exultation
3. constrict
4. prodigy
5. falter
6. d
7. e
8. c
10. a
Day 3

1. invective
2. voluminous
3. besmirch
4. retrospect
5. vitriolic
6. d
7. a
8. c
9. b
10. e
Day 4

1. inveterate
2. pungent
3. adamant
4. humility
5. egotist
6. b
7. a
8.  d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. b
3. j
5. m
6. g
7. a
8. f
10. q
11. k
s
17. n
18. d
19. h
21. w
23. v
1. retrospect
2. ardent
3. obscure
4. culminate
5. falter
Week 28

Day 1

1. propinquity
2. vulnerable
3. cacophony
4. exploit
5. bedlam
6. b
8. a
9. c
10. d
Day 2

1. disgruntled
2. panacea
3. eradicate
4. infallible
5. impede
6. b
7. a
8. d
10. e
Day 3

1. sedate
2. serenity
3. equanimity
4. compatible
5. revere
6. b
7. c
8. e
9.  a
10. d
Day 4

1. avarice
2. insatiable
3. nadir
4. irrational
5. moribund
6. c
7. d
8. e
9. a
10. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. r
2. h
5. m
6. q
8. p
10. b
12. n
15. g
18. k
19. f
20. a
21. u
DOING DOUBLE DUTY

1. hoard
3. transient
6. sedate
7. sage
8. rebuke
10. obscure
11. exploit
1. impede
2. serenity
3. cacophony
4. irrational
infallible
Week 29

Day 1

1. adherent
2. lithe
3. forlorn
4. burly
5. bliss
7. b
8. a
Day 2

1. apathy
2. exhort
3. inebriated
4. fracas
5. adversary
6. d
8. e
9. b
10. a
Day 3

1. gusto
2. banal
3. platitude
4. indolent
5. garrulous
7. a
9. e
10. b
Day 4

1. dilettante
2. atypical
3. nondescript
4. wane
5. pique
8. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. r
2. b
4. p
5. f
7. k
9. a
11. q
12. s
13. m
15. \( \text{j} \)
18. g
21. x
w
1. apathy
2. forlorn
3. indolent
4. platitude
5. adversary
WEEK 30

Day 1

1. gaudy
2. encumbrance
3. extinct
4. idyllic
5. galvanize
6. e
7. c
9. a
Day 2

1. condescend
2. malign
3. jocose
4. candor
5. mortify
7. d
8. e
9. a
Day 3

1. zenith
2. omnipotent
3. precedent
4. fledgling
5. peremptory
6. e
7. a
8. b
10. d
Day 4

1. wheedle
2. charlatan
3. rustic
4. decorum
5. jubilant
7. e
8. b
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. f
2. s
3. n
5. i
6. m
7. c
8. a
12. d
14. b
20. h
21. u
23. x
1. extinct
2. galvanize
3. peremptory
4. malign
5. candor
Week 31

Day 1

1. fervid
2. heresy
3. prudent
4. ostensible
5. spurious
6. c
7. d
9. a
10. b
1. propagate
2. milieu
3. anomaly
4. innocuous
5. surfeit
6. d
7. c
9. a
10. b
Day 3

1. concomitant
2. strident
lassitude
4. deleterious
5. efficacy
6. e
7. c
8. d
10. a
1. incumbent
2. ferment
3. dissent
4. attenuated
5. arbiter
6. c
7. d
8. b
10. a
1. c
2. m
3. q
4. b
5. n
6. e
7. j
a
9. p
13. s
14. k
17. d
20.  0
24. u
1. deleterious
2. spurious
3. ostensible
4. dissent
5. concomitant
Week 32

Day 1

1. expedite
2. celerity
3. profound
4. alleviate
5. prodigious
6. d
7. c
9. b
10. a
Day 2

1. bizarre
2. paltry
3. usurp
4. condone
5. trivial
8. d
10. b
Day 3

1. venerable
2. ambiguous
3. succinct
4. menial
extraneous
6. c
9. a
10.  d
Day 4

1. salubrious
2. archaic
3. facetious
4. rabid
5. emulate
6. b
8. c
9. d
a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. p
3. a
5. g
7. r
10. i
12. t
14. c
15. m
20. q
23.
SELECTING ANTONYMS

1. partner
2. professional
3. active
4. sober
5. falsehood
6. conservative
7. nadir
8. tiny
9. condemn
10. clear
authentic
12. harmful
13. helpful
wordy
15. urbane
1. prodigious
2. usurp
3. celerity
4. venerable
5. salubrious
Week 33

Day 1

1. complacent
2. debilitate
3. occult
4. somber
5. impetuous
6. c
7. e
8. d
9. b
10. a
Day 2

1. foment
2. slovenly
3. quarry
4. discreet
5. glean
6. a
7. e
8.  b
9. c
Day 3

1. penitent
2. evanescent
3. reproach
4. tantamount
5. abjure
7. b
8. d
9. e
Day 4

1. connoisseur
2. allay
3. propensity
4. wary
5. deter
6.  c
7. e
9. a
10. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. d
3. f
4. s
5. e
7. q
8. p
9. a
11. n
12. m
15. \( k \)
b
19. j
21. x
22. u
1. abjure
2. wary
3. complacent
4. somber
5. glean
Week 34

Day 1

1. cumbersome
2. interrogate
3. vigil
4. divulge
5. site
6. e
8. a
9. b
10. d
Day 2

1. unmitigated
2. commodious
3. antiquated
4. fluctuate
5. disheveled
7. d
8. a
10. c
Day 3

1. tenacious
2. calumny
3. grimace
4. asinine
5. façade
6. d
7. c
9. e
Day 4

1. au courant
2. pittance
3. unkempt
4. noisome
5. fastidious
8. e
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. p
2. q
3. k
4. \( b \)
5. t
7. h
13. n
17. a
18. d
20. m
w
22. x
24. u
1. unmitigated
2. asinine
3. tenacious
4. antiquated
5. au courant
Week 35

Day 1

1. lampoon
2. whimsical
3. parable
4. sanctimonious
5. countenance
6. d
7. a
9. c
Day 2

1. nonentity
2. effrontery
3. equanimity
4. flabbergasted
debacle
6. a
7. c
9. b
10. d
Day 3

1. mien
2. refute
3. hirsute
4. vivacious
5. gaunt
b
7. a
8. d
9. c
10. e
Day 4

1. stupor
2. cliché
3. wince
4. whet
5. pensive
6. a
7. b
9. d
10. c
Day 5

REVIEW

1. s
4. 0
5. h
6. a
7. q
8. e
9. d
12. k
20. g
1. parable
2. refute
3. hirsute
4. equanimity
5. whet
Week 36

Day 1

1. degrade
2. venial
3. genre
4. unsavory
5. candid
6. c
7. e
8. b
9. a
1. grotesque
2. compassion
3. epitome
4. repugnant
5. dexterity
6. b
7. e
9. d
10. c
Day 3

1. acme
2. depict
3. naive
4. copious
5. vehemently
6. c
7. d
8. b
9. e
Day 4

1. ingratiate
2. covet
3. penury
4. perfidious
5. ignominious
6. a
7. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. c
2. a
3. b
4. k
5. d
7. m
11. $g$
12. t
13
q
20.
21. u
22. v
23. w
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. deter
2. asinine
3. effrontery
4. disheveled
5. somber
6. impetuous
7. discreet
8. perfidious
9. flabbergasted
10. vivacious
1. copious
2. naive
3. epitome
4. ignominious
5. depict
Week 37

Day 1

1. servile
2. sojourn
3. confront
4. volition
5. antipathy
6. d
7. c
8. e
9. b
10. a
Day 2

1. tenable
2. austere
3. superfluous
4. felicitous
5. halcyon
6. b
7. d
9. a
Day 3

1. iconoclast
2. therapy
3. motivate
4. rationalize
5. nascent
7. b
a
10.  d
Day 4

1. phobia
2. erudite
3. vertigo
4. conducive
5. germane
6. a
7. c
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. f
4. j
6. m
7. h
g
16. q
17. b
18. k
20. a
22. u
24. x
1. nascent
2. felicitous
3. halcyon
4. confront
5. superfluous
Day 1

1. glib
2. trend
3. legerdemain
4. malleable
5. homogeneous
6. c
7. d
8. a
Day 2

1. fatal
2. passé
3. facets
4. procrastinate
5. stagnant
6. b
7. c
9. a
10. d
Day 3

1. capitulate
2. stigmatize
3. audacity
4. foist
5. tantalize
6. d
7. b
8. a
9. c
10. e
1. chicanery
2. obliging
3. tacit
4. reticent
5. retort
7. d
8. a
9. e
10. b
Day 5

REVIEW

1. f
2. k
3. 1
5. c
6. b
7. d
8. h
9. s
12. q
14. a
15. g
17. n
18. m
21. w
24. x
1. homogeneous
2. trend
3. reticent
4. tantalize
5. facet
Week 39

Day 1

1. saga
2. imperturbable
3. belated
4. decrepit
5. vacillates
6. b
7. d
10. a
Day 2

1. opprobrium
2. Machiavellian
3. unconscionable
4. pandemonium
5. staunch
6. b
8. d
9. c
Day 3

1. vindicate
2. flay
3. demeanor
4. heinous
5. delineation
9. b
10. a
Day 4

1. infraction
2. callous
3. vituperation
4. redress
5. turpitude
6. b
7. d
9. c
10. e
Day 5

REVIEW

1. m
2. n
4. a
5. j
7. h
8. f
9.  d
12. g
15. b
21. x
24. w
1. infraction
2. heinous
3. opprobrium
4. imperturbable
5. staunch
WEEK 40

Day 1

1. clique
2. rhetoric
3. facile
4. extol
5. mentor
7. e
8. d
9. a
Day 2

1. vilify
3. magnanimous
4. umbrage
5. elucidate
6. a
7. c
8. e
Day 3

1. proximity
2. lassitude
3. vapid
4. unwieldy
5. vitiate
6. c
7. a
8. d
9. e
Day 4

1. fatuous
2. repertoire
3. imperceptible
4. contort
5. augment
6. b
8. d
9. e
a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. b
m
3. n
4. a
5. g
6. e
9. 0
10. q
12. k
14. j
15. $f$
19. h
20. d
24. w
2. k
3. p
4. c
5. q
6. g
7. d
9. n
10. a
1. umbrage
2. extol
3. fatuous
4. imperceptible
5. vilify
WEEK 41

Day 1

1. succulent
2. intrinsic
3. curry
4. satiety
5. pall
6. c
7. e
8. d
9. a
Day 2

1. sanction
2. insidious
3. allude
4. potpourri
5. denotes
6. d
7. c
9. b
Day 3

1. spate
2. advent
3. propriety
4. proffer
5. impious
6. a
8. d
9. b
10. e
1. nutritive
2. raucous
3. shibboleth
4. bogus
5. substantiate
7. c
8. e
9. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. c
2. a
4. j
7. p
9. d
10. o
11.  h
14. t
15. q
17. e
18. n
19. m
20. g
21. w
22. u
1. insidious
2. bogus
propriety
4. intrinsic
5. sanction
Day 1

1. negligible
2. quandary
3. expedient
4. callous
5. blasé
7. b
8. d
Day 2

1. diversity
2. ennui
3. comely
4. artifice
5. frenetic
6.  b
7. c
8. a
9. d
1. artless
2. expurgate
3. qualm
4. gratuity
5. begrudge
6. e
7. a
8. b
10. d
Day 4

1. delve
2. replenish
3. manifest
4. capricious
5. requisite
6. b
7. e
8. c
9. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. d
3. i
4. \( f \)
5. p
6. g
7. c
8. h
11. e
14. s
17. b
19. m
23. x
1. requisite
2. blasé
3. capricious
4. diversity
5. delved
WEEK 43

Day 1

1. ameliorate
2. roster
3. stunt
4. atrophy
5. maim
6. c
7. a
8. b
9. e
10. d
Day 2

1. unctuous
2. cynic
3. benevolent
4. subservient
5. iniquity
6. b
8. d
9. a
Day 3

1. largess
2. mercenary
3. criterion
4. mollify
5. repent
6. a
7. b
9. d
10. c
Day 4

1. vestige
2. activism
aloof
4. guise
5. pragmatic
9. d
10. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. i
2. p
3. t
4. k
6. e
7. d
8. b
9. n
12. q
14. a
15. f
17. h
18. \ g
19.
23. u
1. benevolent
2. activism
3. guise
4. iniquity
5. ameliorate
Week 44

Day 1

1. futility
2. pathetic
3. nullify
4. carnage
5. deluged
6. c
7. b
8. e
9. a
10. d
Day 2

1. canard
2. defamatory
3. plaintiff
4. libel
5. deprecate
7. d
8. b
9. e
10. a
Day 3

1. excoriate
2. frail
3. potent
4. reputed
5. devout
6. a
9. d
10. b
Day 4

1. impromptu
2. malevolent
3. profuse
4. diminutive
5. dulcet
Day 5

REVIEW

1. k
2. g
3. j
4. a
6. d
7. 1
12. s
14. n
15. m
17. p
19. f
21. x
23. v
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. deluged
2. diminutive
3. blasé
4. succulent
5. frenetic
6. bogus
7. quandary
8. benevolent
9. negligible
10. excoriate
1. profuse
2. deluge
3. carnage
4. exoriate
5. nullify
Week 45

Day 1

1. raiment
2. rail
3. corpulent
4. wistful
5. brigand
6. c
8. d
9. e
10. b
Day 2

1. rift
2. raconteur
3. sullen
4. emissary
5. ruminate
6. c
7. a
Day 3

1. livid
2. taut
3. martinet
yen
5. bagatelle
6. b
8. a
10. d
Day 4

1. decapitate
2. penchant
3. divergent
4. appalled
5. callow
6. a
9. b
10. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. b
2. d
3. e
5. p
\[ f \]
9. c
14. h
15.  m
17. g
19. k
21. w
1. appalled
2. penchant
3. corpulent
4. emissary
5. decapitate
Day 1

1. burgeoned
2. ascertain
3. disseminate
4. dormant
5. potentate
6.  b
7. c
8. d
9. e
10. a
Day 2

1. internecine
2. derived
3. nepotism
4. prerogative
5. dearth
6. d
7. c
10.  b
Day 3

1. tyro
2. obloquy
3. sophistry
4. factitious
5. encomiums
6. b
7. c
9. a
10. e
Day 4

1. charisma
2. genocide
3. prevarication
4. hyperbole
5. munificent
6. e
7. d
10. b
1. t
2. m
3. k
4. a
5. q
6. g
7. 1
9. d
10. n
11. s
14. b
16.  f
17. \( h \)
20. c
23. w
1. h
3. e
5. c
6. m
7. b
8. n
9. p
1. ascertain
2. burgeoned
3. derived
4. dormant
5. encomium
Buried Words

1st Week: automaton
interminable
2nd Week: gesticulate
rudimentary
3rd Week:  

condolence
lacklustre
4th Week: tangible
promulgate
5th Week: impunity
paucity
6th Week: perverse
consternation
7th Week: terminate
implacable
8th Week: harbinger
remote
9th Week: virulent
entourage
10th Week: peruse
salient
11th Week: elapse
corroborate
12th Week: diatribe
13th Week: incontrovertible
inchoate
14th Week: 

sinecure
aspire
15th Week: controversial
accomplice
16th Week: antithesis
bulwark
17th Week: consummate
deploy
18th Week: urbane
itinerant
19th Week: sumptuous
underwrite
20th Week: lugubrious
abstemious
21st Week: scion
decadence
22nd Week: palliate
connubial
23rd Week: compensatory
phenomenon
24th Week: imprudent
contemptuous
25th Week: doddering
detriment
26th Week: prevalent
hostile
adamant
cacophony
29th Week: apathy
nondescript
30th Week: malign
wheedle
31st Week: strident
deleterious
32nd Week: archaic
33rd Week: evanescent
complacent
34th Week: grimace
commodious
35th Week: parable
gaunt
36th Week: epítome
covet
37th Week: sojourn
nascent
38th Week: malleable
chicanery
39th Week: unconscionable
vituperation
40th Week: repertoire
lassitude
41st Week: shibboleth
spate
42nd Week: requisite
diversity
43rd Week: atrophy
repent
44th Week:  malevolent
profuse
45th Week: penchant
callow
46th Week: factitious
internecine
Words in Context

1. c
3. b
4. a
5. d
6. b
7. b
8. c
9. d
10. c
11. d
12. c
b
14. d
15.  a
17. a
19. d
20. c
Below are 150 of the words that you have been studying, with each word followed by four possible definitions. Select the best answer from among the choices given and fill in the corresponding circle on the answer sheet.

To attain a mark of 60%, you would have to get 90 correct answers; 105 correct answers are worth a mark of 70%, 120 for 80%, 135 for 90%.

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<td>1.</td>
<td>implore</td>
<td>(a) reject</td>
<td>(b) beg for assistance</td>
<td>(c) summon</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>voracious</td>
<td>(a) greedy</td>
<td>(b) vicious</td>
<td>(c) dull</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>badger</td>
<td>(a) pester</td>
<td>(b) cheat</td>
<td>(c) remind</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>laconic</td>
<td>(a) tense</td>
<td>(b) bashful</td>
<td>(c) troublesome</td>
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<td>plethora</td>
<td>(a) overabundance</td>
<td>(b) helpless fit</td>
<td>(c) a weakness</td>
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<td>cajole</td>
<td>(a) force</td>
<td>(b) demand</td>
<td>(c) coax</td>
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<td>inadvertent</td>
<td>(a) unappetizing</td>
<td>(b) unintentional</td>
<td>(c) unaware</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>mundane</td>
<td>(a) forgetful</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td><strong>jostle</strong></td>
<td>(a) joke with</td>
<td>(b) interrupt</td>
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<td>(c) push</td>
<td>(d) leap quickly</td>
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<td><strong>brash</strong></td>
<td>(a) impudent</td>
<td>(b) stubborn</td>
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<td>(c) angry</td>
<td>(d) upset</td>
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<td><strong>sordid</strong></td>
<td>(a) varied</td>
<td>(b) guilty</td>
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<td>(c) unable to speak</td>
<td>(d) dirty</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td><strong>solace</strong></td>
<td>(a) pity</td>
<td>(b) comfort</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(c) forgetfulness</td>
<td>(d) great happiness</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td><strong>acrimonious</strong></td>
<td>(a) bitter</td>
<td>(b) brilliant</td>
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<td>(c) tender</td>
<td>(d) out of tune</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td><strong>egregious</strong></td>
<td>(a) important</td>
<td>(b) infected</td>
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<td>(c) remarkably bad</td>
<td>(d) swollen</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td><strong>paucity</strong></td>
<td>(a) overweight</td>
<td>(b) deafness</td>
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<td>(c) shortage</td>
<td>(d) doubt</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td><strong>eschew</strong></td>
<td>(a) keep away from</td>
<td>(b) sneeze repeatedly</td>
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<td>(c) invite</td>
<td>(d) deny</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td><strong>verbose</strong></td>
<td>(a) priceless</td>
<td>(b) talkative</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(c) sinful</td>
<td>(d) whining</td>
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</table>
| 18. perfunctory | (a) careless  
|                 | (b) hopeful  
|                 | (c) without end  
|                 | (d) evil  

| 19. chagrin     | (a) loneliness  
|                 | (b) dismay  
|                 | (c) opportunity  
|                 | (d) suspicion  

| 20. exacerbate  | (a) present arguments  
|                 | (b) plead with  
|                 | (c) question closely  
|                 | (d) irritate  

| 21. indigent    | (a) unreasonable  
|                 | (b) watchful  
|                 | (c) angry  
|                 | (d) poor  

| 22. stymie      | (a) hinder  
|                 | (b) invent  
|                 | (c) confiscate  
|                 | (d) cancel  

| 23. fretful     | (a) lacking ambition  
|                 | (b) dark  
|                 | (c) worrisome  
|                 | (d) mischievous  

| 24. harbinger   | (a) smooth-talker  
|                 | (b) leader  
|                 | (c) forerunner  
|                 | (d) bit of advice  

| 25. sanctuary   | (a) cemetery  
|                 | (b) agreement  
|                 | (c) place of protection  
|                 | (d) approval  

| 26. astute      | (a) keen  
|                 | (b) reliable  
|                 | (c) cheap  
|                 | (d) able  

| 27. blatant     | (a) boastful  
|                 | (b) obvious  


28. nefarious
(a) hungry
(b) watchful
(c) footsore
(d) villainous

29. virulent
(a) harmful
(b) sloppy
(c) sickly
(d) revolutionary

30. histrionics
(a) unreasonable acts
(b) nervousness
(c) display of emotions
(d) studies of the past

31. salient
(a) traveling
(b) resentful
(c) sober
(d) prominent

32. wan
(a) pale
(b) sleepy
(c) jealous
(d) unlucky

33. corroborate
(a) represent
(b) confirm
(c) search
(d) produce

34. lurid
(a) outraged
(b) sensational
(c) capable
(d) guilty

35. sanguine
(a) hopeful
(b) objectionable
(c) rugged
(d) hard to discover

36. sporadic
(a) occasional
(b) special
(c) to the point
(d) blotchy
37. anathema
   (a) treatment
   (b) violence
   (c) apparatus
   (d) curse

38. fortuitous
   (a) timid
   (b) significant
   (c) lucky
   (d) huge

39. archaic
   (a) rival
   (b) out of date
   (c) healthful
   (d) comical

40. timorous
   (a) courageous
   (b) ambitious
   (c) fearful
   (d) tense

41. eventuate
   (a) result finally
   (b) pay your respects
   (c) borrow
   (d) interrupt

42. inchoate
   (a) vague
   (b) in an early stage
   (c) uneasy
   (d) ingenious

43. propitious
   (a) suspicious
   (b) hasty
   (c) frank
   (d) favorable

44. viable
   (a) workable
   (b) sensitive
   (c) tasty
   (d) quiet

45. incisive
   (a) acute
   (b) sluggish
   (c) massive
   (d) jittery

46. inveigh
   (a) compose
   (b) react to
| **47.** sinecure | (a) urgent message  
|                | (b) silly response  
|                | (c) big responsibility  
|                | (d) soft job  |
| **48.** nettle  | (a) mix  
|                | (b) suggest  
|                | (c) irritate  
|                | (d) suspend  |
| **49.** abrogate | (a) publish  
|                | (b) portray  
|                | (c) permit  
|                | (d) cancel  |
| **50.** extrinsic | (a) loaded  
|                | (b) containing wisdom  
|                | (c) coming from outside  
|                | (d) uncertain  |
| **51.** asperity | (a) artful handling  
|                | (b) bitterness of temper  
|                | (c) foolishness  
|                | (d) concern  |
| **52.** altruistic | (a) unselfish  
|                | (b) troublesome  
|                | (c) dangerous  
|                | (d) dignified  |
| **53.** sedentary | (a) hypnotic  
|                | (b) largely inactive  
|                | (c) scornful  
|                | (d) musical  |
| **54.** progeny | (a) vigor  
|                | (b) descendants  
|                | (c) minority opinion  
|                | (d) disease  |
| **55.** cupidity | (a) affection  
|                | (b) fate  
|                | (c) greed  
|                | (d) harmony  |
56. impeccable
   (a) faultless
   (b) bold
   (c) open to criticism
   (d) slow to respond

57. perpetrate
   (a) plant
   (b) consume in haste
   (c) slice
   (d) commit

58. assiduous
   (a) sly
   (b) thrifty
   (c) busy
   (d) educated

59. abortive
   (a) failing
   (b) outside the law
   (c) drowsy
   (d) unprepared

60. tortuous
   (a) spiteful
   (b) inflicting pain
   (c) frank
   (d) winding

61. peregrination
   (a) form of address
   (b) travel
   (c) insistence
   (d) hospitality

62. myriad
   (a) geometric figure
   (b) voter’s choice
   (c) countless number
   (d) minority decision

63. fiat
   (a) police squad
   (b) official order
   (c) carriage
   (d) council

64. mendacious
   (a) lying
   (b) abusive
   (c) healing
   (d) merciful

65. profligate
   (a) soothing
   (b) obvious
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<td>disparate</td>
<td>(a) different</td>
<td>(b) critical</td>
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<td>(b) studious</td>
<td>(c) powerful</td>
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<td>(b) incomplete</td>
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<td>(b) superior</td>
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<td>irascible</td>
<td>(a) conceited</td>
<td>(b) patriotic</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
<td>sweaty</td>
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<td>taint</td>
<td>(a)</td>
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<td>(d)</td>
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<td>77.</td>
<td>aegis</td>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>fear</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>hope</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
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<td>evince</td>
<td>(a)</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
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<td>elucidate</td>
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<td>hide</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>make clear</td>
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<td>sickly</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
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<td>mollify</td>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>turn against</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
<td>hope for</td>
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<td>84.</td>
<td>indolent</td>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>lazy</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>badly behaved</td>
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85. impromptu
(a) dangerous
(b) not understood
(c) wisely planned
(d) spur of the moment

86. umbrage
(a) dark color
(b) offense
(c) waste
(d) generosity

87. artifice
(a) trickery
(b) historic finding
(c) newness
(d) gradual change

88. vacillate
(a) follow closely
(b) fluctuate
(c) aggravate
(d) dominate

89. vestige
(a) trace
(b) cloak
(c) entrance
(d) hope

90. adamant
(a) ambitious
(b) timely
(c) wasteful
(d) inflexible

91. nepotism
(a) without religion
(b) favoritism
(c) patriotism
(d) deception

92. reticent
(a) reserved
(b) in pain
(c) cooperative
(d) without example

93. tyro
(a) ruler
(b) beginner
(c) fire-setter
(d) warmer
| 94.  | staunch | (a) evil-smelling | (b) tight-fitting | (c) whiten | (d) strong |
| 95.  | equanimity | (a) sharing | (b) self-control | (c) hostility | (d) lively |
| 96.  | taut | (a) tense | (b) make fun of | (c) pale | (d) gradual |
| 97.  | mortify | (a) calm down | (b) embarrass | (c) strengthen | (d) pretend |
| 98.  | vapid | (a) wet | (b) quick | (c) remarkable | (d) foolish |
| 99.  | covet | (a) disguise | (b) wish for | (c) bury | (d) change |
| 100. | condone | (a) repeat | (b) punish | (c) forbid | (d) pardon |
| 101. | fatuous | (a) heavy | (b) interesting | (c) silly | (d) important |
| 102. | imbibe | (a) drink | (b) enter | (c) clear away | (d) change |
| 103. | ennui | (a) fashionable | (b) boredom |
salubrious

carnage

aloof

vertigo

foment

inveterate

refute

celerity

heinous
113. quandary  (a) dilemma  
(b) quiet place  
(c) hopeful sign  
(d) crowd  

114. efficacy  (a) cheapness  
(b) ease  
(c) mystery  
(d) effectiveness  

115. austere  (a) wild  
(b) feverish  
(c) unadorned  
(d) wishful  

116. moribund  (a) marvelous  
(b) ambitious  
(c) gradual  
(d) dying  

117. noisome  (a) unwholesome  
(b) challenging  
(c) loud  
(d) newly arrived  

118. spate  (a) rush  
(b) excess  
(c) insult  
(d) shortage  

119. nadir  (a) climax  
(b) secret place  
(c) lowest point  
(d) happiest moment  

120. halcyon  (a) peaceful  
(b) ancient  
(c) innermost  
(d) careful  

121. pragmatic  (a) repeating  
(b) fat  
(c) practical  
(d) imaginative  

122. atrophy  (a) prize  
(b) begin again
<p>| | | | |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>123. discreet</td>
<td>(a) patient</td>
<td>(b) colorful</td>
<td>(c) cautious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124. callow</td>
<td>(a) cowardly</td>
<td>(b) unfeeling</td>
<td>(c) inexperienced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125. ruminate</td>
<td>(a) reflect upon</td>
<td>(b) move away</td>
<td>(c) reclassify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126. congenial</td>
<td>(a) clever</td>
<td>(b) agreeable</td>
<td>(c) masterful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>127. decorum</td>
<td>(a) behavior</td>
<td>(b) attractiveness</td>
<td>(c) liveliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128. banal</td>
<td>(a) not allowed</td>
<td>(b) nearly finished</td>
<td>(c) trivial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>129. encomium</td>
<td>(a) highest prize</td>
<td>(b) secret plan</td>
<td>(c) new idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130. avarice</td>
<td>(a) clear path</td>
<td>(b) wealth</td>
<td>(c) greed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131. malign</td>
<td>(a) slander</td>
<td>(b) exterminate</td>
<td>(c) join with</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
132. venial
(a) hopeless
(b) unseen
(c) pardonable
(d) deadly

133. dulcet
(a) hard to hear
(b) sweet to the ear
(c) soft to the touch
(d) easy to see

134. entreaty
(a) plea
(b) agreement
(c) capture
(d) sudden end

135. pensive
(a) limited
(b) thoughtful
(c) aged
(d) retired

136. bizarre
(a) busy
(b) in a hurry
(c) timely
(d) odd

137. requisite
(a) forgotten thought
(b) requirement
(c) added problem
(d) lovely object

138. livid
(a) disappointed
(b) tasty
(c) bored
(d) pale from anger

139. pique
(a) resentment
(b) condition
(c) hidden from light
(d) wishful thinking

140. galvanize
(a) prepare to eat
(b) arouse to activity
(c) store away
(d) experiment

141. extol
(a) explain
(b) apologize for
142. allude  
(a) avoid  
(b) cover up  
(c) yearn for  
(d) suggest

143. slovenly  
(a) slow  
(b) wise  
(c) dangerous  
(d) careless

144. prerogative  
(a) ask again  
(b) exclusive right  
(c) divided power  
(d) first born

145. raiment  
(a) clothing  
(b) arrest  
(c) left over  
(d) bright color

146. abhorrent  
(a) yearned for  
(b) hated  
(c) distrusted  
(d) joined together

147. jocose  
(a) dizzy  
(b) merry  
(c) sticky  
(d) talkative

148. mentor  
(a) coach  
(b) enemy  
(c) stranger  
(d) writer

149. hirsute  
(a) overly dressed  
(b) out-of-date  
(c) hairy  
(d) bald

150. excoriate  
(a) complete  
(b) win easily  
(c) criticize severely  
(d) clean thoroughly
Answers to Final Review Test

1. b
2. a
3. a
4. d
5. a
7. b
8. d
9. c
10. a
11. d
1a
16. a
17. b
20. d
21. d
22. a
26. a
28. d
29. a
30.  


31. d
32. a
b
34. b
36. a
37. d
41. a
b
43. d
44. a
45. a
47. d
48. c
49. d
51. b
52. a
56. a
57. d
58. c
59. a
61. b
63. b
64. a
65. d
67. c
c
70. d
71. b
73. a
75. b
76. c
79. a
80. a
82. d
84. a
87. a
90. d
91. b
92. a
93. b
d
96. a
98. d
99. b
101. c
102. a
105. a
106. b
108.
109. d
110. d
113. a
116.  d
120. a
121. c
c
125. a
a
136. d
141. c
143. d
b
147. b
148. a
150. c
Originally introduced in a previous edition, this section, in which you will find the 1100 words in sources as strikingly disparate as the Toronto Globe & Mail, Truman Capote, William Shakespeare, Agatha Christie, Thomas Mann, TIME, Machiavelli, and Tom Clancy, validates the contention that this selected group of vocabulary words has been widely used by educated writers.

Most issues of your local newspaper, for example, will contain at least a dozen of the words you have encountered in these pages. But they also appear in advertisements, obituary notices, weather forecasts, cartoons, and brochures of all sorts. Wherever else you come in contact with adult vocabulary—radio and TV shows, news broadcasts, college entrance exams, movie scripts, books—you are likely to find more than a few of the words in 1100 Words You Need to Know.

Now, for a useful summary of what you have learned in the forty-six lessons, read through the “Panorama of Words,” noting the varied sources of their usage. Be aware that some of the following quotations have been adapted or edited for brevity.
abhorrent “That Rep. McMorris Rodgers would use her son’s disability to spin her vote as some sort of altruistic measure is abhorrent.” Melissa Daugherty, Chico News & Review, 5/11/17

abjure “Galileo was summoned before the inquisition where he was ordered to abjure his theory.” S. F. Mason, Science Digest, 5/98

abode “The sophisticated Avalon abode was the perfect downsize for a pair of empty nesters.” Atlanta Magazine, 5/23/17

abortive “His company made an abortive attempt to circle the enemy position but they fell back under fire.” Captain Ron Herbert, Keep Your Medals

abounds “A smart thriller that abounds with suspense and excitement!” Newspaper ad for film The General’s Daughter

abrogate “I decided to abrogate the agreement since General Motors was not living up to its part of the bargain.” Paul Sawyer, Seeking Justice

abstemious “Be more abstemious Or else, good night your vow.” William Shakespeare, The Tempest

absurd “Many rules in the English language are absurd because they are based on Latin rules.” Bill Bryson, Mother Tongue

access “Everything was simplified, and we were gaining access to infinity: soon the moon, SOON THE MOON!” Editorial, Le Figaro (Paris), 8/14/61

accommodate “The awards will be given out at a place that will accommodate C-Span.” James Barron, “Public Lives,” New York Times, 6/10/99


accost Sir Toby: “You mistake, knight: accost is front her, board her, woo her, assail her.” William Shakespeare, Twelfth Night

acknowledged “They used the Swiss routes and camp sites—which they later acknowledged—and by the end of April were established in full strength at their fifth camp.” James Ramsey Ullman, “Victory on Everest”

acme “He was the acme of a political figure.” John Gunther, Inside U.S.A.

acrimonious “We quickly learn of the acrimonious relationship between the Montagues and the Capulets.” Playbill, Summary of Romeo & Juliet
activism “An exhibit at Columbia College’s Museum of Contemporary Photography showcases Ai Weiwei’s work, and shows how he brings together art, activism—and selfies.” Nick Blumberg, Chicago Tonight, WTTW, 5/23/17

acute “The candidate presented an acute problem for his party because of his independent views.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

adamant “The candidate was adamant in his refusal to answer an embarrassing question about his early use of drugs.” TIME, 8/12/99

adherents “The state employs a flag as a symbol for adherents to the government as presently organized.” U.S. Supreme Court decision, 1943

admonished “A little drummer boy grinned in me face whin I had admonished him wid the buckle av my belt for riotin’ all over the place.” Rudyard Kipling, “The Courting of Dinah Shadd”

adroit “Amazingly adroit in building model airplanes while he was in junior high, Eric moved on to an aeronautic career in his twenties.” Val Bakker, “Early Decision” [adapted]

advent “Industrial canning and the advent of freezing have reduced home canning to a curiosity.” Molly O’Neill, New York Times, 7/18/99

adversaries “Both fighters had nothing but kind words to say about their adversaries.” Hal Butler, “The Battle in the Rain”

adverse “Illogical as it may seem, adverse criticism can be very rewarding.” S. Andhil Fineberg, “Deflating the Professional Bigot”

advocates Advocates of marriage classes contend that giving teens these tools could eventually curb the divorce rate.” Jodie Morse, “Hitched in Home Room,” TIME, 6/21/99

aegis “The Federal Reserve will remain under the aegis of the veteran head who was reappointed by the President yesterday.” New York Times, 1/5/00

afflicted “It afflicted the neighborhood with the stench of slime that was now laid bare.” Edmund Wilson, “The Man Who Shot Snapping Turtles”

affluent “You are affluent when you buy what you want, do what you wish and don’t give a thought to what it costs.” J. P. Morgan, quoted in Crown Treasury of Relevant Quotations

alacrity “When the price of A.T.&T. dropped significantly, fund managers moved with alacrity to accumulate more shares.” Ted David, CNBC Financial News

allay “The President’s message was an attempt to allay the fears of senior citizens.” “The Future of Medicare,” Washington Post, 3/16/98
alleged “I harvested the intelligence that Ricks was alleged to have laid off all that portion of the State of Florida that has been under water into town lots and sold them to innocent investors.” O’Henry, “The Man Higher Up”

alleviate “The report of the transportation division pointed out that the overcrowded highways required immediate attention in order to alleviate the long delays.” The Queens Courier, 1/11/00

alludes “Gertrude Stein’s phrase, ‘A rose, is a rose, is a rose’ alludes to nothing more or less than what she writes.” Alice B. Toklas, Time Capsule, 1933

aloof “Greta Garbo held herself so aloof from her co-stars, they felt they had not been introduced.” Alistair Cooke, The Great Movie Stars

altruism “The conflict is between selfishness and altruism.” Former Senator Estes Kefauver, campaign speech

ambiguous “If you disagree with a friend, be firm, not ambiguous.” Samuel Ornage, The Golden Book

ameliorate “Our aim should be to ameliorate human affairs.” John Stuart Mill

amicable “Their parting is effective Friday, and was described in their joint statement as ‘amicable’.” Bill Carter, “Lou Dobbs Quits CNN,” New York Times, 6/9/99

amnesty “No one is advocating wholesale amnesty for inmates solely because of advancing age.” Tamerlin Drummond, “Cellblock Seniors,” TIME, 6/21/99

amorous “A complete gentleman ought to dress well, dance well, have a genius for love letters, be very amorous but not overconstant.” Sir George Etherege, The Man of Mode

analogous “Not with the brightness natural to cheerful youth, but with uncertain, eager, doubtful flashes, analogous to the changes on a blind face groping its way.” Charles Dickens, Hard Times


annals “He would begin these annals with Columbus, and he would keep on with them until his hand was too palsied to hold a pen.” Catherine Drinker Bowen, Yankee from Olympus

anomaly “My mother was American, my ancestors were officers in Washington’s army, and I am an anomaly.” Winston Churchill, speech, 1953

anthropologist “Burning tobacco, anthropologists have found, was a religious practice over 2000 years ago in the Mayan culture.” Journal of Urban Health, 9/99
antipathy “There is no need to anticipate any antipathy from your future in-laws when you plan a wedding.” “Wedding Guide,” Courier-Life Publications, 7/99


antithesis “Drunkenness is the antithesis of dignity.” Bergen Evans, “Now Everyone is Hip About Slang”

apathy “The younger generation exhibits apathy toward the issue of freedom of the press.” Herbert Brucker, Journalist

appalled “A calm and steady temperament deserted him while he stared, appalled, at the contents.” John Cheever, The Wapshot Chronicle

appellation “He went under the appellation of ‘Pretty Boy’ but to his victims he was anything but that.” Dexter Holcomb, Did the Roaring Twenties Really Roar? [adapted]

arbiter “Sonja Henie became the supreme arbiter of skating fashions.” Maribel Y. Vinson, “Ice Maiden”

arbitrary “My arbitrary decision not to run puts Massachusetts at a disadvantage and probably was a mistake.” Representative Martin Meehan in Newsday, 6/1/99

archaic “Many procedures of the law have long seemed archaic to laymen.” Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, quoted in San Francisco Examiner, 1/4/71

ardent “There is no more ardent performer than Judy Garland as she allows her emotions to shine through.” Penelope Houston, Sight and Sound, 1954

arrayed “She arrayed herself in what seemed unbelievably beautiful clothes.” Sherwood Anderson, Winesburg, Ohio

artifact “In caves in Chile, remains of horses have been found along with human artifacts.” A. Hyatt Verrill, The Strange Story of Our Earth

artifice “The successful advertiser will use any artifice to get his message seen.” E. S. Turner, The Shocking History of Advertising

artless “Behind the naive, artless manner, there was a woman scheming for success.” John Simon, Reverse Angle

ascended “As he set himself to fan the fire again, his crouching shadow ascended the opposite wall.” James Joyce, “Ivy Day in the Committee Room”

ascertain “Scientists have been trying to ascertain why dinosaurs became extinct so suddenly.” A.

ascertain “Scientists have been trying to ascertain why dinosaurs became extinct so suddenly.” A.
ascetic “You don’t have to be an ascetic to wonder if there isn’t something a bit manic about the pace of getting and spending in today’s America.” Paul Krugman, “Money Can’t Buy Happiness. Er, Can It?,” New York Times, 6/1/99

asinine “We have developed what I believe is an asinine rating system for motion pictures.” Harold Owen, Jr., The Motion Picture

asperity “The path of beauty is not soft and smooth, but full of harshness and asperity.” Havelock Ellis, The Dance of Life

aspirants “A number of playwrights, small aspirants to the big screen, must already be pricing beach houses in Malibu.” Ross Wetzsteon, Introduction to New Plays USA

aspire “To humility indeed it does not even aspire.” John Henry Newman, The Idea of a University

assets “Berkshire Hathaway is a diversified holding company with assets in manufacturing, insurance, aircraft safety training, etc.” “Warren Buffet’s Fabulous Fund,” Mutual Funds Magazine, 6/99

assiduously “Richard Greenberg is aiming here for big laughs at the expense of the generation he so assiduously chronicled in the past.” Peter Marks, “Making Mincemeat of Boomer Values”

astute “From an astute standpoint, that’s exactly what the ballplayers should do instead of running out to mob the other guy.” Tim McCarver, Baseball for Brain Surgeons

atrophy “Some people thought that too much reading would atrophy a girl’s brain forever.” Ann McGovern, The Secret Soldier

attenuated “The players’ strike resulted in an attenuated and boring season.” Sports Illustrated, 10/96

attest “Thousands of satisfied users can attest to the great features such as Voicemail and Caller ID that work the same way wherever you go on our network.” Newspaper ad for Internet company, New York Times, 6/12/99

atypical “He is an atypical candidate, without glamour, fame or wealth.” New York Post, 8/15/99

au courant “He seemed to be au courant with everything.” Arnold Bennett, Lord Raingo

audacity “Boldness be my friend! Arm me, audacity, from head to foot!” William Shakespeare, Cymbeline

augmented “The Russian army was augmented by helicopters and rocket-launching tanks in its attack on the defenders.” Newsday, 11/27/99
**austere** “New York City was founded by austere puritan colonists who could never imagine the city as it is today.” Moses Riechin, *The Promised City*

**automaton** “She’s an automaton; she has every quality in the world, and I’ve often wondered why it is with all that I’m so completely indifferent to her.” W. Somerset Maugham, *The Treasure*

**avarice** “He could not disguise his avarice under a cloak of religion.” Ambrose Bierce

**aversion** “During the last years of his administration the mayor showed an aversion to taking political risks.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, *Urban Politics*

**avid** “CUNY will have no more avid and fierce supporter for its mission than himself.” Karen Arenson, “New Vice-Chairman of CUNY,” *New York Times*, 6/10/99

**awesome** “Africa has some of the most awesome jungles in the world.” John Hersey, *Into the Valley*

**badger** “There are other do’s and don’ts: don’t threaten your children, don’t badger them.” Newspaper ad for *Partnership for a Drug-Free America*, *New York Times*, 11/4/99

**bagatelle** “He saw the benefits to his people as a mere bagatelle.” Winston Churchill, *Great Contemporaries*

**balk** “She rested on the stair—a young woman of a beauty that should balk even the justice of a poet’s imagination.” O. Henry, “Roads of Destiny”

**banal** “Mansfield Park is a bore! What might have been attractive on a TV screen proved to be uninteresting and banal on the big screen.” “Koch Goes To The Movies,” *Queens Courier*, 1/12/00

**barometer** “We watched carefully to see the ties that Mr. Smythe would wear as they were a sure barometer of the mood he would be in.” Loring Brewster, “Vermont’s Mr. Chips”

**bedlam** “There was bedlam as the crowd awoke to the relief of victory.” Dick Thatcher, *Against All Odds*

**begrudge** “Taxpayers never seem to begrudge the use of their money when spent on local projects important to them.” *Newsday*, 8/22/99

**belated** “When he made his belated entrance into the political campaign, he was told he had no chance.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, *Urban Politics*

**belittle** “To say this is not to belittle subject matter, which is clearly essential to any proper education.” William H. Kilpatrick, “Progressive Education”

**belligerence** “North Korea’s belligerence in planning to test a long-range missile has led to a dramatic change of course for Japan and South Korea.” Howard French, “Two Wary Neighbors Unite,” *New York Times*, 8/4/99
benevolence “My relationship to this land is purely spiritual: It’s a place of absolute silence, absolute benevolence.” Stephen Trimble, Wilderness

bereft “The pictures of the bereft survivors searching for their loved ones are painful to see.” Newsday, 9/19/99

besiege “He felt unable to carry the Confederate lines and settled down to besiege their fortifications.” David Herbert Donald, Lincoln

besmirch “A primary attack on any witness against your client is an attempt to besmirch his or her character.” Quoted in New York Times Magazine, 9/20/70

bias “U.S. SUIT CHARGES BIAS IN NASSAU COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES” Headline, New York Times, 6/15/99

bigot “For only by claiming the limelight can the bigot draw followers and an income.” S. Andhild Fineberg, “Deflating the Professional Bigot”

bizarre “The police claim they were responding to the bizarre behavior of the man when they were forced to shoot him.” New York Post, 9/27/99

blasé “When he hit the home run that broke the record, he could no longer maintain his previously blasé attitude.” Newsday, 9/8/98


bliss “Is there anything to match the bliss on a teenager’s face the day she obtains her license to drive?” Car and Driver, 9/99

bluntly “Managers will put it bluntly: ‘You’ve got to catch the ball.’” Tim McCarver, Baseball for Brain Surgeons

bogus “The mayor denied his proposed change in the election law was a bogus attempt to seize more power.” New York Times, 9/25/99

bona fide “Milosevic, a bona fide villain, will pay for his war crimes—we can be sure of that.” Editorial, Washington Post, 5/28/99

brash “Baker’s brash manner quickly antagonized the other warehouse workers.” Seymour Broock, Labor Meets Its Match

brigands “The history of motion pictures shows that, from the earliest silent films, stories about western brigands would capture a large audience.” John Simon, Reverse Angle

bristle “No sooner had the dog caught sight of him, however, than it began to bristle and growl
buff “Grandpa was a stock market buff, hanging around the Dreyfus office most every weekday and following the yo-yo Dow Jones averages.” Eloise Ryan Abernethy, One Family’s Finances [adapted]

bulwark “That England, hedged in with the main, That water-walled bulwark, still secure And confidant from foreign purposes.” William Shakespeare, King John

burgeoned “In recent years programs on AM, FM, shortwave and low-powered stations have burgeoned.” Carlos Johnston, “Intelligence Report” Summer 1998

burly “The burly, big man who is transferring out of Nebraska-Omaha committed Thursday to play for Nevada, where he will have to sit out the 2017-18 season under NCAA rules.” Chris Murray, Reno Gazette Journal, 4/27/17

cache “Fagin drew from his cache the box which he had unintentionally disclosed to Oliver.” Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist

cacophony “At his side he had a battery run radio blasting forth a sickening cacophony of noise.” Freeman Tilden, The National Parks

cajole “We had to cajole tonight’s guest to come on the program because he’s something of a hermit.” Larry King on his CNN TV program, 8/25/99

callous “The movie industry was callous in the way it treated writers who came from New York.” Alex Ross, New Yorker, 2/23/98

callow “A group of newly arrived callow students followed nervously at the director’s heels.” Aldous Huxley, Crome Yellow

calumny “Overwhelmed by the calumny heaped upon him for his prejudice, he quickly resigned.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

canard “It’s a canard to say I want to be a millionaire: I just want to live like one.” Toots Shor, quoted in Life Magazine, 10/12/69

candid “Sweepstakes companies must be more candid about the chances of winning a prize.” AARP Bulletin, 9/99

candor “He was struck by the candor and self-reliance of the women in these islands.” “Pacific Paradise,” New York Times, 8/9/99

cant “Although we hear much cant about loving one’s neighbor, life provides endless examples of just the opposite.” Paula Love, The Will Rogers Book

capitulate “The embattled leader refused to capitulate to demands for his resignation.” Newsweek,
capricious “The snow removal equipment is always ready to face the capricious weather changes during the winter.” *Newsday*, 12/24/98

carnage “Amid the carnage resulting from the earthquake, many acts of courage can be seen.” *New York Times*, 9/20/99

castigates “Here is Holofernes commenting upon Armando, a mad wordman who castigates another while himself vocalizes into a fine frenzy.” Harold Bloom, *Shakespeare*

catastrophic “Romeo changes enormously under Juliet’s influence, remains subject to anger and despair, and is as responsible as Mercutio and Tybalt for the catastrophic event.” Harold Bloom, *Shakespeare*

caucistic “His habitual sullenness, stern disposition and caustic tongue produced a deep impression upon our young minds.” Aleksandr Pushkin, “The Shot”

celerity “The human mind acts at times with amazing celerity.” Benjamin Cardozo, *The Growth of the Law*

cessation “The evolutions of the waltzers were quieted, there was an uneasy cessation of all things as before.” Edgar Allan Poe, “The Masque of the Red Death”

chagrin “He spent great energy and achieved, to our chagrin, no small amount of success in keeping us away from the people who surrounded us.” James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son*

charisma “Yali radiated charisma and energy as he led his people.” Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*


chicanery “As a profession, lawyers have become associated with chicanery and confusion.” *People*, 2/4/99

chimerical “His utopia is not a chimerical commonwealth but a practicable improvement on what already exists.” George Santayana, *The Sense of Beauty*

clandestine “Mr. DeLay’s plan for another ‘independent’ group is nothing less than a proposal to create a clandestine and corrupt slush fund.” Editorial, *New York Times*, 6/1/99

cliqué “The cliché ‘Politics makes strange bedfellows’ certainly applies in this situation.” *Newsweek*, 9/20/99

cliques “The tragic event points out the danger of forming cliques in school that shut out many.”
coerce “The loan sharks sometimes have to coercé people in order to collect the debt.” Peter Kilborn, “Lenders Thrive on Workers in Need,” New York Times, 6/18/99

cogent “This article paints a clear and cogent picture of how to handle blowouts.” Car and Travel, 9/99

cognizant “I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states.” Martin Luther King, Jr., “Letter From Birmingham Jail”

comely “An island peopled by the most comely women to be seen anywhere, Bora Bora is a must.” Travel, 11/99

commodious “The new baseball stadium offered a more commodious arena for the fans and players.” Sports Illustrated, 5/11/99

compassionate “In addition to professional skills, patients want a physician who is compassionate.” Advertisement for Maimonides Medical Center, 9/25/95

compatible “The policies of the party are not compatible with his conservative beliefs.” U.S. News and World Report, 8/25/99

compensatory “The compensatory factor was a new arrival; Anukul had a son born to him.” Rabindranath Tagore, “My Lord, the Baby”

complacent “Weather experts warn not to be complacent about the possibility of a dangerous hurricane.” New York, 9/18/95


compounded “The match between England and Argentina, always a blood feud, was compounded by the memory of the Falklands crisis.” Henry Kissinger, “Pele,” TIME, 6/14/99


concocting “I am concocting a seduction; I do not require a pastry chef.” Ben Brantley, New York Times, 6/15/99

concomitant “The doses of the drug were increased with the concomitant result that he quickly
became an addict.” Otto Friedrich, *Before the Deluge*

**concur** “Dr. Fishbein did not *concur* with his colleague’s diagnosis and urged the Harper family to seek an opinion from the head of the Urology Department at Columbia Presbyterian.” “Prostate Update,” *Prostate Digest*, 9/99

**condescending** “The reviewer treated this important book in the most *condescending* and dismissive manner.” Letter to *New York Times Book Review*, 7/25/99

**condolence** “Words of *condolence* seem very poor things and yet they are all one can use to tell of one’s sympathy.” Maisie Ward, *Father Maturin*

**condone** “He does not *condone* the actions of any of the participants in the impeachment hearings.” *New York Times Book Review*, 9/26/99

**conducive** “The quiet calm of this garden is *conducive* to romance or repose.” “The Sophisticated Traveler,” 9/26/99

**confidant** “Lecter rents a lavish house not terribly far from the modest duplex of FBI agent Starling, his antagonist/confidant during the period seven years earlier.” Paul Gray, “Dessert Anyone?” *TIME*, 6/21/99

**conflagration** “Did the firing of incendiary tear gas canisters cause or contribute to the *conflagration*?” *New York Times*, 9/3/99

**confronts** “When we gaze into a seeming infinity of tomorrows, we face the challenge that any generation *confronts* when it looks ahead.” Editorial, “2000 and Beyond,” *New York Times*, 1/1/00


**conjecture** “We read to understand how to take care of ourselves, to prepare for the unexpected, to *conjecture* what we would do in similar situations.” Annie Proulx, “They Lived to Tell the Tale”

**conjugal** Hillary is Our Lady of Perpetual *Conjugal* Suffering; the patron saint of every woman who’s ever been wronged.” Maureen Dowd, “Rudy in Reverse,” *New York Times*, 6/6/99

**connoisseur** “This is the car for the *connoisseur* who doesn’t have to think about cost.” *Car and Driver*, 10/99

**connubial** “I never could imagine *connubial* bliss until after tea.” W. Somerset Maugham, *Cakes and Ale*

**consternation** “Father and son stared at each other in *consternation* and neither knew what to do.” Pearl Buck, *The Good Earth*
constricted “He grew up in slightly less constricted circumstances than his teammates.” Darcy Frey, The Last Shot

construed “Hemingway’s simple approach was construed as mysticism.” Robert Ruark, “Ernest Was Very Simple”

consummate “Arnold Zweig, a writer of consummate artistry, presents a picture of delicacy and charm that hovers on the brink of disaster.” Roger Goodman, World-Wide Stories

contemptuous “It is not difficult to feel contemptuous when studying the ugly behavior of some of the powerful figures of motion pictures.” Pauline Kael, I Lost It at the Movies

contort “He is an actor who can contort his face into any number of shapes.” People, 4/15/99

controversial “His three-year tenure was controversial and contained charges of racism.” Monte Williams, “Roosevelt Island Chief,” New York Times, 6/10/99

cope “Every single muscle in the body was strained to the uttermost throughout the watch to cope with the steering.” Thor Heyerdahl, Kon Tiki


corpulent “When he squeezed his corpulent body into a chair he seemed to be stuck there forever.” Charles W. Thompson, Presidents I Have Known

corroborated “Bill corroborated the captain’s statement, hurried back down the glistening ladders to his duty.” Hanson W. Baldwin, “R.M.S. Titanic”

coterie “The aristocratic coterie finally got the upper hand.” Edith Hamilton, The Greek Way

countenance “Behind a most pleasant countenance, this dictator has maintained a most brutal regime.” Newsweek, 2/21/98

coup “Newt Gingrich was nearly toppled in a coup attempt in the House.” Michael Duffy, “Who Chose George?,” TIME, 6/21/99

covert “In a covert manner, Knute traveled abroad that night.” Sinclair Lewis, “Young Man Axelbrod”


crave “It’s the perfect way for the Clintons to hang on to the power, glamour and excitement they both crave.” Bob Herbert, “It Could Happen,” New York Times, 6/6/99
criterion “This new product is useful, but the major criterion is its safety.” Car and Travel, 10/99


culminated “The years of physical and mental training culminated in the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.” Vim & Vigor, Summer 1998

culpable “When the jury found Stacy culpable, she collapsed in a state of shock.” Eloise R. Baxter, “Judgment Day”

culprit “We pointed out the tender age and physical slightness of the little culprit.” Thomas Mann, “Mario and the Magician”

cumbersome “Grizzly bears may look cumbersome and awkward, but don’t be deceived.” Nature, 2/97

cumulative “There can be an extraordinary cumulative strength in Mr. Foote’s plays.” Ben Brantley, New York Times, 6/18/99

cupidity “There is little real humor in this picture of cunning and cupidity as revealed by a petty contest for a paltry sum.” Liam O’Flaherty, “A Shilling”

curry “The candidates are visiting many senior centers in an attempt to curry support among the elderly.” AARP Bulletin, 9/99

cursory “Even a cursory glance at the text of the peace agreement shows that the Yugoslav leader has accepted NATO’s demands in full.” Tim Judah, “What Do We Do With Serbia Now?” New York Times, 6/4/99

curtail “A court decision to a freeze on regulations to curtail cross-state pollution was unpopular.” “EPA’s Reduced Standards,” Newsday, 6/15/99

cynical “A cynical view of phone calls or mail offering free merchandise or membership is the safest approach.” Newsweek, 6/7/98

dearth “There was no dearth of criticism of his work.” H. L. Mencken, “The Case of Dreiser”

debacle “After leading the league for most of the season, September brought the debacle that ruined their hopes.” Roger Kahn, The Boys of Summer

debilitating “Exercise can help people overcome debilitating illnesses.” Vim & Vigor, Summer 1998

debris “They continued their support for earthquake victims in the debris of collapsed houses.” New York Daily News, 8/7/99
decade “Clearly, the first decade of the 21st century will be the ‘e-decade,’ as all forms of e-commerce and e-ways of life continue to grow.” Letter to the editor, New York Times, 1/1/00

decadence “I said earlier that the decadence of our language is probably curable.” George Orwell, Politics and the English Language

decapitate “The FBI hoped that the arrest of the drug lord would decapitate the illegal organization.” David Denby, Beyond Rangoon

declared “Some of the province’s most illustrious men visited the courthouse and declared within its four walls.” Hazel Grinnell, Travel Journal

decorum “My father’s sense of decorum was shattered by his son’s bad behavior in the restaurant.” Peter Balakian, Black Dog of Fate

decrepit “Some schools are in such decrepit condition that students will be transferred to safer schools until repairs can be made.” NYC Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew, Newsday, 7/6/99

deem “You shall stay here as long as the proper authorities deem necessary.” Bernard Malamud, The Fixer

defamatory “His defamatory remarks about minorities are transmitted on the Internet.” TIME, 8/30/99

degraded “The world is weary of statesmen who have become degraded into politicians.” Benjamin Disraeli

deleterious “These statutes will have a deleterious effect on the public interest.” Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark, speech, 1960

delineation “There is no need for an exact delineation of a standard for a permit to hold a street meeting.” Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, decision, 1951

deluded “Mrs. Barrows had deluded herself that you visited her last evening and behaved in an unseemly manner.” James Thurber, “The Catbird Seat”

delve “We can help you delve deeper into your destination and take you places most travel companies miss.” Grand Circle Travel Booklet

demeanor “You could tell by her demeanor that she was more than a bit upset by the unexpected news.” New York Times, 9/7/99

demur “At first the Crown Prince would demur, but after being prodded, he would generally choose
dictation, which he liked least.” Elizabeth Gray Vining, *Windows for the Crown Prince*

denote “The origins of the letters ‘O.K.’ to *denote* ‘all right’ are not clear.” Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

depict “How can one *depict* the beauty and impact of Grand Canyon in words or pictures?” Freeman Tilden, *The National Parks*

derorable “The troops were amazed at the *deplorable* conditions in the refugee camp.” *Newsweek*, 5/12/97

deploy “Eisenhower expressed the hope that the United States would not be the first to *deploy* a weapon so horrible.” David McCullough, *Truman*

deprecate “Why do they always *deprecate* the efforts of a woman press secretary, but rarely a man doing the same job?” *New York*, 9/25/95


derived “His political success is *derived* mainly from the public awareness of his prominent family.” *TIME*, 2/16/98

desist “My husband kicked me under the table and warned me to *desist.*” Phyllis Krasilovsky, “Pumpernickel in My Purse,” *New York Times*, 6/12/99

destitute “Our Supreme Court has said that any citizen has a Constitutional right to have counsel, and that the court must appoint a lawyer to defend the *destitute.*” Joseph Welch, “Should a Lawyer Defend a Guilty Man?”

desultory “Mortimer enters and, distracted by what his aunts are doing, plants a *desultory* kiss upon Elaine’s cheek.” Joseph Kesselring, *Arsenic and Old Lace*


detriment “The New York City Board of Education voted not to renew the chancellor’s contract as the majority viewed him as a *detriment* to improvements in education.” *New York Newsday*, 1/4/00

devout “This author has a *devout* following among young readers.” *New York Times Book Review*, 7/25/98

dexterity “Ali built his career based on his *dexterity*, both in the ring and in the use of colorful language.” *Boxing*, 3/95

diatribe “Rebecca Gilman’s new play could easily have been an easy *diatribe* against racism.”
**dilettante** “This art exhibit is not for the *dilettante*; the subject matter is too shocking.” *New York Daily News*, 10/3/99

**diminutive** “A giant of a chef, he is a *diminutive*, modest man.” *New York Post*, 10/10/99

**discern** “He could not see that the Justice’s face was kindly nor *discern* that his voice was troubled.” William Faulkner, “Barn Burning”

**disciples** “Rick and his *disciples* dominated the entire summer scene, making it unpleasant for those who were not part of the inner circle.” Ellis R. Sloane, *Catskill Idyll* [adapted]

**discreet** “When questioned about her husband’s illegal activities, she kept a *discreet* silence.” *Newsday*, 5/16/99

**disdain** “Hillary shows *disdain* for the idea that matters other than policy are anyone’s business.” Margaret Carlson, “Uh-Oh, the Real First Lady Shows Up,” *TIME*, 6/7/99

**disgruntled** “The police believe the damage was done by a *disgruntled* ex-employee.” *Newsday*, 5/16/99

**disheveled** “The wind tugged at and *disheveled* her hair.” William Cowper, *The Task*

**dismantle** “Wayne Huizenga’s move to *dismantle* the World Series Marlin squad has hurt the Florida team at the box office.” Ralph Kiner, baseball announcer, Fox Sports [adapted]

**disparage** “It (government control) has been called crackpot, but that doesn’t *disparage* it for me.” E. B. White, *One Man’s Meat*

**disparate** “At the moment standardized tests have a *disparate* racial and ethnic impact.” Abigail Thernstrom, “Testing, the Easy Target,” *New York Times*, 6/10/99

**dispersed** “The police waded in and *dispersed* the protesting crowd.” *New York Post*, 10/23/99

**disseminate** “In the history of the world, no other tool has allowed us to *disseminate* more information than the Internet.” *Computer World*, 5/99

**dissent** “In the totalitarian state that utopianism produced, *dissent* could not be tolerated.” Anthony Lewis, “Abroad at Home,” *New York Times*, 12/31/99

**distraught** “On the veranda of Banker White’s house Helen was restless and *distraught*.” Sherwood Anderson, “Sophistication”

**divergent** “President Trump’s travel ban faced its biggest legal test yet Tuesday as a panel of federal judges prepared to hear arguments from the administration and its opponents about two fundamentally
divergent views of the executive branch and the court system.” Associated Press, 5/25/17

diversity “Mr. Oates said this rare document belonged in Queens because it is the center of ethnic diversity for this country.” New York Times, 1/5/00

divulged “The DNA tests divulged enough evidence to free him from death row.” Newsweek, 2/17/98

doddering “The image of the aged as suffering from memory loss and doddering mobility is far from accurate.” AARP Magazine, 9/99

doleful “The patients were left in doleful plight, as the whole country resounded with the consequent cry of ‘hard times’.” Washington Irving, “The Devil and Tom Walker”

domicile “At night he returned peaceably enough to his lonesome domicile.” Theodore Dreiser, “The Lost Phoebe”

dormant “The disease may lie dormant for years before becoming active and dangerous.” Johns Hopkins Health Letter, 5/97

dregs “Some certain dregs of conscience are yet within me.” William Shakespeare, Richard III

drudgery “And then she came to find the paralytic aunt—housework—janitor’s drudgery.” Anzia Yezierska, “Hunger”


dulcet “Her dulcet tones and intelligent reading of the story captivated the hearers.” “Our Town,” New York Times, 10/7/99

duped “Barnum knew the American public loved to be duped.” W. L. Phelps, American Entrepreneurs

duplicity “The duplicity of which he had been guilty weighed on his spirit.” H. C. Bunner, “Our Aromatic Uncle”

duress “Under duress she was forced to admit having lied during a 1994 deposition in her breach of contract law suit.” Associated Press report, Newsday, 6/24/99

difice “My love was like a fair house built on another man’s ground so that I have lost my edifice by mistaking the place where I erected it.” William Shakespeare, The Merry Wives of Windsor

efficacy “He runs his office with the greatest efficacy.” Sally Quinn, Chicago Sun Times, 12/9/79

effrontery “In view of his personal background, we were astonished at his effrontery in attacking the morals of the candidate.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

egotist “It takes an egotist to believe that nature has provided these beauties as a special act on his behalf.” Freeman Tilden, The National Parks

egregious “It is mystifying why some women still stick with Bill through so many egregious episodes.” Maureen Dowd, New York Times, 6/2/99

elapsed “True, a decent time had elapsed, and it was not even suggested that Waythorn had supplanted his predecessor.” Edith Wharton, The Descent of Man [adapted]
elicit “The experimental animal obviously hoped to elicit a reproduction of the pleasurable sensations he had experienced under laboratory conditions.” Loren Eiseley, “Man and Porpoise”
elucidate “The Secretary of State tried to elucidate the government’s policies in the troubled Middle East.” New York Times, 5/7/98

elusive “In his appearance there was something attractive and elusive which allured women and disposed them in his favour.” Anton Chekhov, “The Lady with the Dog”

emaciated “Twiggy, whose fame was related to her emaciated look, is now better known for her singing and dramatic talent.” Play review, New Jersey Star Ledger, 5/12/99

embellished “The prioress may not have told the correct story in all its details and she may even have embellished the story a little bit to make it more attractive.” Lin Yutang, “The Jade Goddess”

eminent “It was unbelievable that a man so eminent would actually sit in our dining room and eat our food.” V.S. Pritchett, “The Saint”

emissary “The mayor sent an emissary to the striking teachers in the hope of starting negotiations.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

emitted “The smoke that was emitted when the bomb went off made some think it was a firecracker but I thought it was a revolver shot.” Journal of Andre Gide, Vol. I

emulate “Her companions she loved and admired but could not emulate for they knew things she did not.” Rose Macaulay, The World My Wilderness

encomiums “Isn’t it sad that we receive our highest encomiums after we are gone and unable to enjoy them?” James Farley, quoted in Ruffles and Flourishes

encumbrance “Maxim decided to dispose of the encumbrance of a whining wife and three disrespectful teenagers by leaving silently in the dead of the night.” Everett Dodds, Greener Pastures [adapted]
engrossed “The wasp was engrossed utterly in her task.” Alan Devoe, “The Mad Dauber”

enhance “Her breadth of experience and determination to enhance her knowledge have increased her value to Con Edison.” Con Edison Report, Producing Excellence, 1998

enigma “He was an enigma—by this I mean that he did not look soldierly nor financial nor artistic nor anything definite at all.” Max Beerbohm, “A.V. Laider”

ennui “The ennui and utter emptiness of a life of pleasure is fast urging fashionable women to something better.” Elizabeth Cady Stanton, The Newport Convention

entourage “Sinatra was the greatest but I was never a part of his entourage, his rat pack.” Comedian Buddy Hackett to New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, New York Daily News, 7/14/99

entreaty “The police captain made one more entreaty for the unruly crowd to leave.” New York Post, 10/23/99


epithets “Four scowling men sat in the dinghy and surpassed records in the invention of epithets.” Stephen Crane, “The Open Boat”

epitome “My community considers a man in uniform to be the living epitome of heroism.” Lucius Garvin, Collected Essays

equanimité “We have to call upon our whole people to stand up with equanimity to the fire of the enemy.” Winston Churchill, speech, 1942

eradicate “The urologist said that prostate cancer patients shouldn’t hang their hopes on having the vaccine eradicate the disease in the near future.” Associated Press, “Vaccine Fights Prostate Cancer,” Newsday, 10/21/99

erudite “The erudite historian, Prof. Garrett Clark, will speak on ‘Evaluating Democracy’ at our April meeting.” Lancaster Library Bulletin, Spring 2000

eruption “We have learned about this ancient city, frozen in time by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 A.D.” Grand Circle Travel Booklet, 1999

escalation “There is a dangerous escalation in Kashmir as India and Pakistan are engaged in the worst fighting in decades.” Editorial, New York Times, 6/22/99

eschew “When in Rome, we decided to eschew Arithmetic.” Ruth McKinney, “Proof in Nine”

ethics “The vast majority of employees perform in a highly satisfactory manner because good work ethics exist in their kitchens.” Manual for School Food Service Managers in N.Y.C. Public Schools
euphemism “But now he was merely an elder statesman, the euphemism for a politician who no longer has any influence.” Robert Wallace, “Not Him”

evaluate “Mr. Gooding hopes to find the answer if his mentor gives him the chance to evaluate the prisoner.” Lawrence Van Gelder, *New York Times*, 6/4/99

evanescent “The incidents which give excellence to biography are of a volatile and evanescent kind.” Samuel Johnson, “The Rambler” No. 30

eventuated “Her illness following the chemotherapy eventuated in death.” Terrence Foy, *St. Louis Blues*

evince “The vote on Roe vs. Wade will show whether enough senators evince an interest in overturning the 1973 Supreme Court decision.” Elaine Povich, “Abortion Politics,” *Newsday*, 10/22/99

exacerbated “Jason Isringhausen’s injuries were exacerbated by his immaturity.” Howie Rose, Mets Baseball Announcer, Fox Sports, 6/8/99 [adapted]

excoriate “Senator Bradley refused to excoriate his opponent, preferring to take the high road in the campaign.” *ABC Eyewitness T.V. News*, 10/21/99

excruciating “An almost excruciating agitation results when a leaf falls into still water.” Jack London, “To Build a Fire”

exhort “There was no reason for me to exhort the guys to play hard because they were already giving me 110%.” Mets Baseball Manager Bobby Valentine on Radio Talk Show WFAN, 10/21/99

exonerate “There is no reason to exonerate him from the ordinary duties of a citizen.” Oliver Wendell Holmes, *Collected Legal Papers*


expedient “There exists the age old choice between a moral action and an expedient one.” Arthur Koestler, *Darkness at Noon*

expedite “There was a pressing need to expedite assistance to those suffering after the earthquake.” *Newsday*, 8/15/99

exploit “He has not wanted to exploit his fame as a basketball star for political advantage.” *Boston Globe*, 7/27/99

expunge “If the offender made it to adulthood without further problems, everything would be

expurgate “Lenny resisted any attempt by the law to expurgate his language dealing with personal and private behavior.” “Lenny Bruce, Voice of Shock,” Atlantic Monthly, 5/86

extant “Rumors are extant that the Federal Reserve members are greatly concerned about the irrational exuberance of investors.” Bloomberg Financial News, 4/12/98

extinct “There are many warnings that loss of habitat will make many species extinct in the near future.” “The Rotunda,” Publication of the American Museum of Natural History, 5/5/98

extol “They extol the largely nonexistent virtues of bygone eras.” Artemus Abruzzi, Commonsense

extortion “To the prince who goes forth with his army, supporting it by pillage and extortion, this open-handedness is necessary.” Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince

extraneous “The ballet struck me as extraneous and out of keeping with the rest of the play.” Wolcott Gibbs, More in Sorrow

extrinsic “Disdaining contributions from extrinsic lobbying groups, the candidate won my admiration and my vote.” Lawrence Burton, “Inside the Polls”

exult “YANKEES EXULT OVER PETTITTE’S PERFORMANCE” Headline, Sports Section, Newsday, 6/19/99

exultation “We face the year 2000 with a combination of concern and exultation.” Newsweek, 12/15/99

fabricate “Perhaps the dialogues that you fabricate are nothing more than monologues.” Miguel Unamuno, “Mist”

façade “He hid behind the façade of public servant to work at a private agenda.” H. L. Woods

facet “As soon as one becomes computer-literate, a new technical facet is introduced that challenges us once again.” New York Times, 10/25/99

facetious “Politicians must be careful about any facetious comment that can be turned into an opponent’s advantage.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

facile “We are usually more facile with words we read than with words we use to write or speak.” Charlton Laird, The Miracle of Language

factitious “The opposition was challenged by a factitious outpouring of what appeared to be popular support for the government.” Robert Kaplan, Balkan Tragedy
fallacious  “The demand was plausible, but the more I thought about it, the more fallacious it seemed.” A. D. White, Scams and Schemes [adapted]

falter  “Should we falter in our determination to pursue an honorable solution to the problems of the Middle-East, and face unthinkable consequences?” I. F. Stone, “The Weekly Reader”

fastidious  “A single small elephant tusk took no less than two months of fastidious work to excavate.” Brian Fagan, Time Detectives

fatal  “What caused him to lose the election was his fatal mistake of not raising sufficient funds to publicize himself.” Jewell Bellush and Dick Netzer, Urban Politics

fatuous  “After only a few seconds of silence, speakers of English seem obligated to say something, even making a fatuous comment about the weather.” Bill Bryson, The Mother Tongue

feasible  “Everyone who has looked at the smart guns said there is no quick, feasible way of doing this.” Leslie Wayne, “Smart Guns,” New York Times, 6/15/99

feint  “Young as Oliver was, he had sense enough to make a feint of feeling great regret at going away.” Charles Dickens, Oliver Twist

felicitous  “The evening of hypnotism was not a felicitous one; we were frightened that we would lose our will or enter into unpleasant acts.” Diary of Anais Nin

felon  “I was surprised to see this notorious felon become a regular at our bible discussion classes.” Rabbi Myron David, A Chaplain’s Jail Tales [adapted]

ferment  “She herself yearned for calm, but lived in a neighborhood of ferment and daily chaos.” Alan Lelchuk, American Mischief

fervid  “I’m a mixture of my mother’s determination and my father’s fervid optimism.” Gwen Robyns, Light of A Star

fetish  “Today the automobile has become a fetish for one’s standing and accomplishments.” Mark Twain, Autobiography

fetters  “The cruel fetters of the galley slaves were wet with blood.” Alex Haley, Roots

fiasco  “The BaltimoreLink transit system is going to be a fiasco and nobody should take such bad treatment lying down.” Katharine W. Rylaarsdam, The Baltimore Sun, 5/23/17

fiat  “Pitching Coach Bob Apodaca’s fiat to Met hurlers was simple: pitch fast, change speeds, throw strikes.” Howie Rose, baseball announcer, Fox Sports, 7/8/99

flabbergasted  “The President was flabbergasted when his private office recorded conversations were made public.” Herbert Brucker, Journalist
flagrant “Gene Savoy’s flagrant name dropping doesn’t seem to bother any of the visitors on board.” Brad Wetzler, “Crazy for Adventure,” New York Times, 6/6/99

flamboyant “Dame Judi Dench is not as flamboyant as the other British theatrical Dames such as Vanessa Redgrave or Maggie Smith.” Playbill, Vol. 9, No. 55

flay “There is no shortage of critics who flay the journalists for being sensation seekers rather than news gatherers.” Herbert Brucker, Journalist

fledgling “Women’s professional basketball, recently a fledgling sport, has taken root and grown into a major spectator event.” Sports, 9/14/99

flout “His ideas frightened the farmers, for he would flout and ridicule their traditional beliefs with a mocking logic that they could not answer.” S. Raja Ratnam, “Drought”

fluctuated “He fluctuated between mindless talk and endless silence.” Alix Shulman, “Memoirs of an Ex-Prom Queen”

foist “Eventually, advertisements began to foist off the use of perfume as a way to snare a man.” E. S. Turner, The Shocking History of Advertising [adapted]

foment “The petitioners were not attempting to foment violence by their peaceful actions.” Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, decision, 1960

forlorn “Maher is the indefatigable force who helped transform a forlorn place into Pogo Park, one of the most innovative and jubilant public spaces in the United States.” Patricia Lee Brown, Christian Science Monitor, 5/24/17

forthwith “Get down to your Toyota dealer forthwith and take advantage of our holiday saleabration.” Toyota advertisement, CBS TV


fracas “Once the will was read, there followed a fracas that involved numerous law suits and lasted years.” Fortune, 2/16/91

fractious “The fractious couple received a tongue lashing from Judge Judy.” Arnold Feigenbaum, “Television Justice?”

frail “This frail woman has the strength to work where the strong turn away.” “Mother Teresa,” New Republic, 10/16/97

fraught “Ev’ry sigh comes forth so fraught with sweets, ’Tis incense to be offered to a god.” Nathaniel Lee, The Rival Queens
"To the latter end of a fray and the beginning of a feast, Fits a dull fighter and a keen guest."
William Shakespeare, *Henry IV*

**frenetic** “There is no place more frenetic than a newspaper office when a major story is breaking.”
Herbert Brucker, *Journalist*

"They had a sense of the wildest adventure, which mounted to frenzy, when some men rose on the shore and shouted to them, ‘Hello, there! What are you doing with that boat?’ ”
William Dean Howells, *A Boy’s Town*

**fretful** “When Mike Nichols directed ‘Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?’ Warner Bros. was fretful, worrying about the Legion of Decency.”

**frugal** “He was famously frugal—‘so tight he damn near squeaked’ says a colleague.”

**fruitless** “Since launching a diplomatic shuttle, the Russian envoy had spent dozens of fruitless hours with the Yugoslav dictator.”

**frustrated** “I will not be frustrated by reality.”
Ray Bradbury, *Forever and the Earth*

**fulsome** “I was appreciative of his sincere and fulsome praise.”
Ruth McKinney, “A Loud Sneer for Our Feathered Friends”

**furtive** “Hogan directed a furtive glance up and down the alley.”
John Steinbeck, “How Mr. Hogan Robbed a Bank”

**futility** “Resistance to changes in English language rules often ends in futility.”
Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

**galvanize** “While he could not galvanize an audience, he could make them think.”
George Jean Nathan, *House of Satan*

"At one end of the gamut of slang’s humor is what Oliver Wendell Holmes called ‘the blank checks of a bankrupt mind.’ ”
Bergen Evans, “Now Everyone is Hip About Slang”

**garbled** “A garbled account of the matter that had reached his colleagues led to some gentle ribbing.”

**garrulous** “The more he drank, the more garrulous he became, until he suddenly seemed to fade out.”
Lawrence O’Brien, *W. C. Fields*

**gaudy** “This computer drawing program permits children to express themselves in the most gaudy art they can imagine.”
*Working Mother*, 5/96

**gaunt** “Her gaunt expression was mistaken for weakness of spirit, whereas it told the sad story of her
life.” George Eliot, *Middle March*

**genocide** “Accounts of the destruction of masses of people recall that genocide is an ancient practice.” Otto Friedrich, *Before the Deluge*

**genre** “There is a certain difference between a work called a romance and the genre known as the novel.” Nathaniel Hawthorne

**germane** “In assigning ratings to films, is it not germane to consider the nature and extent of violence shown?” *The Hollywood Reporter*, 5/19/97

**gesticulating** “‘Three times’ was still all he could say, in his thick, angry voice, gesticulating at the commissaire and glaring at me.” Francis Steegmuller, “The Foreigner”

**gist** “The gist of it is . . . love is a great beautifier.” Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*

**gleaned** “I gleaned what I could from college, but independent reading soon broadened my horizons.” I. F. Stone, *Weekly Reader*

**glib** “It is not glib to maintain that truth can never be contained in one creed.” Mary Augusta Ward, *Robert Elsmere*

**gratitude** “What form of gratuity would compensate his informer’s key bit of information?” Dashiell Hammett, *Red Harvest*

**gregariousness** “We will take with us one thing alone that exists among porpoises as among men; an ingrained gregariousness.” Loren Eiseley, “Man and Porpoise”

**grimace** “When informed of the death of his best friend, he was unemotional, not a grimace marred his face.” James Jones, *The Thin Red Line*

**grotesque** “Nowadays, men have to work, and women to marry for money; it’s a dreadfully grotesque world.” Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*

**guise** “Freedom is not worth fighting for, if, under its guise, one tries to get as much as he can for himself.” Dorothy Canfield Fisher, *Seasoned Timber*

**gullible** “‘Charles the horse was wonderful!’ cried a gullible goose.” James Thurber, “What Happened to Charles”

**gusto** “Ali faced each fight with supreme confidence and challenged his opponents with wit and gusto.” “His Greatest Challenge,” *Sports Illustrated*, 5/5/97

**habitat** “Billy begins to be happy about life only in an artificial but cozy habitat on another planet.” William Bly, *Barron’s Book Notes*, *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
halcyon “The halcyon days we recall with pleasure had many clouded moments.” Wolcott Gibbs, New Yorker, 4/8/49

hapless “Parents, too, have an almost irresistible impulse to mold their children in their own image or at least graft a few of their own ambitions onto their hapless offspring.” Arthur Gordon, “The Neglected Art of Being Different”

harassing “Over the next weeks came more amendments and harassing tactics including a motion to postpone selection of a new capital.” Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years

harbingers “It is easy enough to find harbingers of the episode in the early coverage of Mrs. Dole’s candidacy.” TIME, 5/24/99

havens “The desire to escape the city has filtered down into every other economic group, and as a result of the suburb’s popularity, that haven of refuge is itself filling up.” Lewis Mumford, “The Roaring Traffic’s Boom”


heinous “All crimes against a whole people are measured by the heinous ones carried out by Hitler.” Civilization, 12/99

heresy “Calvin had written that heresy was not an evil, deserving death.” Herbert Brucker, Journalist

heterogeneous “The family is heterogeneous enough to make quite a good party in itself.” Rose Macauley, The World My Wilderness

hirsute “The difference between this rock concert and one 10 years earlier is the marked decrease in hirsute young men.” TIME, 8/8/99

histrionics “Bobby Valentine’s histrionics will be irrelevant, because Rule 51 states that any manager who is ejected must remain in the clubhouse until the game is over.” Jack Curry, “Valentine is Suspended and Fined,” New York Times, 6/11/99

hoard “Many people give freely of their affections while you hoard yours.” Joseph Conrad, Victory

hoax “Frank Spencer, an anthropologist who rummaged through the bones of controversy to theorize about the identity of the mastermind behind the Piltdown Man hoax of 1912, died on Sunday.” Obituary notice, New York Times, 6/12/99

homogeneous “Archaeologists have unearthed evidence showing that the people of ancient Egypt were far from a homogeneous civilization.” Brian Fagan, Time Detective

hostile “He might commit some hostile act, attempt to strike me or choke me.” Jack London, White
Fang

humility  “Early in life I had to choose between arrogance and humility; I chose arrogance.” Frank Lloyd Wright

hyperbole  “It is not hyperbole to state that, most terribly, justice and judgment lie often a world apart.” Emmeline Pankhurst, My Own Story

iconoclast  “He was an iconoclast about everything, except his love of money.” Garry Wills, syndicated newspaper column, 3/8/79

idyllic  “The brilliant Hawaiian sunrise beckons you to a great breakfast as your tour of the idyllic islands begins.” Brochure for Perillo Tours

ignominious  “Henry Clay had ambition to become president, but he faced an ignominious series of setbacks.” H. Foner, Failed Candidates

ilk  “‘That’s the standard line,’ Ron said, ‘as promoted by some Japanese businessmen and American spokesmen of their ilk.’” Michael Crichton, Rising Sun

imbibe  “I got up and went downstairs and into the kitchen to imbibe my first cup of coffee before going to the barn.” Glenway Wescott, The Breath of Bulls

imminent  “I admired the easy confidence with which my chief loped from side to side of his wheel and trimmed the ship so closely that disaster seemed ceaselessly imminent.” Mark Twain, Life on the Mississippi

impeccable  “That is why the so-called ‘better’ juvenile books, skillfully constructed, morally sanitary, psychologically impeccable—don’t really make much of a dent on the child’s consciousness.” Clifton Fadiman, “My Life is an Open Book”

impede  “Judge Jones has become known for her anger at defense lawyers who try to impede executions through legal maneuvers.” David Firestone, “Death Penalty Conference,” New York Times, 8/19/99

imperative  “But unlike the others, Mrs. Hassan had yet another imperative: her son Huseyin has leukemia and needs blood.” Edmund L. Andrews, “I Cannot Die,” New York Times, 8/19/99

imperceptibly  “In the two decades since W. Ugams had come to Boston, his status had imperceptibly shifted.” John Updike, New Yorker, 10/22/60

imperturbable  “The Prince de Ligne had given the Empress Catherine the name of imperturbable, or immovable.” Walter Tooke, The Life of Catherine

impetuous  “He displayed the impetuous vivacity of youth.” Samuel Johnson, “The Rambler” No. 27
impious “The Sun is regard the Shias as impious heretics.” Matthew Arnold, *Essays in Criticism*

implacable “It seemed folly for this young man to hope to create a self-supporting farm in such an implacable environment.” Leland Stowe, *Crusoe of Lonesome Lake*

implored “No beggars implored Scrooge to bestow a trifle, no children asked him what it was o’clock.” Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

importuned “Many businessmen were importuned to come to Washington.” John McDonald, *On Capitol Hill*

impresario “He was an egregious impresario of letters who kept a squad of writers churning out copy marketed under his signature.” C. J. Rolo, *No Business Like Show Business* [adapted]


imprudent “We are not so imprudent as to destroy the bees that work for us.” Robert Tanner, *Principles of Agriculture*

impunity “Swaraj means that not a single Hindu or Mussulman shall for a moment crush with impunity meek Hindus or Mussulmans.” Mohandas K. Gandhi, “The Untouchables”

inadvertently “In our report on NASCAR RACING, we inadvertently attributed a quote to Doris O’Bryant.” Correction made by TIME editors, 6/21/99

inane “When left with nothing to talk about, people resort to inane remarks about the weather.” Lawrence Kaminer, “A World of Strangers”

inanimate “We assumed that the inanimate body in the rubble was dead but the dog, trained to distinguish between live and dead bodies, knew better.” Stephen Kinzer, “Turkish Earthquake Relief,” *New York Times*, 8/21/99


inchoate “The general plan is inchoate and incoherent and the particular treatments disconnected.” Hillary Corke, *Global Economy*


incisive “Your hands are keen, your mind incisive, your sensitivity deep, your vision well honed.” Thomas A. Dooley, “To a Young Doctor”
inclement “The inclement weather that has given us fits recently is over, and I’m looking for blue skies for all of next week.” Weather forecast from ABC’s Sam Champion, Eyewitness News, 6/23/99

incoherent “So seldom do editors get what they think they want that they tend to become incoherent in their insistent repetition of their needs.” Jerome Weidman, “Back Talk”

incompatible “Once men tried to reach heaven by building a tower, and I made their formats incompatible.” Garrison Keillor, “Faith at the Speed of Light,” TIME, 6/14/99

incongruous “He was clothed with tatters of old ship’s canvas: and this extraordinary patchwork was held together by a system of various and incongruous fastenings.” Robert Louis Stevenson, Treasure Island

incontrovertible “The Wilsons lived in a universe of words linked into an incontrovertible firmament by two centuries of Calvinist divines.” John Dos Passos, U.S.A.

incredulous “The Nazi war on cancer?—other readers may be as incredulous as I was when this book came to my attention.” Michael Sherry, New York Times, 5/23/99

incumbent “As a Muslim, the Director of Interfaith Affairs for the Islamic Center said that it is incumbent on him to actively engage others in the service of Allah.” Jioni Palmer, “Vigil to Address Growing Violence,” Newsday, 10/10/99

indict “You can’t indict a whole nation, particularly on such vague grounds as these were.” Robert M. Coates, “The Law”

indifference “David sees Ham who, although now shows indifference to life, swims out to save people from a shipwreck.” Holly Hughes, Barron’s Book Notes, David Copperfield by Charles Dickens

indigenous “A MacArthur Foundation grant was given to Dennis A. Moore for helping to preserve the language and culture of indigenous groups in Brazil.” Announcement of MacArthur Grants, 6/23/99


indiscriminate “The indiscriminate spraying of pesticides add a new chapter, a new kind of havoc.” Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

indoctrinated “Teachers have indoctrinated students in practical subjects like home ec.” Jodie Morse, “Hitched in Home Room,” TIME, 6/21/99

indolent “This indolent weather turns a student’s thoughts toward last-minute truancy.” Darcy Frey, “The Last Shot”

inebriated “Red Skelton’s inebriated clown who was guzzling Smuggler’s Gin is one of the all-time
great comedy sketches.” Paul De Simone, “They Made Us Laugh” [adapted]


inert “The Japanese drifted inert in his life jacket watching 449 approach until the bow crossed in front of him.” Robert J. Donovan, PT 109

inevitable “The ‘High Occupancy Vehicle’ lanes were an attempt to avoid the otherwise inevitable traffic delays on the Expressway.” Newsday, 9/23/99

inexorably “Note that it is all in one long sentence, developing inexorably like the slow decay of our lives.” Clifton Fadiman, “They Have Their Exits and Their Entrances”

infallible “He had an infallible ear for the way people spoke, and he imitated them in his writing.” Reader’s Encyclopedia

infamous “The unsubstantiated computer rumors for which the Internet is infamous began flowing within hours of the arrival of Jan. 1 in Asia.” Barnaby Feder, “Internet’s Cheering Squad Nervously Watches Clock,” New York Times, 1/1/00

infraction “Order cannot be secured through fear of punishment for an infraction against a political entity.” Supreme Court Justice William Brennan, decision,10/64

ingratiate “This tax was abolished by Richard III to ingratiate himself with the people.” Sir Francis Bacon, Henry VII

inherent “Harvey lacked graduate degrees but his inherent knowledge of human nature enabled him to be successful as a personnel manager.” “Rungs on the Corporate Ladder,” American Management Association brochure

inhibition “With all this ‘inhibition’ stuff and Freudian approach and ‘group play,’ you get the distinct impression that people are actually afraid of their kids.” William Michelfelder, The Fun of Doing Nothing

iniquity “I lack iniquity Sometime to do me service.” William Shakespeare, Othello

initiate “The Russian army seems ready to initiate a new offensive against the defenders of the capital of Chechnya.” New York Post, 1/10/00

innate “Nothing makes the weak strong or the fearful brave as much as our bodies’ innate drive to stay alive.” William Safire, “Why Die?,” New York Times, 1/1/00

innocuous “Howell’s seemingly innocuous remark about Tanya’s footwear led to a torrent of curses from the petite brunette.” George Sokolsky, Very Thin Ice”
inordinate “Was it, perhaps, because his back had broken under his inordinate burden?” I. L. Peretz, “Buntcheh the Silent”

insatiable “One needs an insatiable curiosity to succeed in the new technical world-wide spread of information.” Jared Diamond, “Guns, Germs, and Steel”

insidious “For them, civilization is an insidious but no less sure and deadly poison.” Hernando Bates, Central America

integral “Let Office 2000 be an integral part of your productivity tools.” Newspaper ad for Microsoft Office 2000

interjected “The accountant interjected, saying that you can buy a better house in New Jersey than on Long Island for the same money.” Ken Moritsugu, “Nowhere to Build,” Newsday, 6/25/99

interlopers “Indeed, the magazine managers are treated as foreign interlopers.” Michael Woolf, “Tribune and Tribulation,” New York, 7/5/99

interminably “In his clean white shirt and blue jeans, with one hand resting carelessly on the black box, he seemed very proper and important as he talked interminably to Mr. Graves and the Martins.” Shirley Jackson, “The Lottery”

internecine “Eight thousand zealots stabbed each other in internecine massacre.” L. H. Farrar, Early Christians

interrogate “The District Attorney of Nassau County is set to interrogate a Malverne police officer who was arrested on shoplifting charges.” Associated Press report, New York Times, 8/20/99

intimidate “New language could target loiterers with no apparent purpose other than to intimidate others from entering those areas.” Margaret Hornblower, “Ending the Roundups,” TIME, 6/21/99

intrepid “Scientists and support staff began celebrating the new year along with a planeload of tourists and seven intrepid skiers.” Malcolm Browne, “Absence of Midnight Doesn’t Darken Spirits,” New York Times, 1/1/00

intrinsic “We appear to have lost the belief that honesty is an intrinsic aspect of political leadership.” Editorial, Christian Science Monitor, 5/17/98

introspective “All had the thin, narrow faces and large, wide-open eyes—introspective eyes.” Ivan Cankar, “Children and Old Folk”

inundated “We do know that the moon’s surface has not been eroded by wind or rain or ice or snow and has not been inundated by oceans, lakes or rivers.” Lee A. DuBridge, “Sense and Nonsense About Space”

invalidate “Some Reagan and Bush appointees have proved far too willing to invalidate decisions...”

**inventive** “I watched him walk into the clubhouse, kick a bench and break a toe, never once stopping the flow of *inventive*.” Jack Altshul, “Why Should the Other Guy Beat Me?”

**inveighed** “The County Executive *inveighed* against scofflaws who owe a total of $60 million.” Television news broadcast, CBS, 6/23/99

**inveterate** “The *inveterate* Boston Red Sox fan faces seemingly endless disappointment.” Peter Balakian, “Black Dogs of Fate”

**inviable** “The coach broke an *inviable* rule by striking one of his players.” Don DeLillo, *End Zone*

**irascible** “He became so *irascible* that within six months he lost his wife and half of his office staff.” Herman Wouk, *Don’t Stop the Carnival*

**irate** “I got *irate* because people have been yelling at me my whole life.” Olivia Winslow, “Cop Tells of a Confession,” *Newsday*, 6/23/99

**irrational** “He became *irrational* and threatened to commit suicide.” Darcy Frey, “The Last Shot”

**irrelevant** “What has existed in the past seems to him not only not authoritative, but *irrelevant*, inferior, and outworn.” George Santayana, *Character and Opinion in the United States*

**itinerant** “Hamlet greeted the group of *itinerant* actors and made them part of a plan to trap Claudius.” *Barron’s Educational Series, Book Notes*

**jaunty** “The cadet was very trim in his red breeches and blue tunic, his white gloves spotless, his white cockade *jaunty*, his heart in his mouth.” Alexander Woolcott, “Entrance Fee”

**jeopardized** “Cancellation of the event would have *jeopardized* the financial survival of the organization.” Nat Hentoff, “Picket Lines are Labor’s Free Speech,” *Village Voice*, 6/15/99

**jettison** “He refused to *jettison* any of the manners and behavior that made him seem so odd.” William Connor, *Daily Mirror*, London, 1956

**jocose** “He caught the sound of *jocose* talk and ringing laughter from behind the hedges.” George Eliot, *Adam Bede*

**jostled** “When the squeege man *jostled* him, the police officer said that he feared for his life.” Kit Roane, “Squeege Man Scared Him,” *New York Times*, 6/25/99

**jubilant** “When he finally reached Boston, he received a *jubilant* welcome.” Keith Ayling, “Race Around the World”


labyrinth “He himself was so lost in the labyrinth of his own unquiet thoughts that I did not exist.” Daphne Du Maurier, Rebecca

lacerations “He pressed only the already tired horse at such speed that his spurs made lacerations in its sides, and at last the poor animal died.” Honore De Balzac, A Passion in the Desert

lackluster “The major reason for the lackluster look in their eyes was their discovery it is now possible to drive across the face of the nation without feeling you’ve been anywhere or that you’ve done anything.” John Keats, “The Call of the Open Road”


lampoon “Many new TV shows succeed because they lampoon the behavior of teenagers.” John Leonard, New York, 10/15/97

landmarks “The remarkable trees formed good landmarks by which the place might easily be found again.” Washington Irving, “The Devil and Tom Walker”

largess “A largess universal like the sun, His liberal eye doth give to every one.” William Shakespeare, Henry IV

lassitude “To poets it’s vernal lassitude but to us it’s simply spring fever.” Brochure, Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce

latent “All our latent strength was now alive.” Winston Churchill, Their Finest Hour

laudable “American historians, in their eagerness to present facts and their laudable anxiety to tell the truth, have neglected the literary aspects of their craft.” Samuel Eliot Morrison, By Land and by Sea

lax “The fact that his employer was lax on this score was one of many things that he had to condone.” Henry James, “Brooksmith”


legion “Though not Hollywood handsome, Tommy’s success with the fair sex was legion.” Janet Murphy, “Babylon on the Hudson”
lethal “By evening we couldn’t even get any more people indoors where they would have had some protection from the lethal fallout.” Florence Moog, “The Bombing of St. Louis”

lethargic “Ricky Henderson’s lethargic stroll toward second base led the sports reporters to blast him in yesterday’s papers.” Ralph Kiner, baseball announcer, Fox Sports News, 10/4/99

levity “There was something about the company’s president that made levity seem out of place.” Lloyd Sperling, A Boiler Room Operation

libel “Issues such as freedom of speech and libel are going to have to be rethought as the Internet makes everyone a potential publisher in cyberspace.” Thomas L. Friedman, “Boston E-Party,” New York Times, 1/1/00

liquidation “Hiding the forty-six comrades who were scheduled for liquidation became much easier.” David Hackett, The Buchenwald Report

lithe “Tasteless headlines screamed ‘Newtie’s Cutie’ to describe the lithe hymn-singing young staff member who inexplicably fell for her portly Newt.” Robert Reno, “Political Garbage,” Newsday, 8/19/99

livid “Livid with anger, the poster boy for road rage jumped out of his red convertible and came running toward us.” Letter to the Editor, “Big Road Hazard,” Newsday, 8/19/99


loathing “He had braced himself not to become entangled in her loathing for him.” Phillip Roth, American Pastoral

longevity “The longevity of metal parts is increased by this new process.” Report, General Motors Corporation

lucrative “Very quickly it became a surprisingly lucrative property.” David McCullough, The Great Bridge

lugubrious “Lugubrious notices on the passing of old friends were a feature of the local paper.” TIME, 8/20/99

lurid “We thought the rookie’s tale was too lurid to be believed, but it turned out to be true.” Chuck Cavanna, Life in the Minors

lush “Can one run for political office without the promise of lush campaign contributions from many sources?” “Steve Forbes; In His Own Debt,” Parade, 9/15/99

Machiavellian “Is there any clearer example of Machiavellian plotting than that of Iago in ‘Othello’?” John Simon, Reverse Angle
magnanimous “There was no way he was going to be magnanimous and share this prized baseball with anyone who claimed a share of the glory.” Don DeLillo, *Underworld*

maimed “Films in which characters are maimed or destroyed seem to be most popular with today’s youngsters.” Harold Owen, Jr., “The Motion Picture”

maladjusted “The natural assumption is that the teenage killers at Columbine H.S. were maladjusted youngsters but some neighbors denied that.” Letters to the Editor, *Washington Post*, 7/14/99

malady “Homesickness can be a disease as trivial as a slight cold or it can be a deadly malady.” Z. Libin, “A Sign of Summer”

malevolent “Our military action against the malevolent head of the Serbian government has finally ended.” *Newsweek*, 4/8/99

malign “His chosen weapon is the verbal hand grenade by which he can outrage and malign.” Kenneth Tynan, “On Don Rickles,” *New Yorker*, 2/20/78

malignant “The wailing chorus turned into a malignant clamor that swirled into my ears like an icy breeze.” Kenneth Roberts, *Oliver Wiswell*

malleable “Is the mayor able to change from an apparently rigid personality to one more malleable to differences?” Alec Kuczynski, “The Mayor’s Makeover,” *New York Times Magazine*, 8/1/99

malnutrition “The children of the Albanian refugees are suffering from malnutrition, and they need our help.” Red Cross Appeal for Funds

mammoth “She began to repair the ravages made by generosity added to love—a tremendous task, dear friends—a mammoth task.” O. Henry, “The Gift of the Magi”


manifest “English is one of the great borrowing languages, more manifest in the origin of so many of our words.” Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*


martinet “The prospect of having to talk to Sheila’s principal, a real martinet, made him nervous, but he steeled himself to do it.” John Yount, “The Trapper’s Last Shot”

masticate “Trying to masticate a huge hamburger with an open mouth is a no-no.” Advice from Ms. Manners, syndicated columnist, 6/4/98
mastiffs “That island of England breeds very valiant creatures; their mastiffs are of unmatchable courage.” William Shakespeare, *Henry V*

materialism “Democracy always makes for materialism, because the only kind of equality that you can guarantee to a whole people is physical.” Katherine F. Gerould, *Modes and Morals*

maudlin “Uncle Billy passed rapidly into a state of stupor, the Duchess became maudlin, and Mother Shipton snored.” Bret Harte, “The Outcasts of Poker Flat”

megalomania “Charlie desperately wanted Armaxco to lease space in what so far was the worst mistake of his career, the soaring monster that his megalomania led him to call Croker Concourse.” Tom Wolfe, *A Man in Full*

mendacious “Hillary joined in efforts to dismiss as mendacious tarts all the women who claimed to have been involved with her husband.” Maureen Dowd, “The Boy Can’t Help It,” *New York Times*, 8/4/99

menial “It is difficult to visualize the numbers of menial laborers required to build the famous Egyptian pyramids.” E. A. Wallis Budge, *The Mummy*

mentor “To break into the political life of South Africa, one needed a highly placed mentor.” Nadine Gordimer, *Face to Face*

mercenary “We all like money . . . but Dickens surpassed most in a mercenary approach to his writings.” G. K. Chesterton, *Charles Dickens*

metamorphosis “For nearly a year, the dauber, undergoing metamorphosis, inhabits its silken dung-stoppered cocoon inside the mud cell.” Alan Devoe, “The Mad Dauber”

meticulous “Even later, in 1992, Barnstead’s meticulous records allowed researchers to put names on six previously unidentified Titanic survivors.” “Titanic and Halifax,” The Nova Scotia Museum

mien “He had the mien of a man who has been everywhere and through everything.” Arnold Bennett, *The Old Wives Tale*

milieu “In the milieu of a heated baseball championship contest, tickets are being sold at highly inflated prices.” *New York Post*, 10/10/99

modified “Some schools claimed that the standard test was a lot harder than a modified version.” Ching-Cheng Ni, “Fewer Rumbles on Earth Test,” *Newsday*, 6/23/99

mollify “The mayor attempted to mollify his critics by pointing to the increased safety in the city.” *New York Daily News*, 8/15/99

monolithic “Gertrude Stein was a stolid, heavy presence, monolithic, unladylike.” Liz Smith, “When Love Was the Adventure,” *TIME*, 6/14/99
moribund “After being moribund for years, interest in electric automobiles has revived.” Car and Driver, 6/97

mortality “Socrates loves talk of fundamental things, of justice and virtue and wisdom and love and mortality.” Hermann Hagedorn, Socrates—His Life

mortify “The comparisons between her sister’s beauty and her own no longer would mortify her.” Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

motivate “The loss of our star quarterback seemed to motivate the team to play even harder.” Bill Parcells quoted in Sports Illustrated, 9/12/98


munificent “His munificent gift will enable us to place computers in all the elementary schools.” Newsday, 6/20/98

murky “Mud dumping from the bottom of Long Island has created a murky picture.” “Fishermen’s Woes,” Newsday, 6/22/99

myriad “Genius is not born with sight, but blind: it is influenced by a myriad of stimulating exterior circumstances.” Mark Twain, “Saint Joan of Arc”

nadir “He knew he had reached the nadir of his baseball career when they sent him to a minor league team.” Roger Kahn, The Boys of Summer

naive “Woodrow Wilson was naive to believe Yugoslavia could be formed after World War I.” Letter to the Editor, New Yorker, 6/26/99

nascent “The once nascent Women’s National Basketball Association has arrived and is healthy and prosperous.” New York Times, 7/17/99

nebulous “There is a nebulous line between confidence and over-confidence.” Editorial, Wall Street Journal, 4/8/99


negligible “These politicians have voted themselves a big pay raise for the negligible amount of work they do.” The Queens Tribune, 8/6/98

nepotism “Political allies and family members filled government jobs as nepotism flourished.” Paul Alter, This Windy City

nettled “He was pretty well nettled by this time, and he stood in front of a bureau mirror, brushing
his hair with a pair of military brushes.” James Thurber, “More Alarms at Night”

neurotic “We shall lose all our power to cope with our problem if we allow ourselves to become a stagnant, neurotic, frightened and suspicious people.” Walter Lippmann, “The Nuclear Age”

neutralize “The quinine that can neutralize his venom is called courage.” Elmer Davis, But We Were Born Free

nirvana “Nirvana is in putting your child to sleep, and in writing the last line of your poem.” Kahlil Gibran, Sand and Foam

noisome “The noisome conditions in the refugee camps were a disgrace and a danger.” Newsday, 8/7/99

nomadic “After buying the big trailer, they spent a nomadic year visiting national parks out west.” “On the Road Again,” Travel Ideas International

nominal “As the nominal head of his party, the governor was courted by all the Sunday morning talk shows.” Archer Karnes, “Politics and Poker”

nondescript “Jane Austen can picture ordinary, commonplace and nondescript characters in ways denied to me.” Walter Scott, Journal, 1826

nonentity “With sufficient financial backing, almost any political nonentity could become a national contender.” Washington Post, 6/15/98

nostalgia “The various objects one picks up just before leaving a foreign country are apt to acquire an extraordinary souvenir-value, giving one a foretaste of distance and nostalgia.” Corrado Alvaro, “The Ruby”

nuance “With Minnie Driver adroitly mining each nuance of social primness, Jane is the first Disney cartoon heroine to provide her own comic relief.” Richard Corliss, “Him Tarzan, Him Great,” TIME, 6/14/99

nullify “Allowing our parks to decay is a sure way to nullify the beauty given to us by nature.” Freeman Tilden, The National Parks


nutritive “They searched for anything that had nutritive value, but often found nothing.” “The Irish Famine,” Harpers, 5/73

obliging “It’s in our nature to be socially obliging, and the word ‘no’ feels like a confrontation that threatens a potential bond.” Kristen Wong, Why You Should Learn to Say “No” More Often
obliterate “They went out to survey the land for a possible railroad, but met with Indians on the warpath and were obliterated.” Freeman Tilden, The National Parks [adapted]

obloquy “Hitler and his Nazis showed how evil a conspiracy could be which was aimed at destroying a race by exposing it to contempt, derision, and obloquy.” Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, decision, 10/52

obscure “This book has serious purpose even if many will find that purpose obscure.” Decision of Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, 11/62

obsequious “and the survivor bound In filial obligation for some term To do obsequious sorrow.” William Shakespeare, Hamlet

obsess “To obsess over acquisitions is especially damaging to human felicity.” Llewelyn Powys, Earth Memories

obsolescence “After five centuries of obsolescence, Roman numerals still exert a peculiar fascination over the inquiring mind.” Isaac Asimov, “Nothing Counts”

obviate “Modest pre-emptive acting can obviate the need for more drastic actions at a later date that could destabilize the economy.” Alan Greenspan, quoted in New Jersey Star Ledger, 5/6/99

occult “Somehow, horror films have changed from one main figure who threatens a town or young women, to occult spirits that take over a normal human for unknown reasons.” Pauline Kael, I Lost It at the Movies

octogenarian “Octogenarian film and stage director Elia Kazan received a mixed reception when he came up to collect his Lifetime Achievement Award.” Associated Press report, 4/7/98

ominous “There was a Sabbath lull in the air, which, in a settlement unused to Sabbath influences, looked ominous.” Bret Harte, “The Outcasts of Poker Flat”

omnipotent “In those comic strips there was always a cruel and omnipotent villain.” Letter, New York Times, 9/13/99

omnivorous “He became an omnivorous reader of the classics.” T. S. Lovering, Child Prodigies

opprobrium “General Sherman is still viewed with opprobrium in these parts of the South he once destroyed.” Edmund Wilson, Patriotic Gore

opulent “Poirot followed him, looking with appreciation at such works of art as were of an opulent and florid nature.” Agatha Christie, “The Dream”

originated “The early Egyptian rulers, in order to stop the practice of cannibalism, originated the method that protected the dead—mummification.” E. A. Wallis Budge, The Mummy
ostensibly “The race was ostensibly to test the reliability of the automobiles.” Keith Ayling, *The Race Around the World*

ostentatious “He affected simplicity, partly because he was ugly, but more because being ostentatious might have irritated those of whom he always spoke of as ‘my fellow citizens.’” Emil Ludwig, *Michelangelo*

oust “Politics will still exist as in the Republican campaign to oust Bill Clinton.” James Pinkerton, “Mediocre Pols,” *Newsday*, 6/17/99

overt “It is peculiarly shocking that Brutus practices overt self-deception.” Harold Bloom, *Shakespeare*

pall “A pall had descended upon Mr. Timberlake, and I understood why he did not talk to me about the origin of evil.” V. S. Pritchett, “The Saint”

palliate “Reducing the testosterone would palliate the cancer, the oncologist believed, but it wouldn’t be a cure.” Dr. Mervyn Elliot, “Medicine in the News”

paltry “Marvin was baffled by the paltry amount of money the widow was asking for her husband’s elegant Rolls Royce.” Barnett Lesser, “One Man’s Will”

panaceas “Mrs. Clinton said that she was in Rochester to listen and learn not to offer panaceas for all civic problems.” Associated Press report, “Pre-Campaign Strategy,” 9/9/99

pandemonium “Then, summoning the wild courage of despair, in pandemonium, a throng of revellers at once threw themselves into the black apartment.” Edgar Allan Poe, “The Masque of the Red Death”

parable “When I had trouble keeping the kindergarten class quiet, I found that telling them a parable (the tortoise and the hare, for example) would get their undivided attention.” Lana L. Grossberg, *A Teacher’s True Confessions*

paradox “Here was a paradox like the stellar universe that fitted one’s mental faults.” Henry Adams, *The Education of Henry Adams*

paragon “An angel! or, if not An earthly paragon!” William Shakespeare, *Cymbeline*

paramount “For him, winning was paramount; coming in second meant he had swum a poor race.” Len Sussman, “Born to Swim”

paroxysms “The coughing did not even come out in paroxysms, but was just a feeble, dreadful welling up of the juices of organic dissolution.” Thomas Mann, *The Magic Mountain*

parsimonious “His parsimonious thrift was relieved by a few generous impulses.” V. L. Parrington, *Main Currents in American Thought*
passé “Everything old is new again is the theme for the designer’s adoption of passé styles and making them fashionable again.” Sophia Leguizamo, “New From Milan”

pathetic “He is the latest loser trying to solve his pathetic life behind a gun.” Editorial, New York Post, 7/30/99

paucity “In the dictator’s best-case scenario, he can hope for continuing control, thanks to a paucity of opponents.” Massimo Calabresi, “Is This the End for Milosevic?,” TIME, 6/21/99

pecuniary “The most unpleasant thing of all was that his pecuniary interests should enter into the question of his reconciliation with his wife.” Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

pedagogue “He is neither bandit nor pedagogue, but, like myself a broken soldier, retired on half pay for some years.” Stephen Vincent Benet, “The Curfew Tolls”

penance “I have done penance for condemning Love, Whose high imperious thoughts have punished me With bitter fasts, with penitential groans.” William Shakespeare, The Two Gentlemen of Verona

penchant “Annabel had a penchant for silver fox coats but Midge said they were common.” Dorothy Parker, “The Standard of Living”

penitent “When father strode into the coal and ice office, he came out, the penitent clerk with him, promising to deliver a block of ice in time for dinner.” Clarence Day, Life with Father

pensive “It was only when he found himself alone in his bedroom in a pensive mood that he was able to grapple seriously with his memories of the occurrence.” H. G. Wells, The Man Who Could Work Miracles

penury “Afflicted by penury, it appeared that Putois had joined a gang of thieves who were prowling the countryside.” Anatole France, “Putois”

perceive “The subjects, as you perceive, were alarming but very agreeable.” Anton Chekhov, “A Slander”

peregrination “Each step he took represented an inward peregrination.” Gretel Ehrlich, “On the Road With God’s Fool”


perfidious “Alfred E. Ricks was the perfidious toad’s designation who sold worthless shares in the Blue Gopher Mine.” O. Henry, “The Man Higher Up”

perfunctory “Doc Martindale made a perfunctory examination and told Eli there was nothing to worry about.” MacKinlay Kantor, “The Grave Grass Quivers”

pernicious “This chapter exposes a pernicious obstacle to students and teachers engaging in serious work together.” Robert L. Fried, *The Passionate Teacher*

perpetrated “Thanks to Mr. DeLay, we learn that violence perpetrated by gun owners is really the product of larger forces.” Editorial, “Mr. DeLay’s Power Play,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

perpetuate “The laws would often do no more than perpetuate a legislator’s acts of injustice.” Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*


perspicacious “Nobody deserves the Lifetime Achievement Award more than Army Archerd, who is not only perspicacious, but a gentleman as well.” Liz Smith, *Newsday*, 6/2/99

pertinent “What seems pertinent is to observe that jazz gravitated toward a particular kind of environment in which its existence was probable.” Arnold Sungaard, *Jazz, Hot and Cold*

peruse “Stopping to peruse her mail, Raven didn’t notice that the front door was ajar.” Dolores Kent, *Instant Gratification*

perverse “There is something contemptible in the prospect of a number of petty states with the appearance only of union, jarring, jealous, and perverse.” Alexander Hamilton, speech, 1782

pesky “Oranges down there is like a young man’s whiskers; you enjoy them at first, but they get to be a pesky nuisance.” Ring W. Lardner, “The Golden Honeymoon”

phenomenon “This phenomenon is characterized by a temporary reversal of the normal atmospheric conditions, in which the air near the earth is warmer than the air higher up.” Berton Roueché, “The Fog”

phlegmatic “Duncan had a phlegmatic fourth quarter, dooming the Spurs’ opportunity to humble the New York Knicks.” TV announcer, NBA Finals, 6/22/99

phobia “My phobia was such that the slightest touch produced twinges of pain.” Guy De Maupassant, “Looking Back”

pinnacle “Their little barber-shop quartet reached the pinnacle of their career with a first-place finish on Major Bowes’ ‘Amateur Hour.’ ” David and Marge Buchanan, “No Business Like You Know What”

pique “In a fit of pique he raised his pistol to take aim at me but Masha threw herself at his feet.” Aleksandr Pushkin, “The Shot”
pittance “To be paid a mere pittance and yet to be suspected of theft; never in her life had she been subjected to such an outrage.” Anton Chekhov, “An Upheaval”

placards “Yet a mile away at the ultra-orthodox Mea Shearim neighborhood, wall placards now warn residents not to have Internet-linked computers in their homes.” Thomas Friedman, “All in the Family,” New York Times, 6/22/99

plaintiff “When the attorney for the palsied plaintiff finished, there wasn’t a dry eye in the courtroom.” Rose Axelsohn, “The Defense Rests” [adapted]

platitudes “The topic was, ‘What Is Life?’ and the students labored at it busily with their platitudes.” Philip Roth, American Pastoral


plight “I had the sense that his loneliness was not merely the result of his personal plight.” Edith Wharton, Ethan Frome

poignant “Keen, poignant agonies seemed to shoot from his neck downward through every fiber of his body and limbs.” Ambrose Bierce, “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”

pondered “As I made my way back, I pondered the significance of what I’d seen.” Nicholas Kristof, “1492: The Prequel”

potent “Those huge differences in income found in our society must have potent causes.” Jared Diamond, Guns, Germs, and Steel

potentates “The racing season at Saratoga invited all manner of society—from potentates to paupers.” Lanny Richards, “They’re Off!”

potential “We realized that this system had worked because the potential targets were so many that the Germans could not get a definite idea of where we would strike.” Ewen Montagu, The Man Who Never Was

potpourri “A potpourri of fresh fruits and cool cottage cheese make for a delicious lunch treat when the temperatures rise into the high 90s.” Martha Stewart, CBS News, 5/23/98


precedent “One can imagine a time when the voters ignore precedent and elect a woman to the office of President of the United States.” Barbara Walker, The Women’s Encyclopedia

precipitate “The weight of a finger might precipitate the tragedy, hurl him at once into the dim, gray
unknown.” Stephen Crane, “An Episode of War”

precluded “I would be avenged; this was a point definitely settled—but the very definitiveness with which it was resolved precluded the idea of risk.” Edgar Allan Poe, “The Cask of Amontillado”

precocious “Pediatricians interviewed this week were somewhat divided on the value of TV viewing by precocious children.” Lawrie Miflin, “Tough Rules for TV,” New York Times, 8/4/99

prelude “Bounderby’s prelude to his main point was very well received by Mrs. Sparsit who said, ‘Very sagacious indeed, sir.’” Charles Dickens, Hard Times

premise “That train of reasoning has all the various parts and terms—its major premise and its conclusion.” T. H. Huxley, “We Are All Scientists”

premonition “There seemed to be a gentle stir arising over everything—a very premonition of rest and hush and night.” Mary Wilkens Freeman, “The New England Nun”


prestigious “He had finally reached his present prestigious position of wealth and security, and he felt he was entitled to sit back and enjoy his happiness.” Ronald Byron, “Happy Days for Harrison Gumedi”

pretext “Our mother had been expressly enjoined by her husband to give Madame Cornouiller some plausible pretext for refusing.” Anatole France, “Putois”

prevalent “On the all-news channels the most prevalent images were from a helicopter pursuing the police chase.” New York Post, 7/30/99

prevarication “They must honestly swear to this oath without prevarication or reservation.” Supreme Court Justice Byron White, speech, 12/1/64

privations “It aroused a strong response in our hearts when he told about their sufferings and privations.” Selma Lagerlöf, Harvest

procrastinated “Mr. Brooksmith procrastinated for several days before accepting my offer.” Henry James, “Brooksmith”

prodigious “He knew from the moment he left the ground that it was a prodigious jump.” Joseph N. Bell, “The Olympics Biggest Winner”

prodigy “I grant you Clive—Clive was a prodigy, a genius and met the fate of geniuses.” Stephen Vincent Benet, “The Curfew Tolls”

proffer “Orin came to proffer his condolences when, wonder of wonder, he fell in love with the
grieving widow.” Terence Cavanaugh, “An Ill Wind”

profligate “Her innocent appearance had a peculiar attraction for a vicious profligate, who had hitherto admired only the coarser types of feminine beauty.” Fyodor Dostoyevsky, The Brothers Käramazov


profuse “He offered profuse apologies for his show of exasperation, and he volunteered to read to her, something in French.” Aldous Huxley, “The Giaconda Smile”

progeny “First, let me tell you whom you have condemn’ed: Not me begotten of a shepherd swain, But issued from the progeny of kings.” William Shakespeare, Henry IV

prognostication “Nay, if an oily palm be not a fruitful prognostication I cannot scratch my ear.” William Shakespeare, Antony and Cleopatra

prohibition “The U.S. public is slowly coming around to accepting the idea that a prohibition against the easy access to hand guns is inevitable.” Roger Rosenblatt, “Get Rid of the Damned Things,” TIME, 8/9/99

prolific “Isaac Asimov was a truly prolific writer, seemingly able to complete a book every two weeks.” Art Nichols, Selling Your Manuscript

promulgated “The rules and regulations are promulgated for the guidance of administrative employees, bureau heads, and supervisors.” “Rules and Regulations for Administrative Employees,” NYC Board of Education

propagate “The Republican leadership planned to propagate their philosophy for a huge tax cut during the summer recess.” Wolf Blitzer, CNN Nightly News, 7/14/99

propensity “You had a propensity for telling simple and professional tales before the war.” Joseph Conrad, “The Tale”

propinquity “It occurred to him that Varick might be talking at random to relieve the strain of their propinquity.” Edith Wharton, The Desert of Man

propitious “Sometime later, I will find a propitious ground and bury you there in the same grave.” Shen Chunlieh, “In Memory of a Child,” 1619

propriety “There is a propriety and necessity of preventing interference with the course of justice.” Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, decision, 10/28

proximity “Stryker had built a small cannery in close proximity to the house where the turtles were raised in shallow tanks.” Edmund Wilson, “The Man Who Shot Snapping Turtles”
prudent “Those who thought the prudent thing to do at the end of 1999 was to stay away from flying resulted in the slowest day of the year for every airline.” TIME, 1/12/00

pugnacious “Two pugnacious guard dogs in the railyard eliminated the nightly vandalism in a hurry.” 
Lewis Tumulty, “Civic Pride”

puissant “The combination of the drugs has become a puissant cocktail in the fight against AIDS.” 
Medical report, CBS News, 9/20/98

pungent “The pungent aroma of the cream puffs told Sadie that the man from Goobers had arrived.” 
Katherine Mansfield, “The Garden Party”

puny “I have said that I am a weak and puny man, and you will have proof of that directly.” Max Beerbohm, “A. V. Laidler”

qualms “The manager had qualms about allowing him to continue playing with an injured hand.” 
Sports Illustrated, 6/16/98

quandary “New Year’s Eve presented a quandary for people in China, a country where the observance of non-political Western celebrations is a relatively recent phenomenon.” Elizabeth Rosenthal, “Party? What Party?,” New York Times, 1/1/00

quarry “The state troopers had tracked their quarry to the thickly wooded area near the crime scene.” 
Newsday, 4/10/98

quell “He also did not quell the speculation surrounding Van Gundy’s status as coach.” Mike Wise, New York Times, 5/25/99

quip “The audience screamed and applauded hysterically at every musical number, every quip, every little movement on the stage.” Liz Smith, Newsday, 6/2/99

rabid “Politicians avoid the appearance of being rabid on issues that seem to be evenly viewed by the voters.” Arthur Willner, “Taking Sides”

raconteur “As a popular raconteur, George Jessel was prized as a speaker at award ceremonies.” 
The Hollywood Reporter, 7/18/96

railed “He cursed and railed, and finally declared he was going to trail the raiders.” Zane Grey, Raiders of the Purple Sage

raiment “No matter what her raiment, Marilyn Monroe looked absolutely fabulous on the screen.” 
Billy Wilder quoted by Earl Wilson, Chicago Tribune, 2/28/76

rampant “What’s more curious about the determination to end social promotions is that the practice is far from rampant.” Romesh Ratnesar, “Held Back,” TIME, 6/14/99
rash “Thou art as rash as fire to say That she was false.” William Shakespeare, *Othello*

rationalize “It is the task of the scientist to rationalize the remains of extinct civilizations to discover their histories.” Brian Fagan, *Time Detective*

raucous “The 1968 Democratic nominating convention in Chicago was the scene of raucous confrontations.” I. F. Stone, *Weekly Reader*

razed “In the gorge, continually razed by the clawing wind, he would probably find his other dog.” Francisco Coloane, “Cururo . . . Sheep Dog”

realm “In all the churches of the realm the Blessed Sacrament is exposed night and day, and tall candles are burning for the recovery of the royal child.” Alphonse Daudet, “The Death of the Dauphin”

rebuke “The defeat of the charter revision was viewed as a rebuke of his policies.” Editorial, *New York Times*, 11/7/99


recoil “It is a gesture of response to my remarks, and it always makes me recoil with a laugh.” Thomas Mann, “A Man and His Dog”

recondite “If it seems too recondite for anyone but dwellers in the groves of Academe, one must consider rhyming slang which originated in the underworld.” Bergen Evans, “Now Everyone Is Hip About Slang”

redolent “The scene—a decrepit classroom, redolent of moldy books, and the pencil shavings of generations of boys being ground into the hardwood floor.” Jon Robin Baitz, *The Film Society*

redress “There has been much discussion about the fairest way to redress centuries of discrimination.” “A Time to Begin,” *Readers Digest*, 5/92

refute “The tobacco industry has stopped trying to refute the charge that smoking is both dangerous and addictive.” *U.S. News and World Report*, 2/3/98

relegated “They were to be relegated to the outer circle of my life.” Van Wyck Brooks, *Helen Keller*

remiss “If the mayor thought that one of his commissioners had been remiss in following instructions, he would fly into a rage and throw his glasses at him.” David Rockefeller on Mayor LaGuardia, *New York Times*, 10/10/99

remote “The pull of the remote stars is so slight as to be obliterated in the vaster moments by which the ocean yields to the moon and sun.” Rachel Carson, *The Sea Around Us*
remuneration “Please mail your resume along with your expected remuneration to our Director of Personnel.” Want ad, New York Times, 7/7/99

repented “At his court martial, the officer admitted to the charges and repented.” “General Demoted,” Washington Post, 9/2/99

repertoire “He led a secret life as a forger of paintings, with the most famous as part of his repertoire.” Peter Landesman, New York Times, 7/18/99

replenish “We’ll dip down into our farm system to replenish our stock of left-handed pitchers.” Bobby Valentine, ABC-TV Sports Interview

replete “When a composition is so replete with errors, I call attention to only a few, the most important ones.” Fran Weinberg, English teacher, NYC High Schools

repose “Good night, good night! as sweet repose and rest Come to thy heart as that within my breast.” William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet

repressed “General McClellan repressed his feelings about President Lincoln but he expressed his private anger in letters to his wife.” David Herbert Donald, Lincoln

reprimand “The difficulty lay in the fact the man had previously received a reprimand from his employer regarding his easy-going ways with the men under him in his department.” James Thurber, “Let Your Mind Alone”

reproached “When reminded that he knew little history, Henry Ford reproached his critics by reminding them that history would know him.” Quoted in The Will Rogers Book, Paula Love, editor, 1961

repudiate “If upheld, the decision would repudiate one of the Administration’s environmental achievements.” Editorial, New York Times, 5/19/99

repugnant “The behavior of the few rioters at the rock concert was repugnant to the huge, peaceful crowd.” “Woodstock Revisited,” TIME, 6/7/99

repulse “The cannons were set up to repulse a possible invasion but none was ever attempted.” Col. F. X. Prescott, “History as Our Teacher”

reputed “The language of Iceland has changed so little that modern Icelanders are reputed to be able to read sagas written thousands of years ago.” Bill Bryson, Mother Tongue

requisite “Secrecy is more requisite than ever during the sensitive negotiations over the release of our prisoners.” I. F. Stone, Weekly Reader

respite “The plan enabled the oiler and the correspondent to set respite together.” Stephen Crane, “The Open Boat”

restrictive “Mr. el Hage said that the law was too restrictive, claiming that he had nothing to do with violent acts.” Benjamin Weiser, “Terrorism Suspect,” New York Times, 6/23/99

reticent “He was as inquisitive about the country as he was reticent about his business there.” Frances Gilchrist Woods, “Turkey Red”

retort “There is no need to retort to an employee who has written a critique of your original warning letter.” NYC Board of Education’s Food Service Division, Guide for Managers

retrospect “I shivered in retrospect when I thought of that afternoon meeting in the freezing hall.” Anna L. Strong, The Chinese Conquer China

reverberated “When that putt plunked into the hole yesterday, the 40,000 people exploded in a roar that reverberated through more than a century of U.S. Open history.” Dave Anderson, “Longest Final Putt,” New York Times, 6/21/99

revere “Paul McCartney and other celebrities who yet revere the name of rock-and-roll great Buddy Holly will host a tribute to him at the Roseland Ballroom.” Letta Taylor, “Tribute to Buddy,” Newsday, 9/3/99

reverts “She dreamily reverts to the hour when old age will throw down his frosts upon her head.” Walt Whitman, “Dreams”

reviled “Former Haitian President Aristide was reviled by orphanage graduates who claimed that he had lied to them about the promise of jobs.” Associated Press story, “Haiti Gunmen Confront Police,” New York Times, 6/25/99

rhetoric “Nothing good can come out of the rhetoric of hatred that will be heard at the rally.” New York Congressman Charles Rangel, ABC TV News, 9/2/99

rife “Cyberspace is rife with sweatshops but very few people realize it.” Karl Taro Greenfield, “Living the Late Shift,” TIME, 6/28/99


romp “She was expected to win the governor’s race in a romp.” Wolf Blitzer, CNN News, 2/2/98

roster “The roster of stars for our gala celebration includes Cher, Meatloaf, and Lyle Lovett.” Las Vegas hotel ad

rudimentary “Some of them were singing, some talking, some engaged in gardening, hay-making, or other rudimentary industries.” “The Other Side of the Hedge,” E. M. Forster

“Lou Gehrig, the great N.Y. Yankee star, ruminated on his career as he left because of an incurable illness: ‘I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth.’” Speech, 7/4/39

“This week a rustic setting in the Berkshire Hills was a gathering place for a group that is dedicated to preserving the Yiddish language.” Tina Rosenberg, “Living an American Life in Yiddish,” *New York Times*, 9/3/99

“The saga of the Kennedy family has enthralled and saddened us.” Barbara Walters, quoted in *New York Times*, 7/10/99

“I am not a visionary, nor am I a sage—I claim to be a practical idealist.” Mohandas Gandhi quoted by John Gunther, *Procession*, 1965


“The next morning we decided to sally forth to try to find a site for our new home.” Stephen Leacock, “How My Wife and I Built Our Home for $4.90”

“For my later years there remains the salubrious effects of work: stimulation and satisfaction.” Kathe Kollwitz, *Diaries and Letters*, 1955

“Maybe it is connected with some terrible sin, with the loss of eternal salvation, with some bargain with the devil.” Aleksandr Pushkin, “The Queen of Spades”

“There has never been a shortage of sanctimonious arguments for starting a war.” Peter Finley Dunne, *Mr. Dooley Remembers*

“He received his father’s sanction and authority.” George Meredith, *Diana of the Crossways*

“The identity of Rinehart may be a temporary sanctuary for the narrator, but it is another identity he must reject if he is to find himself as a person.” Anthony Abbott, *Invisible Man*

“I’m not sanguine about the Knicks’ chances to upset the San Antonio Spurs.” Telephone caller to WFAN Sports Radio Program, 6/8/99

“One of the soldiers was given leave to be drunk six weeks, in hopes of curing him by satiety.” William Cowper, *Selected Letters*

“Vanilla sweetens the air, ginger spices it; melting nose-tingling odors saturate the kitchen.” Truman Capote, “A Christmas Memory”
“The schism between the manager and his best pitcher spilled over from the locker room onto the field.” Bob Klapisch, *The Worst Team That Money Could Buy*

“Al Gore is the Good Son, the early achieving scion from Harvard and Tennessee who always thought he would be President.” Maureen Dowd, “Freudian Face-Off,” *New York Times*, 6/15/99

scoffed “No one was injured except the woman who had scoffed at the belief.” Leonard Fineberg, “Fire Walking in Ceylon”

scrutinized “The jockey waited with his back to the wall and scrutinized the room with pinched, creepy eyes.” Carson McCullers, “The Jockey”

scurrilous “They were infuriated by the scurrilous articles about them that started to crop up in the tabloids.” Charles Blauvelt, *Edward and Wally*

scurry “Some small night-bird, flitting noiselessly near the ground on its soft wings, almost flapped against me, only to scurry away in alarm.” Ivan Turgenev, “Bezhin Meadows”

sedate “Few public places maintain a sedate atmosphere equal to the majestic chambers of the Supreme Court.” Milton Konvitz, editor, *Bill of Rights Reader*

sedentary “Seeger had seen him relapsing gradually into the small-town hardware merchant he had been before the war, sedentary and a little shy.” Irwin Shaw, “Act of Faith”


serenity “At the top, they planted the crucifix and gathered round, moved by the serenity.” Sontag Orme, “Solemnity and Flash in the Land of Jesus,” *New York Times*, 1/1/00

servile “Uriah Heep, so physically repulsive and hypocritically servile, fascinated David at first but later revolted him.” Holly Hughes, *Barron’s Book Notes, David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens

shibboleths “Dialects are sometimes used as shibboleths to signal the ethnic or social status of the speaker.” Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

sinecure “Matthew Arnold’s job was a sinecure, allowing him plenty of time to travel and write lyrics.” Nicholas Jenkins, “A Gift Improvised,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

singular “The fate that rules in matters of love is often singular, and its ways are inscrutable, as this story will show.” Meyer Goldschmidt, “Henrik and Rosalie”

sinister “The man had a cordially sinister air.” Hernando Tellez, “Ashes for the Wind”

site “The site of the bison herd’s destruction was a tall cliff over which they were driven.” Brian Fagan, *Time Detectives*
skirmish “They never meet but there’s a skirmish of wit between them.” William Shakespeare, Much Ado About Nothing

slovenly “The twenty-six year old’s slovenly appearance belied the fact that he was one of the Silicon Valley’s brightest stars.” Reuben Cowan, “Today Dot-Com”

sojourn “He returned from a long sojourn in Europe.” Alan McCulloch, Encyclopedia of Australian Art

solace “He read in a Bible that he had neglected for years, but he could gain little solace from it.” Theodore Dreiser, “The Lost Phoebe”


somber “There was a somber and moving tribute for his last game at Yankee Stadium.” John Updike, New Yorker, 10/22/94

sophistry “No amount of sophistry could disguise the obvious fact that the legislation was biased against one particular office holder.” New York Times, 9/2/99

sordid “The workmen used revolting language; it was disgusting and sordid.” Katherine Mansfield, “The Garden Party”

spate “There has been a spate of tell-all memoirs, destroying the organization’s special status.” Jewish Monthly, 9/99

spew “It was obvious as the miles of electronic tape began to spew out the new patterns of American life that the census was to be of historic dimension.” Theodore H. White, The Making of the President

spontaneous “Professor Einstein burst out in spontaneous candidness.” Thomas Lee Bucky, “Einstein: An Intimate Memoir”

sporadic “TROOPS ENCOUNTER SPORADIC VIOLENCE” Headline, Newsday, 6/14/99

spurious “The only known picture, albeit a spurious one, had been printed some years earlier.” James Monaghan, Diplomat in Carpet Slippers

squeamish “My brother, who voted for Mr. Mbeki and who has faith in his leadership, is not squeamish.” Mark Mathabane, “South Africa’s Lost Generation”

stagnant “The place was small and close, and the long disuse had made the air stagnant and foul.” T. E. Lawrence, The Desert of the Stars

staunch “Known as a staunch supporter of the Republican agenda, the young politician astounded us
all by his defection.” Monte Halperin, “Party Turncoat?”

steeped “Edward Francis had steeped himself in the internal mystery of the guinea pig.” Paul De Kruif, Hunger Fighters

stentorian “He proclaimed the fact in stentorian tones that were easily heard throughout the auditorium.” A. A. Berle, The 20th Century Capitalist Revolution

stereotypes “Treating the most respected leader in the land that way confirms the worst stereotypes and that really hurts us.” Alessandra Stanley, “Asking a Favor of the Pope,” New York Times, 6/12/99

stigmatized “People who so much as whisper during a performance are stigmatized as barbarians.” Joseph Wechsberg, The Best Things in Life

stipulated “I shall come out from here five minutes before the stipulated term, and thus shall violate the agreement.” Anton Chekhov, “The Bet”

strident “No matter how strident or insulting he became, he was not interrupted by the police.” New York Daily News, 9/5/99

strife “Either there is a civil strife, Or else the world, too saucy with the gods, Incenses them to send destruction.” William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

stunted “Their physical and mental development became stunted during childhood.” Roger Pineles, Shame of the Cities

stupor “If your child watches late night television and comes home from school in a stupor, she’s not getting enough sleep.” “Getting Enough Sleep,” Working Mother, 5/98


subjugated “The country had been bitterly divided, so ruthless in its determination to keep the black majority subjugated.” Sheryl McCarthy, “Mandela Was South Africa’s Perfect Choice,” Newsday, 6/17/99

subservient “From the earliest times, including the Bible, women have been counseled to be subservient to men.” Barbara G. Walker, The Women’s Encyclopedia

substantiate “The Queens District Attorney said that there were not enough facts to substantiate the charges against the tour operator so no prosecution would take place.” Queens Courier, 1/18/00

subterfuge “He was a free-will agent and he chose to do careful work, and if he failed, he took the responsibility without subterfuge.” Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, “A Mother in Mannville”

subterranean “Another celebrity expected during the three games at Madison Square Garden is Ed

succinct “In clear and succinct tones, our division head proceeded to tear me to shreds in front of the entire staff.” Ellyn Falk, “They Promised Me a Rose Garden”

succulent “Use this coupon to get $1 off on a succulent holiday turkey.” Advertisement, Waldbaum’s Supermarket, 11/99

succumbed “This young gentleman was of an excellent family but had been reduced to such poverty that the energy of his character succumbed beneath it.” Edgar Allan Poe, “The Murders in the Rue Morgue”

sullen “My decision to leave put her into a sullen silence, broken only by a mumble under her breath.” Alan Lelchuk, “American Mischief”

sultry “The sun would shine up there in the lengthening spring day and pleasant breezes blow in sultry summer.” Maurice Walsh, The Quiet Man

sumptuous “In the summer the table was set, and the sumptuous meals—well, it makes me cry to think of them.” Mark Twain, Autobiography

superficial “His teachings had only a superficial relationship to the orthodox religion he advocated.” Carl Dreyer, “The Roots of Anti-Semitism”

superfluous “He drove through the beautiful countryside in silence; conversation would have been superfluous.” Travel and Leisure, 10/94

superstitious “It’s a superstitious National Hockey League tradition not to lay hands on the award presented to the conference champion, the wisdom being that the Stanley Cup is the only championship trophy worth embracing.” Adam Bittner, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 5/26/17

supine “The clergy as a whole were therefore obedient and supine.” G. M. Trevelyan, Carlyle

supplication “The last supplication I make of you is that you will believe this of me.” Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities

surfeit “A surfeit of the sweetest things The deepest loathing to the stomach brings.” William Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night’s Dream

surge “In one wild surge they stormed into a police station, where the bewildered officers tried to maintain order.” James Michener, “The Bridge at Andau”

surmised “The commanding officer surmised that the other ship in the cove was a coaster.” Joseph Conrad, Tales of Hearsay
surreptitiously “He was surreptitiously negotiating to have 70 percent of the payments turned over to himself.” David C. Johnson, “Tax Evasion Scheme,” *New York Times*, 1/1/00


symptomatic “The widespread dislocation and downsizing in hospitals is symptomatic of relentless cost pressures.” Carol Eisenberg, “Nurses Contend With System’s Ills,” *Newsday*, 6/22/99

taboo “The modern motion pictures have shown so much that once was considered taboo.” Harold H. Owen, Jr., *The Motion Picture*

tacit “There is a tacit agreement in a civil conversation that each avoid making of it a monologue.” Rebecca West, “There Is No Conversation”

tainted “The defense argued that poor police procedures had tainted the evidence.” *Newsday*, 6/19/98

tangible “I hated it, not because of our one overcrowded closet, but because of intrusions and discomforts of a far less tangible nature.” Mary Ellen Chase, “A Room of My Own”

tantalized “We were tantalized by a glimpse of a brown bear and her cubs in the wood.” *Travel and Leisure*, 10/97

tantamount “Opponents of the proposed agreement claim it is tantamount to a surrender of holy land.” *USA. Today*, 1/13/00

taut “His face grew taut as he was questioned about his use of illegal drugs in his youth.” *New York Post*, 8/19/99

technology “Mr. Greenspan noted that ‘history is strewn’ with miscalculations about technology developments.” Richard Stevenson, “Fed Chief on New-Age Economy,” *New York Times*, 6/15/99

temery “In the first month of his service in the House, the young Congressman had the temerity to challenge his party’s Speaker; it was a mistake.” Blanche Kassell, *Up on the Hill*

tenable “He took the tenable position that lawyers should never cross examine a witness without knowing the answer before asking the question.” Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

tenacious “Their talent and tenacious actions on the court will at last reward them.” Darcy Frey, *The Last Shot*

terminate “A continuation of such chronic lateness may lead us to terminate your employment.” Regulations of the NYC Board of Education’s Office of School Food & Nutrition Services

terse “The mayor sent a terse letter to the school’s chancellor over his cancellation of a meeting.”
therapy “He will have to undergo long-term therapy before considering playing baseball again.” The Washington Post, 7/9/99

throng “When the throng had mostly streamed into the porch, the sexton began to toll the bell.” Nathaniel Hawthorne, “The Minister’s Black Veil”

thwarted “The man who made up the name for flies must have been thwarted in a life-long desire to have children, and at last found that outlet for his suppressed baby-talk.” Robert Benchley, “The Lure of the Road”

timorous “He was a timorous incompetent who was lucky to have good men under him.” W. A. Swanberg, Citizen Hearst

tinged “The sermon was tinged, rather more darkly than usual, with the gentle gloom of Mr. Hooper’s temperament.” Nathaniel Hawthorne, “The Minister’s Black Veil”

tolerated “They despise anyone who hasn’t had the luck to be born Masai, but for one reason and another, they tolerated me.” Robert W. Krepps, “Pride of Seven”

tortuous “The tortuous descent down the mountain resulted in one additional fatality, this time a sure-footed Sherpa guide.” Winston Adair, “Everest Takes Its Toll”

tradition “The town had a century-old tradition—an eight-hour canoe race.” Brenda Flock, “The Race”

tranquil “Over this house, most tranquil and complete, Where no storm ever beat, She was sole mistress.” Phyllis McGinley, “The Doll House”

transient “City championships and national tournaments, however thrilling, are transient moments.” Darcy Frey, The Last Shot

tremulous “‘Will Pa get hurt?’ asked Jane in a tremulous voice.” Jessamyn West, “Yes, We’ll Gather at the River”

trenchant “Mr. Salinger’s views on celebrity are often funny and trenchant.” Clyde Haberman, “A Recluse Meets His Match,” New York Times, 6/18/99

trend “We should make every effort to reverse the trend in popular music towards violent lyrics.” Portland Oregonian, 8/12/99

trivial “In the study of past civilizations, nothing is considered as a trivial discovery.” Brian Fagan, Time Detectives

truncated “It will be much harder if their state (Palestine) is so truncated, so cut up, that it is not

turbulent “Up to the turbulent surface came a peculiar-looking craft, risen from the calm but dangerous depth of the ocean.” Lt. Don Walsh, “Our Seven-Mile Dive to the Bottom”

turpitude “The government must be held responsible for these acts of moral turpitude resulting in so many civilian casualties.” *TIME*, 8/25/98

tussle “It often doesn’t pay to tussle with your child to take music lessons.” *Working Mother*, 5/96

tyro “The computer training center will soon turn a tyro into a successful user.” *Senior News*, 9/99

ubiquitous “Che Guevera has become ubiquitous; his figure stares out at us from coffee mugs and posters, pops up in rock songs and operas.” Ariel Dorfman, “Che,” *TIME*, 6/14/99

ultimate “The ultimate possibility for hero and chorus alike is stated in Father Mapple’s sermon, and it is to become a saint.” W. H. Auden, “The Christian Tragic Hero”

umbrage “I do not take umbrage when I’m looked over, I do when I’m overlooked.” Mae West, *The Wit and Wisdom of Mae West*, Joseph Weintraub, Editor

unabated “The summer list of auto fatalities continues unabated as three more Southampton teens are killed in a Sunday crash.” W. Mariano, “A Final Farewell,” *Newsday*, 6/25/99

unconscionable “Viewers of TV’s coverage of disasters find it unconscionable for mourning family members to be shown and interviewed so close up we can see the tears.” John Stephens, *New York*, 4/16/98

unctuous “Today’s car salesmen are a far cry from the high-pressured and unctuous ones of the past.” *Car and Travel*, 9/99

underwrite “We are pleased to feature those local businesses who help to underwrite our programs.” *Patterns*, monthly magazine of WILL, Urbana, Illinois

universal “With the approach of the new millennium we see an almost universal fear of major disruptions.” *TIME*, 9/19/99

unkempt “Budget cuts have resulted in overcrowded and unkempt camping sites in our parks.” Freeman Tilden, *The National Parks*

unmitigated “The crossword puzzle is the unmitigated sedentary hobby of Americans.” Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

unsavory “Punishing students by assigning them more work, has made education unsavory and unappealing to the average student.” H. C. McKown, “The Three R’s Today”
untoward “I object to the senator disparaging a fellow member of the committee here in his absence,’ Sen. Cornyn said, calling Sen. Franken’s remarks ‘untoward’ and ‘inappropriate.’” Dallas News blog, 5/25/17

unwieldy “Today’s light weight, compact cameras are a far cry from the unwieldy ones used by early photographers.” Popular Photography, 9/96

urbane “Their prose is less ornate, their urbane satire more muted.” Book review, New York Times

usurp “There is a constant struggle as one branch of government attempts to usurp some of the powers of the other.” Milton Konvitz, editor, Bill of Rights Reader

utopia “I was held spellbound by the middle-class utopia, without a blot, without a tear.” William James, “What Makes Life Significant”

vacillated “In planning for the book I vacillated between a selective, but deeper approach or a general, more limited approach.” Milton Konvitz, editor, Bill of Rights Reader

valor “Thrice have the Mexicans before us fled, Their armies broken, their prince in triumph led; Both to thy valor, brave young man, we owe.” Sir Robert Howard & John Dryden, The Indian Queen

vapid “The new James Bond movie lacks the excitement of the many before and is a vapid copy.” Newsday, 10/25/98

vehemently “The President spoke vehemently against any large tax cut.” New York Times, 9/16/99

veneer “Since then, she has frequently tried to crack the veneer of role, surface, and pose.” Mark Stevens, “Spice Girls,” New York, 6/21/99

venerable “Despite their huge popularity the most venerable papers refused to accept crossword puzzles as more than a passing fad.” Bill Bryson, Mother Tongue

venial “The coach tried to overlook the venial errors of his players and concentrated on the serious ones.” Sports Illustrated, 5/12/99

venom “The point envenom’d too! Then, venom, do thy work.” William Shakespeare, Hamlet

verbose “The comedian reminded viewers of Trump’s verbose attacks on Clinton’s competency to be president.” Tufayer Almed, Newsweek, 5/17/17

vertigo “Iron workers on beams, hundreds of feet above Broadway, were immune to periods of vertigo.” Architectural Digest, 1/93

vestige “They kept at the rescue efforts as long as there was a vestige of hope for the earthquake victims.” TIME, 8/30/99
vexatious “This vexatious law suit dragged on interminably, becoming a legend in the process.” Charles Dickens, *Bleak House*

viable “The organism remains viable in the soil for years.” Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*

vicissitudes “Her husband was not only faithful but patient in the face of remarkable vicissitudes.” Eliza Jane Berman, *Noble Minds*

vigil “The U.N. peacekeeping troops are keeping a vigil over the disputed area.” *New York Times*, 9/21/99

vigilant “I deny not but that it is of great concernment in the church and commonwealth to have a vigilant eye how looks demean themselves.” John Milton, “Aereopagitica”

vilified “One who belongs to the most vilified minority in history is not likely to be unaware of the freedoms guaranteed by our constitutions.” Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, decision, October 1943

vindicated “His family was certain that his actions would be vindicated when all of the facts became available.” “Pilot Blamed in Crash,” *New York Post*, 11/26/99

virile “The danger to our virile economy from weaknesses in the Far East should not be overlooked.” *Wall Street Journal*, 5/16/98


virulently “Another part of my hope was for communities of people of colour that, for the most part, have been virulently homophobic.” Mark Haslam, “When Bigotry Kills,” *Globe and Mail*, Toronto, 3/5/99

vitiolate “This act is an attempt to vitiate the separation of powers upon which our democracy is founded.” Justice Earl Warren, *Bill of Rights Reader*, 1957

vitiolic “The speaker’s vitiolic comments about ethnic and religious groups brought condemnation from the mayor.” *New York Daily News*, 9/5/98

vituperation “To justify his action he used vituperation, calling his enemies ‘detestable pests.’” Barbara G. Walker, *The Women’s Encyclopedia*

vivacious “The performance of this vivacious leading lady made the play a delight.” *New York Post*, 10/15/98

vogue “Examining the private lives of our political leaders is in vogue this election period.” *New York*, 9/4/99
volition “To prove her innocence, she took a lie detector test of her own volition.” New York Times, 9/21/99

voluminous “The testimony in the case relating to the President’s actions has become voluminous.” Washington Post, 5/15/99

voracious “We spent a good number of our waking hours feeding voracious stoves.” Jean Stafford, “New England Winter”

vulnerable “Any vulnerable area in an otherwise strong person or structure is known as an Achilles heel.” Barbara G. Walker, The Women’s Encyclopedia

wan “Why so pale and wan, fond lover? Prithee, why so pale?” John Suckling, “Encouragement to a Lover”

wane “Japan, once an economic power, has seen its influence wane.” New York Times, 8/1/99

wary “These figures were wary in their movements and perfectly silent afoot.” Joseph Conrad, Lord Jim

wheedle “The first step of a politician is to wheedle the editorial backing of a newspaper.” Frederick Nebel, A Free Press

whet “The accepted purpose of coming attractions in movie theatres is to whet the viewers’ desire to see the film.” John Simon, Reverse Angle

whimsical “This is not a whimsical idea—it is a serious plan.” Calvin Klein, New York Magazine, 9/15/95

wince “He took the cruel blow without a wince or a cry.” A. Conan Doyle, The Last Book of Sherlock Holmes

wistful “I am sad when I see those wistful ads placed by the lovelorn in the classified columns.” E. B. White, The Essays of E. B. White

wrest “Their attempt to wrest control of the company was thwarted by the Colonel and his three supporters on the board.” Edmund Ward, Jr., “Bulls and Bears” [adapted]

yen “She could not resist the yen to see how her classmates had progressed so she agreed to attend the class reunion.” Woman’s Home Companion, 9/94

zealous “James I was zealous in prosecuting Scottish sorcerers.” George Lyman Kittredge, Witchcraft in Old and New England

zenith “At the zenith of her fame as a musical star, she was assassinated by a crazed fan.” H. Hudson, People, 7/21/97
On April 14, 1912, an incident took place that became a front page story in newspapers all over the world. It is a tale that has continued to capture the attention of moviegoers and theatergoers, of opera and television audiences, of novelists and playwrights—it’s the story of the allegedly impregnable Titanic, the unsinkable majestic ocean liner that tumbled to the bottom of the icy Atlantic waters with 1600 passengers still aboard. How could such a toxic tragedy have occurred? Could it have been avoided? How could the naval patriarch, Captain Edward Smith, no neophyte he, have allowed the disaster to happen? What were the extenuating circumstances that led to the death of that glorious White Star queen? In September 1985, the hulk of the Titanic was found on the ocean’s floor, providing many answers to the questions that seamen and landlubbers had wrestled with over the years.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. Coal miners are often subject to ________________ fumes.
2. Robert’s defense lawyer pointed out the ________________ conditions of the case.
3. Although Sarah was skillful at math, she was a ________________ at computers.

4. A company of marines was unable to penetrate the seemingly ________________ fortress.

5. Grandfather is the recognized ________________ of our family.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. impregnable  _____  a. harmful, deadly
7. toxic  _____  b. male elder
8. patriarch  _____  c. incapable of being entered
9. neophyte  _____  d. beginner
10. extenuating  _____  e. excusable

**Today’s Idiom**

dry run—trial, test, exercise

Before opening night, the actors had several dry runs.
WHAT WENT WRONG?

Investigators found that a series of mistakes led to the sinking of the Titanic. A wireless message had come in from a French liner, warning of ice ahead, but that was a thousand miles away, and so, no need to worry. On April 13, the vessel Rapphannock also warned the Titanic of dangerous ice ahead. On the following day, there came a spate* of other warnings from a Cunard ship, a Dutch liner, and the White Star Baltic—all telling of icebergs about 250 miles from the Titanic’s current position. Next came the German Amerika, echoing the same foreboding, followed by the California, cautioning the Titanic about the field ice. Finally, the Mesaba called attention to an enormous belt of ice stretching directly across the Titanic’s path. All the messages emanating from sister ships should have had a profound* effect on Captain Smith and company. No one miscreant could be fingered, but a host of crew members were certainly blameworthy. Why didn’t Smith’s officers react to those messages? Notations were indeed made on slips of paper but largely ignored and forgotten. There was no standard protocol for the handling of such messages; if there had been, Captain Smith would certainly have taken a circuitous route so as to avoid the dangerous icebergs.

**New Words**

foreboding (n.)
 för - ·bō - din

emanating
·e - mə - nā - tin

miscreant
·mis - crē - ənt

protocol
·prō - tə - kol

circuitous
sər - ·kyū - ə - təs

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in the following sentences.
1. Cindy took a _______________ route home to avoid the class bullies.
2. Caesar’s wife had _______________ about danger facing her husband.
3. The rulings _______________ from the local court were cheered by the conservatives.
4. The class _______________ was made to remain after school.
5. Failing to follow _______________ got Sophia into trouble at the office.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. foreboding____ a. one who behaves badly (n.)
7. emanating _____ b. official procedure
8. miscreant _____ c. premonition, fearful apprehension
9. protocol _____ d. roundabout
10. circuitous _____ e. coming from

TODAY’S IDIOM

throw someone a curve—to do the unexpected
When I least expected it, Helen threw me a curve.
DEATH KNELL FOR THE TITANIC

And then it happened. White in its innocence, a monstrous iceberg smashed into the luxury liner, ripping an ugly gash of 250 feet along the starboard and causing a fatal wound. Within seconds, thousands of cubic feet of water had penetrated the shattered hull. One after another, dominolike, the watertight compartments and bulkhead were flooded. The unthinkable had happened despite the absolute guarantees of the shipbuilders, Harland & Woolf. There followed a macabre scene as the ship’s band, clad in their tuxedos, continued to play show tunes while hordes of terrified passengers, many in nightclothes, rushed toward the lifeboats. The crew called out, “Women and children first,” but their lack of an orderly plan for loading would have profound* ramifications. In fact, some boats that could hold 30 were sent into the Atlantic with only a handful of people—generally first-class passengers. As panic began to take hold, the realization that there weren’t enough lifeboats exacerbated* the situation, bringing out the worst in a rapacious few. Several insurgent males ignored the crew and jumped into descending lifeboats. It was an act of shame they would have to live with for the rest of their lives.

**NEW WORDS**

knell
ˈnɛl

macabre
ˈmækəbrə

ramifications
ˈræməˌfiˈkeɪʃənz

rapacious
ˈræpsēəs

insurgent (adj.)
in-ˈsərdʒənt

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.
1. The ________________ dictator used additional forces to plunder his enemy’s cities.
2. Additional troops were dispatched to deal with the ________________ threat.
3. When the ________________ sounded, the students closed their books and their minds.
4. Some critics were unhappy about the bloody, ________________ scenes in the movie.
5. Heidi was concerned about the ________________ of her employer’s new policy.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. Knell _____ a. complications
7. Macabre _____ b. greedy, taking by force
8. Ramifications _____ c. gruesome
9. Rapacious _____ d. rebellious
10. Insurgent _____ e. sound of a bell

(TODAY’S IDIOM)

cross the Rubicon (ˈrū - bi - kon)—to go beyond a limit that allows for no return
(the Rubicon is a river in Italy that Julius Caesar’s army crossed, knowing there was no retreat)

When I crossed the Rubicon by signing the contract, I knew I could never go back on my commitment.
THE LAWYERS’ TURN

As one might have expected, manifold* lawsuits against the White Star Line began to crop up within weeks of the sinking and rescue. The glut of billionaires on board (Astors, Wideners, Guggenheims, Strausses, et al.) did not file any claims, but other cases went all the way to the Supreme Court and kept lawyers and judges busy for the next four years. The average claim had been for a modest $1500, and the average award, paid by the White Star Line, was a risible $1000. White Star’s top notch legal staff was accused of using dilatory tactics, tiring the claimants until they agreed to settle for a mere pittance.* Their lawyers called many claims specious and rejected them out of hand. The denouement of the story is rather sad. American and British maritime law had long given special protection to ship owners on the grounds that their business was such a risky one. And so there was a limit to the amount of money that White Star could be assessed. In the end, they paid only 4% of the $16 million originally demanded by the survivors and were happy to close the books on the ocean disaster. We can imagine that if a similar tragedy were to take place today, the settlements would be in the hundreds of millions.

NEW WORDS

**glut**
·glût

**risible**
·rĭ - zə - bəl

**dilatory**
·di - lə - tō - rē

**specious**
·spē - shəs

**denouement**
dă - nū - ˌmo

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.
1. The play’s ______________ came with three dead bodies on the stage.
2. Umpires do not like pitchers who use ______________ styles.
3. In debating, ______________ arguments are rarely effective.
4. What Harry felt was ______________, Sally thought was pathetic.*
5. Our choir has a ______________ of tenors and a shortage of sopranos.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. glut  ____  a. delaying
7. risible  ____  b. laughable
8. dilatory  ____  c. oversupply
9. specious  ____  d. misleading, deceptively attractive
10. denouement  ____  e. outcome, end result

Today’s Idiom

*brave the elements*—to go out in bad weather

Despite the freezing rain, Cynthia decided to *brave the elements*. 
### REVIEW WORDS

1. circuitous  
2. denouement  
3. dilatory  
4. emanating  
5. extenuating  
6. foreboding (n.)  
7. glut  
8. impregnable  
9. insurgent (adj.)  
10. knell  
11. macabre  
12. miscreant  
13. neophyte  
14. patriarch  
15. protocol  
16. ramifications  
17. rapacious  
18. risible  
19. specious  
20. toxic  

### DEFINITIONS

a. coming from  
b. rebel  
c. aged male family leader  
d. gruesome  
e. roundabout  
f. complications  
g. tending to delay  
h. official procedure  
i. excusable  
j. sound of a bell  
k. premonition, fearful apprehension  
l. greedy, taking by force  
m. harmful, destructive, deadly  
n. oversupply  
o. misleading, deceptively attractive  
p. cannot be entered by force  
q. laughable, ludicrous  
r. one who behaves badly  
s. beginner, novice  
t. outcome  

### IDIOMS

21. dry run  
22. throw someone a curve  
23. cross the Rubicon  
24. brave the elements  

u. to go beyond a limit that allows for no return  
v. trial, test, exercise  
w. to do the unexpected  
x. to go out in bad weather  

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. __________________  
2. __________________  
3. __________________
SENSIBLE SENTENCES?
(From Week A)

- Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. When the (ramifications, knell) of his action were explained, Roger apologized.
2. There is no known antidote for the (specious, toxic) poison.
3. Following (forebodings, protocol), Ben bowed before the emperor.
4. The young (patriarch, miscreant) was brought before the judge.
5. Seeking his prey, the lion took a (circuitous, dilatory) route on the trail of the deer.
6. Victor’s weak explanation elicited* a (risible, rapacious) reaction from his teacher.
7. The (insurgent, neophyte) forces launched a successful attack.
8. We thought the (knell, denouement) of the play was ridiculous.
9. Harmful fumes were (emanating, extenuating) from the laboratory.
10. Critics rated the (impregnable, macabre) play to be the season’s best.
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**An Unusual Perk**

A study from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene declared that one in eight adults in our major cities has diabetes, a disease. Many, however, are not aware that they have it or how it can be, although there is a of evidence revealing that one’s chance of getting diabetes is linked to hereditary factors.

Unfortunately, many of the victims of diabetes do not take immediate steps to deal with the disease. New York City’s health commissioner has warned of the of a failure to control the high blood sugar: blindness, amputations, and heart disease. In fact, diabetes is the nation’s fastest-growing major disease.

**Clues**

1. 2nd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 5th Day
4. 4th Day
5. 3rd Day
GOOD NEWS—AND BAD

On Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865, General Ulysses S. Grant sent a terse* dispatch to Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. It contained the long-awaited sentence that the Confederate General Robert E. Lee had surrendered. The dolorous Civil War that had crippled the young nation was finally over. President Lincoln was only 56 at the time, but he looked twenty years older. The burden of being a wartime president had so enervated Lincoln that Surgeon General Barnes feared an imminent* nervous breakdown. When Grant’s news reached Lincoln, he went to the front windows of the White House and waved to the crowd below. He proceeded to make a brief speech about the problems of Reconstruction and advocated* the granting of suffrage to black soldiers. Among the listeners was a Southern patriot, the popular actor John Wilkes Booth, almost as famous in the theater as his father, Junius. “That’s the last speech he will ever make,” said Booth to a fellow member of his cabal of conspirators. Booth’s odious plan was to assassinate Lincoln whom he hated passionately, while an associate, George Atzerodt, would do the same to Vice President Andrew Johnson.

NEW WORDS

dolorous
·dō - lə - rəs

enervated
·e - nər - və - təd

suffrage
·sû - frij

cabal
kə - ·bal OR kə - ·bôl

odious
·ō - dē - əs

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The dictator lied when he claimed he favored ________________ for women.
2. We were surprised when Ted’s happy expression turned into a ________________ one.

3. The members of the revolutionary ________________ were arrested and jailed.

4. Sylvia’s ________________ remarks caused the audience to turn against her.

5. ________________ by his long walk, Jose took to his bed.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. dolorous _____ a. right to vote

7. enervated_____ b. secret group of plotters

8. suffrage _____ c. worn out

9. cabal _____ d. sad

10. odious _____ e. despicable

TODAY’S IDIOM

*kill the goose that laid the golden egg*—to spoil a good deal

By being greedy, the accountant killed the goose that laid the golden egg.
THE DREAMS OF LINCOLN AND BOOTH

Lincoln’s family and friends remembered that the President had a prescient dream in March, several weeks before the fatal day, and provided them with a verbatim account. He told of entering the East Room in the White House where a throng of people were gathered around an open coffin. In his reverie, Lincoln asked a soldier, “Who is dead in the White House?” “The President,” was the reply. “He was killed by an assassin.” Mrs. Lincoln said, “I’m glad I don’t believe in dreams or I should be in terror from this time forth.” Lincoln’s was the calming voice, “Let’s try to forget it. I think the Lord in His own good time and way will work this out all right.” Of course, all who loved Abe Lincoln would have been deeply agitated if they had known what John Wilkes Booth was planning. As a Southern secessionist, he despised the President. As a thespian, he romanticized the action that he could take to rid the nation of a man he considered to be a cruel warmonger. Although Booth had not taken an active part in the Civil War, he was convinced that he could contribute to the Confederate cause by kidnapping the bearded despot. It wasn’t exactly clear in his mind whether he would “capture” Lincoln and take him to Richmond where he could be exchanged for Confederate prisoners of war—or whether he would just put a bullet in the President’s head.

Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.
1. Yearning to be a ________________, Roger took lessons from a drama coach.
2. When he lost control of the militia, the ________________ was forced to flee.
3. Claiming to be ________________, the fortune teller took advantage of the gullible* woman.
4. With remarkable talent, the reporter was able to quote speeches ________________.
5. In her ________________, Ellen saw herself as the next U.S. President.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

6. prescient _____ a. daydream
7. verbatim _____ b. actor
8. reverie _____ c. able to predict
9. thespian _____ d. word for word
10. despot _____ e. tyrant

**Today’s Idiom**

carry coals to Newcastle—a waste of time
(since Newcastle had a great deal of coal)

Telling the racing car driver how to drive is like carrying coals to Newcastle.
THE ASSASSINS MAKE READY

The *pathological* yet *articulate* Booth had rounded up several co-conspirators and shared his delusions of *grandeur* with them. He had produced a *polemic* that convinced his crew that it would be a patriotic thing to capture the President. One of them was assigned to shut off the master gas valve at Ford’s Theatre when Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln were seated there at the play. With all the lights out, Booth would bind and gag the President. Two men would lower Lincoln onto the stage, and then carry him out the rear door to a covered wagon waiting in the alley. They would head for Port Tobacco and then ferry across the Potomac to their ultimate* destination, Richmond, Virginia. Several dry runs* had not worked out for the cabalists* who were about to reach an *impasse* when Booth learned that Lincoln would be celebrating General Grant’s victories with a party at Ford’s Theatre on the night of April 14. He promised the small group that destiny was at hand; their bold act, he said, would make their names famous forever in the annals of U.S. history. In the late afternoon of April 14, Booth watched a rehearsal of the play that would be performed that evening. He had reviewed his action plan and the escape route, and he believed it to be foolproof. He mouthed the phrase he would use after killing Lincoln, “Sic Semper Tyrannis” (“Thus always to tyrants”). The curtain was about to go up on one of the darkest days in the country’s history.

**New Words**

*pathological*  
\[pə - \text{thə} - \text{ˈlo} - \text{jə} - \text{kəl}\]

*articulate* (adj.)  
\[ər - \text{ˈtik} - \text{ju} - \text{lət}\]

*grandeur*  
\[ˈgran - \text{d(y)ər OR} \ˈgran - \text{jər}\]

*polemic*  
\[pə - \text{ˈle} - \text{mik}\]

*impasse*  
\[ˈim - \text{pas}\]
Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The ________________ was broken when the union agreed to management’s offer.
2. In history class, we studied the ________________ of Greece and the glory of Rome.
3. Hal was surprisingly ________________ for a high school freshman.
4. The defense lawyer admitted that his client was a ________________ liar.
5. The team captain’s ________________ led to a fist fight in the locker room.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. pathological____  a. well-spoken
7. articulate _____  b. magnificence (adj.)
8. grandeur ____  c. disordered in behavior
9. polemic ____  d. deadlock
10. impasse ____  e. controversial argument

TODAY’S IDIOM

*for the birds*—unimportant, not worth consideration

Jared’s concept of opening a string of fast-food joints in the middle of the desert was *for the birds.*
“NOW HE BELONGS TO THE AGES”

At 8:25 P.M. the Lincolns arrived at the theater. When they entered boxes 7 & 8, as regimen dictated, the band played “Hail to the Chief.” The 1675 members of the audience stood to honor the great man, and then the play commenced. It is reported that Booth said to a drunk who had denigrated his acting skill, “When I leave the stage, I will be the most famous man in America.” At about 10 P.M., with extreme guile, Booth had managed to be behind box 7 in the darkness of the hallway. He saw the silhouette of a head above the horsehair rocker. Derringer in his hand, he aimed it between the President’s left ear and his spine. The shot was drowned out by laughter on the stage. Shouting “Revenge for the South,” Booth climbed over the ledge of the box and jumped onto the stage, breaking his leg in the process. In pain, Booth limped out the stage door where his horse was waiting and made his getaway. Days later, however, he was cornered in a Virginia barn and shot. Three of the cabal* members were arrested and hanged. At the theater, a 23-year-old doctor attended to the wounded President. He found that the lead shot had lodged in Lincoln’s brain, a bad sign. Several soldiers carried Mr. Lincoln across the street to a private house. His family physician came and so did the Surgeon General. The President struggled throughout the long night, but it was apparent that a mortal wound had been inflicted, and he could not be saved. At 7:22 A.M. it was over; two silver coins were placed on the assassinated President’s eyes. Then Secretary of War Edwin Stanton uttered the famous words, “Now he belongs to the ages.”

NEW WORDS

regimen
ˈre - ji - mən

denigrated
ˈde - ni - grə - təd

guile
ˈgīl

mortal (adj.)
ˈmôr - təl

inflicted
in - ˈflĭk - təd
Sample Sentences Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The blow to the boxer’s head turned out to be a ________________ one.
2. Using ________________, the magician pulled the wool over the spectators’ eyes.*
3. Aunt Ethel’s morning ________________ called for three cups of coffee.
4. When her boss ________________ Martha’s stenographic ability, she quit.
5. The prison guards ________________ torture on some of the inmates.

Definitions Match the new words with their meanings.

6. regimen _____ a. leading to death
7. denigrated___ b. defamed
8. guile _____ c. system of control
9. mortal _____ d. trickery
   (adj.)
10. inflicted ____ e. imposed upon

TODAY’S IDIOM

*throw one’s hat in the ring—to run for political office

Before a gathering of the party’s faithful, the local congressman threw his hat in the ring for the position of senator.
### REVIEW WORDS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>articulate (adj.)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>cabal</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>denigrated</td>
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<td>despot</td>
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<td>dolorous</td>
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<td>inflicted</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>mortal (adj.)</td>
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<td>odious</td>
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<td>pathological</td>
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<td>polemic</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>regimen</td>
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<td>reverie</td>
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<td>suffrage</td>
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<td>thespian</td>
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<td>verbatim</td>
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### DEFINITIONS

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<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>absolute ruler</td>
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<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>hateful, despicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>secret group of plotters</td>
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<td>d</td>
<td>actor</td>
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<td>e</td>
<td>disordered in behavior</td>
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<td>f</td>
<td>defamed one’s character</td>
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<td>g</td>
<td>controversial argument</td>
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<td>h</td>
<td>well-spoken</td>
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<td>i</td>
<td>able to know beforehand</td>
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<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>greatness of character, magnificence</td>
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<td>k</td>
<td>word for word</td>
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<td>l</td>
<td>worn out</td>
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<td>m</td>
<td>system of control</td>
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<td>imposed something painful</td>
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<td>o</td>
<td>deadlock</td>
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<td>p</td>
<td>daydream</td>
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<td>q</td>
<td>subject to death</td>
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<td>r</td>
<td>right to vote</td>
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<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>sorrowful</td>
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<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>trickery, deceit</td>
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### IDIOMS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>kill the goose that laid the golden egg</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>carry coals to Newcastle</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>for the birds</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>throw one’s hat in the ring</td>
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### MEANINGS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>waste of time</td>
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<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>to spoil a good deal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>unimportant, worthless</td>
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<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>to run for office</td>
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Study the words you missed.

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. __________________________
2. __________________________
Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

**Perks Are In**

Do you know what a “perk” is? Simply put, it’s an extra reward, a special benefit given to sweeten the job for an employee. Now an ___________ staffer at a software maker in California’s Silicon Valley has skillfully described an incredible perk given to him and his fellow workers—a thrill-packed parachute plunge as they jumped from a plane 14,000 feet above the ground.

“Our employees work hard and can become ___________,” said a company executive, “and we want to invigorate them with sky dives, as well as cruises, beauty treatments at spas, birthday parties, maid services, and other creative perks that our ___________ might conjure up.”

Of course, company executives are deeply interested in keeping productive staff members from quitting and going to work for competitors. And so, the host of perks they offer reflect the ___________ behind their generosity. “Cash bonuses won’t have the same effect,” a CEO said. In a ___________ remark he declared, “It’s like a parent who throws money at his child when what the youngster really wants is attention.”

**Clues**

1. 3rd Day
2. 1st Day
3. 1st Day
4. 4th Day
5. 2nd Day
SENTENCE COMPLETIONS
(From Weeks A and B)

Each sentence below has two blanks, indicating that something has been omitted. Beneath the sentence are five sets of words labeled A through E. Choose the set of words that, when inserted, best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

1. The ________ dictator used ________ to achieve his goals.
   a. rapacious...guile
   b. articulate...protocol
   c. odious...regimen
   d. dilatory...ramifications
   e. prescient...polemics

2. Having overcome the ________ ________, the executive had high hopes for the future.
   a. specious...cabal
   b. circuitous...knells
   c. dolorous...forebodings
   d. mortal...reverie
   e. toxic...insurgents

3. The ________ ________ fled the country with the millions he had stolen from the treasury.
   a. impregnable...neophyte
   b. pathological...despot
   c. dilatory...miscreant
   d. risible...insurgent
   e. articulate...patriarch

4. The ________ circumstances were clearly explained by the play’s ________ .
   a. extenuating...denouement
   b. prescient...knell
   c. macabre...forebodings
   d. circuitous...protocol
   e. odious...polemic

5. “We have had a ________ of ________ tactics,” the judge declared, “and I will not put up with it.”
   a. regimen...toxic
   b. glut...dilatory
   c. cabal...odious
d. grandeur...verbatim

e. impasse...suffrage
Select the best word from the five choices to fit in the blanks below.

1. “There are no political _______ except in the imagination of political quacks.”
   —Francis Parkman
   a. compounds  b. panaceas  c. milieus  d. ethics  e. diatribes

2. “The effect of my _______ is that always busy with the preliminaries and antecedents, I am never able to begin the produce.”
   —Henri Amiel
   a. genre  b. expedient  c. iniquity  d. bias  e. prognostication

3. “Once philosophers have written their principal works, they not infrequently simply become their own _______ .”
   —Theodore Haecker
   a. accomplices  b. disciples  c. cynics  d. arbiters  e. badgers

4. “I hate the aesthetic game of the eye and the mind, played by those _______ who ‘appreciate’ beauty.”
   —Pablo Picasso
   a. connoisseurs  b. charlatans  c. rustics  d. stentorian  e. paragons

5. “Anglo-Saxon _______ takes such very good care that its prophecies of woe to the erring person shall find fulfillment.”
   —George Gissing
   a. foreboding  b. morality  c. protocol  d. polemic  e. guile

6. “The universe is not friendly to _______ and they all perish sooner or later.”
   —Don Marquis
   a. icons  b. patriarchs  c. despots  d. insurgents  e. perennials

7. “_______ means influence.”
   —Jack London

8. “No one wants advice—only _______ .”
   —John Steinbeck
9. “If by the time we’re sixty, we haven’t learned what a knot of _______ and contradiction life is, we haven’t grown old to much purpose.”
—John Cowper Powys

10. “The concept of ‘Momism’ is male nonsense. It is the refuge of a man seeking excuses for his own lack of _______.”
—Pearl Buck

11. “_______ is the dabbling within a serious field by persons who are ill equipped to meet even the minimum standards of that field, or study, or practice.”
—Ben Shahn

12. “Accustomed to the _______ of noise, public relations, and market research, society is suspicious of those who value silence.”
—John Lahr

13. “In almost every act of our lives we are so clothed in _______ and dissemblance that we can recognize but dimly the deep primal impulses that motivate us.”
—James Ramsey Ullman

14. “When men talk honestly about themselves, one of the themes that crops up is a _______ for the old days, at least for an idealized version of them.”
—Myron Brenton

15. “We love a congenial _______ because by sympathy we can and do expand our spirit to the measure of his.”
—Charles H. Cooley

16. “Man is certainly a _______ animal. A never sees B in distress without thinking C ought to relieve him directly.”
—Sydney Smith
17. “I cannot tolerate ________. They are all so obstinate, so opinionated.”
—Joseph McCarthy

18. “We look upon ________ as degrading. Our mothers’ voices still ring in our ears: ‘Have you done your homework?’”
—Wilhelm Stekhel

19. “By far the most dangerous foe we have to fight is ________ —indifference from carelessness, from absorption in other pursuits.”
—Sir William Osler

20. “One who sees the ________ everywhere has occasion to remember it pretty often.”
—Oliver Wendell Holmes

21. “There’s life for a ________ in the characters he plays. It’s such a beautiful physical escape. I enjoy the transformation of personality.”
—Sir John Gielgud

22. “The writing of a biography is no ________ task; it is the strenuous achievement of a lifetime, only to be accomplished in the face of endless obstacles.”
—Havelock Ellis

23. “Cleanliness, said some ________ man, is next to godliness. It may be, but how it came to sit so near is the marvel.”
—Charles Lamb

24. “I should like most candid friends to be anonymous. They would then be saved the painful necessity of making themselves ________ .”
—J. A. Spender
25. “A stricken tree is beautiful, so dignified, so admirable in its ______ longevity; it is, next to man, the most touching of wounded objects.”

—Edna Ferber

a. rash  b. vulnerable  c. potential  d. singular  e. omnipotent

26. “Grandparents are frequently more ______ with their grandchildren than with their children. A grandparent cannot run with his son but can totter with his grandson.”

—Andre Maurois

a. raucous  b. congenial  c. sedate  d. tenacious  e. vexatious

27. “It is unjust to the child to be born and reared as the ‘creation’ of the parents. He is himself, and it is within reason that he may be the very ______ of them both.”

—Ruth Benedict

a. veneer  b. requisite  c. antithesis  d. profuse  e. anathema

28. “This, indeed, is one of the eternal ______ of both life and literature—that without passion little gets done; yet without control of that passion, its effects are largely ill or null.”

—F. L. Lucas

a. trends  b. subterfuges  c. harbingers  d. fiats  e. paradoxes

29. “What has maintained the human race if not faith in new possibilities and courage to ______ them.”

—Jane Addams

a. divulge  b. flout  c. advocate  d. initiate  e. mandate

30. “No sooner do we take steps out of our customary routine than a strange world ______ about us.”

—J. B. Priestly

a. surges  b. wanes  c. recants  d. juxtaposes  e. galvanizes

31. “As the two ______ cultures began to mingle, they encountered some revealing and shocking truths.”

—Nelson DeMille

a. venerable  b. transient  c. sedentary  d. disparate  e. servile

32. “Nothing is so exhausting as indecision, and nothing is so mired in ______.”

—Bertrand Russell

a. futility  b. vituperation  c. subterfuge  d. foment  e. iniquity

33. “Most quarrels are ______ at the time, incredible afterwards.”
34. “We live at the mercy of a _______ word. A sound, a mere disturbance of the air sinks into our very soul sometimes.”

—E. M. Forster

a. rash  b. salient  c. trenchant  d. inevitable  e. whimsical

35. “There must be some good in the cocktail party to account for its immense _______ among otherwise sane people.”

—Joseph Conrad

a. reviled  b. malevolent  c. vexatious  d. innocuous  e. evanescent

36. “One drifting yellow leaf on a windowsill can be a city dweller’s fall, _______ and melancholy as any hillside in New England.”

—Evelyn Waugh

a. somber  b. cryptic  c. pungent  d. aloof  e. doleful

37. “For generations of German plutocrats, duelling was a bastion against weakness, effeminacy, and _______ .”

—Arthur Krystal

a. redress  b. sophistry  c. decadence  d. temerity  e. vituperation

38. “No one weeps more _______ than the hardened scoundrel as was proved when a sentimental play was performed before an audience of gangsters whose eyes were seen to be red and swollen.”

—Hesketh Pearson

a. copiously  b. vapidly  c. raucously  d. nominally  e. laudably

39. “My greatest problem is my dislike of _______ , of battle. I do not like wrestling matches or arguments. I seek harmony. If it is not there, I move away.”

—Anais Nin

a. artifice  b. avarice  c. celerity  d. belligerence  e. diversity

40. “The only agreeable existence is one of idleness, and that is not, unfortunately, always _______ with continuing to exist at all.”

—Rose Macauley

a. bogus  b. compatible  c. culpable  d. felicitous  e. inviolable

41. “Diaries are sometimes meant to be a _______ record of one’s daily waking hours. Sometimes
they are an unconscious relief from the day’s tensions.”

—Edna Ferber

42. “Was there ever a wider and more loving conspiracy than that which keeps the ________ figure of Santa Claus from slipping away into the forsaken wonderland of the past?”

—Hamilton Mabie

43. “For him who has no concentration, there is no ________ .”

—Bhagavad Gita

44. “Real excellence and ________ are not incompatible; on the contrary, they are twin sisters.”

—Jean Lacordiare

45. “Children are cunning enough behind their innocent faces, though ________ might be a kinder word to describe them.”

—Nan Fairbrother

46. “It is not easy to ________ of anything that has given us truer insight.”

—John Spalding

47. “There is no diplomacy like ________ . You may lose by it now and then, but it will be a loss well gained if you do. Nothing is so boring as having to keep up a deception.”

—E. V. Lucas

48. “In America I was constantly being introduced to ________ persons by people who were unmistakably superior to those notables and most modestly unaware of it.”

—John Ayscough

49. “It is because nature made me a ________ man, going hither and thither for conversation that I love proud and lonely things.”

—W. B. Yeats
50. “My greatest problem here, in a ________-loving America, is my dislike of polemics, of belligerence, of battle.”

—Anais Nin

a. obliging  b. polemic  c. fastidious  d. implacable  e. nebulous
The following jokes contain some of the words you have been taught in this book. Even the humorists know how to make use of a challenging vocabulary.

1. Henry joined Alcoholics Anonymous. He still imbibes, but under an assumed name.
2. A hapless man was run over by a steamroller. He’s in the hospital, in Rooms 36–42.
3. My father’s accountant treats people with compassion. His office has a recovery room.
4. Samson must have been quite a thespian, because he brought down the house.
5. Inanimate owls don’t give a hoot.
6. You’re probably an octogenarian if sending a tweet wears you out.
7. You have a right to be wary on a cheap airline if the oxygen mask has a meter on it.
8. The magnanimous husband bought his wife a clothes dryer—50 feet of clothesline.
9. He’s so proud of his longevity, he has a Bible signed by the author.
10. Victor has a voracious appetite; his favorite food is seconds.
11. What’s a pugnacious person’s favorite part of a joke? The punch line, of course!
12. Henry Ford had millions, and yet he never had a yen for a Cadillac.
13. My accountant quipped, “In March you have St. Patrick’s Day when a lot of green appears; in April, you have Tax Day when a lot of green disappears!”
14. The rabbit’s progeny consisted of ten bunnies. It beat the record by a hare.
15. My astute fish swims backwards. It keeps the water out of his eyes.
16. The lawyer argued that the charges against his client were bogus: “When he admitted to being a counterfeiter, he meant that he installed kitchen breakfast bars!”
17. The intrepid paratrooper spent three years climbing down trees he never climbed up.
18. Van Gogh had a voluminous output. As of today, Americans own 423 of his 72 paintings.
19. The frugal man complained about the cost of raising a baby. The nurse said, “Sure, but look how long they last.”
20. The maladjusted baby just started to eat solids—his crib, blanket, pillows.
21. My old neighborhood bristled with trouble; even the candy store had a bouncer.
22. Uncle Eddie is not bereft of curly locks. He’s just taller than his hair.
23. Today’s financial phenomenon—a dollar saved is a quarter earned.
24. “What is the name of your bank?” I asked the timorous investor. “Piggy,” he replied.
25. I don’t like my garrulous barber, because he talks behind my back.
26. A man knocked on my door and asked for a donation for the local swimming pool. I was prudent. I gave him a glass of water.
27. The pigeons in our neighborhood are quite **prescient**, because they always know when my Dad has polished our car.


29. I’m such a **dilatory** reader that it takes me six weeks to read the Book of the Month.

30. Some make **sporadic** payments when their bills are due, some when overdue, some never do.

31. I asked the literary **dilettante**, “Have you read all of Shakespeare?” “I think so,” he replied, “unless he’s written something lately.”

32. A flying goose in a **quandary** asked, “Why do we always follow the same leader?” The goose next to him answered, “Because he’s got the map.”

33. As I was getting into my car the other day, a man stopped me and asked, “Can you give me a lift?” With **gusto** I replied, “Sure! You’re a champion! You look great! Go get ‘em, tiger!”

34. The **pertinent** advice my father was given was to buy a used car when it was new.

35. A **trenchant** remark: a cat has nine lives, but a bullfrog croaks every night.

36. My family had to **jettison** our car. It had low mileage, but most of it from being towed.

37. The charity was **reputed** to have raised three million dollars. Now they are going out in search of a disease.

38. **Squeamish** about paying a restaurant check, he reached for it as though it were a subpoena.

39. He’s so **parsimonious**, he tosses money around like manhole covers.

40. Han’s parents weren’t too thrilled with him. His mother had a **penchant** for wrapping his lunch in a road map.

41. The pompous actor ran the **gamut** from A to B.

42. Our **glib** doctor is a humorist. He said my uncle has the body of a 20-year-old—a twenty-year-old Chevy.

43. We call our **vigilant** dog Rolex. He’s a watchdog.

44. My **artless** neighbor lost her dog but refused to put an ad in the newspaper—she said her dog can’t read.

45. Our doctor has a **lucrative** practice; he just bought a cemetery.

46. We heard of the **asinine** chicken who sat on an ax, trying to hatchet.

47. Mark asked his **sage** waiter, “What do you call two thousand pounds of Chinese soup?” The answer was, “Won ton.”

48. Last Christmas I told Santa what I wanted. His **retort** was, “Me, too.”

49. The **abstemious** young man boasted that he had finally given up trying to quit smoking.

50. The monster was so **grotesque**, when he looked in the mirror, his reflection walked away.

51. Eddie is a **paragon** of style. He has a suit for every day of the year—and this is it.

52. It was so cold that, when the thermometer plunged to its **nadir**, I sneezed and broke my Kleenex.

53. My **profligate** brother was a two-letter man in college. Monday and Friday he wrote home for
54. She comes from a confused family. During the Civil War, they were **fervid** supporters of the East.

55. Aunt Helen underwent plastic surgery after Uncle Ted, the **martinet**, cut up her credit cards.

56. Dr. Grill gave me an **infallible** cure for insomnia: “Get lots of sleep.”

57. My **inebriated** uncle stopped drinking recently. Two bars sued him for nonsupport.

58. Did you hear about the guru who refused novocaine during a root canal? It’s **alleged** that he wanted to transcend dental medication.

59. The new miracle drug is a **hoax**. It keeps you alive only until your bill is paid.

60. What a **fiasco** was his attempt to raise eggplants by burying a chicken!

61. When I **scrutinize** the obituary column, it seems that everybody dies in alphabetical order.

62. I enjoyed the **levity** of the bumper sticker: DYSLEXICS OF THE WORLD UNTIE!

63. You know that bad times are **rampant** when couples get married because they need the rice.

64. An **egotist** is a man who doesn’t go around talking about other people.

65. Cousin Randy was in the sixth grade so long, they thought he was the **pedagogue**.

66. I’ve got a lot of frozen **assets**—ten TV dinners.

67. The English complain about **nepotism**, but the Queen got her job through family.

68. I caught a fish so **mammoth** that the picture required two cameras.

69. Jerry was **frustrated** trying to find his glasses without his glasses.

70. Never make an undertaker your **adversary**. Sooner or later he’ll have you dead to rights.

71. My **affluent** uncle always gives me cash for Christmas because it will always be the right size.

72. There was an **awesome** mishap at the circus yesterday. The lion tamer needs a tamer lion.

73. Did you hear of the **plight** of the new human cannonball? He was hired and fired the same night.

74. My brother made his first income since college. He had the **audacity** to sell the car my father gave him for graduation.

75. A conscience is that **ominous** inner voice that warns you someone is watching.

76. There’s no need to **revere** Jeff as a speaker; he never opens his mouth unless he has nothing to say.

77. The judge asked, “What **bizarre** reason can you have for freeing this defendant?” A juror replied, “Insanity.” The judge asked, “All twelve of you?”

78. In our neighborhood we don’t worry about crime in the street. The **felons** make house calls.

79. My parents went on an **opulent** cruise. The smokestacks had filter tips.

80. You can **expedite** your weight loss by giving up only two things: a knife and a fork.

81. Roger is so **phlegmatic** that he puts more people to sleep than ether.
82. She’s such a **dupe** that she put a zip code on the Gettysburg Address.
83. My **erudite** neighbor has a B.A., an M.A., a Ph.D., but no J.O.B.
84. We flew on a **pecuniary** airline. To save money, they use student drivers.
85. Our cuckoo clock is old and **decrepit**. All it does now is come out and shrug.
86. Eloise is a child **prodigy**; she can describe how an accordion works without using her hands.
87. Our neighbor had the **temerity** to borrow our car and then say, “Your air bag works.”
88. Dad’s birthday gift to Mom was not **conducive** to connubial bliss. She expected a Mercedes but got a toaster.
89. I read about the **corpulent** jockey who kept putting a la carte before the horse.
90. On our vacation, my father asked the **imperturbable** hotel clerk, “Do you take children?” “No,” the clerk answered, “only cash and credit cards.”
91. He had **universal** bad luck. He spent years paying off a funeral plot, and then he died at sea.
92. Karl used to suffer from **senility**, but he forgot all about it.
93. Now I know why we could never keep up with our neighbors. The Joneses were just **indicted** for tax evasion.
94. In all **candor**, the movie was so bad that people were waiting in line to get out.
95. Aunt Minnie is so **fastidious** that when she’s having guests, she runs around putting in fresh lightbulbs.
96. There was such a **paucity** of money in his family that they couldn’t give his sister a sweet sixteen until she was twenty-eight.
97. **Procrastination** has its good side—you always have something to do tomorrow.
98. We went sightseeing until our eyes were sore. Then they took us to an **idyllic** sight for sore eyes.
99. Uncle Arthur **acknowledged** that Aunt Blanche must be descended from Noah because whenever they went anywhere, she took two of everything.
100. I know it’s a **cliché**, but on a trip whatever you want is always in the other suitcase.
WEEK A

Day 1

1. toxic
2. extenuating
3. neophyte
4. impregnable
5. patriarch
6. c
7. a
8. b
10. e
Day 2

1. circuitous
2. foreboding
3. emanating
4. miscreant
5. protocol
7. e
8. a
9. b
10. d
Day 3

1. rapacious
2. insurgent
3. knell
4. macabre
5. ramifications
6. e
8. a
9. b
10. d
Day 4

1. denouement
2. dilatory
3. specious
4. risible
5. glut
6. c
7. b
8. a
9. d
Day 5

REVIEW

1. e
3. g
4. a
6. k
7. n
8. p
9. b
10. j
11. d
14. c
19. o
20. m
21. v
24. x
1. ramifications
2. toxic
3. protocol
4. miscreant
5. circuitous
risible
7. insurgent
8. dénouement
emanating
10. macabre
1. emanating
2. toxic
3. rapacious
4. glut
5. ramifications
Week B

Day 1

1. suffrage
2. dolorous
3. cabal
4. odious
5. enervated
6. d
7. c
8. a
10. e
Day 2

1. thespian
2. despot
3. prescient
4. verbatim
5. reverie
6. c
7. d
8.  a
9. b
10. e
1. impasse
2. grandeur
3. articulate
4. pathological
5. polemic
7. a
8. b
10. d
1. mortal
2. guile
3. regimen
4. denigrated
5. inflicted
6. c
7. b
8. d
9. a
Day 5

REVIEW

1. h
3. f
4. a
8. t
10. n
13. e
14.  g
16. m
18. r
19. d
20. k
21. v
w
1. articulate
2. enervated
3. reverie
4. guile
5. prescient
1. a
2. c
3. b
4. a
5. b
VOC/QUOTES

1. b
5. b
6. c
7. a
8. a
9. e
10. b
12. b
13. b
15. a
16. b
17. e
19. b
20. a
21. a
22. b
23. d
25. c
27. c
28. e
30. a
31. d
32.  a
34. b
36. c
37. c
38. a
39.  d
42. b
43. a
46. a
48. a
49. e
articulate “The senator’s supporters were upset by the adjectives used to describe him: clean and articulate.” Editorial, *The New York Times*

cabal “If a cabal’s secrets are revealed to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees.” Kahlil Gibran

circuitous “Although it took a circuitous route, the curveball finally reached the catcher’s mitt.” Red Smith

denigrated “Napoleon’s henchmen denigrated the memory of Voltaire whose name the Emperor abhorred.” Christopher Morley

denouement “We all sat awaiting the denouement of the play in silence.” Mayne Reid

despot “The universe is not friendly to despots, and they all perish sooner or later.” Don Marquis, *The Almost Perfect State*

dilatory “Between dilatory payment and bankruptcy there is a great distance.” Samuel Johnson

dolorous “Diabetic patients are constantly tormented by dolorous sensations.” William Roberts

d emanating “The feudal idea viewed all rights as emanating from a head landlord.” John Stuart Mill

enervated “I have had one of my many spasms which has almost enervated me.” Lord Nelson, *Letters*

extenuating “In Clive’s case there were many extenuating circumstances.” Dame Rose Macaulay

foreboding “We are more disturbed by forebodings of a calamity which threatens us than by one which has befallen us.” John Lancaster Spalding

glut “The world in that age had a glut rather than a famine of saints.” R. S. Fuller, *Holy War*

grandeur “I have studied the glories of Greece but am more impressed by the grandeur of Rome.” Rainer Maria Rilke

guile “Oh, that deceit should steal such gentle shapes, And with a virtuous vizard hide foul guile.” Shakespeare, *Richard III*

impasse “We expect the impasse between Britain and Iran to be resolved this weekend.” United Nations Press Release
impregnable “The Maginot Line, a French system of fortifications, was considered impregnable at the start of World War II.” The Columbia Encyclopedia

inflicted “Many of the cares that we are inflicted with are but a morbid way of looking at our privileges.” Sir Walter Scott

insurgent “The insurgents’ improvised explosive devices killed six more American soldiers yesterday.” Michael Ware, CNN TV Broadcast

knell “Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell / That summons thee to heaven or to hell.” Shakespeare, Macbeth

macabre “The Mardi Gras parade featured rowdy celebrants wearing macabre masks and colorful costumes.” Eliza Berman, Let the Good Times Roll

miscreant “This is the basic measure of damages, and it’s owed by the miscreants to the company and shareholders.” Ben Stein, State of the Union

mortal “All is mortal in nature, so is all nature in love mortal in folly.” Shakespeare, As You Like It

neophyte “The elaborate masked ritual of the courtroom holds attraction only for the neophyte and layman.” David Riesman

odious “You told a lie, an odious damned lie.” Shakespeare, Othello

pathological “A pathological liar is one whose lies are suggestive of a mental disorder.” Webster’s Medical Dictionary

patriarch “Nene Constantino Oliveira, patriarch of the family that created the Brazilian airline Gol, has been found guilty of homicide in connection with a 2001 murder of an activist who led a group of squatters occupying land owned by the family.” Reuters

polemic “My greatest problem here, in a polemic-loving America, is my dislike of polemics, of belligerence, of battle.” Anais Nin, The Diaries of Anais Nin

prescient “The Spanish Republic fell in April 1939, and World War II began soon after because those prescient fighters had not been heeded.” Edward Rothstein, Spanish Civil War

protocol “The most advantageous protocol is very rarely the one I did follow.” Andre Gide

ramifications “I don’t live in a laboratory; I have no way of knowing what ramifications my actions will have.” Hugh Prather

rapacious “Charles V levied fines with rapacious exactness.” James Robertson

regimen “I guarantee weight loss when my regimen is followed strictly.” Dr. Robert Atkins
reverie  “All through the ages, people have regarded their *reveries* as sources of wisdom.” Rollo May

risible  “He is the most *risible* misanthrope I ever met with.” Tobias Smollett, *Humphrey Clinker*

specious  “It was a *specious* argument but delivered so effectively that it was convincing.” Murray Bromberg, *Wagers of Sin*

suffrage  “My successor was chosen by general *suffrage*.” John Marsden

thespian  “I regard Liev Schreiber as the outstanding *thespian* of our times.” Ben Brantley, Theatre Critic, *The New York Times*

toxic  “A hope, if it is not big enough, can prove *toxic*; for hope is more essentially an irritant than a soporific.” William Bolitho

verbatim  “Court reporters have to be able to take 250 words a minute in their *verbatim* accounts.” *Court Reporters’ Association Guide*