

BARRON'S

11000 WORDS

You Need
to Know

A
BEST-SELLER
FOR
FIVE
DECADES!

MURRAY BROMBERG AND MELVIN GORDON

SEVENTH EDITION

BARRON'S

1100 WORDS

You Need
to Know

A
BEST SELLER
FOR OVER
50
YEARS!

MURRAY BROMBERG AND MELVIN GORDON

SEVENTH EDITION

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All inquiries should be addressed to:

Barron's Educational Series, Inc.

250 Wireless Boulevard

Hauppauge, NY 11788

www.barronseduc.com

Library of Congress Control No. 2017953374

eISBN: 978-1-4380-6512-0

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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](https://www.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

FULL PRONUNCIATION KEY

a **apple, bat**

ā **age, lace**

ä **alms, father**

är **arm, jar**

b **bag, sob**

ch **chill, such**

d **done, said**

ə **around, waken,
pencil, demon**

e **elk, met**

ē **ease, see**

er **air, wear**

èr **urn, worth**

f **feel, stiff**

g **gone, big**

h **him, behind**

hw **which, whale**

i **inch, pin**

ir **ear, cheer**

ī **ivy, hide**

j **just, enjoy**

k **kin, talk**

l **lose, hurl**

m **mice, cram**

n **not, into**

ŋ **song, ring**

o **ox, rot**

ō **open, blow**

ô **all, bought**

ôï **oil, boy**

ôr **ore, cord**

ou **owl, mouse**

p **pest, cap**

r **red, tree**

s **spell, best**

sh **shrug, crash**

t **time, act**

th **think, teeth**

TH **this, breathe**

u **bull, foot**

ur **sure, pure**

ū **ooze, cute**

û **up, month**

v **vast, have**

w **wish, squeak**

y **youth, few**

z **zoo, buzz**

zh **g**enre, pleasure

- denotes separate syllables

˘ denotes that the following syllable is the stressed syllable

(y) parentheses denote an optional sound in pronunciation

WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 1

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

voracious

və - ˈrā - shəs

indiscriminate

in - di - ˈskri - mə - nət

eminent

ˈe - mə - nənt

steeped

ˈstēpt

replete

ri - ˈplēt

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*.

WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 2

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

ô - 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.

WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 3

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.)

‘tɪnj

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*.

WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

badger (v.)

ˈbɑ - jər

implore

im - ˈplɔr

drudgery

ˈdrʊ - jə - rē

interminable

in - ˈtér - mə - nə - bəl

perceive

pər - ˈsēv

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'S IDIOM

***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*.

WEEK 1 ♦ DAY 5

REVIEW

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. abode | a. to be completely soaked in something |
| _____ 2. abound | b. to be able to tell what will happen in the future |
| _____ 3. annals | c. someone's special field |
| _____ 4. automaton | d. to continually nag |
| _____ 5. badger (v.) | e. carelessly chosen |
| _____ 6. compound (v.) | f. related to science of engineering |
| _____ 7. drudgery | g. to add to |
| _____ 8. eminent | h. to beg for assistance |
| _____ 9. implore | i. of outstanding reputation |
| _____ 10. indiscriminate | j. a home or dwelling |
| _____ 11. interminable | k. small amount of |
| _____ 12. paradox | l. dull, difficult work |
| _____ 13. perceive | m. desiring huge amount |
| _____ 14. prognosticate | n. existing in great number |
| _____ 15. realm | o. historical records |
| _____ 16. replete | p. to come to have an understanding of |
| _____ 17. steeped | q. completely filled with |

_____ 18. technology

r. machine that behaves like a person

_____ 19. tinge (n.)

s. seemingly self-contradictory situation

_____ 20. voracious

t. unending

IDIOMS

_____ 21. eat humble pie

u. blind item, poor purchase

_____ 22. a pig in a poke

v. to admit to defeat

_____ 23. a flash in the pan

w. a star today, a flop tomorrow

_____ 24. get one's ducks in a row

x. to get organized

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

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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.
9. Science fiction movies usually feature (*annals, automatons*).
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*.

WORDSEARCH 1

- ❖ 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

WEEK 2 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˌθrɒŋ

intrepid

in - ˈtre - pid

accost

ə - ˈkɒst

reticent

ˌre - 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 (ˈdɑ - 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.

WEEK 2 ❖ DAY 2

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

·fēr - tiv

felon

·fe - lən

plethora

·ple - thə - rə

hapless

·hap - lis

irate

ī - ·rāt

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.

6. furtive _____ a. angry, incensed
7. felon _____ b. person guilty of a major crime
8. plethora _____ c. unfortunate

9. hapless _____ d. excess

10. irate _____ e. secret, stealthy

TODAY'S IDIOM

Pyrrhic (· *pir - ik*) *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.

WEEK 2 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ·drôit

gesticulate

je - ·sti - kyə - lāt

vigilant

·vi - jə - lənt

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

***wet blanket*—one who spoils the fun**

Everyone wanted the party to go on, but Ronnie, the *wet blanket*, decided to go home to bed.

WEEK 2 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈa - vid

cajole

kə - ˈjɔl

rudimentary

rū - də - ˈmen - tə - rē

enhance

in - ˈhans

nuance

ˈn(y)ū - äns

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.

REVIEW

WEEK 2 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ 1. accost | a. uncommunicative |
| _____ 2. adroit | b. enthusiastic |
| _____ 3. avid | c. alert |
| _____ 4. cajole | d. overabundance |
| _____ 5. enhance | e. courageous |
| _____ 6. fabricate | f. to aggressively approach |
| _____ 7. felon | g. an excuse |
| _____ 8. furtive | h. unlucky |
| _____ 9. gesticulate | i. angry |
| _____ 10. hapless | j. criminal |
| _____ 11. intrepid | k. basic, elementary |
| _____ 12. irate | l. clever |
| _____ 13. laconic | m. to make up a lie |
| _____ 14. nuance | n. great number of people |
| _____ 15. plethora | o. concise, pithy |
| _____ 16. pretext | p. to use lively gestures |
| _____ 17. reticent | q. shade of difference |
| _____ 18. rudimentary | r. sly |

_____ 19. throng

s. to coax, wheedle

_____ 20. vigilant

t. to make greater

IDIOMS

_____ 21. sword of Damocles

u. an expensive conquest

_____ 22. Pyrrhic victory

v. spoilsport

_____ 23. wet blanket

w. a happy and unexpected event

_____ 24. the stars align

x. any threatening danger

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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 2

- ❖ 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 ① _____, had managed to gain admittance to the prison's hospital on the ② _____ 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 ③ _____ her into being his accomplice. All that she had to do was appear to have a seizure. Then she would ④ _____ 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 ⑤ _____ 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

WEEK 3 ❖ DAY 1

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

·lōTH

reprimand (v.)

·re - prə - mand

lackluster

·lak - lû - stər

caustic

·kô - stik

wrest

·rest

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*.

WEEK 3 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˌin - fə - məs

jostle

ˌjo - səl

dupe (n.)

ˌd(y)ūp

incipient

in - ˌsi - pē - ənt

inadvertent

i - ned - ˌvɛr - tənt

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.

WEEK 3 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈo - mə - nəs

tremulous

ˈtre - myə - les

repudiate

ri - ˈpyū - dē - āt

cessation

se - ˈsā - shən

bristle (v.)

ˈbri - səl

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.

6. ominous _____ a. a stopping
7. tremulous _____ b. to reject, decline

8. repudiate_____ c. to stiffen with fear or anger
9. cessation_____ d. threatening
10. bristle _____ e. quivering
(v.)

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.

WEEK 3 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈyū - fə - mi - zəm

mundane

mûn - ˈdān

incongruous

in - ˈkɒŋ - grū - əs

condolence

kən - ˈdɔ - ləns

stipulate

ˈsti - 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 3 ❖ DAY 5

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ 1. bristle (v.) | a. to despise |
| _____ 2. caustic | b. menacing |
| _____ 3. cessation | c. evil |
| _____ 4. condolence | d. a pause |
| _____ 5. dupe (n.) | e. just starting |
| _____ 6. euphemism | f. trembling |
| _____ 7. inadvertent | g. to have one’s hair stand up |
| _____ 8. incipient | h. stinging |
| _____ 9. incongruous | i. lacking excitement |
| _____ 10. infamous | j. due to an oversight, negligent |
| _____ 11. jostle | k. to make a specific demand |
| _____ 12. lackluster | l. to push, to elbow |
| _____ 13. loathe | m. an easily fooled person |
| _____ 14. mundane | n. expression of sympathy |
| _____ 15. ominous | o. to scold severely |
| _____ 16. reprimand (v.) | p. to seize |
| _____ 17. repudiate | q. having inconsistent elements |

WORDSEARCH 3

- ❖ 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 ① _____ of combat took place in short order after the Allies were able to ② _____ control of the skies from Saddam Hussein's ③ _____ air force.

General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the U.S. field commander, ④ _____ 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 ⑤ _____ 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

WEEK 4 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˈlɑ - 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 - lət)*—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.

WEEK 4 ❖ DAY 2

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.

NEW WORDS

pugnacious

pûg - ˙nā - shəs

promulgate

˙pro - məl - gāt

brash

˙brash

scoff

˙skof

belittle

bi - ˙li - tl

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 _____.
5. 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

·tan - jə - bəl

laceration

la - sə - ˈrā - shən

castigate

·ka - stə - gāt

sordid

·sôr - did

octogenarian

ok - tə - je - ˈner - i - ən

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.

6. tangible _____ a. having actual form
7. laceration _____ b. to correct by punishing
8. castigate _____ c. jagged wound

9. sordid _____ d. dirty, base

10. octogenarian _____ e. person in his or her eighties

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*.

WEEK 4 ❖ DAY 4

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."

NEW WORDS

solace

ˈso - lis

aspirant

ˈas - pə - rənt **OR** ə - ˈspī - rənt

dregs

ˈdregz

frenzy

ˈfren - zē

scurrilous

ˈskɛr - ə - ləs

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 4 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. alacrity | a. scorn |
| _____ 2. aspirant | b. to make afraid |
| _____ 3. belligerent | c. frantic outburst |
| _____ 4. belittle | d. person of eighty |
| _____ 5. brash | e. to mock |
| _____ 6. castigate | f. to make public, proclaim |
| _____ 7. disdain (n.) | g. pretense, sham |
| _____ 8. dregs | h. combative |
| _____ 9. feint | i. candidate for better job |
| _____ 10. frenzy | j. seeking war, hostile |
| _____ 11. intimidate | k. to speak of as unimportant |
| _____ 12. laceration | l. vulgar, using indecent language |
| _____ 13. octogenarian | m. insolent |
| _____ 14. promulgate | n. to punish, chastise |
| _____ 15. pugnacious | o. comfort |
| _____ 16. scoff | p. most worthless part |
| _____ 17. scurrilous | q. able to be touched |

_____ 18. solace

r. rough cut

_____ 19. sordid

s. filthy, ignoble

_____ 20. tangible

t. quick willingness

IDIOMS

_____ 21. throw down the gauntlet

u. to be the boss, lay down the laws

_____ 22. feeling no pain

v. numbed by alcohol

_____ 23. Hobson's choice

w. to offer a challenge

_____ 24. rule the roost

x. to have no meaningful option

Make a record of those words you missed. You can master them with additional review.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

(From Week 4)

❖ 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.

WORDSEARCH 4

❖ 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 ①_____ for office is subjected.

“My last campaign was a ②_____ affair in which my opponents did everything to ③_____ my record and air ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ of 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

WEEK 5 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈrɑm - pənt

inane

i - ˈnān

ethics

ˈe - thɪks

concur

kən - ˈkɜr

clandestine

klan - ˈde - 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*.

WEEK 5 ❖ DAY 2

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

·flā - grənt

admonish

ad - ˈmo - nish

duress

d(y)u - ˈres

culprit

ˈkûl - prit

inexorable

i - ˈnek - sə - rə - bəl

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.

6. flagrant _____ a. inflexible, unrelenting
7. admonish _____ b. compulsion, force
8. duress _____ c. outrageous, glaringly bad
9. culprit _____ d. guilty person

10. inexorable_____ e. to warn, reprove

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*.

WEEK 5 ❖ DAY 3

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."

NEW WORDS

egregious

ə - ˈgrē - jəs

distraught

dɪ - ˈstrôʊt

duplicity

d(y)ū - ˈpli - sə - tē

acrimonious

ə - krə - ˈmo - nē - əs

paucity

ˈpô - sə - tē

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.
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*.

WEEK 5 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˙li - sit

pernicious

per - ˙ni - shəs

tolerate

˙to - lə - rāt

construe

kən - ˙strū

impunity

im - ˙pyū - ne - 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. elicit _____ 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.

WEEK 5 ❖ DAY 5

REVIEW

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. acrimonious | a. double-dealing |
| _____ 2. admonish | b. cannot be moved by persuasion, inflexible |
| _____ 3. clandestine | c. silly |
| _____ 4. concur | d. widespread |
| _____ 5. construe | e. to scold, warn |
| _____ 6. culprit | f. agitated |
| _____ 7. distraught | g. to permit, to put up with |
| _____ 8. duplicity | h. to extract |
| _____ 9. duress | i. damaging, harmful |
| _____ 10. egregious | j. outstanding for undesirable quality |
| _____ 11. elicit | k. notorious |
| _____ 12. ethics | l. force, coercion |
| _____ 13. flagrant | m. exemption |
| _____ 14. impunity | n. moral philosophy |
| _____ 15. inane | o. to agree |
| _____ 16. inexorable | p. hidden, secret |
| _____ 17. paucity | q. to interpret |
| _____ 18. pernicious | r. one who commits a crime |

_____ 19. rampant

s. shortage

_____ 20. tolerate

t. caustic, bitter

IDIOMS

_____ 21. stock-in-trade

u. to idolize

_____ 22. take down a peg

v. to humiliate

_____ 23. pass the buck

w. necessary equipment

_____ 24. lionize a person

x. to refuse to take responsibility

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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 5

❖ 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

WEEK 6 ❖ DAY 1

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.

affluent

ˈa - flū - ənt

feasible

ˈfē - zə - bəl

discern

di - ˈsɜrn

sally (v.)

ˈsa - lē

consternation

kɒn - stər - ˈnā - shən

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.

6. affluent _____ a. to suddenly rush

7. feasible _____ b. possible
8. discern _____ c. dismay
9. sally (v.) _____ d. rich
10. consternation _____ e. to perceive*

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.

WEEK 6 ❖ DAY 2

PATENT PENDING

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 - 'ko - shəs

perfunctory

pər - 'fûŋk - tə - rē

chagrin

shə - 'grin

perverse

pər - 'vèrs

deride

də - 'rīd

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.

WEEK 6 ❖ DAY 3

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

di - 'spa - rij

laudable

˙lô - də - bəl

fiasco

fē - 'as - kō

masticate

˙ma - stə - kāt

eschew

es - 'chū **OR** ə - 'shū

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*.

WEEK 6 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

quell

·kwell

verbose

vər - ·bōs

confidant

·kon - fə - dont

obsolescence

ob - sə - ·le - səns

dubious

·d(y)ū - bē - əs

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. affluent

a. careless

_____ 2. chagrin

b. dread, dismay

_____ 3. confidant

c. to chew

_____ 4. consternation

d. complete failure

_____ 5. deride

e. reaching maturity early

_____ 6. discern

f. talkative

_____ 7. disparage

g. easy to do

_____ 8. dubious

h. to make fun of

_____ 9. eschew

i. contrary

_____ 10. feasible

j. wealthy

_____ 11. fiasco

k. to keep away from

_____ 12. laudable

l. to recognize

_____ 13. masticate

m. to crush, stop

_____ 14. obsolescence

n. to discredit

_____ 15. perfunctory

o. person you tell your secrets to

_____ 16. perverse

p. disappointment

_____ 17. precocious

q. uncertain

_____ 18. quell

r. commendable

_____ 19. sally (v.)

s. to suddenly rush

_____ 20. verbose

t. process of wearing out

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!

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 6

❖ 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

WEEK 7 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

implacable

im - ˈpla - kə - bəl

paroxysm

ˈpa - rək - si - zəm

untoward

ˈu - n - ˈtwôrd

jurisdiction

ju - ris - ˈdik - shən

skirmish

ˈskɪr - ˈmɪʃ

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.

WEEK 7 ❖ DAY 2

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.

NEW WORDS

harasshə - ˈræs **OR** ˈha - rəs**monolithic**

mo - nə - ˈli - thik

arbitrary

ˈär - bə - tre - rī

indigent

ˈin - də - jənt

fray

ˈfrā

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*.

WEEK 7 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈstī - mē

effigy

ˌe - fə - jē

flout

ˌflout

cognizant

ˌkɒg - nə - zənt

turbulent

ˌtɜr - byə - lənt

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.

WEEK 7 ❖ DAY 4

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

fôr - ˈthwith

exacerbate

ig - ˈza - sər - bāt

revert

rə - ˈvɛrt

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*.

WEEK 7 ❖ DAY 5

REVIEW

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?)

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. arbitrary | a. having a massive structure |
| _____ 2. cognizant | b. to hinder |
| _____ 3. effigy | c. a conflict, fight |
| _____ 4. exacerbate | d. relentless, unappeasable |
| _____ 5. flout | e. immediately |
| _____ 6. forthwith | f. improper, inappropriate |
| _____ 7. fray | g. range of authority |
| _____ 8. harass | h. to disregard |
| _____ 9. implacable | i. poverty-stricken |
| _____ 10. indigent | j. to irritate |
| _____ 11. jurisdiction | k. violent outburst |
| _____ 12. monolithic | l. to end |
| _____ 13. oust | m. likeness |
| _____ 14. paroxysm | n. to go back |
| _____ 15. revert | o. to torment |
| _____ 16. skirmish | p. riotous |
| _____ 17. stymie | q. to eject |

_____ 18. terminate

_____ 19. turbulent

_____ 20. untoward

r. small battle

s. aware

t. based on whim

IDIOMS

_____ 21. cause célèbre

_____ 22. for a song

_____ 23. a bitter pill to swallow

_____ 24. ax to grind

u. selfish motive

v. humiliating defeat

w. cheaply

x. famous law case

Make a record of those words you missed.

Note: *fray* and *skirmish* are almost synonymous.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 7

❖ 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 ① _____ with his former wife and his son. The lawyer, Don Rollins, anticipated a ② _____ session because he was the only one who was ③ _____ 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 ④ _____ 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 ⑤ _____ 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

WEEK 8 ❖ DAY 1

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

i - ˈmā - shē - ā - tid

surge (v.)

ˈsɜrj

tranquil

ˈtraŋ - kwəl

sanctuary

ˈsɑŋk - chū - e - rē

ascend

ə - ˈsend

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 exceeded his jurisdiction.*
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.

WEEK 8 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈtri - shən

afflict

ə - ˈflikt

besiege

bi - ˈsēj

privation

prī - ˈvā - shən

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 poverty in the nation.
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*.

WEEK 8 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˙bi - kwi - təs

remote

ri - ˙mōt

thwart

˙thwôrt

harbinger

˙här - bin - jər

malignant

mə - ˙lig - 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.

WEEK 8 ❖ DAY 4

“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 - ˙skrū - shē - ā - tiŋ

respite

˙re - spit

reverberating

ri - vēr - bə - rā - tiŋ

fretful

˙fret - fəl

succumb

sə - ˙kûm

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ 1. afflict | a. lack of necessities |
| _____ 2. ascend | b. inadequate diet |
| _____ 3. besiege | c. being everywhere at once |
| _____ 4. emaciated | d. to trouble greatly |
| _____ 5. excruciating | e. agonizing |
| _____ 6. fretful | f. wasted away |
| _____ 7. harbinger | g. distant |
| _____ 8. malignant | h. evil |
| _____ 9. malnutrition | i. to rush suddenly |
| _____ 10. privation | j. place of protection |
| _____ 11. remote | k. forerunner |
| _____ 12. respite | l. to rise |
| _____ 13. reverberating | m. to hinder |
| _____ 14. sanctuary | n. to yield |
| _____ 15. sinister | o. postponement |
| _____ 16. succumb | p. to surround |
| _____ 17. surge (v.) | q. life-threatening, destructive |
| _____ 18. thwart | r. echoing |

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

(From Week 8)

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

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.

PARTS OF SPEECH

(From Weeks 2–8)

❖ 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?

WORDSEARCH 8

❖ 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

WEEK 9 ❖ DAY 1

JUST SPELL THE NAME CORRECTLY

P. T. Barnum, the great circus *impresario*, 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

impresario

im - prə - sä - rē - ō

extortion

ik - ˙stôr - shən

adverse

ad - ˙vèrs

asset

˙a - set

bigot

˙bi - gət

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*.

WEEK 9 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˌblā - t(ə)nt

entourage

ˌon - tu - rāzh

virulent

ˌvi - rə - lənt

venom

ˌve - nəm

spew

ˌspyū

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.

WEEK 9 ❖ DAY 3

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

·lōth

solicit

sə - ·li - sit

astute

ə - ·st(y)ūt

advocate (v.)

·ad - və - kāt

ineffectual

i - nə - ·fek - chū - əl

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*.

WEEK 9 ❖ DAY 4

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

˙skrū - tə - nīz

nefarious

ni - ˙fer - ē - əs

amicable

˙a - mi - kə - bəl

vexatious

vek - ˙sā - shəs

malady

˙ma - lə - dē

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.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. adverse
- _____ 2. advocate (v.)
- _____ 3. amicable
- _____ 4. asset
- _____ 5. astute
- _____ 6. bigot
- _____ 7. blatant
- _____ 8. entourage
- _____ 9. extortion
- _____ 10. impresario
- _____ 11. ineffectual
- _____ 12. loath
- _____ 13. malady
- _____ 14. nefarious
- _____ 15. scrutinize
- _____ 16. solicit
- _____ 17. spew
- _____ 18. venom

DEFINITIONS

- a. to support
- b. keen, shrewd
- c. something of value
- d. villainous
- e. to seek or beg
- f. organizer of entertainment
- g. annoying
- h. followers
- i. obvious
- j. to examine closely
- k. poison
- l. harmful
- m. unable to accomplish anything
- n. prejudiced person
- o. unfavorable
- p. friendly
- q. unwilling
- r. spout

_____ 19. vexatious

s. disease

_____ 20. virulent

t. getting money by threats or favors

IDIOMS

_____ 21. spill the beans

u. to be critical of a present

_____ 22. keep a stiff upper lip

v. hesitation because of fear

_____ 23. have cold feet

w. to have courage in the face of trouble

_____ 24. look a gift horse in the mouth x. to give away a secret

Make a record of those words you missed. Once again, use those words in original sentences.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 9

❖ 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

WEEK 10 ❖ DAY 1

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 - kôil

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*.

WEEK 10 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈpɛr - tə - nənt

mastiff

ˈma - stɪf

obsess

əb - ˈses

doleful

ˈdɔl - fəl

wan

ˈwɒn

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 **I**DIOM

call on the carpet—to scold

Because of her repeated lateness, Betty's boss *called her on the carpet*.

WEEK 10 ❖ DAY 3

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 - 'o - niks

elusive

i - 'lū - siv

frustrate

'frû - strāt

symptomatic

simp - tə - 'ma - tik

interject

in - tər - 'jekt

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.

WEEK 10 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˈnɜrt

salient

ˌsɑ - lē - ənt

imminent

ˌi - mə - nənt

squeamish

ˌskwē - 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

- _____ 1. desist
- _____ 2. doleful
- _____ 3. elusive
- _____ 4. engrossed
- _____ 5. frustrate
- _____ 6. histrionics
- _____ 7. imminent
- _____ 8. inclement
- _____ 9. inert
- _____ 10. interject
- _____ 11. mastiff
- _____ 12. obsess
- _____ 13. pertinent
- _____ 14. peruse
- _____ 15. premonition
- _____ 16. recoil

DEFINITIONS

- a. sad
- b. to draw back
- c. to foil
- d. to cease
- e. to interrupt
- f. stormy, harsh
- g. indicative
- h. appropriate
- i. powerless to move
- j. large dog
- k. important
- l. to read over, examine
- m. to preoccupy
- n. easily shocked
- o. forewarning
- p. about to happen

_____ 17. salient

q. hard to grasp

_____ 18. squeamish

r. pale

_____ 19. symptomatic

s. absorbed

_____ 20. wan

t. display of emotions

IDIOMS

_____ 21. pay the piper

u. to reveal one's emotions

_____ 22. call on the carpet

v. to scold

_____ 23. show one's hand

w. to fight imaginary enemies

_____ 24. tilt at windmills

x. to bear the consequences

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 10

❖ 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

WEEK 11 ❖ DAY 1

THE SEARCH FOR THE DOG (CONTINUED)

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*.

NEW WORDS

poignant

ˈpɔɪ - nyənt

inundate

ˈi - nən - dāt

fruitless

ˈfrūt - ləs

garbled

ˈgär - bəld

sanguine

ˈsaŋ - gwɪn

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*.

WEEK 11 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈma - tik

corroborate

kə - ˈro - bæ - rāt

comprehensive

kəm - prə - ˈhen - sɪv

zealous

ˈze - ləs

coerce

kō - ˈɜːs

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*.

WEEK 11 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˈlaps

meticulous

mə - ˈti - kyə - 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*.

WEEK 11 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˙jek - 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.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. coerce
- _____ 2. comprehensive
- _____ 3. conjecture (n.)
- _____ 4. corroborate
- _____ 5. domicile
- _____ 6. elapse
- _____ 7. fruitless
- _____ 8. garbled
- _____ 9. inundate
- _____ 10. lax
- _____ 11. lurid
- _____ 12. meticulous
- _____ 13. obviate
- _____ 14. phlegmatic
- _____ 15. poignant
- _____ 16. quip (v.)
- _____ 17. rash (adj.)
- _____ 18. sanguine

DEFINITIONS

- a. to flood, to swamp
- b. home
- c. painful to the feelings, moving
- d. useless
- e. reckless
- f. to confirm
- g. calm, sluggish
- h. sensational
- i. hopeful
- j. to do away with
- k. confused, mixed up
- l. guess
- m. to pass by (time)
- n. careless
- o. occasional
- p. thorough
- q. careful
- r. to force

WORDSEARCH 11

❖ 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

WEEK 12 ❖ DAY 1

OFF BROADWAY

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

diatribe

ˈdi - ə - trīb

inhibition

in - hi - ˈbi - shən

fortuitous

fôr - ˈtū - ə - təs

incoherent

in - kō - hir - ənt

ilk

ˈilk

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.

WEEK 12 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈstē - jəs **OR**

pre - ˈsti - jəs

placard

ˈpla - kɑrd

integral

ˈin - tə - grəl

remuneration

ri - ˈmyū - nə - rā - shən

nominal

ˈno - mə - 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 *air our dirty laundry 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 - ˈspûnj

flamboyant

flam - ˈbôï - 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*.

WEEK 12 ❖ DAY 4

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

timorous

·ti - mə - rəs

truncated

·trûŋ - kâ - təd

jaunty

·jôn - tē

fractious

·frak - shəs

ostentatious

o - sten - ·tā - shəs

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.

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. anathema | a. well-known |
| _____ | 2. diatribe | b. quarrelsome |
| _____ | 3. expunge | c. kind, sort, type |
| _____ | 4. flamboyant | d. poster |
| _____ | 5. fortuitous | e. disjointed |
| _____ | 6. fractious | f. sprightly |
| _____ | 7. ilk | g. lucky |
| _____ | 8. incoherent | h. in name only, slight |
| _____ | 9. inhibition | i. restraint |
| _____ | 10. integral | j. reward |
| _____ | 11. jaunty | k. something greatly detested |
| _____ | 12. nominal | l. rant |
| _____ | 13. ostentatious | m. to erase |
| _____ | 14. placard | n. colorful |
| _____ | 15. prestigious | o. cut short |
| _____ | 16. remuneration | p. essential |
| _____ | 17. schism | q. fearful |

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ | 18. timorous | r. showy |
| _____ | 19. truncated | s. split |
| _____ | 20. utopia | t. place of perfection |

IDIOMS

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| _____ | 21. wear one's heart on one's sleeve | u. to make one's feelings evident |
| _____ | 22. air one's dirty laundry in public | v. warm autumn weather |
| _____ | 23. save face | w. to avoid disgrace |
| _____ | 24. Indian summer | x. to openly discuss private affairs |

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

MEANINGS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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 (*ilks, 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.

WORDSEARCH 12

- ❖ 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 ①_____ 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, ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ .”

“⑤_____ 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

WEEK 13 ❖ DAY 1

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 - t(y)ūn

incontrovertible

in - kon - trə - vèr - tə - bəl

surreptitious

sû - rəp - ti - shəs

haven

hā - vən

subjugate

sûb - jə - gāt

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.

WEEK 13 ❖ DAY 2

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 - chū - āt

emit

i - ˙mit

subterranean

sûb - tə - ˙rā - nē - ən

viable

˙vī - 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.

WEEK 13 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈpɛr - 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 winning.
3. The trapeze artist was squeamish* about having to _____ his life.
4. A terrible odor that was impossible to expunge* _____ the skunk handler's clothing.
5. 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*.

WEEK 13 ❖ DAY 4

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.

REVIEW

WEEK 13 ❖ DAY 5

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. cryptic | a. ask urgently |
| _____ | 2. curtail | b. undeniable |
| _____ | 3. emit | c. to guess |
| _____ | 4. eventuate | d. accomplished secretly |
| _____ | 5. haven | e. to hold back |
| _____ | 6. importune | f. favorable |
| _____ | 7. inchoate | g. cut short |
| _____ | 8. incontrovertible | h. workable |
| _____ | 9. incredulous | i. underground |
| _____ | 10. jeopardize | j. final |
| _____ | 11. permeate | k. to result finally |
| _____ | 12. premise | l. to spread through |
| _____ | 13. propitious | m. to conquer |
| _____ | 14. repress | n. place of safety |
| _____ | 15. subjugate | o. endanger |
| _____ | 16. subterranean | p. proposition for argument |
| _____ | 17. surmise | q. skeptical |
| _____ | 18. surreptitious | r. in an early stage |

WORDSEARCH 13

- ❖ 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

WEEK 14 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˈspɪr

inveigh

ɪn - ˈvā

nettle (v.)

ˈne - t(ə)l

overt

ō - vɛrt

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*.

WEEK 14 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈma - məθ

repulse

ri - ˈpûls

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.

WEEK 14 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌlē - thəl

scurry

ˌskû - rī **OR** ˌskèr - ī

incisive

in - ˌsī - sɪv

precipitate

pri - ˌsi - pə - tāt

stereotype (n.)

ˌste - 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.

WEEK 14 ❖ DAY 4

“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 - ˈtô - rē - ən

singular

ˈsiŋ - gyə - lər

valor

ˈva - lər

bias

ˈbi - əs

sinecure

ˈsi - nə - kyur

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 14 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. aspire | a. huge |
| _____ 2. bias | b. evident, open |
| _____ 3. havoc | c. courage |
| _____ 4. incisive | d. to strive for |
| _____ 5. inveigh | e. banish, assign to inferior position |
| _____ 6. lethal | f. deadly |
| _____ 7. mammoth | g. easy job |
| _____ 8. nettle (v.) | h. prejudice |
| _____ 9. overt | i. keen, acute |
| _____ 10. precipitate | j. to run quickly |
| _____ 11. raze | k. to cause, hasten |
| _____ 12. relegate | l. remarkable, uncommon |
| _____ 13. repulse | m. to attack verbally |
| _____ 14. scurry | n. to repel, drive back |
| _____ 15. sinecure | o. lying on one's back |
| _____ 16. singular | p. destroy |
| _____ 17. stentorian | q. oversimplified preception |
| _____ 18. stereotype (n.) | r. irritate |

_____ 19. supine

s. ruin

_____ 20. valor

t. loud

IDIOMS

_____ 21. bury the hatchet

u. to praise extravagantly

_____ 22. Philadelphia lawyer

v. outstandingly able

_____ 23. gild the lily

w. to beat someone to the punch

_____ 24. steal one's thunder

x. to make peace

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 14

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

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

WEEK 15 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˈpli - si - tī

liquidation

ˌli - kwə - dā - shən

accomplice

ə - ˈkɒm - plis

recant

ri - ˈkɑnt

culpable

ˌkʌl - 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 relegated* 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*.

WEEK 15 ❖ DAY 2

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

abrogate

ˈa - brə - gāt

alleged

ə - ˈlejd **OR** ə - ˈle - jəd

access

ˈak - ses

invalidate

in - ˈva - li - dāt

preclude

pri - ˈklūd

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.

WEEK 15 ❖ DAY 3

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

pér - sə - vir

landmark (adj.)

land - märk

extrinsic

ek - strin - sik

declaim

di - klām

fetter (v.)

fe - 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 _____ e. historic, turning point of a period
(v.)

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.

WEEK 15 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈpa - rə - gon

nomadic

no - ˈma - dik

asperity

a - ˈspe - rə - tī

epithet

ˈe - pi - thet

controversial

kon - trə - ˈvèr - 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 15 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. abrogate | a. disparaging word or phrase |
| _____ 2. access | b. coming from outside, foreign |
| _____ 3. accomplice | c. supposed, reported |
| _____ 4. alleged | d. deserving blame |
| _____ 5. asperity | e. destruction, disposal of |
| _____ 6. complicity | f. an associate in crime |
| _____ 7. controversial | g. model of excellence |
| _____ 8. culpable | h. bitterness of temper |
| _____ 9. declaim | i. to persist |
| _____ 10. epithet | j. to repeal by law, treat as nonexistent |
| _____ 11. extrinsic | k. to prevent |
| _____ 12. fetter (v.) | l. speak pompously |
| _____ 13. invalidate | m. partnership in wrongdoing |
| _____ 14. landmark (adj.) | n. to deprive of legal force, cancel |
| _____ 15. liquidation | o. to renounce previous statements |
| _____ 16. nomadic | p. to hamper, chain |
| _____ 17. paragon | q. admittance |

_____ 18. persevere

r. wandering

_____ 19. preclude

s. historic

_____ 20. recant

t. debatable

IDIOMS

_____ 21. put oneself in someone's shoes

u. a means of spreading information

_____ 22. whitewash

v. to empathize

_____ 23. break the ice

w. to conceal defects

_____ 24. the grapevine

x. to make a start

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

MEANINGS

- ❖ 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

WEEK 16 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˙di - jə - nəʃ

gregarious

grə - ˙ger - ē - əʃ

habitat

˙ha - bi - tət

cursory

˙kɜ - sə - rē

interloper

˙in - tə - 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.

WEEK 16 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˙li - fik

bulwark

˙bul - wærk

sedentary

˙se - dən - te - rī

frugal

˙frū - gəl

antithesis

an - ˙ti - 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.

WEEK 16 ❖ DAY 3

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

'kash

coterie

'kō - tə - rē

cupidity

kyū - 'pi - də - 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.

WEEK 16 ❖ DAY 4

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

vér - chū - ˙o - sà - tē

temerity

tə - ˙me - rə - tē

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 **I**DIOM

have the upper hand—to gain control

I used to have him at my mercy, but now he *has the upper hand*.

REVIEW

WEEK 16 ❖ DAY 5

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

- _____ 1. altruistic
- _____ 2. amorous
- _____ 3. antithesis
- _____ 4. bulwark
- _____ 5. cache
- _____ 6. coterie
- _____ 7. cupidity
- _____ 8. cursory
- _____ 9. embellish
- _____ 10. frugal
- _____ 11. gregarious
- _____ 12. habitat
- _____ 13. indigenous
- _____ 14. interloper
- _____ 15. progeny
- _____ 16. prolific
- _____ 17. saturate
- _____ 18. sedentary

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

WORDSEARCH 16

- ❖ 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 ① _____ weaver of George Eliot’s novel, he enjoyed counting his treasure each Friday night. Mr. D’s ② _____ 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* ③ _____ had the ④ _____ 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 ⑤ _____ 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

WEEK 17 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈpɛr - pə - trāt

consummate (adj.)

ˈkɒn - sə - mət **OR**

kən - ˈsû - mət

subterfuge

ˈsûb - tər - fyūj

concoct

kən - ˈkɒkt

fallacious

fə - ˈlā - 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.

WEEK 17 ❖ DAY 2

“MAJOR MARTIN” GOES TO WAR

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

ˈma - nə - fōld

assiduous

ə - ˈsi - jū - əs

impeccable

im - ˈpe - kə - bəl

fraught

ˈfrôt

resourceful

re - ˈzôr - 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*.

WEEK 17 ❖ DAY 3

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

·mēr - kē

component

kəm - ˈpō - nənt

hoax (n.)

·hōks

labyrinth

·la - bə - rinth

evaluate

i - ˈva - lyū - 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 dragon who was indigenous* to the caves.
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.

WEEK 17 ❖ DAY 4

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*.

NEW WORDS

exult

ig - ˈzʊlt

attest

ə - ˈtest

gullible

ˈɡʊ - lə - bəl

deploy

di - ˈplɔɪ

enigma

i - ˈnɪg - mə

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 17 ❖ DAY 5

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.)

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ 1. assiduous | a. spread out in battle formation |
| _____ 2. attest | b. a trick |
| _____ 3. component | c. attentive |
| _____ 4. concoct | d. confirm as accurate, vouch for |
| _____ 5. consummate (adj.) | e. to devise |
| _____ 6. deploy | f. riddle, puzzle |
| _____ 7. enigma | g. element, part |
| _____ 8. evaluate | h. able to meet any situation |
| _____ 9. exult | i. perfect, complete |
| _____ 10. fallacious | j. filled |
| _____ 11. fraught | k. misleading, false |
| _____ 12. gullible | l. to rejoice greatly |
| _____ 13. hoax (n.) | m. faultless |
| _____ 14. impeccable | n. easily fooled |
| _____ 15. labyrinth | o. winding passages |
| _____ 16. manifold | p. to find the value of, review |
| _____ 17. murky | q. many |

WORDSEARCH 17

- ❖ 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 ①_____ review of Social Security disability payments, focused on Jack Benson, a ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____, 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 ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 18 ❖ DAY 1

TEACHING CHIMPANZEES 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 - ˈbɒr - tɪv

modify

ˈmo - də - fɪ

accommodate

ə - ˈko - mə - dāt

spontaneous

spon - ˈtā - nē - əs

innate

i - ˈnāt

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*.

WEEK 18 ❖ DAY 2

CHIMPANZEES ARE SMART

Washoe, the chimpanzee, has more than a *vener* 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

vener

və - ˈnir

myriad

ˈmi - rē - ad

urbane

ˈər - bān

crave

ˈkrāv

irrelevant

i - ˈre - 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. vener _____ 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.

WEEK 18 ❖ DAY 3

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

inherentin - ·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 _____ c. inborn
(n.)
9. romp _____ d. a fan, follower
(v.)
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*.

WEEK 18 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˌtôr - chū - əs

itinerant (adj.)

ī - ˈti - nə - rənt

peregrination

pe - rə - gri - ˈnā - shən

conjugal

ˌkɒn - jə - gəl

barometer

bə - ˈrɒ - 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
(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.

REVIEW

WEEK 18 ❖ DAY 5

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.)

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. abortive | a. not related to the subject |
| _____ 2. accommodate | b. thin covering |
| _____ 3. barometer | c. fruitless, failing |
| _____ 4. buff (n.) | d. natural |
| _____ 5. conjugal | e. polished, civilized |
| _____ 6. crave | f. to make fit, adjust to |
| _____ 7. deem | g. spur of the moment |
| _____ 8. inherent | h. to move in a lively manner |
| _____ 9. innate | i. to desire |
| _____ 10. irrelevant | j. instrument for measuring change |
| _____ 11. itinerant (adj.) | k. winding |
| _____ 12. latent | l. inborn |
| _____ 13. modify | m. to believe, judge |
| _____ 14. myriad | n. going from place to place |
| _____ 15. peregrination | o. fan, follower, enthusiast |
| _____ 16. romp (v.) | p. travel (n.) |
| _____ 17. spontaneous | q. relating to marriage |

_____ 18. tortuous

r. countless number

_____ 19. urbane

s. to change

_____ 20. veneer

t. lying hidden

IDIOMS

_____ 21. under the wire

u. to pretend not to see

_____ 22. be at large

v. just in time

_____ 23. go against the grain

w. to irritate, rebel

_____ 24. wink at

x. not confined or in jail

Make a record of those words you missed.

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.

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 ①_____ 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, ②_____, 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 ③_____ of complaints about abused workers, issues fines, and revokes the licenses of contractors. But many such shady employers pay the fines (which they ④_____ to be “operating expenses”) and continue to run company stores that cheat the workers, subjugate them with drugs and alcohol, ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 19 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

megalomania

me - gə - lō - ˈmā - nē - ə

profligate

ˈpro - fli - gət

strife

ˈstrīf

legion (adj.)

ˈlē - jən

coup

ˈkū

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* when they committed suicide.
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 (adj.) _____ 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.

WEEK 19 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈam - nə - stē

expatriate

ek - ˈspā - trē - ət

exonerate

ig - ˈzo - nə - rāt

fiat

ˈfē - ət **OR** ˈfē - ət

mendacious

men - ˈdā - shəs

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.*"

WEEK 19 ❖ DAY 3

REFORM MOVEMENT

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.

NEW WORDS

parsimonious

pär - sə - 'mō - nī - əs

pecuniary

pi - 'kyū - nē - e - rē

dismantle

dis - 'man - təl

sumptuous

'sûmp - chū - əs

underwrite

'ûn - də - rīt

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.

WEEK 19 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˙stri:k - 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 19 ❖ DAY 5

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. amnesty | a. revolution |
| _____ 2. balk (v.) | b. unrest, discord |
| _____ 3. blunt (adj.) | c. to take apart, disassemble |
| _____ 4. coup | d. lavish |
| _____ 5. dismantle | e. to free from guilt |
| _____ 6. exonerate | f. to agree to finance |
| _____ 7. expatriate | g. false, lying |
| _____ 8. fiat | h. an exile |
| _____ 9. legion (adj.) | i. abnormal desire for power |
| _____ 10. megalomania | j. plainspoken |
| _____ 11. mendacious | k. harsh, confining |
| _____ 12. nostalgia | l. to be unwilling, refuse |
| _____ 13. parsimonious | m. wasteful |
| _____ 14. pecuniary | n. official order, decree |
| _____ 15. profligate | o. widespread |
| _____ 16. restrictive | p. great in number |
| _____ 17. rife | q. financial |
| _____ 18. strife | r. general pardon |

_____ 19. sumptuous

s. miserly

_____ 20. underwrite

t. yearning for the past

IDIOMS

_____ 21. play possum

u. someone profits from another's misfortune

_____ 22. it's an ill wind that blows no good

v. to be fully acquainted with procedures

_____ 23. know the ropes

w. in trouble

_____ 24. behind the eight ball

x. to try to fool someone

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 19

- ❖ 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 ①_____ . 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 ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ at what they regard as nonsense and pagan superstition are quite ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 20 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˈvīld

derogatory

di - ˈro - gə - tō - rē

indict

in - ˈdīt

nebulous

ˈne - byə - ləs

pesky

ˈpes - kē

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

ˈre - də - lənt

repose (n.)

ri - ˈpōz

omnivorous

om - ˈni - və - rəs

disparate

ˈdis - pə - rit

abstemious

əb - ˈstē - mē - əs

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.

WEEK 20 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌek - stənt **OR**

ex - ˈstant

vicissitudes

vi - ˈsi - si - t(y)ūd̩z

edifice

ˌe - de - fis

sultry

ˌsûl - trē

trenchant

ˌtren - chənt

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.

WEEK 20 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈpyū - sənt **OR** ˈpwi - sənt

unabated

û - nə - ˈbā - təd

maudlin

ˈmôd - lin

levity

ˈle - və - tē

lugubrious

lə - ˈgū - brē - 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 20 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. abstemious | a. different |
| _____ 2. derogatory | b. sentimental |
| _____ 3. disparate | c. a building |
| _____ 4. edifice | d. very sad |
| _____ 5. extant | e. humor, lightness of disposition |
| _____ 6. indict | f. vague, not clear |
| _____ 7. levity | g. expressing a low opinion |
| _____ 8. lugubrious | h. eating foods from both plants and animals |
| _____ 9. maudlin | i. to accuse |
| _____ 10. nebulous | j. state of rest |
| _____ 11. omnivorous | k. still existing |
| _____ 12. pesky | l. powerful |
| _____ 13. puissant | m. annoying |
| _____ 14. redolent | n. fragrant |
| _____ 15. repose (n.) | o. moderate in eating or drinking |
| _____ 16. reviled | p. keen, sharp, biting |
| _____ 17. sultry | q. torrid |

_____ 18. trenchant

r. difficulties

_____ 19. unabated

s. without subsiding

_____ 20. vicissitudes

t. hated

IDIOMS

_____ 21. left holding the bag

u. insincerely

_____ 22. the whole nine yards

v. left to suffer the blame

_____ 23. tongue in cheek

w. everything

_____ 24. take the wind out of one's
sails

x. make someone less confident or
determined

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

HAPLESS HEADLINES

(From Week 20)

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

- a. Pesky
- b. Maudlin
- c. Repose
- d. Abstemious
- e. Sultry
- f. Vicissitudes
- g. Redolent
- h. Levity
- i. Derogatory
- j. Unabated
- k. Reviled
- l. Puissant
- m. Nebulous
- n. Trenchant
- o. Lugubrious
- p. Disparate
- q. Indict
- r. Extant
- s. Omnivorous
- t. Edifice

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

WORDSEARCH 20

❖ 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, ①_____ complaints about chlorine continue ②_____, identifying it as a health and environmental risk.

Greenpeace, the environmental activist group, stands ready to ③_____ chlorinated 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 ④_____ with the aroma of chlorine, we don't associate it with the ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 21 ❖ DAY 1

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

scion

ˈsɪ - ən

indoctrinate

in - ˈdɒk - trə - nāt

opulence

ˈɒp - yə - ləns

obsequious

əb - ˈsɪ - kwɪ - əs

fulsome

ˈfʊl - səm

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*.

WEEK 21 ❖ DAY 2

SIDDHARTHA'S EYES ARE OPENED

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.

NEW WORDS

lush

ˌlʊʃ

destitution

de - sti - ˈt(y)ū - shən

ponder

ˌpɒn - dər

supplication

ˌsû - plə - kâ - shən

decadence

ˌde - kə - dəns

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 “tentered” on hooks)**

The indicted* clerk was kept *on tenter hooks* by the district attorney.

WEEK 21 ❖ DAY 3

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.

NEW WORDS

penance

ˈpe - nəns

ascetic (n.)

ə - ˈse - tik

desultory

ˈde - səl - tôrē

disciple

dɪ - ˈsɪ - pəl

metamorphosis

me - tə - ˈmôr - fə - sis

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 **I**DIOM

***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*.

WEEK 21 ❖ DAY 4

LOVE OVER HATRED, GOODNESS OVER EVIL

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

ˌbō - nə - fīd

salvation

sal - ˈvā - shən

materialism

ma - ˈti - rē - ə - li - zəm

nurture

ˌnər - chər

nirvana

nir - ˈvo - nə **OR**

nər - ˈvo - nə

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 (ˈsē - zər) 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.

WEEK 21 ❖ DAY 5

REVIEW

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.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. ascetic (n.)
- _____ 2. bona fide
- _____ 3. decadence
- _____ 4. destitution
- _____ 5. desultory
- _____ 6. disciple
- _____ 7. fulsome
- _____ 8. indoctrinate
- _____ 9. lush
- _____ 10. materialism
- _____ 11. metamorphosis
- _____ 12. nirvana
- _____ 13. nurture
- _____ 14. obsequious
- _____ 15. opulence
- _____ 16. penance
- _____ 17. ponder
- _____ 18. salvation

DEFINITIONS

- a. one who practices self-denial
- b. wealth
- c. concern with possessions
- d. luxurious
- e. self-indulgence
- f. disconnected, random
- g. deliverance from ruin
- h. extreme poverty
- i. to teach certain principles
- j. excessive
- k. to nourish
- l. heavenly place
- m. descendant
- n. earnest plea
- o. to consider carefully
- p. follower
- q. atonement for sin
- r. seeking favor

_____ 19. scion

s. change

_____ 20. supplication

t. genuine

IDIOMS

_____ 21. piece of cake

u. in a state of anxiety

_____ 22. on tenter hooks

v. job or task that is easy

_____ 23. the fat is in the fire

w. above suspicion

_____ 24. like Caesar's wife

x. the mischief is done

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 21

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

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

ˌjʊk - stə - pōz

plight

ˌplīt

covert

ˌkō - vərt **OR**

ko - ˌvɛrt

cope

ˌkōp

incompatibility

in - kəm - pa - tə - ˌbi - 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.

WEEK 22 ❖ DAY 2

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 - təd

fabricate

ˈfa - brə - kāt

connubial

kə - ˈn(y)ū - bē - əl

demur

dī - ˈmèr

appellation

a - 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*.

WEEK 22 ❖ DAY 3

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

e - skə - lā - shən

indifference

in - ˈdi - frəns

potential (adj.)

pə - ten - shəl

cumulative

ˈkyū - myə - lə - tiv **OR**

ˈkyū - myə - lā - tiv

recondite

ˈre - 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!

WEEK 22 ❖ DAY 4

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

palliate

ˈpā - lē - āt

delude

dī - ˈl(y)ūd

prelude

ˈpre - lyūd

chimerical

kī - ˈme - rə - kəl

acknowledge

ak - ˈno - lij

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 - kō - 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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ 1. acknowledge | a. accumulated |
| _____ 2. appellation | b. to admit |
| _____ 3. chimerical | c. to relieve without curing |
| _____ 4. connubial | d. to lie |
| _____ 5. cope | e. to fool |
| _____ 6. covert | f. a name |
| _____ 7. cumulative | g. predicament |
| _____ 8. delude | h. secret |
| _____ 9. demur | i. intensification |
| _____ 10. escalation | j. to deal effectively |
| _____ 11. fabricate | k. obscure, hidden |
| _____ 12. incapacitated | l. imaginary, fantastic |
| _____ 13. incompatibility | m. related to marriage |
| _____ 14. indifference | n. possible |
| _____ 15. juxtapose | o. to place side by side |
| _____ 16. palliate | p. to object |
| _____ 17. plight | q. introduction |
| _____ 18. potential (adj.) | r. lack of concern |

_____ 19. prelude

s. lack of harmony

_____ 20. recondite

t. disabled

IDIOMS

_____ 21. plea bargain

u. trying to gain favor

_____ 22. in apple pie order

v. severe set of rules

_____ 23. apple polishing

w. agreement to admit guilt on a lesser charge

_____ 24. Draconian laws

x. in good condition

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH 22

❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ of the salon owners. They ③_____ 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 ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 1

FROM A TO Z

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 - ˙jē - nē - əs

gamut

˙ga - mət

perspicacious

pər - spə - ˙kā - shəs

analogous

ə - ˙na - lə - gəs

maladjusted

ma - lə - ˙jû - stəd

Sample Sentences Use the new words in the following 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.

WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 2

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

fə - ˈno - mə - non

mortality

môr - ˈta - lə - tī

decade

ˈde - kād

susceptible

sə - 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.

WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈpe - də - gog

enunciate

i - ˈnûn - sē - āt

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*.

WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 4

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."

NEW WORDS

perpetuate

per - ʹpe - chū - āt

mandate (n.)

ʹman - dāt

compensatory

kəm - ʹpen - sə - tō - rē

neutralize

ʹn(y)ū - trə - līz

catastrophic

ka - tə - ʹstro - fik

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. analogous | a. disastrous |
| _____ 2. catastrophic | b. irritable |
| _____ 3. compensatory | c. teacher |
| _____ 4. decade | d. dysfunctional |
| _____ 5. enunciate | e. to cause to continue |
| _____ 6. gamut | f. comparable, similar |
| _____ 7. heterogeneous | g. shrewd |
| _____ 8. inordinate | h. authoritative command |
| _____ 9. introspective | i. dissimilar |
| _____ 10. irascible | j. range |
| _____ 11. maladjusted | k. to counteract |
| _____ 12. mandate (n.) | l. having a nervous disorder |
| _____ 13. mortality | m. excessive |
| _____ 14. neurotic | n. looking into one's own feelings |
| _____ 15. neutralize | o. unusual occurrence |
| _____ 16. pedagogue | p. death |
| _____ 17. perpetuate | q. easily affected |
| _____ 18. perspicacious | r. making up for a loss |

_____ 19. phenomenon

s. ten years

_____ 20. susceptible

t. to express, proclaim

IDIOMS

_____ 21. cut the mustard

u. to meet expectations

_____ 22. bite the bullet

v. to endure an unavoidably painful situation

_____ 23. get one's back up

w. to become angry

_____ 24. bring home the bacon

x. to earn a living

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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.

WORDSEARCH 23

❖ 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

WEEK 24 ❖ DAY 1

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 - ˈpɒ - lə - jɪst

bizarre

bi - ˈzɑːr

inanimate

in - ˈɑː - ni - mət

fetish

ˈfe - tɪʃ

artifact

ˈɑː - ti - fækt

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*.

WEEK 24 ❖ DAY 2

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.)

tə - 'bū **OR** ta - 'bū

imprudent

im - 'prū - dənt

prohibition

prō - (h)ə - 'bi - shən

imperative

im - 'pe - rə - tiv

taint (n.)

'tānt

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.

WEEK 24 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˙vèr - səl

contemptuous

kən - ˙temp - chū - əs

absurd

əb - ˙sèrd **OR** əb - ˙zèrd

abhorrent

əb - ˙ho - rənt

superstition

s(y)ū - pər - ˙sti - shən

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.

WEEK 24 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˌvul - nə - rə - bəl

entreaty

in - ˈtrē - tē

tradition

trə - ˈdi - shən

originate

ə - ˈrɪ - jə - nāt

inviolable

in - ˈvī - 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.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abhorrent
- _____ 2. absurd
- _____ 3. anthropologist
- _____ 4. artifact
- _____ 5. bizarre
- _____ 6. contemptuous
- _____ 7. entreaty
- _____ 8. fetish
- _____ 9. imperative
- _____ 10. imprudent
- _____ 11. inanimate
- _____ 12. inviolable
- _____ 13. originate
- _____ 14. prohibition
- _____ 15. superstition
- _____ 16. taboo (n.)

DEFINITIONS

- a. a hand-made object
- b. unwise
- c. irrational belief
- d. completely protected
- e. magical object
- f. widespread
- g. to begin, arise
- h. person who studies mankind's customs
- i. custom forbidding a particular practice
- j. long-standing practice
- k. weird
- l. able to be hurt
- m. looking down on someone or something
- n. utterly hated
- o. without life
- p. banning of certain actions

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| _____ | 17. taint (n.) | q. necessary |
| _____ | 18. tradition | r. ridiculous |
| _____ | 19. universal | s. plea, appeal |
| _____ | 20. vulnerable | t. contamination |

IDIOMS

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| _____ | 21. get down off one's high horse | u. the greatest |
| _____ | 22. cream of the crop | v. a highly valued asset |
| _____ | 23. dyed-in-the-wool | w. to act like an ordinary person |
| _____ | 24. blue chip | x. set in one's ways |

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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

-
-
-

ADJECTIVE LEADERS AND NOUN FOLLOWERS

(From Weeks 21–24)

- a. fulsome
- b. covert
- c. bona fide
- d. lush
- e. bizarre
- f. susceptible
- g. inviolable
- h. taboo
- i. catastrophic
- j. inanimate
- k. imprudent
- l. maladjusted
- m. connubial
- n. heterogeneous
- o. inordinate

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

WORDSEARCH 24

- ❖ 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 ①_____ to believe that this year’s borders will remain fixed. Has there ever been an ②_____ border?

Looking through an atlas of just a few years back, we realize it is simply an ③_____ of an ever-changing world. If there is one thing for map makers to do, it is to realize how ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 25 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

awesome

·ô - səm

eruption

i - ·rûp - shən

puny

·pyū - nē

debris

də - ·brē

dispersed

dī - ·spɛrst

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 capture.
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.

WEEK 25 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈbli - tə - rāt

deplorable

də - ˈplô - rə - bəl

initiate (v.)

i - ˈni - shē - āt

conflagration

kən - flə - ˈgrā - shən

rue (v.)

ˈrū

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.

WEEK 25 ❖ DAY 3

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 - nē - əl

hoard (v.)

ˈhôrd

sage (adj.)

ˈsāj

aegis

ˈē - jis

detriment

ˈde - tri - mənt

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 _____ by the dogs of the neighborhood.
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.

WEEK 25 ❖ DAY 4

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 - və - tē

imbibe

im - ˙bīb

virile

˙vir - əl

senile

˙sē - nīl

doddering (adj.)

˙do - də - riŋ

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 aid of a cane.
4. If you _____, don't drive!
5. 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 25 ❖ DAY 5

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. aegis | a. shaky from old age |
| _____ 2. awesome | b. to regret |
| _____ 3. conflagration | c. bursting out |
| _____ 4. congenial | d. decline in mental capacity as a result of old age |
| _____ 5. debris | e. wise, intelligent |
| _____ 6. deplorable | f. ruins, fragments |
| _____ 7. detriment | g. weak, small |
| _____ 8. dispersed | h. protection, sponsorship, shield |
| _____ 9. doddering (adj.) | i. agreeable, sympathetic |
| _____ 10. eruption | j. broken up, scattered, spread |
| _____ 11. hoard (v.) | k. sad, pitiable |
| _____ 12. imbibe | l. hurt, damage, injury |
| _____ 13. initiate (v.) | m. to drink |
| _____ 14. longevity | n. great fire |
| _____ 15. obliterate | o. manly, masterful |
| _____ 16. puny | p. inspiring great admiration or fear |
| _____ 17. rue (v.) | q. get going, start |
| _____ 18. sage (adj.) | r. to accumulate, save, store up |

WORDSEARCH 25

- ❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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 - ˈthäɹ - jɪk

prevalent

ˈpre - və - lənt

paramount

ˈpɑ - rə - maʊnt

remiss

ri - ˈmɪs

hostile

ˈho - 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.

WEEK 26 ❖ DAY 2

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 *evinced* 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.

NEW WORDS

rebuke (v.)

ri - 'byūk

aversion

ə - 'vēr - zhən

evince

i - 'vins

vogue

'vōg

superficial

s(y)ū - pər - 'fi - shəl

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.

WEEK 26 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌje - ti - sən

inevitable

i - ˌne - vi - tə - bəl

lucrative

ˌl(y)ū - krə - tiv

tussle (n.)

ˌtû - səl

intrinsic

in - ˌtrin - 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*.

WEEK 26 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈjɪst

transient (adj.)

ˈtræn - zē - ənt **OR**

ˈtræn - shənt

terse

ˈtɜrs

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'S IDIOM

***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.

REVIEW

WEEK 26 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. acute	a. to show plainly, exhibit
_____	2. aversion	b. fleeting, passing, short-lived
_____	3. cogent	c. to throw overboard, discard
_____	4. evince	d. forceful, convincing, persuasive
_____	5. gist	e. on the surface, slight
_____	6. hostile	f. rough struggle
_____	7. inevitable	g. compact, brief, concise
_____	8. intrinsic	h. to reprimand, reproach, criticize
_____	9. jettison	i. inborn, natural, essential
_____	10. lethargic	j. fashion
_____	11. lucrative	k. main point, essence
_____	12. paramount	l. severe, keen, sharp
_____	13. prevalent	m. lazy, indifferent
_____	14. rebuke (v.)	n. negligent, careless
_____	15. remiss	o. unavoidable, certain, sure
_____	16. superficial	p. opposition, strong dislike
_____	17. terse	q. foremost, supreme
_____	18. transient (adj.)	r. general, common

_____ 19. tussle (n.)

s. angry, antagonistic

_____ 20. vogue

t. profitable

IDIOMS

_____ 21. to split hairs

u. on a very rare occasion

_____ 22. strike while the iron is hot

v. to postpone a decision

_____ 23. once in a blue moon

w. to take action at the right moment

_____ 24. sleep on it

x. to make a fine distinction

Take that extra moment now to review and study the words you got wrong.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORDSEARCH 26

- ❖ 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

WEEK 27 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

pinnacle

ˈpi - nə - kəl

array (n.)

ə - ˈrā

obscure (adj.)

əb - ˈskɪr

ardent

ˈär - dənt

culminate

ˈkûl - mə - nāt

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 _____ b. summit, peak, top, crown
(n.)

8. obscure _____ c. arrangement, display
(adj.)
9. ardent _____ d. unknown, lowly, unclear
10. culminate _____ e. to reach the highest point

TODAY'S **I**DIOM

***at the drop of a hat*—without any hesitation**

The obsequious* butler responded to his employer's demands *at the drop of a hat*.

WEEK 27 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈfɒl - 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 **I**DIOM

loaded for bear—to be well prepared

When the enemy finally attacked the positions, the defenders were *loaded for bear*.

WEEK 27 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˙o - lik

invective

in - ˙vek - tiv

besmirch

bi - ˙smērçh

voluminous

və - ˙l(y)ū - mi - nəs

retrospect

˙re - 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 ordinary.
5. The _____ language used by critics of the new play tended to obliterate* 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.

WEEK 27 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

egotist

ˈē - gō - tist **OR**

ˈē - gə - tist

humility

hyū - ˈmi - lə - tē

pungent

ˈpûn - jənt

inveterate

in - ˈve - tə - rət

adamant

ˈa - də - mənt

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 27 ❖ DAY 5

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
- _____ 2. ardent
- _____ 3. array (n.)
- _____ 4. bereft
- _____ 5. besmirch
- _____ 6. constrict
- _____ 7. culminate
- _____ 8. egotist
- _____ 9. exultation
- _____ 10. falter
- _____ 11. humility
- _____ 12. invective
- _____ 13. inveterate
- _____ 14. obscure (adj.)
- _____ 15. pinnacle
- _____ 16. prodigy
- _____ 17. pungent
- _____ 18. retrospect
- _____ 19. vitriolic

DEFINITIONS

- a. to reach the highest or final point
- b. inflexible, unyielding
- c. triumphant joy
- d. looking backward
- e. peak, crown, summit
- f. conceited, vain person
- g. to bind, limit, squeeze
- h. biting, burning
- i. insulting, abusive speech
- j. display, arrangement
- k. modesty, humbleness
- l. phenomenon, marvel
- m. to stain, soil, dim the reputation
- n. sharply stimulating
- o. deprived of
- p. bulky, large
- q. to hesitate, waver, stumble
- r. eager, passionate
- 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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

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.

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

WEEK 28 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˌvʌl - nə - rə - bəl

bedlam

ˌbed - ləm

cacophony

kə - ˈkɒ - fə - nē

exploit (v.)

ɪk - ˈsplɔɪt

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.

WEEK 28 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈgrʌn - təld

infallible

in - ˈfa - lə - bəl

panacea

pa - nə - ˈsē - ə

eradicate

i - ˈra - də - kāt

impede

im - ˈpēd

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*.

WEEK 28 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˈdāt

equanimity

ē - kwe - ˈni - mə - tē **OR**

e - kwə - ˈni - mə - tē

compatible

kəm - ˈpa - tə - bəl

serenity

sə - ˈre - nə - tē

revere

ri - ˈvir

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*.

WEEK 28 ❖ DAY 4

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.

REVIEW

WEEK 28 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. avarice | a. susceptible, open to attack |
| _____ 2. bedlam | b. exempt from error, right |
| _____ 3. cacophony | c. well-matched, harmonious |
| _____ 4. compatible | d. lowest point |
| _____ 5. disgruntled | e. at the point of death, dying |
| _____ 6. equanimity | f. peaceful repose |
| _____ 7. eradicate | g. cure-all |
| _____ 8. exploit (v.) | h. uproar, confusion |
| _____ 9. impede | i. harsh sound, discord, dissonance |
| _____ 10. infallible | j. to wipe out |
| _____ 11. insatiable | k. sober, still, quiet, undisturbed |
| _____ 12. irrational | l. nearness in time and place |
| _____ 13. moribund | m. displeased, unhappy |
| _____ 14. nadir | n. absurd, unreasonable |
| _____ 15. panacea | o. cannot be satisfied |
| _____ 16. propinquity | p. to utilize, profit by |
| _____ 17. revere | q. composure, evenness of mind |
| _____ 18. sedate (adj.) | r. passion for riches, greed |

_____ 19. serenity

s. to hinder, interfere, block

_____ 20. vulnerable

t. to admire, respect, honor

IDIOMS

_____ 21. white elephant

u. costly and useless possession

_____ 22. lock, stock, and barrel

v. entirely, completely

_____ 23. feather in one's cap

w. in a dangerous or exposed position

_____ 24. out on a limb

x. something to be proud of

Consistent study and use of difficult words will work quickly to bring them into your daily vocabulary.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

DOING DOUBLE DUTY

(From Weeks 25–28)

❖ 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

WORDSEARCH 28

❖ 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 ①_____ the computer's ability. In the ②_____ of a special room, the computer worked well.

Now, math wizards have developed a computer that reads lips despite any surrounding ③_____. While once we thought it ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 29 ❖ DAY 1

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

·bèr - lē

adherent (n.)

əd - ·hir - ənt

bliss

·blis

forlorn

fôr - ·lôrn

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.

WEEK 29 ❖ DAY 2

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

ig - ˈzôrt

apathy

ˈa - pə - thē

fracas

ˈfra - kəs **OR** ˈfrā - kəs

inebriated

i - 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.

WEEK 29 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈin - də - lənt

gusto

ˈɡû - stō

garrulous

ˈger - ə - ləs

banal

bə - ˈnāl

platitude

ˈpla - ti - t(y)ūd

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 enough for you?"
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.

WEEK 29 ❖ DAY 4

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 *pique* 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

pique (n.)

ˈpēk

dilettante

ˈdi - le - tänt **OR**

di - læ - ˈtänt

atypical

ā - ˈti - pə - kəl

nondescript

non - də - ˈskript

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 away.
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* (·môr - fē - 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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1.	adherent (n.)	a.	to urge strongly, advise
_____ 2.	adversary	b.	enemy, foe, opponent
_____ 3.	apathy	c.	graceful
_____ 4.	atypical	d.	pitiful, sad, distressed
_____ 5.	banal	e.	lazy
_____ 6.	bliss	f.	meaningless from overuse, trivial
_____ 7.	burly	g.	fit of resentment
_____ 8.	dilettante	h.	difficult to describe, undistinguished
_____ 9.	exhort	i.	unconcern, lack of interest
_____ 10.	forlorn	j.	intoxicated, drunk
_____ 11.	fracas	k.	husky (person)
_____ 12.	garrulous	l.	pleasure, happiness
_____ 13.	gusto	m.	zest, enjoyment, enthusiasm
_____ 14.	indolent	n.	trite saying
_____ 15.	inebriated	o.	one with little knowledge and great interest
_____ 16.	lithe	p.	nonconforming
_____ 17.	nondescript	q.	brawl, noisy fight
_____ 18.	pique (n.)	r.	supporter, backer
_____ 19.	platitude	s.	wordy, talkative

WORDSEARCH 29

❖ 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 ①_____. Often the eligible voter turnout at election time falls below 50%. This, after months of political campaigning, including televised debates, leaves concerned citizens feeling ②_____.

No matter how hard the candidates woo the voters, the end results are often disappointing. Are the voters so ③_____ that they would rather stay home watching television than cast a ballot? Does the voter feel that the candidates are stating one ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 30 ❖ DAY 1

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

ī - ˈdi - lik

galvanize

ˈgal - və - nīz

encumbrance

in - ˈkûm - brəns

gaudy

ˈgô - 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.

WEEK 30 ❖ DAY 2

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

kən - də - 'send

candor

ˈkən - dəɹ

mortify

ˈmôr - tə - fī

jocose

jə - 'kōs **OR**

jō - 'kōs

malign (v.)

mə - 'līn

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
(v.)

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.

WEEK 30 ❖ DAY 3

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.

NEW WORDS

omnipotent

om - ˈni - pə - tənt

zenith

ˈzē - nith

fledgling

ˈflej - liŋ

peremptory

pə - ˈremp - tə - rī

precedent

ˈpre - si - dənt

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.

WEEK 30 ❖ DAY 4

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 - dəl

rustic

·rû - stik

jubilant

·j(y)ū - bi - lənt

decorum

də - ·kô - rəm

charlatan

·shär - lə - tən

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 - 'ki - 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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. candor	a. to arouse or excite to activity
_____ 2. charlatan	b. to humiliate, embarrass
_____ 3. condescend	c. little known, newly developed
_____ 4. decorum	d. in high spirits, joyful
_____ 5. encumbrance	e. peaceful, simple
_____ 6. extinct	f. honesty, frankness
_____ 7. fledgling	g. unpolished, countrified
_____ 8. galvanize	h. top, prime, summit
_____ 9. gaudy	i. load, handicap, burden
_____ 10. idyllic	j. merry, humorous
_____ 11. jocose	k. correct behavior, politeness
_____ 12. jubilant	l. unlimited in power or authority, almighty
_____ 13. malign (v.)	m. no longer existing
_____ 14. mortify	n. to lower oneself, stoop
_____ 15. omnipotent	o. to persuade, coax, cajole*
_____ 16. peremptory	p. binding, compulsory, absolute
_____ 17. precedent	q. showy, flashy
_____ 18. rustic	r. to slander, abuse
_____ 19. wheedle	s. fraud, pretender

_____ 20. zenith

t. earlier example of something similar

IDIOMS

_____ 21. forty winks

u. short nap

_____ 22. from pillar to post

v. weak spot

_____ 23. think on one's feet

w. from one place to another

_____ 24. Achilles' heel

x. to improvise

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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORDSEARCH 30

❖ 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 ①_____. In order to save these creatures from destruction stemming from a loss of forests or water pollution, environmentalists try to ②_____ large numbers of people to pressure politicians into passing conservation legislation. Some argue these proposed ③_____ 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 ④_____ the motives of either side, so it will take people of good will and ⑤_____ to resolve the difficulties that lie ahead.

Clues

- ① 1st Day
- ② 1st Day
- ③ 3rd Day
- ④ 2nd Day
- ⑤ 2nd Day

WEEK 31 ❖ DAY 1

CHOOSE SAGELY*

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 - sī

prudent

ˈprū - dənt

ostensible

o - ˈsten - sə - bəl

fervid

ˈfēr - vid

spurious

ˈspyu - rē - əs

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.

WEEK 31 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈpro - pə - gāt

anomaly

ə - ˈno - mə - lē

innocuous

i - ˈno - kyū - əs

surfeit (n.)

ˈsér - fit

milieu

mēl - ˈyu

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.

WEEK 31 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈstrī - dənt

concomitant

kən - ˈko - mə - tənt

lassitude

ˈlə - sə - t(y)ūd

deleterious

de - lə - ˈti - rē - əs

efficacy

ˈe - fə - kə - sē

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*.

WEEK 31 ❖ DAY 4

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 - 'sent

ferment (n.)

'fēr - mənt

attenuated

ə - 'ten - yū - ā - təd

arbiter

'ār - bi - tər

incumbent (adj.)

in - 'kūm - 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

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. anomaly	a. agitation, turmoil, uproar
_____	2. arbiter	b. attending, accompanying
_____	3. attenuated	c. abnormality, irregularity
_____	4. concomitant	d. cautious, wise
_____	5. deleterious	e. to protest, differ, disagree
_____	6. dissent (v.)	f. rough, harsh, shrill
_____	7. efficacy	g. to multiply, spread
_____	8. ferment (n.)	h. lack of faith, blasphemy, unbelief
_____	9. fervid	i. morally required
_____	10. heresy	j. power to produce an effect
_____	11. incumbent (adj.)	k. setting, environment
_____	12. innocuous	l. counterfeit, false
_____	13. lassitude	m. judge
_____	14. milieu	n. harmful, bad
_____	15. ostensible	o. superabundance, excess
_____	16. propagate	p. enthusiastic, passionate, intense
_____	17. prudent	q. decreased, weakened, thinned
_____	18. spurious	r. mild, innocent, harmless

WORDSEARCH 31

- ❖ 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

WEEK 32 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

profound

prō - ˈfound **OR**

prə - found

alleviate

ə - ˈlē - vē - āt

prodigious

prə - ˈdi - jəs

celerity

sə - ˈle - rə - tē

expedite

ˈek - spə - dīt

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*.

WEEK 32 ❖ DAY 2

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?

NEW WORDS

bizarre

bi - ˈzär

usurp

yu - ˈzèrp **OR**

yu - ˈsèrp

paltry

ˈpôl - trē

trivial

ˈtri - vē - əl

condone

kən - ˈdōn

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.

WEEK 32 ❖ DAY 3

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 - nə - rə - bəl

menial

ˈmē - nē - əl

succinct

sək - ˈsɪŋkt **OR**

sə - ˈsɪŋkt

ambiguous

am - ˈbi - gyū - əs

extraneous

ik - ˈstrā - 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 - ·kā - ik

rabid

·ra - bid

emulate

·em - yə - lāt

facetious

fə - ·sē - shəs

salubrious

sə - ·l(y)ū - brē - əs

Sample Sentences Use the new words in these 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

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. alleviate	a. out-of-date
_____	2. ambiguous	b. concise, brief
_____	3. archaic	c. intense, deep
_____	4. bizarre	d. to annex, grab, seize
_____	5. celerity	e. wholesome, healthful
_____	6. condone	f. degrading, humble
_____	7. emulate	g. rapidity, speed
_____	8. expedite	h. fantastic, odd
_____	9. extraneous	i. sarcastic, humorous, comical
_____	10. facetious	j. not belonging, foreign
_____	11. menial	k. enormous, extraordinary
_____	12. paltry	l. to pardon, excuse
_____	13. prodigious	m. furious, mad, fanatical
_____	14. profound	n. undefined, vague, not specific
_____	15. rabid	o. to carry out promptly
_____	16. salubrious	p. to lighten, make easier
_____	17. succinct	q. respected, worshiped
_____	18. trivial	r. to strive to equal
_____	19. usurp	s. insignificant

_____ 20. venerable

t. petty, worthless

IDIOMS

_____ 21. ivory tower

u. joining with the majority

_____ 22. fill someone's shoes

v. an event that predicts the future

_____ 23. the writing on the wall

w. out of touch with life

_____ 24. on the bandwagon

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

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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)

WORDSEARCH 32

- ❖ 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

WEEK 33 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈsɒm - bər

debilitate

dɪ - ˈbi - lə - tā

impetuous

im - ˈpe - chū - əs

occult (adj.)

ə - ˈkûlt

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*.

WEEK 33 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈskrēt

foment

fō - ˈment

glean

ˈglēn

quarry

ˈkwô - rē

slovenly

ˈslû - vən - lē **OR**

ˈslo - vən - lē

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*.

WEEK 33 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˈjur

reproach (v.)

ri - ˈprōch

penitent

ˈpe - ni - tənt

evanescent

e - və - ˈne - sənt

tantamount

ˈtan - tə - maʊnt

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 - ˈtèr

connoisseur

ko - nə - ˈsèr

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 33 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. abjure	a. to stir up, instigate
_____	2. allay	b. disorderly, carelessly
_____	3. complacent	c. regretful, confessing guilt
_____	4. connoisseur	d. to abstain from, renounce
_____	5. debilitate	e. to weaken
_____	6. deter	f. self-satisfied
_____	7. discreet	g. to discourage, hinder
_____	8. evanescent	h. inclination, disposition
_____	9. foment	i. sad, gloomy
_____	10. glean	j. identical, equivalent
_____	11. impetuous	k. something hunted or pursued
_____	12. occult (adj.)	l. watchful, shrewd
_____	13. penitent	m. supernatural, mysterious
_____	14. propensity	n. impulsive
_____	15. quarry	o. to rebuke, reprimand*
_____	16. reproach (v.)	p. momentary, passing, fleeting
_____	17. slovenly	q. prudent,* careful, cautious
_____	18. somber	r. to collect, gather
_____	19. tantamount	s. expert

WORDSEARCH 33

- ❖ 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

WEEK 34 ❖ DAY 1

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

·sīt

vigil

·vi - jəl

cumbersome

·kûm - bər - səm

interrogate

in - ·te - rə - gāt

divulge

di - ·vûlj

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.*

WEEK 34 ❖ DAY 2

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.

NEW WORDS

fluctuate

ˈflʊk - chū - āt

unmitigated

ˈuːn - mi - tə - gā - təd

commodious

kə - ˈmō - dē - əs

antiquated

ˈan - ti - kwā - təd

disheveled

di - ˈshe - vəld

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*.

WEEK 34 ❖ DAY 3

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

tenacious

tə - ˈnā - shəs

façade

fə - ˈsād

asinine

ˈa - sə - nīn

grimace (n.)

ˈgri - məs

calumny

ˈka - ləm - nē

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*.

WEEK 34 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

pittance

ˈpi - t(ə)ns

fastidious

fe - ˈsti - dē - əs

au courant

ō - kə - ˈrɒnt

noisome

ˈnôɪ - səm

unkempt

ûn - ˈkempt

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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. antiquated	a. stubborn, tough
_____	2. asinine	b. slander, false accusation
_____	3. au courant	c. small amount
_____	4. calumny	d. neglected, untidy
_____	5. commodious	e. location
_____	6. cumbersome	f. to reveal, disclose
_____	7. disheveled	g. to alternate, shift
_____	8. divulge	h. disorderly appearance
_____	9. façade	i. superficial appearance, front
_____	10. fastidious	j. facial expression of disgust
_____	11. fluctuate	k. up-to-date
_____	12. grimace (n.)	l. unwholesome, foul
_____	13. interrogate	m. wakeful watching
_____	14. noisome	n. to question
_____	15. pittance	o. as bad as can be, unrelieved
_____	16. site	p. out-of-date, obsolete
_____	17. tenacious	q. stupid, silly
_____	18. unkempt	r. choosy, particular
_____	19. unmitigated	s. burdensome, unwieldy

_____ 20. vigil

t. spacious, large

IDIOMS

_____ 21. take a leaf out of
someone's book

u. cowardly

_____ 22. brass tacks

v. completely, all the way

_____ 23. hook, line, and sinker

w. to imitate or follow the example

_____ 24. lily-livered

x. the real problem or situation

The method of study and learning requires quick review and re-use of difficult words. Start now!

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORDSEARCH 34

- ❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____. Properly trained by experts, in good shape from punching bags and jumping rope, women can be as ③_____ in the ring as men.

With women jockeys, race car drivers, hockey goalies, and basketball players, it would require a man with ④_____ prejudice, if not sheer ignorance, to argue that boxing is solely a man’s sport. Anyone who is ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 35 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈpa - rə - bəl

whimsical

ˈhwim - zi - kəl

lampoon (v.)

lam - ˈpūn

countenance (v.)

ˈkoun - tə - nəns

sanctimonious

sənʃk - tə - ˈmō - nē - 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.

WEEK 35 ❖ DAY 2

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

equanimity

ē - kwə - ˈni - mə - tē **OR**

e - kwə - ˈni - mə - tē

effrontery

ə - ˈfrûn - tə - rē

nonentity

nɒn - ˈen - tə - tē

flabbergasted

ˈfla - bər - gas - təd

debacle

də - ˈbä - kəl **OR**

dā - ˈbä - 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*.

WEEK 35 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈgônt

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.

WEEK 35 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

pensive

ˈpen - sɪv

whet

ˌhwet

stupor

ˌst(y)ū - pər

wince

ˌwɪns

cliché

klē - ˈshā

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.*
2. If you juxtapose* one _____ with another, you often get completely opposite lessons about life.
3. The hostile* rebuke* made the usually phlegmatic* boy _____ .
4. You cannot _____ his desire for the theater with dubious* histrionics.*
5. 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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. cliché	a. astounded
_____ 2. countenance (v.)	b. one of no importance
_____ 3. debacle	c. witty, humorous
_____ 4. effrontery	d. to ridicule
_____ 5. equanimity	e. hairy
_____ 6. flabbergasted	f. to prove wrong, disprove
_____ 7. gaunt	g. to flinch, draw back
_____ 8. hirsute	h. self-control
_____ 9. lampoon (v.)	i. fiasco,* catastrophe*
_____ 10. mien	j. hypocritical, self-righteous
_____ 11. nonentity	k. moralistic story
_____ 12. parable	l. lively
_____ 13. pensive	m. bearing, appearance
_____ 14. refute	n. to stir up, stimulate
_____ 15. sanctimonious	o. boldness
_____ 16. stupor	p. to approve, tolerate*
_____ 17. vivacious	q. haggard, thin
_____ 18. whet	r. reflective, thoughtful
_____ 19. whimsical	s. commonplace phrase

_____ 20. wince

t. insensible condition, daze

IDIOMS

_____ 21. pull up stakes

u. to make a fuss, cause trouble

_____ 22. raise Cain

v. to make every effort, try one's best

_____ 23. leave no stone unturned

w. to do something prematurely

_____ 24. jump the gun

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

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORDSEARCH 35

- ❖ 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

WEEK 36 ❖ DAY 1

CHARLOTTE BRONTË

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. Brontë'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

·zhän - rə

candid

·kan - did

unsavory

ûn - ·sā - və - rē

degrade

di - ·grād

venial

·vē - nē - əl

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*.

WEEK 36 ❖ DAY 2

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 - tə - mē

dexterity

dek - ˈste - rə - tē

grotesque

grō - ˈtesk

compassion

kəm - ˈpa - shən

repugnant

ri - ˈpûg - 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.

WEEK 36 ❖ DAY 3

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.

NEW WORDS

acme

·ak - mē

copious

·kō - pē - əs

vehemently

·vē - (h)ə - mənt - lē

depict

di - ·pikt

naive

nī - ·ēv

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.

WEEK 36 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˙fi - dē - əs

covet

˙kû - vət

ingratiate

in - ˙grā - shē - āt

penury

˙pen - yu - rē

ignominious

ig - nō - ˙mi - nē - 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.

REVIEW

WEEK 36 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. acme	a. open, honest, frank
_____ 2. candid	b. kindness, sympathetic feeling
_____ 3. compassion	c. zenith,* pinnacle,* peak
_____ 4. copious	d. to wish, envy, want
_____ 5. covet	e. false, treacherous
_____ 6. degrade	f. unsophisticated, unworldly
_____ 7. depict	g. strange, bizarre,* misshapen
_____ 8. dexterity	h. to lower, make contemptible
_____ 9. epitome	i. certain form or style in painting or literature
_____ 10. genre	j. repulsive, distasteful
_____ 11. grotesque	k. plentiful, abundant, ample
_____ 12. ignominious	l. poverty
_____ 13. ingratiate	m. to portray, picture, describe clearly
_____ 14. naive	n. person or thing that represents the best
_____ 15. penury	o. morally bad, disagreeable, offensive
_____ 16. perfidious	p. physical or mental skill
_____ 17. repugnant	q. passionately, violently, eagerly
_____ 18. unsavory	r. to charm, win confidence
_____ 19. vehemently	s. forgivable, pardonable

_____ 20. venial

t. disgraceful, humiliating

IDIOMS

_____ 21. crack one up

u. to make laugh

_____ 22. throw the book at someone

v. to give maximum punishment

_____ 23. terra firma

w. solid, firm land

_____ 24. in seventh heaven

x. the highest happiness or delight

Review incorrect words.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

(From Weeks 33–36)

❖ 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.

WORDSEARCH 36

❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ 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 ③_____ of self-rule and that became the models on which our Constitution was partly based.

It was to remove the ④_____ portrayal of the Native American as savage and wild that historians adopted 1992 as the year to ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 37 ❖ DAY 1

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

kən - ˈfrʌnt

antipathy

an - ˈti - pə - thē

servile

ˈsɜr - vəl **OR** ˈsɜr - vīl

volition

və - ˈli - shən

sojourn (n.)

ˈsɔ - jɜrn

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.

WEEK 37 ❖ DAY 2

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

austere

ô - ˙stir

felicitous

fə - ˙li - sə - təs

halcyon

˙hal - sē - ən

tenable

˙te - nə - bəl

superfluous

su - ˙pèr - flū - əs

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, defensible
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.

WEEK 37 ❖ DAY 3

THE MIND'S SECRETS

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

ˈmō - tə - vāt

rationalize

ˈra - shə - nə - līz

therapy

ˈthe - rə - pē

nascent

ˈnā - sənt

iconoclast

ī - ˈko - nə - klast

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 recommended.
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*.

WEEK 37 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈer - (y)u - dīt

phobia

ˈfō - bē - ə

germane

jer - ˈmān

vertigo

ˈvèr - tə - 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.

REVIEW WORDS

DEFINITIONS

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|---|
| _____ | 1. antipathy | a. choice, willpower |
| _____ | 2. austere | b. supportable, defensible |
| _____ | 3. conducive | c. to provoke, stimulate, inspire |
| _____ | 4. confront | d. leading, helpful |
| _____ | 5. erudite | e. unadorned, simple, hard |
| _____ | 6. felicitous | f. hate, distaste, dislike |
| _____ | 7. germane | g. attacker of beliefs, image-breaker |
| _____ | 8. halcyon | h. relevant, appropriate |
| _____ | 9. iconoclast | i. idyllically* peaceful, calm |
| _____ | 10. motivate | j. to come face-to-face with |
| _____ | 11. nascent | k. curing or healing process |
| _____ | 12. phobia | l. very scholarly |
| _____ | 13. rationalize | m. happy |
| _____ | 14. servile | n. submissive, slavish |
| _____ | 15. sojourn (n.) | o. beginning to develop or exist |
| _____ | 16. superfluous | p. dizziness |
| _____ | 17. tenable | q. surplus, excessive |
| _____ | 18. therapy | r. temporary stay |
| _____ | 19. vertigo | s. to give a reason other than the real one |

_____ 20. volition

t. strong dislike, persistent fear

IDIOMS

_____ 21. tighten one's belt

u. not usual, out of the ordinary

_____ 22. off the beaten path

v. misfit, able person in the wrong job

_____ 23. a square peg in a
round hole

w. to cut one's spending

_____ 24. upset the apple cart

x. to overturn or disturb a plan or intention

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 37

❖ 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 ①_____ business became popular as women found ostrich feathers a ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ a shrinking market. The price tumbled to about \$10 for a bird. As ostrich feathers became ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 38 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈglib

homogenous

hō - mæ - ˈjē - nē - əs

malleable

ˈma - lē - ə - bəl

legerdemain

ˈle - jər - də - mān

trend (n.)

ˈtrend

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*.

WEEK 38 ❖ DAY 2

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

˙stag - nənt

fatal

˙fā - təl

passé

pa - ˙sā

procrastinate

prō - ˙kra - stə - nāt

facet

˙fa - 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.*

WEEK 38 ❖ DAY 3

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.

NEW WORDS

foist

ˈfɔɪst

stigmatize

ˈstɪg - mə - tīz

capitulate

kə - ˈpi - chə - lāt

audacity

ô - ˈda - sə - tē

tantalize

ˈtan - tə - līz

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.

WEEK 38 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˈtôrt

reticent

ˌre - ti - sənt

tacit

ˌta - sit

chicanery

shi - ˈkā - nə - rē

obliging (adj.)

ə - ˈblī - jɪŋ

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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. audacity	a. reserved, silent
_____ 2. capitulate	b. to force upon, pass off slyly
_____ 3. chicanery	c. disastrous, deadly
_____ 4. facet	d. smooth of speech
_____ 5. fatal	e. one side or view of person or situation
_____ 6. foist	f. daring, boldness
_____ 7. glib	g. to reply, answer
_____ 8. homogeneous	h. uniform, same
_____ 9. legerdemain	i. capable of being formed or shaped
_____ 10. malleable	j. to put off, delay
_____ 11. obliging (adj.)	k. to make terms, surrender
_____ 12. passé	l. underhandedness, trickery
_____ 13. procrastinate	m. not stated, understood, implied
_____ 14. reticent	n. to mark with a disgrace
_____ 15. retort (v.)	o. inactive, dull, motionless
_____ 16. stagnant	p. general direction, fashion
_____ 17. stigmatize	q. old-fashioned, outmoded
_____ 18. tacit	r. accommodating, helpful
_____ 19. tantalize	s. deceptive adroitness,* sleight of hand
_____ 20. trend (n.)	t. to tease or torment by offering something

good

IDIOMS

- _____ 21. by hook or by crook **u.** to be in a bad mood
- _____ 22. get up on the wrong side of the bed **v.** unattainable dream
- _____ 23. castles in the air **w.** at any cost, any way at all
- _____ 24. maintain the status quo **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

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORDSEARCH 38

❖ 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

WEEK 39 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˈsə - gə

belated

bi - ˈlātəd

decrepit

di - ˈkre - pit

imperturbable

im - per - ˈtèr - bə - bəl

vacillate

ˈva - si - lāt

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.

WEEK 39 ❖ DAY 2

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.

NEW WORDS

staunch

ˈstɒnʃ

opprobrium

ə - ˈprɒ - brē - əm

Machiavellian

mɑ - kē - ə - ˈve - lē - ən

unconscionable

ʉn - ˈkɒn - shə - nə - bəl

pandemonium

pən - də - ˈmɒ - nē - əm

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*.

WEEK 39 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌflā

demeanor

dī - ˌmē - nər

delineation

dī - li - nē - ˌā - shən

vindicate

ˌvīn - di - kāt

heinous

ˌhā - 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.*

WEEK 39 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

turpitude

·tér - pi - t(y)ūd

infraction

in - ·frak - shən

callous

·ka - ləs

redress (v.)

ri - ·dres

vituperation

vi - t(y)ū - pə - ·rā - shən **OR**

vī - t(y)ū - pə - ·rā - shən

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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. belated	a. description in words, sketch
_____ 2. callous	b. firm, trusty, strong
_____ 3. decrepit	c. to fluctuate, hesitate
_____ 4. delineation	d. violation
_____ 5. demeanor	e. abuse, blame
_____ 6. flay	f. serene, steady, calm
_____ 7. heinous	g. uproar, disorder
_____ 8. imperturbable	h. hatefully evil
_____ 9. infraction	i. to scold harshly, strip off the skin
_____ 10. Machiavellian	j. bearing, conduct
_____ 11. opprobrium	k. not principled, governed by opportunity
_____ 12. pandemonium	l. long heroic story
_____ 13. redress (v.)	m. delayed, late
_____ 14. saga	n. unfeeling
_____ 15. staunch	o. evil, wickedness, vileness
_____ 16. turpitude	p. worn out, broken down
_____ 17. unconscionable	q. unreasonable, unjust
_____ 18. vacillate	r. to right a wrong
_____ 19. vindicate	s. to justify, absolve
_____ 20. vituperation	t. insult, scorn

IDIOMS

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| _____ | 21. sacred cow | u. to make a fast impression |
| _____ | 22. through thick and thin | v. in spite of all sorts of difficulties |
| _____ | 23. take something or someone by storm | w. to be in high spirits, feeling well |
| _____ | 24. in fine fettle | x. person who cannot be criticized |

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

MEANINGS

- _____
- _____
- _____

WORDSEARCH 39

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

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 ①_____ of the law. You might ask, "What's so ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ in the face of all reason as they arrest and fine these enterprising salesmen. Those ⑤_____ 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

WEEK 40 ❖ DAY 1

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

˙klik

extol

ik - ˙stôl

mentor (n.)

˙men - tər

facile

˙fa - 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

cant

ˌkɑnt

umbrage

ˌʌm - brij

magnanimous

mag - ˌna - ni - məs

vilify

ˌvi - li - fi

elucidate

i ˌl(y)ū - si - dāt

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.*

WEEK 40 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˈʌn - wēl - dē

proximity

ˈprɒk - ˈsi - mə - tē

lassitude

ˈlɑ - 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.

WEEK 40 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ʹment

fatuous

ʹfa - chū - əs

contort

kən - ʹtôrt

repertoire

ʹre - pər - twä

imperceptible

im - pər - ʹsep - 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

DEFINITIONS

_____ 1. augment	a. to twist violently
_____ 2. cant	b. to increase, enlarge
_____ 3. clique	c. nearness
_____ 4. contort	d. to destroy the use or value
_____ 5. elucidate	e. to praise highly
_____ 6. extol	f. use (sometimes exaggerated) of language
_____ 7. facile	g. to make clear
_____ 8. fatuous	h. slander, malign*
_____ 9. imperceptible	i. difficult to handle, bulky
_____ 10. lassitude	j. works that an artist is prepared to perform
_____ 11. magnanimous	k. tutor, counselor, coach
_____ 12. mentor (n.)	l. noble, generous
_____ 13. proximity	m. insincere or almost meaningless talk
_____ 14. repertoire	n. small, exclusive group of people
_____ 15. rhetoric	o. extremely slight or gradual
_____ 16. umbrage	p. dull, uninteresting
_____ 17. unwieldy	q. weakness, weariness
_____ 18. vapid	r. inane,* foolish, silly
_____ 19. vilify	s. easily accomplished or attained

_____ 20. vitiate

t. offense, resentment

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.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

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

1. U.S. Diplomats _____ Chinese over Alleged A-bomb Tests
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 _____
10. Speech _____ Urged After Stroke

WORDSEARCH 40

- ❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ alleged insult, she also was sent away for seven years.

While some U.S. citizens may ⑤_____ 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.)

ˌkû - rē **OR** ˌkè - rē

pall (v.)

ˌpôl

succulent (adj.)

ˌsûk - yə - lənt

satiety

sə - ˌtī - ə - tē

intrinsic

in - ˌtrin - 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*.

WEEK 41 ❖ DAY 2

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

potpourri

pō - pu - ʹrē

sanction (v.)

˙sɑŋk - shən

denote

di - ʹnōt

allude

ə - ʹl(y)ūd

insidious

in - ʹsi - dē - əs

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.*

WEEK 41 ❖ DAY 3

“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 - ˈprɪ - ə - tē

advent

ˈad - vent

impious

ˈɪm - pē - əs **OR**

ɪm - ˈpɪ - 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*.

WEEK 41 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈshi - bə - ləth

bogus

ˈbō - gəs

substantiate

sûb - ˈstan - chē - āt

nutritive

ˌn(y)ū - trə - tiv

raucous

ˈrô - 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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 41 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

_____	1. advent	a. to suggest, hint
_____	2. allude	b. surfeit,* excess, fullness
_____	3. bogus	c. arrival of an important event
_____	4. curry (v.)	d. having nourishing properties
_____	5. denote	e. slogan, pet phrase
_____	6. impious	f. correctness, suitability
_____	7. insidious	g. juicy
_____	8. intrinsic	h. mixture, medley
_____	9. nutritive	i. to mean, show, indicate
_____	10. pall (v.)	j. to seek favor by flattery
_____	11. potpourri	k. irreverent, lacking respect
_____	12. proffer	l. fake, counterfeit
_____	13. propriety	m. to ratify, confirm
_____	14. raucous	n. rush, flood
_____	15. sanction (v.)	o. to become dull, cease to please
_____	16. satiety	p. treacherous, sly, seductive
_____	17. shibboleth	q. to certify, endorse
_____	18. spate	r. inherent,* within itself
_____	19. substantiate	s. to offer for acceptance
_____	20. succulent (adj.)	t. noisy

IDIOMS

- | | | | | |
|-------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 21. | a fine kettle of fish | u. | conclusive situation or task |
| _____ | 22. | acid test | v. | a direction that leads nowhere |
| _____ | 23. | a blind alley | w. | a mess, trouble |
| _____ | 24. | twist around one's finger | x. | to control completely |

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

MEANINGS

- _____
- _____
- _____

WORDSEARCH 41

❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ in youth that suggests that older workers cannot do the job as well? Until age discrimination is eradicated, we must continue to ⑤_____ efforts to address this prejudice.

Clues

- ① 2nd Day
- ② 4th Day
- ③ 3rd Day
- ④ 1st Day
- ⑤ 2nd Day

WEEK 42 ❖ DAY 1

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

quandary

·kwon - drē **OR**

·kwon - də - rē

callous

·ka - ləs

expedient (adj.)

ik - ·spē - dē - ənt

negligible

·neg - li - jə - bəl

blasé

blä - ·zā

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.*

WEEK 42 ❖ DAY 2

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

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

ennui

ōn - ˙wē

comely

˙kûm - lē

frenetic

frə - ˙ne - tik

artifice

är - tə - fis

diversity

də - ˙vèr - sə - tē

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 woman.
4. They furtively* employed every kind of _____ to be able to meet.
5. 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*.

WEEK 42 ❖ DAY 3

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 - spər - gāt

begrudge

bi - ·grûj

artless

·ärt - lis

gratuity

grə - ·t(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.*

WEEK 42 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˌdɛlv

capricious

kə - ˈpri - shəs

requisite

ˈre - kwə - zit

replenish

ri - ˈple - 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 _____ (adj.) a. requirement
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.

REVIEW

WEEK 42 ❖ DAY 5

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

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

_____ 20. requisite

t. naive, innocent

IDIOMS

_____ 21. do one's heart good

u. extremely valuable, very useful

_____ 22. worth one's weight in gold

v. to make one feel happy or better

_____ 23. make the best of a bad bargain

w. to manage on a given income

_____ 24. make ends meet

x. to change or go along with a poor situation

Learn those words you missed!

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 42

- ❖ 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

WEEK 43 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

roster

ˌrɒs - tər

stunted

ˌstʌn - tid

atrophy (v.)

ˈɑ - trə - fē

maim

ˌmāɪm

ameliorate

ə - ˌmēl - yə - rāt

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.

WEEK 43 ❖ DAY 2

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

ˈsi - nik

unctuous

ˈʊŋk - chū - əs

benevolent

bə - ˈne - və - lənt

subservient

sûb - ˈsɛr - vĕ - ənt

iniquity

i - ˈnik - 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*—to talk frankly**

He knew he was out of his depth* so he *laid his cards on the table* and asked for assistance.

WEEK 43 ❖ DAY 3

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

lār - ˙jes

criterion

krī - ˙tir - ē - on

repent

rī - ˙pent

mollify

˙mo - li - fī

mercenary (adj.)

˙mèr - sà - ne - 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*.

WEEK 43 ❖ DAY 4

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

ˈak - ti - vi - zəm

aloof

ə - ˈluːf

pragmatic

prag - ˈma - tik

vestige

ˈves - tij

guise

ˈɡiːz

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. activism | a. based on experience, practical |
| _____ 2. aloof | b. mien,* appearance, manner |
| _____ 3. ameliorate | c. list of names |
| _____ 4. atrophy (v.) | d. skeptic, pessimist |
| _____ 5. benevolent | e. test, model, standard |
| _____ 6. criterion | f. to desire to make amends, regret |
| _____ 7. cynic | g. obsequious,* servile* |
| _____ 8. guise | h. held back or checked in natural growth |
| _____ 9. iniquity | i. advocacy,* rigorous campaigning |
| _____ 10. largess | j. evidence, trace |
| _____ 11. maim | k. to waste away |
| _____ 12. mercenary (adj.) | l. charitable, kindly |
| _____ 13. mollify | m. to appease, pacify |
| _____ 14. pragmatic | n. wickedness, injustice |
| _____ 15. repent | o. to disable, impair, wound |
| _____ 16. roster | p. reserved, apart, distant |
| _____ 17. stunted | q. greedy, motivated* by desire for gain |
| _____ 18. subservient | r. liberality, gift, gratuity* |
| _____ 19. unctuous | s. insincere, fawning |

_____ 20. vestige

t. to relieve, improve

IDIOMS

_____ 21. loose cannon

u. to reveal harmful secrets

_____ 22. lay one's cards on the table

v. a great surprise

_____ 23. tell tales out of school

w. to talk frankly

_____ 24. a bolt from the blue

x. uninhibited or unpredictable person

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 43

- ❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____ in the workplace. Under the ③_____ of some minor error, or other excuse, the informer might be demoted, transferred, or fired. This ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ the situation actually takes place.

Clues

- ① 2nd Day
- ② 4th Day
- ③ 4th Day
- ④ 2nd Day
- ⑤ 1st Day

WEEK 44 ❖ DAY 1

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 contemptuous* 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

·nû - lə - fī

deluge (v.)

·dā - l(y)ūj

futility

fyū - ·ti - lə - tē

carnage

·kār - nij

pathetic

pə - ·the - tik

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.*

WEEK 44 ❖ DAY 2

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

dī - ˈfā - mə - tō - rē

plaintiff

ˈplān - tɪf

canard

kə - ˈnɑrd

deprecate

ˈde - 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.

WEEK 44 ❖ DAY 3

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 - ˈp(y)ū - təd

frail

ˈfrāl

potent

ˈpo - tənt

excoriate

ek - ˈskô - rē - āt

devout

di - ˈvout

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*.

WEEK 44 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˈmin - yə - tiv

profuse

prō - ˈfyūs

dulcet

ˈdûl - sət

impromptu

im - ˈpromp - tū

malevolent

mə - ˈle - və - lənt

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*.

REVIEW

WEEK 44 ❖ DAY 5

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

DEFINITIONS

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|---|
| _____ | 1. canard | a. to flood |
| _____ | 2. carnage | b. to express disapproval |
| _____ | 3. defamatory | c. intense, strong, powerful |
| _____ | 4. deluge (v.) | d. sincere, religious |
| _____ | 5. deprecate | e. sweet or melodious to the ear |
| _____ | 6. devout | f. abundant, overflowing |
| _____ | 7. diminutive | g. slaughter, devastation |
| _____ | 8. dulcet | h. uselessness |
| _____ | 9. excoriate | i. to criticize severely |
| _____ | 10. frail | j. damaging character by false reports |
| _____ | 11. futility | k. made-up sensational story |
| _____ | 12. impromptu | l. small, tiny |
| _____ | 13. libel (n.) | m. to cancel, abolish |
| _____ | 14. malevolent | n. ill-disposed, ill-intentioned |
| _____ | 15. nullify | o. weak, delicate |
| _____ | 16. pathetic | p. complaining party (in law) |
| _____ | 17. plaintiff | q. sad, pitiful, woeful |
| _____ | 18. potent | r. believed, thought, supposed |
| _____ | 19. profuse | s. offhand, spur of the moment |

_____ 20. reputed

t. degradation by writing or publishing

IDIOMS

_____ 21. build on sand

u. to be in temporary disgrace or trouble

_____ 22. sixth sense

v. to obey or stick to a rule or policy

_____ 23. toe the mark

w. keen intuition

_____ 24. to be under a cloud

x. to have a poor base, or insufficient preparation

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

(From Weeks 41–44)

❖ 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.

WORDSEARCH 44

❖ 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 ① _____ number of wolves that prey on those animals.

This resulted in a ② _____ of letters and articles condemning the ③ _____ 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 ④ _____ this policy, Alaska decided to ⑤ _____ the proposed action.

Clues

- ① 4th Day
- ② 1st Day
- ③ 1st Day
- ④ 3rd Day
- ⑤ 1st Day

WEEK 45 ❖ DAY 1

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

ˌwɪst - fəl

raiment

ˌrā - mənt

brigand

ˌbri - gənd

corpulent

ˌkôr - pyə - lənt

rail (v.)

ˌrāl

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*.

WEEK 45 ❖ DAY 2

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

raconteur

ra - kon - ˈtèr

sullen

ˈsû - lən

rift

ˈrift

emissary

ˈe - mi - se - rē

ruminate

ˈrū - mi - nāt

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.

WEEK 45 ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌtɔt

livid

ˌli - vid

martinet

mär - tə - ˌnet

yen

ˌjen

bagatelle

ba - gə - ˌtel

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*.

WEEK 45 ❖ DAY 4

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 - ˈpɔld

penchant

ˈpen - shənt

decapitate

di - ˈka - pi - tāt

divergent

dī - ˈvɛr - 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.

Definitions 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

- _____ 1. appalled
- _____ 2. bagatelle
- _____ 3. brigand
- _____ 4. callow
- _____ 5. corpulent
- _____ 6. decapitate
- _____ 7. divergent
- _____ 8. emissary
- _____ 9. livid
- _____ 10. martinet
- _____ 11. penchant
- _____ 12. raconteur
- _____ 13. rail (v.)
- _____ 14. raiment
- _____ 15. riff
- _____ 16. ruminate
- _____ 17. sullen
- _____ 18. taut
- _____ 19. wistful

DEFINITIONS

- a. to behead
- b. shocked, dismayed
- c. pale (usually from anger)
- d. thing of little importance
- e. bandit, robber
- f. representative, envoy
- g. grim, ill-humored
- h. clothing, dress
- i. on edge, keyed up, tense
- j. strict disciplinarian
- k. wishful, pensive,* longing
- l. strong leaning in favor
- m. opening, split
- n. skilled storyteller
- o. inexperienced, youthful
- p. fleshy, burly,* fat
- q. to reflect upon, ponder
- r. veering from a common point
- s. to use abusive language, scold

_____ 20. yen

t. strong desire or longing

IDIOMS

_____ 21. flog a dead horse

u. finishing stroke

_____ 22. the die is cast

v. an unchangeable decision has been made

_____ 23. smell a rat

w. to continue to make an issue of something that is over

_____ 24. coup de grâce

x. to suspect that something is amiss

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

MEANINGS

WORDSEARCH 45

❖ 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

WEEK 46 ❖ DAY 1

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.

NEW WORDS

ascertain

a - sər - ˈtān

dormant

ˈdôr - mənt

burgeoned

ˈbər - jənd

potentate

ˈpō - tən - tāt

disseminate

di - ˈse - mə - nāt

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.*

WEEK 46 ❖ DAY 2

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 - ˈro - gə - tiv

nepotism

ˈne - pə - ti - zəm

dearth

ˈdɜrθ

internecine

in - tər - ˈne - sən **OR**

in - tər - ˈnē - 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 our eyeglasses.
3. Your efforts to ingratiate* yourself into your boss's favor are nullified* by the unmitigated* _____ manifest* in this firm.
4. He gave his adversary* the dubious* _____ of choosing the weapon by which he was to meet his inevitable* end.

5. 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.*

WEEK 46 ❖ DAY 3

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.

NEW WORDS

tyro

ˈtī - rō

sophistry

ˈso - fi - strē

factitious

fak - ˈti - shəs

encomium

in - ˈkō - mē - əm

obloquy

ˈob - lə - kwē

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* _____ 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.

WEEK 46 ❖ DAY 4

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.

NEW WORDS

hyperbole

hī - ˈpɛr - bə - lē

munificent

myū - ˈni - fi - sənt

prevarication

pri - ve - ri - ˈkɑ - shən

charisma

kə - ˈriz - mə

genocide

ˈje - nə - sīd

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

- _____ 1. ascertain
- _____ 2. burgeoned
- _____ 3. charisma
- _____ 4. dearth
- _____ 5. derived
- _____ 6. disseminate
- _____ 7. dormant
- _____ 8. encomium
- _____ 9. factitious
- _____ 10. genocide
- _____ 11. hyperbole
- _____ 12. internecine
- _____ 13. munificent
- _____ 14. nepotism
- _____ 15. obloquy
- _____ 16. potentate
- _____ 17. prerogative
- _____ 18. prevarication

DEFINITIONS

- a. lack, scarcity
- b. favoritism towards relatives
- c. novice, beginner
- d. artificial, sham
- e. lie, deviation from the truth
- f. ruler, monarch
- g. to scatter, spread
- h. exclusive power or right
- i. dishonor, disgrace, shame
- j. high praise
- k. quality of leadership inspiring enthusiasm
- l. asleep, resting
- m. grew, flourished
- n. planned destruction of an entire people
- o. false reasoning or argument
- p. mutually destructive, involving conflict in a group
- q. received from a source, descended from
- r. generous

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.”

- _____ 6. George Washington to his father: “I cannot tell a lie.”
- _____ 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.”

WORDSEARCH 46

- ❖ 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

BURIED WORDS

(From Week 1–46)

- ❖ 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*).

REVIEW WORD

BURIED WORD

1st Week:

machine that behaves like a person

a common vegetable

unending

a fixed limit, definite period of time

2nd Week:

to use lively gestures

a twitching of face muscles

basic, elementary

10 cents

3rd Week:

expression of sympathy

a small portion, gratuity

lacking brightness

a strong passion

4th Week:

able to be touched

a sharp taste

publish

a school dance

5th Week:

exemption

a joke, play on words

shortage

a large community

6th Week:

contrary

a part of a poem or song

dread, dismay

rear end of a boat

7th Week:

to end

school semester

relentless, unappeasable

a heavy rope or chain

8th Week:

forerunner

spree

distant

give expression to feelings

9th Week:

harmful

a regulation

followers

anger

10th Week:

read carefully

a trick

outstanding, prominent

foreign

11th Week:

to pass by

part of a church

confirm

to steal

12th Week:

bitter criticism

part of the body

perfection

mathematical term

13th Week:

undeniable

open to view

in an early stage

unit of measurement

14th Week:

soft job

a function in trigonometry

to strive for

a venomous serpent

15th Week:

debatable

something found, a collection

an associate in crime

parasitic insects

16th Week:

exact opposite

a tax given to the church

protection

military conflict

17th Week:

perfect, complete

total

spread out in battle formation

a tactic to frustrate or embarrass an opponent

18th Week:

polished, civilized

destructive or ruinous thing

going from place to place

prong of a fork

19th Week:

lavish

a low place to collect water

agree to finance

formal or religious practice

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

unusual occurrence

a political conservative, an outlaw

a prophetic sign

24th Week:

unwise

looking down on someone or something

an overly modest person

entice, attract, lure

25th Week:

trembling, shaking with old age

hurt, damage, injury

strange

reduce by cutting, decorate

26th Week:

prevailing, common, general

angry, antagonistic

a valley (poetical)

steps over a fence

27th Week:

hesitate, waver, stumble

inflexible, unyielding

change, vary, transform

an obstruction

28th Week:

hinder, interfere, block

discord, hard sound, dissonance

mischievous child

false, cheap imitation

29th Week:

lack of interest

difficult to describe, undistinguished

walkway

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:

ill-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

WORDS IN CONTEXT

❖ Complete the passage by filling in the missing words. Select the correct word from the four given and insert the corresponding letter in the blank.

With the 1. of the video games, many set owners have become 2. in trying to outwit the electronic toys. The 3. finds it almost impossible to react quickly enough. Before he or she can 4. what is going on, the little lights have sped by. Those who have a 5. for thinking and reacting quickly find these games a 6. problem. While the experts' behavior appears 7., they really are 8. and 9.. If one is 10. about trying again and again, then the 11. of video games can be mastered.

1. (a) rhetoric (b) prelude (c) advent (d) retrospect
2. (a) reticent (b) engrossed (c) slovenly (d) trivial
3. (a) wary (b) tyro (c) profuse (d) deplorable
4. (a) ascertain (b) obviate (c) deem (d) cajole
5. (a) lassitude (b) pall (c) legerdemain (d) penchant
6. (a) perverse (b) negligible (c) lugubrious (d) glib
7. (a) conjugal (b) frenetic (c) devout (d) ambiguous
8. (a) connubial (b) brash (c) facile (d) blunt
9. (a) aloof (b) affluent (c) overt (d) imperturbable
10. (a) bogus (b) elusive (c) tenacious (d) pecuniary
11. (a) effigy (b) malady (c) paroxysm (d) repertoire

It is 12. that women have 13. into fields of work that were, until recently, the 14. of men. It did not happen because of the 15. of the males, but it was largely due to the 16. insistence by women that they occupy their rightful place in our society. While some men still 17. women who seek to fill jobs previously closed to them, others take the 18. view that the only 19. for women should be their ability to do the work, and that 20. obstacles have no place in a democracy.

12. (a) unctuous (b) verbose (c) manifest (d) wistful
13. (a) perpetuated (b) burgeoned (c) advocated (d) spewed
14. (a) acme (b) taboo (c) antipathy (d) prerogative

15. (a) largess (b) ultimate (c) complicity (d) avarice
16. (a) pernicious (b) tenacious (c) ostensible (d) phlegmatic
17. (a) deprecate (b) aspire (c) permeate (d) covet
18. (a) discreet (b) pragmatic (c) precocious (d) rash
19. (a) remuneration (b) reproach (c) duplicity (d) criterion
20. (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. automaton

3. abode

4. abound

5. technology

6. d

7. b

8. e

9. a

10. c

Day 3

1. compounded

2. annals

3. paradoxes

4. tinge

5. realm

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. c

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

2. n

4. r

5. d

6. g

10. e

11. t

13. p

14. b

15. c

16. q

17. a

18. f

19. k

20. m

22. u

23. w

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. voracious

2. interminable

3. tinge

4. realm

5. eminent

6. abound

7. perceive

8. badgers

9. automaton

10. technology

11. yes

12. yes

13. yes

14. yes

WORDSEARCH 1

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

9. c

10. e

Day 2

1. hapless

2. irate

3. furtive

4. plethora

5. felon

6. e

7. b

8. d

9. c

10. a

Day 3

1. vigilant

2. adroit

3. fabricate

4. pretext

5. gesticulates

6. c

7. a

8. b

9. e

10. d

Day 4

1. rudimentary

2. cajoled

3. enhance

4. nuance

5. avid

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

3. b

5. t

6. m

8. r

10. h

11. e

14. q

15. d

16. g

17. a

18. k

19. n

20. c

22. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 2

1. felon

2. pretext

3. cajole

4. fabricate

5. vigilant

❖ WEEK 3

Day 1

1. wrest

2. lackluster

3. caustic

4. loathe

5. reprimand

6. b

7. e

8. a

9. c

10. d

Day 2

1. incipient

2. infamous

3. dupe

4. jostle

5. inadvertent

6. a

7. c

8. d

9. b

10. e

Day 3

1. ominous

2. repudiate

3. bristle

4. tremulous

5. cessation

6. d

7. e

8. b

9. a

10. c

Day 4

1. stipulate

2. euphemism

3. condolence

4. mundane

5. incongruous

6. b

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. g

2. h

3. d

4. n

5. m

6. t

8. e

9. q

10. c

13. a

15. b

17. r

18. k

19. f

22. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 3

1. cessation

2. wrest

3. infamous

4. bristled

5. caustic

❖ WEEK 4

Day 1

1. intimidate

2. feint

3. alacrity

4. belligerent

5. disdain

6. e

7. a

8. c

9. d

10. b

Day 2

1. promulgate

2. brash

3. scoff

4. pugnacious

5. belittles

6. a

7. e

8. d

9. c

10. b

Day 3

1. laceration

2. tangible

3. castigate

4. octogenarian

5. sordid

6. a

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

9. d

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. t

3. j

4. k

5. m

6. n

7. a

10. c

11. b

12. r

13. d

14. f

15. h

16. e

20. q

21. w

24. u

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. alacrity

2. aspirants

3. dregs

4. sordid

5. tangible

6. belligerent

7. belittled

8. disdain

9. promulgated

10. scoff

WORDSEARCH 4

1. aspirant

2. sordid

3. belittle

4. scurrilous

5. frenzy

❖ WEEK 5

Day 1

1. rampant

2. clandestine

3. ethics

4. inane

5. concur

6. e

7. c

8. b

9. d

10. a

Day 2

1. culprit

2. inexorable

3. duress

4. admonish

5. flagrant

6. c

7. e

8. b

9. d

10. a

Day 3

1. egregious

2. acrimonious

3. duplicity

4. paucity

5. distraught

6. d

7. c

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 4

1. impunity

2. elicit

3. tolerate

4. construe

5. pernicious

6. d

7. e

8. c

9. b

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. t

2. e

5. q

7. f

8. a

10. j

11. h

12. n

13. k

14. m

15. c

16. b

19. d

21. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 5

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

8. e

9. a

10. c

Day 2

1. precocious

2. perfunctory

3. deride

4. perverse

5. chagrin

6. b

7. a

8. c

9. d

10. e

Day 3

1. laudable

2. disparaged

3. masticate

4. fiasco

5. eschews

6. a

7. d

8. e

9. c

10. b

Day 4

1. dubious

2. quell

3. confidant

4. obsolescence

5. verbose

6. d

7. b

8. a

9. c

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. j

4. b

7. n

8. q

11. d

12. r

13. c

14. t

15. a

17. e

18. m

20. f

22. u

23. w

WORDSEARCH 6

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

9. e

10. c

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

9. d

10. a

Day 4

1. terminate

2. forthwith

3. oust

4. reverted

5. exacerbate

6. c

7. d

8. e

9. b

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. t

3. m

5. h

6. e

7. c

9. d

11. g

12. a

13. q

14. k

15. n

16. r

17. b

20. f

22. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 7

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

8. c

9. b

10. e

Day 2

1. sinister

2. besieged

3. afflicted

4. malnutrition

5. privation

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. a

10. c

Day 3

1. ubiquitous

2. remote

3. harbinger

4. thwart

5. malignant

6. b

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. c

Day 4

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

4. f

5. e

8. q

9. b

10. a

11. g

13. r

14. j

15. h

16. n

18. m

20. c

22. w

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

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

2. e

3. b

4. j

5. a

6. c

7. d

8. f

10. k

12. n

14. g, m

WORDSEARCH 8

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

9. d

10. a

Day 2

1. entourage

2. virulent

3. spew

4. venom

5. blatant

6. b

7. a

8. e

9. c

10. d

Day 3

1. loath

2. solicit

3. astute

4. advocate

5. ineffectual

6. d

7. e

8. a

9. b

10. c

Day 4

1. vexatious

2. amicable

3. malady

4. nefarious

5. scrutinize

6. c

7. b

8. e

9. a

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. 0

2. a

4. c

5. b

6. n

8. h

9. t

10. f

11. m

12. q

14. d

15. j

16. e

17. r

18. k

22. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 9

1. scrutinize

2. vexatious

3. virulent

4. astute

5. nefarious

❖ WEEK 10

Day 1

1. peruse

2. premonition

3. desist

4. recoiled

5. inclement

6. e

7. d

8. a

9. c

10. e

Day 2

1. obsessed

2. mastiff

3. doleful

4. pertinent

5. wan

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. a

10. c

Day 3

1. frustrated

2. interjected

3. histrionics

4. elusive

5. symptomatic

6. d

7. b

8. e

9. a

10. c

Day 4

1. imminent

2. squeamish

3. engrossed

4. salient

5. inert

6. b

7. a

8. c

9. e

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. d

2. a

3. q

5. c

6. t

8. f

10. e

11. j

12. m

13. h

15. 0

16. b

17. k

18. n

20. r

23. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 10

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

7. d

8. a

9. b

10. c

Day 2

1. phlegmatic

2. zealous

3. comprehensive

4. coerced

5. corroborate

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. a

10. e

Day 3

1. elapse

2. sporadic

3. domicile

4. lax

5. meticulous

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. a

10. c

Day 4

1. conjecture

2. lurid

3. rash

4. obviated

5. quip

6. e

7. c

8. a

9. d

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. r

4. f

5. b

6. m

7. d

8. k

9. a

10. n

11. h

12. q

13. j

14. g

15. c

16. t

17. e

22. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 11

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

10. c

Day 3

1. utopia

2. schism

3. anathema

4. flamboyant

5. expunge

6. d

7. e

8. b

9. a

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

6. b

7. c

8. e

10. p

11. f

12. h

13. r

14. d

15. a

16. j

18. q

20. t

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

WORDSEARCH 12

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

10. c

Day 2

1. eventuated

2. subterranean

3. emit

4. ultimate

5. viable

6. b

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

10. a

Day 4

1. curtailed

2. cryptic

3. repress

4. surmised

5. inchoate

6. b

7. d

8. c

9. a

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. s

2. g

3. t

4. k

5. n

6. a

8. b

9. q

13. f

14. e

15. m

17. c

18. d

20. h

22. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 13

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

10. c

Day 2

1. supine

2. razed

3. repulse

4. mammoth

5. havoc

6. d

7. c

8. b

9. a

10. e

Day 3

1. incisive

2. scurry

3. lethal

4. precipitated

5. stereotype

6. d

7. b

8. a

9. e

10. c

Day 4

1. sinecure

2. stentorian

3. valor

4. singular

5. bias

6. e

7. d

8. c

9. a

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. d

2. h

5. m

6. f

7. a

8. r

9. b

10. k

11. p

12. e

13. n

14. j

15. g

17. t

18. q

20. c

23. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 14

1. nettled

2. inveighed

3. stereotype

4. bias

5. scurry

❖ WEEK 15

Day 1

1. complicity

2. liquidation

3. culpable

4. recant

5. accomplice

6. b

7. d

8. c

9. e

10. a

Day 2

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

5. 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

6. m

7. t

8. d

10. a

11. b

13. n

15. e

16. r

17. g

19. k

22. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 15

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

10. e

Day 2

1. prolific

2. antithesis

3. sedentary

4. frugal

5. bulwark

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. b

10. d

Day 3

1. cache

2. cupidity

3. altruistic

4. coterie

5. embellish

6. b

7. d

8. a

9. c

10. e

Day 4

1. amorous

2. virtuosity

3. progeny

4. temerity

5. saturated

6. e

7. d

8. b

9. a

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

2. r

3. d

4. q

5. a

6. g

9. e

10. b

11. c

12. n

14. k

15. j

16. t

17. p

18. m

21. u

23. w

WORDSEARCH 16

1. frugal

2. cache

3. interloper

4. temerity

5. cupidity

❖ WEEK 17

Day 1

1. fallacious

2. consummate

3. concoct

4. perpetrate

5. subterfuge

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. a

10. e

Day 2

1. manifold

2. fraught

3. impeccable

4. resourceful

5. assiduous

6. c

7. d

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 3

1. hoax

2. components

3. labyrinth

4. evaluate

5. murky

6. a

7. b

8. c

9. d

10. e

Day 4

1. gullible

2. deploy

3. attest

4. exult

5. enigma

6. e

7. a

8. b

9. c

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. c

2. d

3. gg

4. e

6. a

7. f

10. k

11. j

12. n

13. r

14. m

15. 0

16. q

17. t

19. h

20. b

21. u

22. w

WORDSEARCH 17

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

10. c

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. c

9. d

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. c

2. f

3. j

5. q

7. m

9. d

10. a

11. n

12. t

14. r

15. p

16. h

17. g

18. k

19. e

20. b

23. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 18

1. barometer

2. itinerant

3. myriad

4. deem

5. accommodate

❖ WEEK 19

Day 1

1. profligate

2. strife

3. legion

4. coup

5. megalomania

6. e

7. c

8. a

9. d

10. b

Day 2

1. mendacious

2. exonerate

3. expatriate

4. fiat

5. amnesty

6. c

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. b

Day 3

1. dismantle

2. sumptuous

3. parsimonious

4. pecuniary

5. underwrite

6. d

7. b

8. c

9. e

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

3. j

4. a

5. c

6. e

8. n

11. g

12. t

14. q

15. m

16. k

18. b

19. d

20. f

22. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 19

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

8. e

9. c

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

7. b

8. e

9. c

10. a

Day 4

1. lugubrious

2. puissant

3. unabated

4. maudlin

5. levity

6. e

7. d

8. a

9. c

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. 0

2. g

3. a

4. c

7. e

8. d

9. b

10. f

11. h

12. m

14. n

15. j

16. t

17. q

18. p

20. r

22. w

23. u

HAPLESS HEADLINES

1. j

2. e

3. d

4. t

6. q

8. r

9. f

10. k

WORDSEARCH 20

1. pesky

2. unabated

3. indict

4. redolent

5. reviled

❖ WEEK 21

Day 1

1. opulence

2. scion

3. obsequious

4. indoctrinate

5. fulsome

6. b

7. e

8. c

9. a

10. d

Day 2

1. lush

2. ponder

3. destitution

4. supplication

5. decadence

6. e

7. b

8. c

9. d

10. a

Day 3

1. disciple

2. metamorphosis

3. penance

4. ascetic

5. desultory

6. b

7. d

8. c

9. e

10. a

Day 4

1. nurture

2. bona fide

3. salvation

4. nirvana

5. materialism

6. d

7. e

8. b

9. a

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. a

2. t

3. e

4. h

5. f

9. d

10. c

13. k

14. r

15. b

16. q

19. m

20. n

22. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 21

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

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. e

10. a

Day 2

1. fabricate

2. connubial

3. demur

4. appellation

5. incapacitated

6. e

7. c

8. d

9. a

10. b

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

7. d

8. c

9. a

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. b

2. f

4. m

5. j

6. h

7. a

8. e

11. d

12. t

14. r

15. 0

16. c

17. g

18. n

19. q

20. k

21. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 22

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

9. d

10. c

Day 2

1. neurotic

2. decade

3. mortality

4. susceptible

5. phenomenon

6. d

7. a

8. c

9. e

10. b

Day 3

1. enunciate

2. irascible

3. introspective

4. pedagogue

5. inordinate

6. e

7. c

8. b

9. a

10. d

Day 4

1. perpetuate

2. catastrophic

3. neutralize

4. mandate

5. compensatory

6. d

7. b

8. a

9. c

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

2. a

3. r

5. t

6. j

8. m

10. b

11. d

12. h

13. p

15. k

16. c

17. e

20. q

21. u

23. w

WORDSEARCH 23

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

8. b

9. c

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

8. a

9. e

10. d

Day 4

1. originate

2. entreaty

3. inviolable

4. vulnerable

5. tradition

6. b

7. d

8. c

9. a

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. n

2. r

3. h

4. a

6. m

8. e

9. q

10. b

12. d

13. g

14. p

15. c

17. t

18. j

19. f

21. w

22. u

ADJ. LDRS./NOUN FOL.

1. m

2. c

3. a

5. e

6. k

7. b

8. j

WORDSEARCH 24

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

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. e

10. a

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

6. a

7. c

8. b

9. d

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. h

3. n

5. f

6. k

8. j

9. a

10. c

11. r

12. m

13. q

15. t

16. g

17. b

18. e

19. d

22. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 25

1. deplorable

2. obliterate

3. rue

4. detriment

5. aegis

❖ WEEK 26

Day 1

1. hostile

2. prevalent

3. lethargic

4. paramount

5. remiss

6. b

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

9. d

10. a

Day 3

1. tussle

2. intrinsic

3. jettison

4. inevitable

5. lucrative

6. e

7. a

8. d

9. c

10. b

Day 4

1. acute

2. transient

3. gist

4. terse

5. cogent

6. e

7. c

8. d

9. b

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. 1

3. d

4. a

9. c

10. m

11. t

12. q

13. r

14. h

15. n

16. e

17. g

18. b

19. f

20. j

22. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 26

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

9. a

10. e

Day 2

1. bereft

2. exultation

3. constrict

4. prodigy

5. falter

6. d

7. e

8. c

9. b

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

9. e

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. b

2. r

3. j

5. m

6. g

7. a

8. f

9. c

10. q

11. k

14. t

15. e

17. n

18. d

19. h

21. w

22. u

WORDSEARCH 27

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

7. e

8. a

9. c

10. d

Day 2

1. disgruntled

2. panacea

3. eradicate

4. infallible

5. impede

6. b

7. a

8. d

9. c

10. e

Day 3

1. sedate

2. serenity

3. equanimity

4. compatible

5. reverse

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

4. c

5. m

6. q

7. j

10. b

12. n

13. e

14. d

15. g

17. t

18. k

19. f

20. a

21. u

24. w

DOING DOUBLE DUTY

1. hoard

3. transient

6. sedate

7. sage

8. rebuke

10. obscure

11. exploit

WORDSEARCH 28

1. impede

2. serenity

3. cacophony

4. irrational

5. infallible

❖ WEEK 29

Day 1

1. adherent

2. lithe

3. forlorn

4. burly

5. bliss

6. d

7. b

8. a

9. e

10. c

Day 2

1. apathy

2. exhort

3. inebriated

4. fracas

5. adversary

6. d

7. c

8. e

9. b

10. a

Day 3

1. gusto

2. banal

3. platitude

4. indolent

5. garrulous

6. c

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. b

Day 4

1. dilettante

2. atypical

3. nondescript

4. wane

5. pique

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. e

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. r

2. b

5. f

9. a

10. d

11. q

13. m

14. e

15. j

16. c

17. h

20. t

23. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 29

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

8. d

9. a

10. b

Day 2

1. condescend

2. malign

3. jocose

4. candor

5. mortify

6. c

7. d

8. e

9. a

10. b

Day 3

1. zenith

2. omnipotent

3. precedent

4. fledgling

5. peremptory

6. e

7. a

8. b

9. c

10. d

Day 4

1. wheedle

2. charlatan

3. rustic

4. decorum

5. jubilant

6. a

7. e

8. b

9. c

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

3. n

4. k

6. m

7. c

8. a

10. e

11. j

12. d

13. r

14. b

16. p

17. t

20. h

21. u

22. w

WORDSEARCH 30

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

8. e

9. a

10. b

Day 2

1. propagate

2. milieu

3. anomaly

4. innocuous

5. surfeit

6. d

7. c

8. e

9. a

10. b

Day 3

1. concomitant

2. strident

3. lassitude

4. deleterious

5. efficacy

6. e

7. c

8. d

9. b

10. a

Day 4

1. incumbent

2. ferment

3. dissent

4. attenuated

5. arbiter

6. c

7. d

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. c

2. m

3. q

4. b

5. n

6. e

7. j

8. a

10. h

12. r

14. k

15. t

16. g

17. d

19. f

23. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 31

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

8. e

9. b

10. a

Day 2

1. bizarre

2. paltry

3. usurp

4. condone

5. trivial

6. e

7. c

8. d

9. a

10. b

Day 3

1. venerable

2. ambiguous

3. succinct

4. menial

5. extraneous

6. c

7. b

8. e

9. a

10. d

Day 4

1. salubrious

2. archaic

3. facetious

4. rabid

5. emulate

6. b

7. e

8. c

9. d

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. p

2. n

3. a

4. h

5. gg

11. f

12. t

13. k

14. c

15. m

16. e

17. b

19. d

20. q

21. w

24. u

SELECTING ANTONYMS

1. partner

2. professional

3. active

4. sober

5. falsehood

6. conservative

7. nadir

8. tiny

9. condemn

10. clear

11. authentic

12. harmful

13. helpful

14. wordy

15. urbane

WORDSEARCH 32

1. prodigious

2. usurp

3. celerity

4. venerable

5. salubrious

❖ WEEK 33

Day 1

1. complacent

2. debilitate

3. occult

4. sumber

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

10. d

Day 3

1. penitent

2. evanescent

3. reproach

4. tantamount

5. abjure

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. e

10. a

Day 4

1. connoisseur

2. allay

3. propensity

4. wary

5. deter

6. c

7. e

8. d

9. a

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. d

2. t

3. f

5. e

6. g

7. q

9. a

10. r

11. n

12. m

13. c

14. h

15. k

17. b

22. u

23. w

WORDSEARCH 33

1. abjure

2. wary

3. complacent

4. sumber

5. glean

❖ WEEK 34

Day 1

1. cumbersome

2. interrogate

3. vigil

4. divulge

5. site

6. e

7. c

8. a

9. b

10. d

Day 2

1. unmitigated

2. commodious

3. antiquated

4. fluctuate

5. disheveled

6. b

7. d

8. a

9. e

10. c

Day 3

1. tenacious

2. calumny

3. grimace

4. asinine

5. façade

6. d

7. c

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 4

1. au courant

2. pittance

3. unkempt

4. noisome

5. fastidious

6. c

7. d

8. e

9. b

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. p

2. q

3. k

4. b

5. t

8. f

10. r

11. g

12. j

13. n

15. c

16. e

17. a

18. d

20. m

21. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 34

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

8. e

9. c

10. b

Day 2

1. nonentity

2. efronterý

3. equanimity

4. flabbergasted

5. debacle

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. b

10. d

Day 3

1. mien

2. refute

3. hirsute

4. vivacious

5. gaunt

6. 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

8. e

9. d

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. s

6. a

7. q

8. e

9. d

10. m

11. b

12. k

13. r

14. f

15. j

16. t

18. n

19. c

22. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 35

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

10. d

Day 2

1. grotesque

2. compassion

3. epitome

4. repugnant

5. dexterity

6. b

7. e

8. a

9. d

10. c

Day 3

1. acme

2. depict

3. naive

4. copious

5. vehemently

6. c

7. d

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 4

1. ingratiate

2. covet

3. penury

4. perfidious

5. ignominious

6. a

7. b

8. e

9. d

10. c

Day 5

REVIEW

1. c

2. a

3. b

4. k

5. d

6. h

7. m

11. g

12. t

13. r

14. f

16. e

17. j

19. q

21. u

23. w

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. deter

2. asinine

3. effrontery

4. disheveled

5. sumber

6. impetuous

7. discreet

8. perfidious

9. flabbergasted

10. vivacious

WORDSEARCH 36

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

8. c

9. a

10. e

Day 3

1. iconoclast

2. therapy

3. motivate

4. rationalize

5. nascent

6. c

7. b

8. e

9. a

10. d

Day 4

1. phobia

2. erudite

3. vertigo

4. conducive

5. germane

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. b

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

2. e

3. d

4. j

6. m

10. c

12. t

14. n

15. r

16. q

17. b

18. k

20. a

21. w

22. u

WORDSEARCH 37

1. nascent

2. felicitous

3. halcyon

4. confront

5. superfluous

❖ WEEK 38

Day 1

1. glib

2. trend

3. legerdemain

4. malleable

5. homogeneous

6. c

7. d

8. a

9. b

10. e

Day 2

1. fatal

2. passé

3. facets

4. procrastinate

5. stagnant

6. b

7. c

8. e

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

Day 4

1. chicanery

2. obliging

3. tacit

4. reticent

5. retort

6. c

7. d

8. a

9. e

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. f

2. k

4. e

5. c

6. b

7. d

8. h

11. r

12. q

13. j

14. a

15. g

17. n

18. m

21. w

22. u

WORDSEARCH 38

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

8. c

9. e

10. a

Day 2

1. opprobrium

2. Machiavellian

3. unconscionable

4. pandemonium

5. staunch

6. b

7. a

8. d

9. c

10. e

Day 3

1. vindicate

2. flay

3. demeanor

4. heinous

5. delineation

6. e

7. d

8. c

9. b

10. a

Day 4

1. infraction

2. callous

3. vituperation

4. redress

5. turpitude

6. b

7. d

8. a

9. c

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. m

2. n

4. a

5. j

8. f

9. d

10. k

11. t

12. g

13. r

15. b

17. q

18. c

20. e

23. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 39

1. infraction

2. heinous

3. opprobrium

4. imperturbable

5. staunch

❖ WEEK 40

Day 1

1. clique

2. rhetoric

3. facile

4. extol

5. mentor

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. a

10. c

Day 2

1. vilify

2. cant

3. magnanimous

4. umbrage

5. elucidate

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. b

Day 3

1. proximity

2. lassitude

3. vapid

4. unwieldy

5. vitiate

6. c

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. b

Day 4

1. fatuous

2. repertoire

3. imperceptible

4. contort

5. augment

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. e

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. b

2. m

3. n

4. a

5. g

6. e

8. r

10. q

12. k

13. c

14. j

15. f

16. t

19. h

20. d

22. u

24. w

HAPLESS HEADLINES

1. e

2. k

4. c

5. q

6. g

7. d

10. a

WORDSEARCH 40

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

10. b

Day 2

1. sanction

2. insidious

3. allude

4. potpourri

5. denotes

6. d

7. c

8. e

9. b

10. a

Day 3

1. spate

2. advent

3. propriety

4. proffer

5. impious

6. a

7. c

8. d

9. b

10. e

Day 4

1. nutritive

2. raucous

3. shibboleth

4. bogus

5. substantiate

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. c

2. a

4. j

6. k

8. r

9. d

11. h

13. f

14. t

15. q

16. b

17. e

18. n

19. m

21. w

22. u

WORDSEARCH 41

1. insidious

2. bogus

3. propriety

4. intrinsic

5. sanction

❖ WEEK 42

Day 1

1. negligible

2. quandary

3. expedient

4. callous

5. blasé

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. e

10. a

Day 2

1. diversity

2. ennui

3. comely

4. artifice

5. frenetic

6. b

7. c

8. a

9. d

10. e

Day 3

1. artless

2. expurgate

3. qualm

4. gratuity

5. begrudge

6. e

7. a

8. b

9. c

10. d

Day 4

1. delve

2. replenish

3. manifest

4. capricious

5. requisite

6. b

7. e

8. c

9. a

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. d

2. t

4. f

6. g

7. c

8. h

10. k

11. e

12. a

13. q

16. j

17. b

19. m

20. r

22. u

24. w

WORDSEARCH 42

1. requisite

2. blasé

3. capricious

4. diversity

5. delved

❖ WEEK 43

Day 1

1. ameliorate

2. roster

3. stunt

4. atrophy

5. main

6. c

7. a

8. b

9. e

10. d

Day 2

1. unctuous

2. cynic

3. benevolent

4. subservient

5. iniquity

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. a

10. e

Day 3

1. largess

2. mercenary

3. criterion

4. mollify

5. repent

6. a

7. b

8. e

9. d

10. c

Day 4

1. vestige

2. activism

3. aloof

4. guise

5. pragmatic

6. b

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. i

3. t

4. k

6. e

7. d

8. b

10. r

12. q

13. m

14. a

15. f

16. c

17. h

22. w

23. u

WORDSEARCH 43

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

6. c

7. d

8. b

9. e

10. a

Day 3

1. excoriate

2. frail

3. potent

4. reputed

5. devout

6. a

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. b

Day 4

1. impromptu

2. malevolent

3. profuse

4. diminutive

5. dulcet

6. b

7. e

8. d

9. c

10. a

Day 5

REVIEW

1. k

2. g

3. j

4. a

5. b

6. d

8. e

11. h

13. t

14. n

15. m

16. q

17. p

18. c

19. f

20. r

22. w

24. u

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. deluged

2. diminutive

3. blasé

4. succulent

5. frenetic

6. bogus

7. quandary

8. benevolent

9. negligible

10. excoriate

WORDSEARCH 44

1. profuse

2. deluge

3. carnage

4. excoriate

5. nullify

❖ WEEK 45

Day 1

1. raiment

2. rail

3. corpulent

4. wistful

5. brigand

6. c

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. b

Day 2

1. rift

2. raconteur

3. sullen

4. emissary

5. ruminare

6. c

7. a

8. d

9. e

10. b

Day 3

1. livid

2. taut

3. martinet

4. yen

5. bagatelle

6. b

7. c

8. a

9. e

10. d

Day 4

1. decapitate

2. penchant

3. divergent

4. appalled

5. callow

6. a

7. e

8. c

9. b

10. d

Day 5

REVIEW

1. b

2. d

3. e

6. a

8. f

9. c

10. j

12. n

14. h

15. m

16. q

17. g

19. k

20. t

21. w

24. u

WORDSEARCH 45

1. appalled

2. penchant

3. corpulent

4. emissary

5. decapitate

❖ WEEK 46

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

8. e

9. a

10. b

Day 3

1. tyro

2. obloquy

3. sophistry

4. factitious

5. encomiums

6. b

7. c

8. d

9. a

10. e

Day 4

1. charisma

2. genocide

3. prevarication

4. hyperbole

5. munificent

6. e

7. d

8. c

9. a

10. b

Day 5

REVIEW

1. t

2. m

3. k

4. a

5. q

6. g

8. j

9. d

10. n

13. r

14. b

16. f

17. h

18. e

20. c

21. u

23. w

WHICH WORD?

1. h

3. e

5. c

6. m

7. b

8. n

10. f

WORDSEARCH 46

1. ascertain

2. burgeoned

3. derived

4. dormant

5. encomium

Buried Words

1st Week:

automaton

interminable

2nd Week: gesticulate

rudimentary

3rd Week:

condolence

lackluster

4th Week:

tangible

promulgate

5th Week:

impunity

paucity

6th Week:

perverse

consternation

7th Week:

terminate

implacable

8th Week:

har**bing**er

remote

9th Week:

virulent

entourage

10th Week: peruse

salient

11th Week: elapse

cor**ro**borate

12th Week: diatribe

utopia

13th Week: incontro**vertible**

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

27th Week: falter

adamant

28th Week: **impede**

cacophony

29th Week: **apathy**

nondescript

30th Week: **malign**

wheedle

31st Week: strident

deleterious

32nd Week: **archaic**

condone

33rd Week: **evanescent**

complacent

34th Week: **grimace**

commodious

35th Week: **parable**

gaunt

36th Week: **epitome**

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

2. b

3. b

4. a

5. d

6. b

7. b

8. c

9. d

10. c

11. d

12. c

13. b

14. d

15. a

16. b

17. a

18. b

19. d

20. c

FINAL REVIEW TEST

❖ 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%.

1. implore
 - (a) reject
 - (b) beg for assistance
 - (c) summon
 - (d) scold

2. voracious
 - (a) greedy
 - (b) vicious
 - (c) dull
 - (d) careless

3. badger
 - (a) pester
 - (b) cheat
 - (c) remind
 - (d) to insult

4. laconic
 - (a) tense
 - (b) bashful
 - (c) troublesome
 - (d) brief in expression

5. plethora
 - (a) overabundance
 - (b) helpless fit
 - (c) a weakness
 - (d) angry reaction

6. cajole
 - (a) force
 - (b) demand
 - (c) coax
 - (d) promise

7. inadvertent
- (a) unappetizing
 - (b) unintentional
 - (c) unaware
 - (d) unknown
8. mundane
- (a) forgetful
 - (b) friendly
 - (c) doubtful
 - (d) ordinary
9. jostle
- (a) joke with
 - (b) interrupt
 - (c) push
 - (d) leap quickly
10. brash
- (a) impudent
 - (b) stubborn
 - (c) angry
 - (d) upset
11. sordid
- (a) varied
 - (b) guilty
 - (c) unable to speak
 - (d) dirty
12. solace
- (a) pity
 - (b) comfort
 - (c) forgetfulness
 - (d) great happiness
13. acrimonious
- (a) bitter
 - (b) brilliant
 - (c) tender
 - (d) out of tune
14. egregious
- (a) important

15. paucity
- (b) infected
 - (c) remarkably bad
 - (d) swollen
16. eschew
- (a) overweight
 - (b) deafness
 - (c) shortage
 - (d) doubt
17. verbose
- (a) keep away from
 - (b) sneeze repeatedly
 - (c) invite
 - (d) deny
18. perfunctory
- (a) priceless
 - (b) talkative
 - (c) sinful
 - (d) whining
19. chagrin
- (a) careless
 - (b) hopeful
 - (c) without end
 - (d) evil
20. exacerbate
- (a) loneliness
 - (b) dismay
 - (c) opportunity
 - (d) suspicion
21. indigent
- (a) present arguments
 - (b) plead with
 - (c) question closely
 - (d) irritate
21. indigent
- (a) unreasonable
 - (b) watchful
 - (c) angry

22. stymie
- (d) poor
- (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
- (c) blossoming
- (d) rigid
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

44. viable
- (d) favorable
 - (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
 - (c) attack verbally
 - (d) penetrate
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

59. abortive
60. tortuous
61. peregrination
62. myriad
63. fiat
64. mendacious
65. profligate
- (c) busy
(d) educated
- (a) failing
(b) outside the law
(c) drowsy
(d) unprepared
- (a) spiteful
(b) inflicting pain
(c) frank
(d) winding
- (a) form of address
(b) travel
(c) insistence
(d) hospitality
- (a) geometric figure
(b) voter's choice
(c) countless number
(d) minority decision
- (a) police squad
(b) official order
(c) carriage
(d) council
- (a) lying
(b) abusive
(c) healing
(d) merciful
- (a) soothing
(b) obvious
(c) distinct
(d) wasteful

- 66.** disparate
- (a) different
 - (b) critical
 - (c) religious
 - (d) uneven
- 67.** lugubrious
- (a) well-oiled
 - (b) warlike
 - (c) very sad
 - (d) beyond dispute
- 68.** puissant
- (a) ordinary
 - (b) studious
 - (c) powerful
 - (d) dictatorial
- 69.** desultory
- (a) disconnected
 - (b) incomplete
 - (c) polished
 - (d) dry
- 70.** fulsome
- (a) gratified
 - (b) superior
 - (c) sensitive
 - (d) excessive
- 71.** chimerical
- (a) accurate
 - (b) imaginary
 - (c) regional
 - (d) rigid
- 72.** recondite
- (a) observant
 - (b) sincere
 - (c) secret
 - (d) willing to bargain

73. gamut
- (a) range
 - (b) sleeve
 - (c) intestine
 - (d) bridge
74. irascible
- (a) conceited
 - (b) patriotic
 - (c) bumbling
 - (d) irritable
75. perspicacious
- (a) vicious
 - (b) shrewd
 - (c) sweaty
 - (d) light on one's feet
76. taint
- (a) weaken
 - (b) widen
 - (c) contaminate
 - (d) cause
77. aegis
- (a) fear
 - (b) hope
 - (c) kinship
 - (d) protection
78. evince
- (a) prove
 - (b) throw away
 - (c) exhibit
 - (d) wonder
79. divergent
- (a) deviating
 - (b) pesky
 - (c) truthful
 - (d) cowardly
80. mien
- (a) appearance

- 81.** elucidate
- (b) hostile
 - (c) cheerful
 - (d) important
- 82.** germane
- (a) hide
 - (b) make clear
 - (c) paint
 - (d) sharpen
- 83.** mollify
- (a) sickly
 - (b) foreign
 - (c) charming
 - (d) appropriate
- 84.** indolent
- (a) turn against
 - (b) appease
 - (c) hope for
 - (d) shorten
- 85.** impromptu
- (a) lazy
 - (b) badly behaved
 - (c) owing money
 - (d) timely
- 86.** umbrage
- (a) dangerous
 - (b) not understood
 - (c) wisely planned
 - (d) spur of the moment
- 87.** artifice
- (a) dark color
 - (b) offense
 - (c) waste
 - (d) generosity
- 88.** artifice
- (a) trickery
 - (b) historic finding
 - (c) newness

- 88.** vacillate
- (d) gradual change
 - (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

- 103.** ennui
- (b) enter
 - (c) clear away
 - (d) change
- 104.** salubrious
- (a) fashionable
 - (b) boredom
 - (c) together
 - (d) hopeless
- 105.** carnage
- (a) sad
 - (b) dangerous
 - (c) painful
 - (d) healthful
- 106.** aloof
- (a) slaughter
 - (b) carrying away
 - (c) marriage
 - (d) anger
- 107.** vertigo
- (a) painful
 - (b) reserved
 - (c) interested
 - (d) dishonest
- 108.** foment
- (a) dizziness
 - (b) color blindness
 - (c) ambition
 - (d) extreme height
- 109.** inveterate
- (a) become alcoholic
 - (b) investigate
 - (c) stir up
 - (d) calm down
- 109.** inveterate
- (a) anxious
 - (b) unknown

110. refute
- (c) questionable
 - (d) habitual
111. celerity
- (a) fame
 - (b) waste
 - (c) disobey
 - (d) disprove
112. heinous
- (a) stardom
 - (b) speed
 - (c) clearness
 - (d) sourness
113. quandary
- (a) interference
 - (b) talkative
 - (c) evilly wicked
 - (d) powerful
114. efficacy
- (a) dilemma
 - (b) quiet place
 - (c) hopeful sign
 - (d) crowd
115. austere
- (a) cheapness
 - (b) ease
 - (c) mystery
 - (d) effectiveness
116. moribund
- (a) wild
 - (b) feverish
 - (c) unadorned
 - (d) wishful
117. 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
 - (c) change direction
 - (d) waste away
- 123.** discreet
- (a) patient
 - (b) colorful
 - (c) cautious
 - (d) generous
- 124.** callow
- (a) cowardly

- 125.** ruminare
- (b) unfeeling
 - (c) inexperienced
 - (d) private
 - (a) reflect upon
 - (b) move away
 - (c) reclassify
 - (d) start anew
- 126.** congenial
- (a) clever
 - (b) agreeable
 - (c) masterful
 - (d) selective
- 127.** decorum
- (a) behavior
 - (b) attractiveness
 - (c) liveliness
 - (d) meeting place
- 128.** banal
- (a) not allowed
 - (b) nearly finished
 - (c) trivial
 - (d) highly respected
- 129.** encomium
- (a) highest prize
 - (b) secret plan
 - (c) new idea
 - (d) high praise
- 130.** avarice
- (a) clear path
 - (b) wealth
 - (c) greed
 - (d) positive statement
- 131.** malign
- (a) slander
 - (b) exterminate
 - (c) join with

132. venial
- (d) dismiss
 - (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
 - (c) praise highly
 - (d) describe honestly
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

147. jocose
148. mentor
149. hirsute
150. excoriate
- (c) distrusted
(d) joined together
- (a) dizzy
(b) merry
(c) sticky
(d) talkative
- (a) coach
(b) enemy
(c) stranger
(d) writer
- (a) overly dressed
(b) out-of-date
(c) hairy
(d) bald
- (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

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. c

10. a

11. d

12. b

13. a

14. c

15. c

16. a

17. b

18. a

19. b

20. d

21. d

22. a

23. c

24. c

25. c

26. a

27. b

28. d

29. a

30. c

31. d

32. a

33. b

34. b

35. a

36. a

37. d

38. c

39. b

40. c

41. a

42. b

43. d

44. a

45. a

46. c

47. d

48. c

49. d

50. c

51. b

52. a

53. b

54. b

55. c

56. a

57. d

58. c

59. a

60. d

61. b

63. b

64. a

65. d

66. a

67. c

68. c

69. a

70. d

71. b

73. a

74. d

75. b

76. c

77. d

78. c

79. a

80. a

81. b

82. d

83. b

84. a

85. d

86. b

87. a

88. b

89. a

90. d

91. b

92. a

93. b

94. d

95. b

96. a

97. b

98. d

99. b

100. d

101. c

102. a

103. b

104. d

105. a

106. b

107. a

108. c

109. d

110. d

111. b

112. c

113. a

114. d

115. c

116. d

117. a

118. a

119. c

120. a

121. c

122. d

123. c

124. c

125. a

126. b

127. a

128. c

129. d

130. c

131. a

132. c

133. b

134. a

135. b

136. d

137. b

138. d

139. a

140. b

141. c

142. d

143. d

144. b

145. a

146. b

147. b

148. a

149. c

150. c

PANORAMA OF WORDS

- ❖ 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

accomplice “His chief *accomplice* was Democratic boss John Dingell, who sold out his party in the dark of night.” Maureen Dowd, “The God Squad,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

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*

anathema “The founding document of the American Reform movement depicted ritual as anachronistic, even *anathema* in an enlightened age.” Samuel G. Freedman, “The Un-Reformation,” *New York*, 6/21/99

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

antiquated “The custom of throwing rice at a newly married couple is an *antiquated* one, originally meaning a wish for many children.” “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. Hyatt Verrill, *The Strange Story of Our Earth*

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”

belligerent “North Korea’s *belligerent* 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. Andhil 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

blatant “It’s a classic *blatant* pyramid scheme.” Robert Hanley, “Gifting Club,” *New York Times*, 6/23/99

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 savagely.” H. G. Wells, *The Invisible Man*

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*, 8/19/99

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*

caustic “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*

charlatan “Many of my friends believe in fortune tellers; I think they are *charlatans*.” Letter to “Dear Abby,” *New York Daily News*, 5/16/99

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

cliché “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.” *Newsday*, 5/15/99

coerce “The loan sharks sometimes have to *coerce* 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.” Rabindramath 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

complicity “After 1945, Hitler’s Germans replaced *complicity* with denial.” Lance Morrow, “Done in the Name of Evil,” *TIME*, 6/14/99

component “The F.B.I. did, in fact, develop a racial *component*, the profile of serial killers as predominantly white, male loners.” Jeffrey Goldberg, “The Color of Suspicion,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

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

comprehensive “Lecter was built up as a superman, embodying absolute yet *comprehensive* evil.” Christopher Lehmann-Haupt, “Hannibal Lecter Returns,” *New York Times Book Review*, 6/10/99

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 dismissing 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

congenial “Susan’s *congenial* manner made her a favorite in the rodeo.” Lacey Fosburgh, “All-Girls Rodeos,” *New York Times*, 8/17/99

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*

copious “The wedding reception featured *copious* amounts of food, drink, and music.” *New York Times*, 9/26/99

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”

coveted “The moment has arrived for our annual *coveted* ‘Bloopie’ Awards.” William Safire, *New York Times*, 7/18/99

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

cryptic “Ms. Bogart, an iconoclastic director known for her *cryptic* reworkings of everything, turns out to be an ideal interpreter for Gertrude Stein.” Ben Brantley, “Gertrude and Alice,” *New York Times*, 6/14/99

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*

declaimed “Some of the province’s most illustrious men visited the courthouse and *declaimed* 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”

deluge “The art exhibit brought a *deluge* of criticism because of its subject matter.” *New York Daily News*, 9/28/99

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*

deplorable “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

derided “He made his living in a vocation so *derided* it has become a gag phrase: wedding singer.” Joyce Wadler, “Public Lives,” *New York Times*, 6/15/99

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, “Pumpnickel 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*

deter “Concern for his job did not *deter* him from making public the dangers of smoking.” “Brave Politician,” *New York Times*, 4/12/99

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.” *TIME*, 6/7/99

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 Yeziarska, "Hunger"

dubious "Many scientists say its experimental merits are *dubious*." Margaret Wente, "Fifth Column," *Globe and Mail*, Toronto, 5/27/99

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

edifice "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

effigy "ANGRY SERBS HANG UNCLE SAM IN *EFFIGY*" Headline over Associated Press photo, *New York Times*, 8/23/99

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

enunciated “At his press conference, Jerry Springer *enunciated* his qualifications for a Senate seat in Ohio.” Francis X. Clines, “Springer Considers Race for Senate,” *New York Times*, 8/4/99

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*

equanimity “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 [adapted]

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*

evinced “The vote on Roe vs. Wade will show whether enough senators *evinced* 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*

expatriate “For months she lived the nocturnal life of an *expatriate* American tango

bum.” Jimmy Scott, “Flirting with the Tango,” *New York Times*, 6/11/99

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 *expunged*.” James Kilpatrick, “Boy Learns Constitution—the Hard Way,” *Burlington Vermont Free Press*, 6/12/99

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 Mischiefs*

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

fortuitous “Representative Foley resumed a corridor interview, making a point about the *fortuitous* beauty of bipartisanship.” Francis X. Clines, “Gun Control Debate,” *New York Times*, 6/18/99

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*

fray “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*

frenzy “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.” Liz Smith, “Century’s Choice,” *New*

York Post, 6/23/99

frugal “He was famously *frugal*—‘so tight he damn near squeaked’ says a colleague.” Eric Pooley, “How George Got His Groove,” *TIME*, 6/21/99

fruitless “Since launching a diplomatic shuttle, the Russian envoy had spent dozens of *fruitless* hours with the Yugoslav dictator.” Johanna McGeary, “Why He Blinked,” *TIME*, 6/14/99

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*

gamut “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.” H. G. Wells, “The Man Who Could Work Miracles”

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*

gratuity “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

haven “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”

havoc “Excessive sensitiveness plays *havoc* with children’s nerves.” Guy De Maupassant, “Looking Back”

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 immoveable.” Walter Tooke, *The Life of Catherine*

impetuous “He displayed the *impetuous* vivacity of youth.” Samuel Johnson, “The Rambler” No. 27

impious “The Sunis 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]

impromptu “At an *impromptu* airport news conference, Gov. Bush declined to respond directly to questions about his experience with drugs.” Associated Press Report, “Next Question, Please,” 6/5/99

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

incapacitated “His searing empathy for the parents of *incapacitated* clients is a product of the still-raw pain over the 1980 suicide of his younger brother.” Jan Hoffman, “Public Lives,” *New York Times*, 6/18/99

inchoate “The general plan is *inchoate* and incoherent and the particular treatments disconnected.” Hillary Corke, *Global Economy*

incipient “As columnist Jack Anderson was about to write about the Secretary of State’s *incipient* departure, Al Haig panicked.” William Safire, “On Language,” *New York Times*,

6/20/99

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

indigent “The bill would make modest improvements in the way that counsel is provided for *indigent* defendants.” Bob Herbert, “Defending the Status Quo,” *New York Times*, 6/17/99

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]

ineffectual “Medicare officials told the White House that the proposed drug plan is unrealistic and would be *ineffectual*.” Robert Pear, “Drug Plan Worries Democrats,” *New York Times*, 6/25/99

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 made by Congress and the Executive branch.” Cass R. Sunstein, *New York Times*, 6/2/99

invective “I watched him walk into the clubhouse, kick a bench and break a toe, never once stopping the flow of *invective*.” 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”

inviolable “The coach broke an *inviolable* 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 squeegee man *jostled* him, the police officer said that he feared for his life.” Kit Roane, “Squeegee 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”

jurisdiction “Lee's *jurisdiction* included the monitoring of boxing within New Jersey.” Timothy Smith, “A Sport's Credibility,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

juxtaposed “Theatrical vignettes are *juxtaposed* through alternating verses in clever boy-girl counterpoint.” “Hot 'N Cole,” *Newsday*, 6/4/99

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”

laconic “The dialogue is clipped, *laconic*, understated to convey simmering underneath.” John Simon, “The Worst Noël,” *New York*, 6/21/99

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”

legerdemain “Federal investigators pursuing money-laundering schemes are concerned with alleged acts of *legerdemain* by Russian banks.” Tim L. O’Brien, “Bank in Laundering Inquiry,” *New York Times*, 8/20/99

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

loath “Still I am *loath* simply to join the conspiracy.” “The Happy-Parents Conspiracy,” *New York Times*, 5/23/99

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”

mandate “With a federal *mandate* to convert to digital broadcasting by 2003, public TV stations are facing large capital expenditures.” Ellis Bromberg, “Federal Money Vital to Progress of PBS,” *The News Gazette*, Champaign-Urbana, 10/21/99

manifest “English is one of the great borrowing languages, more *manifest* in the origin of so many of our words.” Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

manifold “China’s Xinhua News Agency treated *manifold* claims of procedural error with disbelief.” “Trying to Build Bridges in China,” *TIME*, 6/28/99

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

mundane “Why bother with *mundane* musings when you can sit on the lawn and build cities out of grass clippings?” Enid Nemy, “The World is Her Cloister,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

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

nefarious “A *nefarious* employee can still download secret weapons information to a tape, put it in his pocket and walk out the door.” William Safire, “Culture of Arrogance,” *New York Times*, 6/17/99

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*

nurtured “The Telecommunications Act of 1996 introduced competition that has *nurtured* demand for communications generally and for Internet service specifically.” Seth Schessel, “A Chance to Become Really Big,” *New York Times*, 6/15/99

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”

peremptory “Mr. Greenspan encouraged his fellow Federal Reserve Board members today to undertake a *peremptory* attack against inflation.” Reuters, “Financial News Letter,” 3/99

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”

permeated “The play is *permeated* with scriptural imagery, notably a Last Supper.” Robert Brustein, *New Republic*, 6/7/99

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*

persevered “The Knicks *persevered* as first Patrick Ewing and then Johnson went down with injuries.” George Vecsey, “Sports of the Times,” *New York Times*, 6/22/99

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*

plethora “SUFFERERS CONFRONT A *PLETHORA* OF POLLEN” Headline, *New York Times*, 6/5/99

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

pragmatic “His conservative approach to investing has made millions of dollars for those who share Warren Buffet’s *pragmatic* philosophy.” “Master of Berkshire-Hathaway,” Profile of Warren Buffet, *New York Times*

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 Mifflin, “Tough Rules for TV,” *New York Times*, 8/4/99

prelude “Boulderby’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”

prerogative “Governor Pataki exercised his *prerogative* as titular head of the party to endorse Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.” Editorial, “Truce Among New York Republicans,” *New York Times*, 8/7/99

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 Gumedí”

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 Karamazov*

profound “So why no *profound* works on the need for \$660 million in tax credits for companies that burn chicken droppings?” Editorial, “Tax-Cut Favors,” *New York Times*, 8/7/99

profuse “He offered *profuse* apologies for his show of exasperation, and he volunteered to read to her, something in French.” Aldous Huxley, “The Gioconda Smile”

progeny “First, let me tell you whom you have condemn’d: 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

recanted “The government’s key witness in the case *recanted* her testimony, claiming she had been intimidated by prosecutors.” Rob Polner, “Set Back for Prosecutors,” *New York Post*, 6/23/99

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*

resourceful “The crew of the \$20 million independent film had to be very *resourceful* to hold down costs.” Beth L. Kiel, “Allen in Hollywood,” *New York*, 6/21/99

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 Aristede 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

rift “The 1993 tear gas assault on the Branch Dividian cult has created a *rift* between the FBI and the Attorney General’s office.” Associated Press report, “FBI Video Released,” *Newsday*, 9/3/99

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

rue “When they make a mistake they will *rue* it.” Randi Feigenbaum, “Realtors’ Deal Irks Lawyers,” *Newsday*, 9/3/99

ruminated “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

rustic “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

saga “The *saga* of the Kennedy family has enthralled and saddened us.” Barbara Walters, quoted in *New York Times*, 7/10/99

sage “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

salient “The *salient* feature of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 is that it prohibits discrimination against the disabled.” Robert McFadden, “Court Ruling on Disabled Teacher Is Annulled,” *New York Times*, 6/25/99

sally “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”

salubrious “For my later years there remains the *salubrious* effects of work: stimulation and satisfaction.” Kathe Kollwitz, *Diaries and Letters*, 1955

salvation “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”

sanctimonious “There has never been a shortage of *sanctimonious* arguments for starting a war.” Peter Finley Dunne, *Mr. Dooley Remembers*

sanction “He received his father’s *sanction* and authority.” George Meredith, *Diana of the Crossways*

sanctuary “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*

sanguine “I’m not *sanguine* about the Knicks’ chances to upset the San Antonio Spurs.” Telephone caller to WFAN Sports Radio Program, 6/8/99

satiety “One of the soldiers was given leave to be drunk six weeks, in hopes of curing him by *satiety*.” William Cowper, *Selected Letters*

saturate “Vanilla sweetens the air, ginger spices it; melting nose-tingling odors *saturate* the kitchen.” Truman Capote, “A Christmas Memory”

schism “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*

scion “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”

senile “Being on golf’s Senior Tour doesn’t mean that we’re *senile*.” Leon Jaroff, “Those Rich Old Pros,” *TIME*, 9/27/99

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”

solicited “The police chief said that Commissioner Safir had not yet *solicited* his opinion on the question.” “Police Chief Says Officers Deserve Raise,” *New York Times*, 6/15/99

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

stymied “The family has been *stymied* in its attempt to remove a dead relative from the juror rolls.” Associated Press story, “Jury Duty Summonses Don’t Stop Despite Death,” *New York Times*, 6/25/99

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 Norton—the actor, not the *subterranean* sanitation professional.” Richard Sandomir, “N.B.A. Finals,” *New York Times*, 6/21/99

succinct “In clear and *succinct* tones, our division head proceeded to tear me to shreds in front of the entire staff.” Elley 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

susceptible “Wrestling matches are *susceptible* to being heavily scripted, as ardent fans know.” Edward Wyatt, “Pinning Down a Share Value,” *New York Times*, 8/4/99

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

temerity “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 Kassel, *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.” *New York Times*, 8/5/99

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 viable.” Anthony Lewis, “The Irrelevance of a Palestinian State,” *New York Times*, 6/20/99

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

virtuosity “Employing his *virtuosity* as an orchestrator of suspense, the author puts Lector in Florence, Italy, speaking impeccable Italian.” Paul Grey, “Dessert, Anyone?,” *TIME*, 6/21/99

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

vitiate “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

vitriolic “The speaker’s *vitriolic* 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? Prithce, 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

BONUS WEEK A ❖ DAY 1

TITANIC MYSTERY

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.

NEW WORDS

impregnable

im - ˈpreg - nə - bəl

toxic

ˈtok - sik

patriarch

ˈpā - trē - ārk

neophyte

ˈnē - ə - fīt

extenuating

ik - ˈsten - yū - ā - tɪŋ

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*.

BONUS WEEK A ❖ DAY 2

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.)

fôr - 'bō - diŋ

emanating

'e - mæ - nā - tiŋ

miscreant

'mis - crē - ənt

protocol

'prō - tə - kol

circuitous

sər - 'kyū - i - 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 _____ (n.) a. one who behaves badly

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*.

BONUS WEEK A ❖ DAY 3

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

ˌnell

macabre

mə - ˈkă - brə

ramifications

ra - mə - fi - ˈkā - shəns

rapacious

rə - pā - shəs

insurgent (adj.)

in - ˈsəÖr - jənt

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
(adj.)

TODAY'S IDIOM

***cross the Rubicon* (-rū - 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.

BONUS WEEK A ❖ DAY 4

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

ˌglût

risible

ˌri - zə - bəl

dilatory

ˌdi - lə - tō - rē

specious

ˌspē - shəs

denouement

dā - nū - ˈmo

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*.

BONUS WEEK A ❖ DAY 5

REVIEW

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

Make a record of those words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

MEANINGS

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.

WORDSEARCH A

- ❖ 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 ①_____ from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene declared that one in eight adults in our major cities has diabetes, a ②_____ disease. Many, however, are not aware that they have it or how ③_____ it can be, although there is a ④_____ 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 ⑤_____ 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

BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 1

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 - vā - 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*.

BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 2

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.

NEW WORDS

prescient

ˈpre - shənt

verbatim

vəˈɔr - ˈbā - tɪm

reverie

ˈre - və - rē

thespian

ˈthes - pē - əŋ

despot

ˈdes - pət **OR** ˈdes - pɒt

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*.

BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 3

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

pa - thə - 'lɒ - jə - kəl

articulate (adj.)

är - 'tik - ju - lət

grandeur

'gran - d(y)ər **OR**

'gran - jər

polemic

pə - 'le - mik

impasse

'im - 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 _____ (adj.) b. magnificence
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*.

BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 4

“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 - grā - təd

guile

ˈgīl

mortal (adj.)

ˈmôr - təl

inflicted

in - ˈflik - 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

BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 5

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. articulate (adj.)
- _____ 2. cabal
- _____ 3. denigrated
- _____ 4. despot
- _____ 5. dolorous
- _____ 6. enervated
- _____ 7. grandeur
- _____ 8. guile
- _____ 9. impasse
- _____ 10. inflicted
- _____ 11. mortal (adj.)
- _____ 12. odious
- _____ 13. pathological
- _____ 14. polemic
- _____ 15. prescient
- _____ 16. regimen
- _____ 17. reverie
- _____ 18. suffrage
- _____ 19. thespian
- _____ 20. verbatim

DEFINITIONS

- a. absolute ruler
- b. hateful, despicable
- c. secret group of plotters
- d. actor
- e. disordered in behavior
- f. defamed one's character
- g. controversial argument
- h. well-spoken
- i. able to know beforehand
- j. greatness of character, magnificence
- k. word for word
- l. worn out
- m. system of control
- n. imposed something painful
- o. deadlock
- p. daydream
- q. subject to death
- r. right to vote
- s. sorrowful
- t. trickery, deceit

IDIOMS

_____ 21. kill the goose that laid the golden egg

u. waste of time

_____ 22. carry coals to Newcastle

v. to spoil a good deal

_____ 23. for the birds

w. unimportant, worthless

_____ 24. throw one's hat in the ring

x. to run for office

Study the words you missed.

WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

MEANINGS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

WORDSEARCH B

❖ 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 ①_____ 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 ②_____,” 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 ③_____ 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 ④_____ behind their generosity. “Cash bonuses won’t have the same effect,” a CEO said. In a ⑤_____ 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...dilatatory
- c. cabal...odious
- d. grandeur...verbatim
- e. impasse...suffrage

VOC/QUOTE

❖ 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. para
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
a. Affluence b. Cupidity c. Complicity d. Decorum e. Prox
8. “No one wants advice—only _____.”
—John Steinbeck
a. corroboration b. alacrity c. delineation d. dissent e. juris
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

a. vertigo b. surmise c. sophistry d. privation e. paradox

10. “The concept of ‘Momism’ is male nonsense. It is the refuge of a man seeking excuses for his own lack of _____.”

—Pearl Buck

a. regimen b. virility c. grandeur d. temerity e. satiety

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

a. Amnesty b. Artifice c. Decadence d. Propriety e. Diletta

12. “Accustomed to the _____ of noise, public relations, and market research, society is suspicious of those who value silence.”

—John Lahr

a. realm b. veneer c. debris d. diatribe e. sanctuary

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

a. volition b. rationalization c. sophistry d. impunity e. her

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

a. pretext b. landmark c. nostalgia d. fetish e. candor

15. “We love a congenial _____ because by sympathy we can and do expand our spirit to the measure of his.”

—Charles H. Cooley

a. egotist b. nonentity c. iconclast d. ascetic e. disciple

16. “Man is certainly a _____ animal. A never sees B in distress without thinking C ought to relieve him directly.”

—Sydney Smith

a. discreet b. benevolent c. banal d. whimsical e. somber

17. “I cannot tolerate _____. They are all so obstinate, so opinionated.”

—Joseph McCarthy

a. arbiters b. culprits c. dregs d. expatriates e. bigots

18. “We look upon _____ as degrading. Our mothers’ voices still ring in our ears: ‘Have you done your homework?’”

—Wilhelm Stekhel

a. indolence b. opulence c. levity d. invective e. histrionics

19. “By far the most dangerous foe we have to fight is _____ —indifference from carelessness, from absorption in other pursuits.”

—Sir William Osler

a. umbrage b. apathy c. repose d. nepotism e. histrionics

20. “One who sees the _____ everywhere has occasion to remember it pretty often.”

—Oliver Wendell Holmes

a. inevitable b. precedent c. efficacy d. idyllic e. mundane

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

a. thespian b. miscreant c. divergent d. tyro e. sage

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

a. paltry b. facile c. lucrative d. impious e. egregious

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

a. abstemious b. banal c. comely d. sage e. devout

24. “I should like most candid friends to be anonymous. They would then be saved the painful necessity of making themselves _____.”

—J. A. Spender

a. venial b. odious c. sanctimonious d. fractious e. benevol

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.”

—E. M. Forster

a. rash b. salient c. trenchant d. inevitable e. whimsical

34. “We live at the mercy of a _____ word. A sound, a mere disturbance of the air sinks into our very soul sometimes.”

—Joseph Conrad

a. reviled b. malevolent c. vexatious d. innocuous e. evane

35. “There must be some good in the cocktail party to account for its immense _____ among otherwise sane people.”

—Evelyn Waugh

a. vogue b. cupidity c. calumny d. audacity e. asperity

36. “One drifting yellow leaf on a windowsill can be a city dweller’s fall, _____ and melancholy as any hillside in New England.”
—E. B. White
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. vituperat
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. laudab
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. inviolabl
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
a. zealous b. tacit c. terse d. supine e. prudent
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
a. vigilant b. venerable c. sedate d. frenetic e. factitious
43. “For him who has no concentration, there is no _____.”
—Bhagavad Gita
a. tranquility b. respite c. solace d. equanimity e. humility
44. “Real excellence and _____ are not incompatible; on the contrary, they are twin sisters.”

—Jean Lacordaire

a. potential b. inhibition c. propinquity d. equanimity e. hu

45. “Children are cunning enough behind their innocent faces, though _____ might be a kinder word to describe them.”

—Nan Fairbrother

a. recondite b. prudent c. fatuous d. incisive e. inexorable

46. “It is not easy to _____ of anything that has given us truer insight.”

—John Spalding

a. repent b. rue c. recant d. eschew e. cant

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

a. hyperbole b. chicanery c. serenity d. candor e. opprobri

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

a. eminent b. ostentatious c. mendacious d. intrepid e. garr

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

a. magnanimous b. fastidious c. doleful d. banal e. gregari

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. nebulc

THE LIGHTER TOUCH 100

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.
28. "Do boats sink often?" I asked the **laconic** sailor. "Only once," he replied.
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 money.
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

9. d

10. e

Day 2

1. circuitous

2. foreboding

3. emanating

4. miscreant

5. protocol

6. c

7. e

8. a

9. b

10. d

Day 3

1. rapacious

2. insurgent

3. knell

4. macabre

5. ramifications

6. e

7. c

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

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. e

2. t

3. gg

4. a

6. k

7. n

9. b

10. j

11. d

14. c

15. h

16. f

18. q

20. m

22. w

23. u

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

1. ramifications

2. toxic

3. protocol

4. miscreant

5. circuitous

6. risible

7. insurgent

8. denouement

9. emanating

10. macabre

WORDSEARCH A

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

9. b

10. e

Day 2

1. thespian

2. despot

3. prescient

4. verbatim

5. reverie

6. c

7. d

8. a

9. b

10. e

Day 3

1. impasse

2. grandeur

3. articulate

4. pathological

5. polemic

6. c

7. a

8. b

9. e

10. d

Day 4

1. mortal

2. guile

3. regimen

4. denigrated

5. inflicted

6. c

7. b

8. d

9. a

10. e

Day 5

REVIEW

1. h

2. c

3. f

4. a

7. j

8. t

10. n

11. q

12. b

13. e

16. m

17. p

18. r

19. d

20. k

22. u

23. w

WORDSEARCH B

1. articulate

2. enervated

3. reverie

4. guile

5. prescient

SENTENCE COMPLETION

1. a

2. c

3. b

4. a

5. b

❖ VOC/QUOTES

1. b

2. e

3. b

4. a

5. b

6. c

7. a

8. a

9. e

10. b

11. e

12. b

13. b

14. c

15. a

16. b

17. e

18. a

19. b

20. a

21. a

22. b

23. d

24. b

25. c

26. b

27. c

28. e

29. c

30. a

31. d

32. a

33. d

34. b

35. a

36. c

37. c

38. a

39. d

40. b

41. c

42. b

43. a

44. e

45. b

46. a

47. d

48. a

49. e

50. b

BONUS PANORAMA OF WORDS

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

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*