

# Lesson 18

**agile** AJ•ul ADJECTIVE

able to move quickly and easily; gracefully  
active [Cats are *agile* creatures.]

**antic** AN•tik NOUN

a playful or silly act or trick (usually plural)  
[The puppy's *antics* are cute.]

**console** kun•SOLE VERB

to make (someone) feel less sad or  
disappointed; to comfort [I tried to *console*  
the unhappy child by reading him a story.]

**conspicuous** kun•SPIK•yoo•us ADJECTIVE

obvious; easily seen [The number above the  
door should be *conspicuous* so guests can find the  
house.]

**falsify** FOL•suh•fy VERB

to make something false in order to deceive  
[The student used a school computer to *falsify* his  
grade reports.]

**fleet** FLEET ADJECTIVE

swift; fast [She is as *fleet* as a deer.]

**gape** GAPE VERB

1. to stare with the mouth wide open  
[Seeing my mother on stilts made me *gape*  
in amazement.]
2. to open wide [Latch the gate, or it  
will *gape*.]

**infantile** IN•fun•tile ADJECTIVE

of or relating to infants; childish [Her tantrum  
was *infantile*.]

**inquisitive** in•KWIZ•uh•tiv ADJECTIVE

1. interested in searching for truth or  
knowledge [She has an *inquisitive* mind.]
2. asking too many questions about other  
people's business [I was annoyed by the sales  
clerk's *inquisitive* remarks.]

**integrity** in•TEG•ruh•tee NOUN

moral goodness, honesty, and sincerity  
[A person with *integrity* does not cheat.]

**maze** MAZE NOUN

a confusing network of winding paths or  
passages [He got lost in the *maze*.]

**mingle** MING•gul VERB

1. to mix together; to combine [Toss the salad  
to *mingle* the ingredients.]
2. to join or participate with others [During  
recess, children from different classes *mingle*  
on the playground.]

**obligation** ob•luh•GAY•shun NOUN

a legal or moral responsibility; that which  
a person must (or must not) do; duty [It is a  
parent's *obligation* to protect his or her children.]

**obstinate** OB•stuh•nit ADJECTIVE

1. unreasonably determined to have one's own  
way; unwilling to change one's mind or do  
what someone else wants [Zelda won't give  
in; she's too *obstinate*.]
2. hard to treat, remove, or control [I can't get  
rid of this *obstinate* cold.]

**ordeal** or•DEEL NOUN

a very difficult or painful test or experience  
[Our long, hot hike was an *ordeal*.]

## My Camping Trip, Part 2

Camping with your family can be fun.  
Camping with your brother can be  
an ordeal. Here are four things  
that could make camping  
with your brother  
more bearable.



1. A compass  
will help you find  
camp after your infantile  
brother takes you way out in  
the woods and says, "Get lost."

## Exercise A: Synonyms

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

1. be all ears; itching to know; eaten up with curiosity
2. plain as day; under one's nose; stick out like a sore thumb
3. a real workout; a hard row to hoe; no bed of roses
4. pig-headed; set in one's ways; won't give an inch
5. fib; fake it; stretch the truth; cook up a story; forge
6. quick as a flash; like a shot; greased lightning

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Exercise B: True or False

Circle TRUE or FALSE for each statement.

7. If people at a party want to get to know each other, they **mingle**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
8. It is a compliment to say that someone's behavior is **infantile**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
9. Parents usually encourage their children's **antics** at bedtime. . . . . TRUE FALSE
10. People who want privacy make sure their doors **gape**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
11. To do his or her job, a detective must be **inquisitive**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
12. Races are won by those who are the most **fleet**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
13. It is hard to find one's way out of a **maze**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
14. A person with **integrity** can be trusted. . . . . TRUE FALSE



2. After your obstinate brother spends an hour trying to light a campfire by rubbing stones together, you can do it in a flash with an ordinary match.

## Exercise C: Antonyms

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

15. slow \_\_\_\_\_
16. upset \_\_\_\_\_
17. mature \_\_\_\_\_
18. hidden \_\_\_\_\_
19. clumsy \_\_\_\_\_
20. separate \_\_\_\_\_

21. agreeable \_\_\_\_\_
22. wickedness \_\_\_\_\_
23. uninterested \_\_\_\_\_

## Exercise D: Rhyme Time

Write the **Word** that completes each rhyme.

24. The acting was just horrid and the story was unreal.  
Sitting through that movie was a terrible \_\_\_.
25. The magician did so many tricks with hat and wand and cape  
That we were quite astonished and could only sit and \_\_\_.
26. Turn right, then left, then right twice more, and after many days,  
You *might* locate my office. Oh, this building is a \_\_\_!
27. The children will not settle down; the babysitter's frantic.  
She doesn't think that she can stand another silly \_\_\_.
28. When a tray is full of dishes that are delicate and fragile  
Don't carry it unless you're strong and also very \_\_\_.
29. "Stop whining!" said my mother. "I won't drive another mile  
With kids who both are over ten but act so \_\_\_!"
30. A fellow brought my letters. I expressed appreciation.  
"But I'm your mailman," he replied. "So it's my \_\_\_."

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Exercise E: Other Forms of Words

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

- \_\_\_ 31. When you borrow a library book, you are **obliged** to  
A. like it.                      B. return it.                      C. read it.
- \_\_\_ 32. What kind of animal is known for its **obstinace**?  
A. a mule                      B. a hawk                      C. a lion
- \_\_\_ 33. What is a word that means "a **falsified** document"?  
A. *contract*                      B. *forgery*                      C. *story*
- \_\_\_ 34. What kind of activity requires the most **agility**?  
A. weightlifting                      B. gymnastics                      C. fishing
- \_\_\_ 35. A **consolation** prize in a contest is given to a person who  
A. won.                      B. didn't enter.                      C. entered  
but didn't win.



3. I feel an obligation to record the family's history. Do you? A camera can record all your brother's dumb antics, and photographs do not lie. (A computer, however, can help you falsify them just a bit.)

## Quick LIST

<b>agile</b> ADJ.	<b>conspicuous</b> ADJ.	<b>gape</b> V.	<b>integrity</b> N.	<b>obligation</b> N.
<b>antic</b> N.	<b>falsify</b> V.	<b>infantile</b> ADJ.	<b>maze</b> N.	<b>obstinate</b> ADJ.
<b>console</b> V.	<b>fleet</b> ADJ.	<b>inquisitive</b> ADJ.	<b>mingle</b> V.	<b>ordeal</b> N.

## Exercise F: Writing

On your own paper, write a paragraph about something that made you **gape**. Use at least THREE **Words** in your paragraph.



Wow, did my brother gape at this! I can show you the photograph.

## Exercise G: Fill-in

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

36. We hate dealing with \_\_\_\_\_ questions from our nosy neighbor.
37. In a Greek myth, Theseus went into a \_\_\_\_\_, unrolling a ball of string behind him so he could find his way back out.
38. Each of us trusting the other's \_\_\_\_\_, we shook hands to seal our agreement.
39. Feelings of happiness and sadness can \_\_\_\_\_, producing mixed emotions.
40. Jerry is so \_\_\_\_\_ that no one can persuade him to do what he doesn't feel like doing.
41. Liz made her boredom \_\_\_\_\_ by fidgeting, yawning, and sighing.
42. Penguins are awkward on land but quite \_\_\_\_\_ in the water.
43. Traffic slowed as everyone stopped to \_\_\_\_\_ at the cars involved in the accident.
44. The judge reminded the witness of her \_\_\_\_\_ to tell the truth.
45. Joey is so \_\_\_\_\_ that he wins every race.
46. Pioneers moving west faced the \_\_\_\_\_ of crossing the mountains in wagon trains.
47. The man changed a 1 to a 4 to \_\_\_\_\_ his birth certificate.
48. It seemed that nothing could \_\_\_\_\_ the broken-hearted man.
49. Their behavior was so \_\_\_\_\_ that we were embarrassed to be seen with them.
50. The kittens amused us with one \_\_\_\_\_ after another.



4. A comfy pair of boots will make you fleet in the woods. This is good after your brother figures out where you got the compass, matches, and camera. (By the way, comfortable boots can really con-sole tired feet.)