

Lesson 17

collaborate kuh•LAB•uh•rate VERB
to work together to get something done, such as a work of art, literature, or science [Mark and Celia will *collaborate* on a project for the History Fair.]

contempt kun•TEMPT NOUN
scorn; a feeling that someone or something is worthless [I feel *contempt* for people who steal.]

corrupt kuh•RUPT
VERB to change something that should be good or honest into something bad [Bribes can be used to *corrupt* public officials.]
ADJECTIVE dishonest; wicked [There are very few *corrupt* judges in our country.]

delusion dih•LOO•zhun NOUN
a false belief [Although Hank isn't very good at all, he has the *delusion* that he's the best player on the team.]

efficient ih•FISH•unt ADJECTIVE
achieving the best results with the least waste of time or energy; capable [The police have found that using bicycles is an *efficient* way to patrol large parks.]

eloquent EL•uh•kwunt ADJECTIVE
able to speak or write well, expressing thoughts and feelings effectively [Senator Jordan was so *eloquent* that audiences laughed, cried, and cheered when they heard her.]

essential uh•SEN•shul ADJECTIVE
of the greatest importance; necessary [Inviting guests who get along with each other is *essential* to the success of a party.]

fortify FOR•tuh•fy VERB
to make stronger or more effective [Many manufacturers *fortify* cereal with vitamins.]

involuntary in•VOL•un•tair•ee ADJECTIVE
done without choice or control [Hiccuping is an *involuntary* action.]

morale muh•RAL NOUN
the attitude that reflects the degree of enthusiasm, confidence, or bravery [Team *morale* was high for the championship game.]

pathetic puh•THET•ik ADJECTIVE
causing one to feel pity [The cat looked *pathetic* with her tail caught in the fence.]

prolong pruh•LONG VERB
to make longer in time [We were having such a good time on our camping trip that we decided to *prolong* it by two days.]

provocation prov•uh•KAY•shun NOUN
a cause for a reaction, especially a cause for irritation or anger [If you feel grouchy, a slight *provocation* can make you snap at someone.]

resent rih•ZENT VERB
to feel annoyed or angry about [I *resent* your suggestion that I don't know anything about soccer.]

shrewd SHROOD ADJECTIVE
clever about practical things [Be careful when you bargain with Fred; he's very *shrewd*.]

My Camping Trip, Part 1



I had looked forward to the family camping trip at Crooked Creek State Park. My morale dropped when Dad said that my brother and I had to share a tent and to collaborate in setting it up! We did it fairly efficiently, but the tent was a little shaky. My brother "fortified" it with a stick. That worked for about twelve minutes.

Exercise A: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that is an antonym for each of these words and phrases.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. admiration _____ | 6. foolish _____ |
| 2. pure _____ | 7. by choice _____ |
| 3. weaken _____ | 8. unnecessary _____ |
| 4. shorten _____ | 9. appreciate _____ |
| 5. wasteful _____ | 10. work independently _____ |

Exercise B: Yes or No

Circle YES or NO for each question.

11. When someone makes you doubt yourself, does that increase your **morale**? ... YES NO
12. When people thought the earth was flat, was that a **delusion**? YES NO
13. Would an **eloquent** speaker hold your interest? YES NO
14. Is it **essential** to have six pairs of gym shoes? YES NO
15. Would steel rods **fortify** a wooden fence? YES NO
16. Do time-outs **prolong** a basketball game? YES NO
17. Would a sleeping tiger be **pathetic**? YES NO
18. Do you **resent** a generous act? YES NO



My brother claimed that the moon is made of green cheese. "That is a delusion," I said. "Anyone can see that it's blue cheese!"

Exercise C: Other Forms of Words

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

- ___ 19. Which of these would you feel **contemptuous** of?
A. a cheater B. a genius C. a hero
- ___ 20. What should the legal system do when it finds **corruption**?
A. reward it B. support it C. punish it
- ___ 21. Who needs **eloquence** the most?
A. a librarian B. a writer C. a sprinter
- ___ 22. Which of these would you probably feel **resentment** about?
A. a suggestion B. a compliment C. an insult
- ___ 23. When you **provoke** someone on purpose, which is the likely response?
A. joy B. anger C. disbelief

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Exercise D: If...

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

- 24. If you believe you are from outer space and will return to your planet on your next birthday, you are suffering from a
- 25. If you could get all your homework done, clean your room, and still have time to play before dinner, you would be
- 26. If you always found the best price, got the best deal, and came out on top in any trade you made, you would be
- 27. If you could use the right words in any situation and say exactly what you meant without stumbling or hesitation, you would be
- 28. If you absolutely can't get along without something, it isn't a luxury, and you just have to have it, it is
- 29. If your brother is in a bad mood, and you know it, and you do something to "get a rise" out of him, that's a deliberate
- 30. If you encouraged your teammates and helped everyone to feel stronger and better you would be building
- 31. If a police officer takes money from criminals and "looks the other way" when they break the law, that officer is
- 32. If you fell down, got dirt all over your clothes, skinned your knee, and broke your glasses, you would look
- 33. If you were on a seesaw and the other person got off while you were up in the air, your next movement would be
- 34. If you enjoy joining forces with someone else and working as a team to get something done, you like to
- 35. If you made fun of someone, showed disrespect, and "looked down your nose" at him or her, you would be showing

Exercise E: Writing

What happens to your **morale** when things don't go as you'd like? How do you **fortify** your spirits? Explain your answers on your own paper. Use at least **THREE Words** in your paragraph.



I always try to see the humor in things. So when Dad asked me to bait the hooks, I said, "This doesn't seem like a very e-fish-ent way to get a meal." Dad laughed, but I had to explain the joke to my brother.

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Quick LIST

- collaborate V.
- contempt N.
- corrupt V., ADJ.
- delusion N.
- efficient ADJ.
- eloquent ADJ.
- essential ADJ.
- fortify V.
- involuntary ADJ.
- morale N.
- pathetic ADJ.
- prolong V.
- provocation N.
- resent V.
- shrewd ADJ.



No sensible person would provoke hornets. Well, you-know-who is not very sensible. The hornets showed their contempt for him by . . . Well, I'm sure you can imagine their reaction. Later, my brother looked really pathetic, so I gave him a granola bar. It was the one I had dropped in Crooked Creek.

Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. A lost and frightened child is a _____ sight.
37. My mother insists that I _____ myself with a good breakfast every day.
38. A lot of school spirit shows that _____ at the school is high.
39. Martin Luther King, Jr., was an _____ speaker, especially in his "I Have a Dream" speech.
40. When we _____, we get to use the skills and talents of other people.
41. You won't let greed _____ you if you have strong morals.
42. I feel _____ for people who are mean to helpless animals.
43. Maude is so _____ that she gets her work done faster and better than most other people.
44. People _____ being ignored and treated as if they are unimportant.
45. Thinking you can beat me is a _____, and I'll prove it with a race.
46. Teasing the dog was the _____ that made him growl at you.
47. It is _____ for bears to eat a great deal before they hibernate for the winter.
48. Will didn't want to _____ the argument, so he gave in.
49. It was _____ of Bobby to see that the stock price would go up and to buy it while its price was low.
50. I didn't mean to yawn; it was totally _____.

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