

Lesson 11

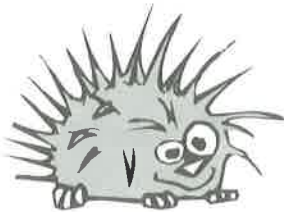
absolute AB•suh•loot ADJECTIVE
complete; entire; total [My parents insist on *absolute* obedience.]

blunder BLUN•dur
NOUN a foolish or stupid mistake [I made an embarrassing *blunder*.]

VERB 1. to make a blunder [I hoped I wouldn't *blunder* during my speech.]

VERB 2. to move clumsily or carelessly [Make sure not to *blunder* off the path.]

calamity kuh•LAM•uh•tee NOUN
a terrible event that causes great harm or destruction [The hurricane was a *calamity*.]



Question:
What happened when the hiker blundered into the path of the porcupine?
Answer: It was an absolute quill-amity!

devour dih•VOWR VERB
1. to eat, especially to eat very hungrily [I will *devour* my lunch today.]
2. to destroy by using up [Active children can *devour* every last bit of a parent's energy.]

enchant en•CHANT VERB
1. to cast a spell over; to use magic on [In the story, a wizard was able to *enchant* a prince.]
2. to delight greatly; to charm [Sara's sweetness and humor *enchant* all who meet her.]

illiteracy ih•LIT•ur•uh•see NOUN
lack of education; especially, not knowing how to read and write [My brother teaches adults who want to overcome *illiteracy*.]

incite in•SITE VERB
to urge or stir to action [I hope my speech can *incite* people to work on solving the problem.]

instantaneous in•stun•TAY•nee•us ADJECTIVE
done or happening in an instant [The effect was *instantaneous*.]

presumption prih•ZUMP•shun NOUN
1. a belief; something that is taken for granted; something one presumes [My *presumption* is that there will be food at the party.]
2. annoying or unpleasant boldness or nerve [Mark had the *presumption* to get right in our car even though he hadn't been offered a ride.]

refuge REF•yooj NOUN
1. protection from danger, difficulty, or annoyance [We found *refuge* from the rain.]
2. a place of shelter or safety [Our cat's *refuge* from the visiting dog was a closet shelf.]

segment SEG•munt NOUN
one of the parts into which something is divided or can be separated [Could I have a *segment* of that orange?]

strew STROO VERB
1. to spread about here and there [The wind will *strew* this litter all over the park.]
2. to cover with something scattered or sprinkled [If you *strew* sawdust on spilled oil, it will soak up the oil.]

supplement SUP•luh•ment
NOUN something added to make a thing more complete or better [Our Sunday newspaper has a *supplement* that gives information about local entertainment.]
VERB to add to or complete [You could *supplement* the speech with a video.]

uncanny un•KAN•ee ADJECTIVE
so remarkable as to seem unnatural; very strange; mysterious [My dog has an *uncanny* ability to know when I'm sad.]

venture VEN•chur
NOUN a risky activity or undertaking [The business *venture* failed.]
VERB 1. to dare to say or do [I'm not sure, but I'll *venture* a guess.]
VERB 2. to go in spite of some risk [Let's *venture* up the mountain.]

Exercise A: If...

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence.

1. If you dreamed that something odd would happen and then it did, or if you met a new student with the same name and birthday as yours, that event would be _____
2. If it is so quiet that you can almost hear your heart beat, if no one talks, coughs, or shuffles around, the silence is _____
3. If a plumber is joining pieces of pipe to make one long pipe, each short piece of pipe is a _____
4. If the dinner you order at a restaurant doesn't seem big enough, the salad you get to go along with it is a _____
5. If a city is badly damaged by an earthquake and thousands of people are killed or hurt, the earthquake is a _____
6. If you often see a woman playing or walking with a particular child, the idea that she is the child's mother is a reasonable _____
7. If a man buys a large piece of land in the hope of making a profit by selling parts of it to different people, his action is a _____
8. If you saw a friend eat four sandwiches, three apples, and a whole pie, you'd be surprised by what your friend could _____

Exercise B: Synonyms

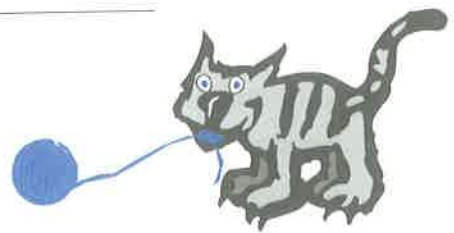
Write the **Word** that is closest in meaning to each set of phrases.

9. put your foot in it; make a slip of the tongue; goof up _____
10. gobble up; dig in; shovel up; work your jaws _____
11. take a chance; go out on a limb; run a risk _____
12. egg on; light a fire under; whip into action _____
13. quick as a wink; in no time flat; in a flash _____

Exercise C: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that is an antonym for each set of words and phrases. This exercise continues on the next page.

14. subtract; take away _____
15. annoy; irritate; bore _____
16. gather; collect; pick up _____



Question:

What happened to the cat that devoured a ball of yarn?

Answer: She had mittens.

let's

- 17. learning; education; knowledge _____
- 18. calm down; discourage; soothe _____
- 19. shyness; timidity; hesitation _____
- 20. slow; gradual; after a while _____
- 21. ordinary; normal; natural _____
- 22. partial; imperfect; faulty _____
- 23. exposure; danger; peril _____

Question:
What happened to the fellow who was devoured by a cow?



Answer:
He became the man in the moon.

Exercise D: Completion

Choose the correct answer to complete each sentence.

- ___ 24. The most common reaction to a **calamity** is
A. grief. B. relief. C. boredom.
- ___ 25. One place that is meant to be a **refuge** is a
A. dump. B. fort. C. store.
- ___ 26. If a statement is the **absolute** truth, it is
A. a lie. B. the truth. C. a good guess.
- ___ 27. Someone who makes a **blunder** usually feels
A. afraid. B. proud. C. embarrassed.
- ___ 28. Something that a person might **strew** in a garden is
A. seeds. B. blossoms. C. a hoe and rake.
- ___ 29. A person could help someone suffering from **illiteracy** by being that person's
A. tutor. B. nurse. C. driver.

Exercise F: Writing

If you could **enchant** everyone in the whole world to do something, what would it be? On your own paper, explain your answer in a paragraph using **THREE Words**.

Exercise E: Yes or No

Circle YES or NO for each question.

- 30. Do writers tend to suffer from **illiteracy**? YES NO
- 31. Is a **segment** pretty much the same thing as a section? YES NO
- 32. Would you enjoy watching a movie that **enchants** you? YES NO
- 33. Is a wildlife **refuge** a place where people go to hunt animals? YES NO
- 34. Is asking people to "please settle down" a good way to **incite** them? YES NO
- 35. Does a raging forest fire **devour** trees, bushes, and maybe even animals? YES NO

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Exercise G: Fill-in

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence. Use each word only once.

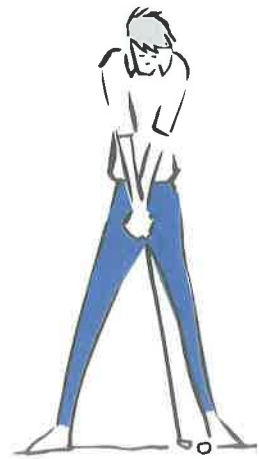
36. Let's not _____ across the ice; it seems too thin to support our weight.
37. Some doctors think it's a good idea to _____ one's diet with vitamin pills.
38. Most sharks _____ live fish, including other sharks, and a shark's most common natural enemy is a larger shark.
39. My worst baking _____ occurred when I forgot to put the sugar in my father's birthday cake.
40. The student did his best to _____ the audience to protest the rising costs of going to college.
41. Fingerprints provided _____ proof that the suspect had been at the scene of the crime.
42. _____ tends to be common in poor countries where there is little money for schools.
43. Her answer to my question was _____; the moment the words left my mouth, she blurted out the answer.
44. War is a _____ that ruins the lives of many people.
45. We plan to _____ rose petals along the aisle that the bride and groom will take to the altar.
46. There is something _____ about my best friend's ability to read my mind.
47. My _____ is that the train will be late today since it has never yet been on time.
48. The soldiers sought _____ from the enemy fire wherever they could: behind trees, in ditches, and behind an old barn.
49. I need to memorize the name and purpose of each _____ of an ant's body for tomorrow's test.
50. If I could wave a wand, say "abracadabra," and _____ my mother, we'd never, ever have canned peas for dinner again.

Quick LIST

- absolute** ADJ.
- blunder** N., V.
- calamity** N.
- devour** V.
- enchant** V.
- illiteracy** N.
- incite** V.
- instantaneous** ADJ.
- presumption** N.
- refuge** N.
- segment** N.
- strew** V.
- supplement** N., V.
- uncanny** ADJ.
- venture** N., V.

Question:

Why did the golfer take a supplementary pair of socks with him?



Answer: In case he got a hole in one

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