

Lesson 16

ally AL•eye NOUN

a person or nation that is on one's side [My brother and I often quarrel, but he's my *ally* if I'm really in trouble.]

analysis uh•NAL•uh•sis NOUN

a careful study that looks closely at a thing's parts or elements [An *analysis* of our soil showed which plants would grow well in it.]

atrocious uh•TROH•shus ADJECTIVE

1. extremely cruel, wicked, or brutal [Atrocious acts are committed in wartime.]
2. extremely bad; of very poor quality [My handwriting is *atrocious*; no one can read it.]

client KLY•unt NOUN

a customer; a person or group that uses professional services [Cora says it's her duty as a lawyer to help every *client* she has, even if she doesn't approve of that person.]

discord DIS•kord NOUN

disagreement and lack of harmony between persons, things, or ideas [Frequent *discord* on the city council made it almost impossible to get anything done.]

gourmet gor•MAY NOUN

a person who understands and enjoys fine food [Hal, who is a *gourmet*, loves fancy restaurants.]

lenient LEEN•ee•unt ADJECTIVE

not very strict [My parents insist on lights out by 9:00, but Henry's parents are more *lenient*.]

petty PET•ee ADJECTIVE

1. small and unimportant [Why argue about *petty* differences of opinion?]
2. having a mean or narrow outlook [Ralph's saying my shoes are ugly was a *petty* remark.]

prank PRANK NOUN

an act of mischief; a practical joke [Putting salt in the sugar bowl was his favorite *prank*.]

pursue pur•SOO VERB

1. to try to catch; to chase [The lion gave up and did not continue to *pursue* the antelope.]
2. to try for (a goal) [Some people *pursue* wealth their entire lives.]

reassure ree•uh•SHUR VERB

to restore confidence or peace of mind [I was able to *reassure* my parents that I was not hurt in the accident.]

tarnish TAR•nish

NOUN a dull coating that forms on metal when it is exposed to certain chemicals or to air over a period of time. [Silver polish is good at removing *tarnish*.]

VERB 1. to become dull or discolored [If you don't polish brass, it will eventually *tarnish*.]

VERB 2. to spoil the perfection of something [One mistake can *tarnish* a person's reputation.]

theory THEER•ee NOUN

1. an explanation based on thought; an idea for which there is some evidence and that many accept as true but has not been proven [One *theory* about why dinosaurs died off is that the climate became too cool for them to survive.]
2. an idea, belief, or opinion about something [She acted on the *theory* that children respond better to rewards than to punishments.]

vain VAIN ADJECTIVE

1. showing too much pride in one's abilities or appearance [Pete is so *vain* that he can't pass a mirror without looking at himself.]
2. with little or no result; not successful [We made a *vain* attempt to catch the bus.]

vigorous VIG•ur•us ADJECTIVE

1. full of strength or energy, physically or mentally [You need to be a *vigorous* person to work on a farm.]
2. requiring strength and energy [Chopping wood is a *vigorous* activity.]

Exercise C: Other Forms of Words

Use what you know about the **Words** to choose the correct answers.

- ___ 20. One type of **alliance** is a
A. team. B. umpire. C. uniform.
- ___ 21. Another name for a **prankster** is a
A. bully. B. criminal. C. practical joker.
- ___ 22. A person might show his or her **vigor** by
A. telling jokes. B. writing poems. C. doing exercises.
- ___ 23. A store's **clientele** [*kly•un•TEL*] are the people who
A. work there. B. shop there. C. own the store.
- ___ 24. You might call a statue an **atrocious** if you thought it was
A. very ugly. B. expensive. C. breakable.

Quick LIST

- ally N.
- analysis N.
- atrocious ADJ.
- client N.
- discord N.
- gourmet N.
- lenient ADJ.
- petty ADJ.
- prank N.
- pursue V.
- reassure V.
- tarnish N., V.
- theory N.
- vain ADJ.
- vigorous ADJ.

Exercise D: If . . .

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

- 25. If the teacher lets you get by with turning in homework late and skipping tests, she is too
- 26. If a silver spoon looks kind of gray or even black instead of shiny, you could make it pretty again by getting rid of the
- 27. If your doctor sends a lab some of your blood to make sure it contains enough red cells, what the lab does is an
- 28. If you wonder how the dog got out of the yard and then find loose boards in the fence, your idea about his escape would be a
- 29. If you like only the finest foods, enjoy eating unusual things, and know which chefs work at which restaurants, you are a

Exercise E: Antonyms

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

- 30. frighten; upset; worry
- 31. weak; tired; lazy
- 32. enemy; opponent
- 33. harmony; agreement

But They're My Clients

Why did the vet have to change careers?



Answer: She was allergic to her clients.

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- 34. flee; run away; escape _____
- 35. useful; effective; productive _____

Exercise F: Fill-in

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



- 36. You may very well be the victim of a _____ on April Fool's Day.
- 37. Sonja talked forever, giving us every _____ detail about her day.
- 38. Let's see whether the facts support your _____ about how the fire started.
- 39. The United States was an important _____ of England during World War II.
- 40. As soon as the _____ of the victim's leftover coffee has been completed, we will know if it contained poison.
- 41. My grandparents are more _____ about what I can and can't do than my parents are.
- 42. When I saw that they were fearful, I tried to _____ our new neighbors that our dog doesn't bite.
- 43. I made several _____ efforts to catch my parakeet but then he flew back in his cage by himself.
- 44. How dare you try to _____ my good name by saying that I am a thief?
- 45. Lee's lessons and constant practicing help him _____ success as a musician.
- 46. My great-grandmother is still _____ enough to walk a mile every day.
- 47. Even Mr. Clark, who is quite a _____, says that Mom's peach pie is the best dessert he's ever tasted.
- 48. The show was absolutely _____ because the performers had no talent at all.
- 49. If my sister and I had separate rooms, there would be less _____ in our house.
- 50. Mom's in a good mood because a _____ of hers said that he was really pleased with her work.

Answer: Fish and ships
 What does a gourmet whale eat?

Answer: Lunch and dinner
 Every Client's a Gourmet!

Answer: Lunch and dinner
 What are two things that a gourmet can't eat for breakfast?

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