

Lesson 1

antiseptic an•ti•SEP•tik

NOUN a substance that kills germs [The doctor cleaned the cut with an *antiseptic* before applying a bandage.]

ADJECTIVE free from germs [The operating room must be kept in an *antiseptic* condition.]

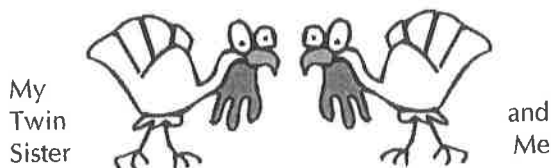
attentive uh•TEN•tuv ADJECTIVE

1. paying attention [The storyteller praised the children for being so *attentive*.]

2. considerate of the needs of others; thoughtful [As an *attentive* host, Mrs. Lee always makes sure to include each guest in the conversation.]

befuddle bee•FUD•ul VERB

to confuse completely [My twin sister and I often manage to *befuddle* anyone who doesn't know that there are two of us.]



commonplace KOM•un•place ADJECTIVE

anything common, uninteresting, or taken for granted [Medical treatments that once seemed miraculous are now *commonplace*.]

disruption dis•RUP•shun NOUN

an interruption of the orderly course of something; a disturbance; a breakdown [The storm caused a *disruption* in our electricity for several days.]

flamboyant flam•BOY•unt ADJECTIVE

highly colorful, flashy, or dashing [Betsy loves *flamboyant* clothes, which usually makes her easy to spot in a crowd.]

infallible in•FAL•uh•bul ADJECTIVE

1. not capable of error; never wrong [No human judge is *infallible*.]

2. dependable; without failure; certain [This drug is an *infallible* cure.]

jaunt JAWNT NOUN

a short trip, especially one taken for pleasure [Our weekend *jaunt* to Chicago was great!]

laden LAY•dun ADJECTIVE

loaded; weighed down [The car was *laden* with food, gifts, and passengers.]

lure LOOR

NOUN something that strongly attracts or tempts [The smell of fresh-baked cookies was a powerful *lure* that drew us into the shop.]

VERB to attract; to tempt [Sue used bits of cheese to *lure* the stray dog into the yard.]

queue KYOO

NOUN a line of people, vehicles, and so on [The *queue* for concert tickets was a block long.]

VERB to form, stand, or wait in a line (often used with up) [We had to *queue* up for an hour before we got to the clerk's window.]

revive ri•VIVE VERB

1. to come or bring back to consciousness or life [Paramedics managed to *revive* the woman.]

2. to give or show new life, strength, or freshness [A short rest will *revive* me.]

shameless SHAME•lus ADJECTIVE

having or showing no shame, moral goodness, or sense of what is proper [Voters were disgusted by the candidate's *shameless* lies.]

slander SLAN•dur

NOUN a false statement that is damaging to another person's reputation [It is *slander* to call someone a thief if you know it isn't true.]

VERB to use or spread slander [We don't want to *slander* anyone, so we need proof.]

wholesome HOLE•sum ADJECTIVE

1. good for one's physical or mental health; healthful [We spent a *wholesome* day hiking in the woods and breathing the fresh country air.]

2. of value to the mind or character; worthwhile [My parents let me go to movies as long as they're *wholesome* ones.]

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Lesson 2

crusade kroo•SADE

NOUN a fight for some good cause or against some wrong [More police officers were hired as part of the city's *crusade* against crime.]

VERB to take part in a crusade [Nan is eager to *crusade* for more girls' sports at school.]

downcast DOWN•kast ADJECTIVE

1. looking or directed downward [The boy sat quietly with a shy, *downcast* face.]

2. sad; discouraged; depressed [Don't be *downcast*! Things can only get better!]

drastic DRASS•tik ADJECTIVE

extreme; serious; having a major effect

[Don't do anything *drastic* until you've thought hard about what you really want.]

engulf en•GULF VERB

to swallow up; to cover completely [Huge waves threatened to *engulf* the little boat.]

grandeur GRAN•jur or GRAN•dyoor NOUN

the quality of being grand, or large and impressive; greatness [Yosemite National Park is famous worldwide for its *grandeur*.]

imbecile IM•bi•sil NOUN

a very foolish, silly, or stupid person [Only an *imbecile* would dive into water without checking first to see how deep it is.]

inoperative in•OP•ur•uh•tiv ADJECTIVE

not operating, not working, or not effective

[Cell phones are often *inoperative* inside large buildings and long tunnels.]

insignificant in•sig•NIF•ih•kunt ADJECTIVE

having little or no meaning or importance; too small to matter [To me, the difference between the two brands is *insignificant*.]

novice NOV•iss NOUN

one who is new to an occupation or activity; a beginner [Before Eli could become a regular employee with full pay, he had to work for six months as a *novice* at a lower salary.]

quip KWIP

NOUN a short, witty remark or reply ["My barber," said George, "is always ready to offer his customers good clips and good *quips*."]]

VERB to make such a remark [When my brother asked why cemeteries have fences I heard Mom *quip*, "I guess people are dying to get in."]

Question: What did Cinderella quip after someone called her a lousy basketball player?

"I guess people are dying to get in."]

Answer: "Well, what did you expect from me? I had a dumpkin for a coach!"



relent ri•LENT VERB

to become less harsh, severe, or stubborn; to soften; to give in [When the blizzard didn't *relent*, school was canceled for a third day.]

resilient ri•ZIL•yunt ADJECTIVE

1. able to spring back to the original shape, size, or position after being stretched, bent, squeezed, and so on [Most people would rather sleep on a surface that's more *resilient* than the floor.]

2. able to recover quickly or easily from sadness, illness, troubles, and so on [Grandpa, a *resilient* man, was back to work a week after his surgery.]

retaliate ri•TAL•ee•ate VERB

to act in return for another's earlier action, especially a violent or evil one; to seek revenge

["If you *retaliate*," Mom said, "you'll be no better than the kids who hurt you."]

shenanigans shuh•NAN•ih•gunz

NOUN, PLURAL playful mischief or trickery [The girls' *shenanigans* are never too serious; they usually involve water-filled balloons.]

simultaneous sy•mul•TAY•nee•us ADJECTIVE

happening or existing together at the same time [When thunder and lightning are *simultaneous*, watch out!]

Lesson 3

blameworthy *BLAME•wur•thee* ADJECTIVE
deserving to be blamed [The judge ruled that both drivers were equally *blameworthy* and threw out their lawsuits against each other.]

catastrophe *kuh•TASS•truh•fee* NOUN
a sudden and severe misfortune; a disaster [Failure to put the campfire out completely resulted in a *catastrophe*.]

chide *CHIDE* VERB
to express disapproval; to scold [Winona's parents *chide* her if she uses bad manners.]

defect *DEE•fekt* NOUN
a lack of something necessary for completeness or perfection; a fault; an imperfection [This coat was on sale because it has a tiny *defect* in the lining.]

falsehood *FALSE•hood* NOUN
a false statement; a lie [Tim's story of how he spent the afternoon was filled with *falsehoods*.]

filch *FILCH* VERB
to steal, especially something small or of little value [Each girl accused the other of trying to *filch* her pencil.]

lethal *LEE•thul* ADJECTIVE
causing death [Many medicines are *lethal* if too large a dose is taken.]

perimeter *pur•IH•muh•tur* NOUN
the outer boundary of an area or the total length of this boundary [Dad measured the yard's *perimeter* to see how much fencing he would need to buy.]

recurrent *ri•KUR•unt* ADJECTIVE
appearing or happening again or from time to time [The beauty of nature is a *recurrent* theme in the poems of Robert Frost.]

tedious *TEE•dee•us* ADJECTIVE
long and tiring; boring [Copying the entire paper by hand was *tedious* work.]

thwart *THWORT* VERB
to keep someone from doing something or keep a thing from being done [The bank's refusal to lend us money will *thwart* our plans to buy a house.]

totter *TOT•ur* VERB
to move in an unsteady way due to a problem with balance; to stand or walk in a shaky way [The baby managed to *totter* four steps.]

update *UP•date*
VERB to bring up to date with additions or corrections; to make known the most recent facts, ideas, and so on [Ling will *update* us on plans for the class party.]
NOUN a current version or updated report [Mom kept switching stations, hoping for an *update* on the weather.]

vehement *VEE•uh•munt* ADJECTIVE
having or showing very strong feeling; intensely emotional [The plan to chop down the forest to build new airport runways was met with *vehement* objections.]

vertical *VUR•ti•kul* ADJECTIVE
in a straight up-and-down position; upright [The sides of a house are usually *vertical*.]

ANNOUNCER: Here's the News 2 Go news team with today's news updates!

BOB: Bob Bobbins here. Today's top news story is some nasty weather. Let's go to Clyde Cloud for an update from the News 2 Go Weather Command Center. Clyde?



CLYDE: Yup, Bob. [Chuckles.] Well, a few twisters are blowing around town today, causing a bit of a catastrophe. With lethal winds of up to—

BOB: Sorry, Clyde, we're interrupting you to go to Mary Sue Moss for a very important News 2 Go news flash.



14h

Lesson 4

apprehend ap•ri•HEND VERB

1. to take into custody; capture; arrest
[The police hope to *apprehend* the suspect soon.]
2. to understand; to grasp with the mind
[It took me a while to *apprehend* what the teacher wanted.]

astound uh•STOUND VERB

to greatly amaze; to astonish [This car's speed will *astound* you.]

barren BAIR•un ADJECTIVE

not producing anything, such as crops (said of land) or offspring (said of animals) [The dry land had been *barren* for years.]

congestion kun•JESS•chun NOUN

an overcrowding; a clogging [Congestion on the highway slowed our travel.]

denounce di•NOUNCE VERB

to accuse publicly; to criticize strongly
[The senator will *denounce* the president's plan.]

diligent DIL•uh•junt ADJECTIVE

hard-working; making a steady effort [Sally is *diligent* about doing her chores.]

dominate DOM•uh•nate VERB

to rule by strength or power; to be most important; to control [The leader of the wolf pack *dominates* the other wolves.]

emit ee•MIT VERB

1. to send out; to give off [A fire *emits* heat.]
2. to utter [A hungry lion may *emit* a terrifying roar.]

gibberish JIB•ur•ish NOUN

meaningless chatter; nonsense [Is he speaking a foreign language or just *gibberish*?]

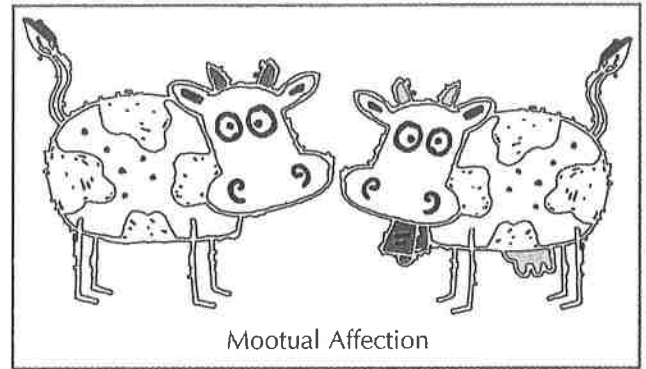
hypocrisy hih•POK•ruh•see NOUN

a pretending to be what one is not; saying one thing and doing another [It was *hypocrisy* for a nation that celebrated freedom to allow slavery to exist.]

impenetrable im•PEN•uh•truh•bul ADJECTIVE
not capable of being entered or passed through
[The thorny hedge was *impenetrable*.]

likelihood LIKE•lee•hood NOUN

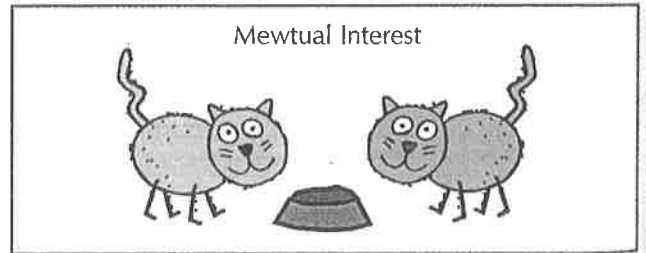
the fact of being likely to happen; something that is likely to happen [What is the *likelihood* that the meeting will start on time?]



Mootual Affection

mutual MYOO•choo•ul ADJECTIVE

1. done or felt by each of two people toward the other [We had a *mutual* affection for one another.]
2. shared by all or common to all [The police and the neighborhood had a *mutual* interest in lowering the crime rate.]



Mewtual Interest

offbeat OFF•beat ADJECTIVE

out of the ordinary; different than most; strange
[Pam has an *offbeat* sense of humor.]

terminate TUR•mi•nate VERB

1. to put an end to; to bring to an end; to stop
[If there is any lightning, we will have to *terminate* the game.]
2. to come to an end [The celebration will *terminate* with a fireworks display.]

Lesson 5

adaptable uh•DAP•tuh•bul ADJECTIVE

able to adjust to new situations [Since Dad was in the army, we moved a lot and had to learn to be *adaptable*.]

decree di•KREE

NOUN an official order or decision from someone in authority [The prisoner was freed by a *decree* signed by the governor.]

VERB to order or decide officially [A dictator can *decree* that criticism of his actions is against the law; a U.S. president cannot.]

eccentric ek•SEN•trik ADJECTIVE

acting or thinking in a strange way; not usual or normal in behavior; odd [Some people think Mrs. Washington is *eccentric* because she sometimes talks out loud to herself.]

esteem ess•TEEM

NOUN a favorable opinion; respect [A good step toward earning a promotion would be earning the boss's *esteem*.]

VERB to think well of; to have a good opinion of; to value and respect [I *esteem* Mr. Joseph's ability to treat everyone fairly.]

gumption GUMP•shun NOUN

courage and energy; resourcefulness [It took a lot of *gumption* to sell five hundred boxes of candy for the school band.]

hurdle HURD•ul

NOUN an obstacle over which a runner must leap in certain track events; any obstacle, difficulty, or problem [Life may put *hurdles* in your way as you try to reach your goals.]

VERB to jump over; to overcome an obstacle, difficulty, or problem [Frankie took a running start to *hurdle* the ditch.]

jovial JOH•vee•ul ADJECTIVE

merry, playful, and jolly; cheerful and friendly [I'm glad to see that you're in such a *jovial* mood today, since you've seemed so depressed lately.]

knoll NOLE NOUN

a small, rounded hill; a mound [I flopped down to rest on a grassy *knoll*.]

multitude MUL•tuh•tood NOUN

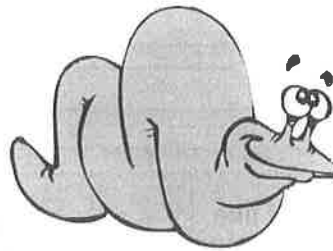
a very large number of persons or things; a crowd [The roaring *multitude* gave our team the boost we needed to win.]

nonchalant non•shuh•LONT ADJECTIVE

having or showing a cool, confident manner; casual [Feeling well-prepared, Mattie was *nonchalant* about the final test.]

recede ri•SEED VERB

to go or move backward or to appear to do so [It could take days for the water in the basement to *recede*.]



slug SLUG

NOUN 1. any of several small, wormlike, salt-water animals resembling a snail but lacking a shell

sluggish SLUG•ish ADJECTIVE

having little motion, speed, energy, or activity [The car engine was *sluggish* this morning because of the cold.]

suspense suh•SPENCE NOUN

uncertainty; concern about the outcome [We waited in *suspense* to hear if anyone had been injured in the accident.]

sweltering SWEL•tur•ing ADJECTIVE

very hot, sticky, and damp [Two people fainted in the *sweltering* heat.]

virtue VUR•choo NOUN

1. the quality of righteousness, goodness, or moral excellence [I think kindness to animals is an important *virtue*.]

2. any good or admirable quality [Tim has the *virtue* of being a good listener.]

Lesson 6

adversary AD•vur•sair•ee NOUN

an opponent or enemy [Jed and I are pals, but we're *adversaries* when his team plays mine.]

bizarre bi•ZAR ADJECTIVE

very odd in style, manner, or appearance; weird [The cat's *bizarre* behavior made us think she had eaten something poisonous.]

donor DOH•nur NOUN

one who donates something, such as money, blood, or a body part; a giver [I thanked the many *donors* who helped us reach our goal.]

escalate ESS•kuh•late VERB

to make or become larger or more intense [The cost of traveling will *escalate* if gas prices go up.]

furtive FUR•tiv ADJECTIVE

sly or sneaky; done in a secretive way to avoid being noticed [Mary gave me a *furtive* kick under the table to warn me not to say anything.]

high-strung HIGH•STRUNG ADJECTIVE

very nervous, tense, or sensitive; excitable [During a thunderstorm, my usually calm dog becomes very *high-strung*.]

hinder HIN•dur VERB

to make difficult or delay the movement or progress of; to hold back [Road repairs will *hinder* the flow of traffic today.]

imminent IM•uh•nunt ADJECTIVE

about to happen; likely to occur soon [I saw the two cars heading toward each other and knew that a collision was *imminent*.]

indisputable in•dis•PYOO•tuh•bul ADJECTIVE

not open to dispute or doubt; unquestionable [With eighty percent of the votes, the governor has an *indisputable* victory.]

livelihood LIVE•lee•hood NOUN

(The first i is long, like in the word life.)
a means of supporting life; the way one makes a living [The family's *livelihood* is farming.]

outspoken out•SPOKE•un ADJECTIVE

not shy about speaking out; expressed boldly and openly [Ted was *outspoken* about what he saw as flaws in the plan.]

plenteous PLEN•tee•us ADJECTIVE

having or producing a large supply; more than enough; plentiful [The year's good weather resulted in *plenteous* crops.]

quota KWOH•tuh NOUN

a fixed share or amount assigned to any one person, group, country, and so on [Lori sold her *quota* of tickets and ten more besides.]

somber SOM•bur ADJECTIVE

1. dark and gloomy [People going to a funeral often dress in *somber* colors.]
2. sad and thoughtful; serious and formal [The crowd grew *somber* when it became obvious that the player was seriously injured.]

tarry TAIR•ee VERB

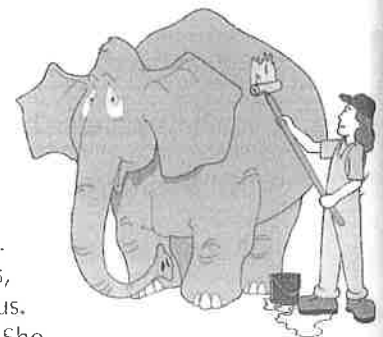
1. to delay or be slow in starting an action; to hesitate [The room has to be cleaned sooner or later, so why *tarry*?]
2. to remain in a place; to stay for a time [Mom told me not to *tarry* after school but to come straight home.]

A young actor

was having a lot of trouble finding work in the theater. So after a few years, she joined the circus. She had two tasks. She had to wash the elephants every day, and she had to clean up the streets behind them whenever there was a circus parade.

One day her former drama teacher saw her at the circus and exclaimed, "Marilyn, 'this is just awful! Can't you find any other livelihood?'"

"What!" Marilyn replied. "And give up my career in show business?"



Lesson 7

amend uh•MEND VERB

to change by removing errors or making corrections or additions [Our club decided to *amend* its rules for membership.]

conformity kun•FORM•uh•tee NOUN

similarity in form, action, or thought; action in agreement with customs or popular opinion [A certain amount of *conformity* helps people get along in society.]

diminish di•MIN•ish VERB

to make or become smaller; to reduce [The factory's closing will *diminish* the number of available jobs in town.]

endeavor en•DEV•ur

NOUN a serious attempt or effort [The dog made an *endeavor* to dig under the fence.]

VERB to make an effort to do or accomplish something [*Endeavor* to control your temper.]

evasive ee•VAY•suv ADJECTIVE

tending or trying to avoid or escape from something, especially by using cleverness [That guy is too *evasive* to give anyone a straight, simple answer!]

gullible GULL•ih•bul ADJECTIVE

easily deceived or tricked [Reba is so *gullible* that she believes anything she's told.]

inferior in•FEER•ee•ur

ADJECTIVE 1. of poor quality; below average [Ms. Burrows won't accept *inferior* work.]

ADJECTIVE 2. low or lower in quality, value, or importance; *usually used with to* [The shoes were *inferior* to my last pair, and they wore out much more quickly.]

NOUN a person or thing that is lower in rank, importance, or achievement than others [I'm tired of my sister's acting as if everyone else is her *inferior*.]

loathe LOATH VERB

to feel intense dislike or disgust for [Don't go to see that movie; you would *loathe* it.]

nostalgia noss•TAL•juh NOUN

a longing for what is past or far away or for the happier times of long ago [When Mom talks about growing up on a farm, I hear *nostalgia* in her voice.]

notable NOTE•uh•bul ADJECTIVE

deserving notice or attention; remarkable [One of Thomas A. Edison's most *notable* inventions was the light bulb.]

procrastinate proh•KRASS•ti•nate VERB

to put off doing something until a future time; to make a habit of postponing or delaying action [When Molly *procrastinates*, she has to stay up late to finish her homework.]

stamina STAM•uh•nuh NOUN

the ability to resist or recover from that which weakens, such as tiredness [Bill didn't have enough *stamina* to pedal all the way up the hill.]

torrent TOR•unt NOUN

1. a swift flow, especially of water [After a week of rain, the creek had become a *torrent*.]
2. a heavy fall of rain [A *torrent* soaked us.]

unnerve un•NURV VERB

to cause to lose one's courage or confidence [Don't let the other player's size *unnerve* you.]

vulnerable VUL•nur•uh•bul ADJECTIVE

capable of being hurt emotionally or physically; easily hurt [Babies need protection because they are so *vulnerable*.]



An example of a vulnerable baby

Hints from

Aggie and Moe's Baby-Sitting Guide

The Baby's Clothes. Some sort of clothing is necessary, even for the infant who loathes clothes. An unclothed baby is vulnerable, and parents will frown on the sitter who allows their little Snookums to catch a sniffle.

7th

Lesson 8

antidote AN•ti•dote NOUN

1. a substance or treatment given to oppose the effects of poison [Raw eggs are used as an *antidote* for certain kinds of poisons.]
2. something that works to correct or cure a bad or evil condition [The concert was the perfect *antidote* for my bad mood.]

bedlam BED•lum NOUN

great confusion and disorder
[After someone yelled "Fire!" in the store, there was total *bedlam*.]

designate DEZ•ig•nate VERB

1. to show by a mark, sign, or symbol [Blue lines on a map usually *designate* rivers.]
2. to call by a certain name, term, or title [Egg producers often use "jumbo" to *designate* the very largest eggs.]
3. to select or appoint for a certain purpose or duty; to appoint [The class is supposed to *designate* two students to represent us.]

ethical ETH•uh•kul ADJECTIVE

relating to what is right or wrong in behavior; agreeing with the rules of society or of a particular group; moral [Is it *ethical* for a judge to conduct the trial of a friend?]

extensive ek•STEN•siv ADJECTIVE

large in area, amount, effect, influence, and so on [Research into a cure for the common cold has been both *extensive* and expensive.]

indispensable in•di•SPEN•suh•bul ADJECTIVE

absolutely necessary; essential [Food and water are *indispensable* to animals and plants.]

medieval med•EE•vul ADJECTIVE

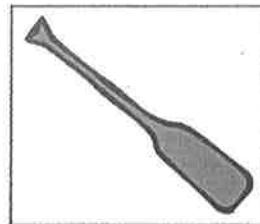
like or having to do with the Middle Ages, the time from about A.D. 500 to 1500 [The *medieval* period began with the collapse of the Roman Empire.]

oust OWST VERB

to force to leave; to drive out [We voted to *oust* our mayor for failing to cut taxes.]

preposterous pri•POSS•tur•us ADJECTIVE

so against truth, reason, or common sense as to be ridiculous [Whose *preposterous* idea was it to get pink uniforms for the football team?]



Please designate your choice for the most preposterous invention.

☐ Solar-powered flashlight ☐ Electric ax ☐ Left-handed paddle

seep SEEP VERB

to leak, drip, or flow out slowly; to ooze
[After most of the milk had managed to *seep* out, we found a tiny hole in the carton.]

spunk SPUNK NOUN

courage, enthusiasm, and determination [With her *spunk*, Eva will finish the race in spite of her sprained ankle.]

succumb suh•KUM VERB

1. to give in under pressure or force; to yield; often used with to ["Do not *succumb* to temptation," the little boy's mother said. "I know exactly how many cookies there are."]
2. to die [Sadly, many more people will *succumb* before the new drugs can reach them.]

vanity VAN•uh•tee NOUN

extreme concern with, or pride in, one's appearance, abilities, possessions, and so on [My *vanity* wouldn't let me wear pants like those even if they came in my size.]

vigilant VIJ•uh•lunt ADJECTIVE

staying watchful for danger or trouble; alert [Shouts from a *vigilant* soldier prepared the other troops for attack.]

witticism WIT•uh•siz•um NOUN

a clever and amusing remark [The class howled at Spencer's *witticism*, and even the teacher cracked a smile.]

Lesson 9

accomplice uh•KOM•plis NOUN

one who knowingly participates with another in a crime; a partner in crime [Did the kidnapper work alone or with an *accomplice*?]

concur kun•KUR VERB

1. to agree; to have the same opinion [I wonder if the teacher will *concur* with my answer to that question.]
2. to happen at the same time [If the two events *concur*, we have to pick between them.]

crevice KREV•us NOUN

a narrow crack in or through something [A flower was growing through a *crevice* in the sidewalk.]

decent DEE•sunt ADJECTIVE

1. proper and fitting; meeting approved standards of society; respectable [Mom expects us to use *decent* table manners.]
2. fairly good; satisfactory [Lee can't play on the team if he doesn't get *decent* grades.]
3. fair and kind; generous [Sharing your sandwich with me was very *decent* of you.]

detract di•TRAKT VERB

to take away or lessen, especially in value or reputation (often used with *from*) [All those scratches *detract* from the car's resale price.]

exotic eg•ZOT•ik ADJECTIVE

1. foreign; not native [My neighbor uses a greenhouse to grow *exotic* flowers that wouldn't survive in his garden.]
2. fascinating or interesting because of being strange or different; striking; unusual [Clara topped off her outfit with an *exotic* hat of feathers and jeweled birds.]

flinch FLINCH VERB

to draw back from something dangerous, painful, unpleasant, or difficult [The unexpected thunder made me *flinch*.]

gruesome GROO•sum ADJECTIVE

causing horror and disgust [I closed my eyes during the *gruesome* parts of the movie.]

haughty HAW•tee ADJECTIVE

overly proud of oneself and scornful of others; showing too much pride [The *haughty* woman demanded immediate service even though I had been waiting longer than she had.]

horde HORD NOUN

a large crowd; a swarm [A *horde* of shoppers filled the store.]

makeshift MAKE•shift ADJECTIVE

used as a temporary substitute for the proper or desired thing [I slept on a *makeshift* bed of blankets on the floor.]

phobia FOH•bee•uh NOUN

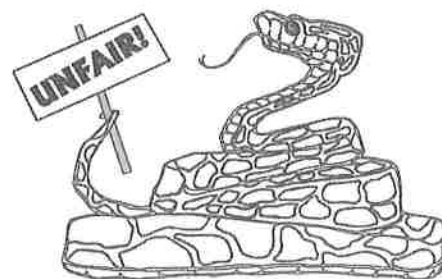
an extreme, unreasonable, and continuing fear of a particular thing or situation [My only *phobia* involves elevators; I'm always afraid I'll get stuck between floors.]

Question:

How do you keep a snake from striking?

Pay it decent wages.

Answer:



reluctance ri•LUK•tunce NOUN

a feeling of being unwilling or doubtful about doing something; unwillingness [The child came in for his nap with *reluctance*.]

rivalry RY•vul•ree NOUN

competition; an effort to obtain something someone else also wants or to do better than another [The *rivalry* between the two teams had gone on for years.]

vocation voh•KAY•shun NOUN

an occupation, profession, or trade [My uncle's *vocation* is carpentry.]

Lesson 10 Words You Thought You Knew

You already know how to pronounce and use these familiar words. Now learn some of their less-familiar meanings.

admission NOUN

an acknowledgment or confession [We want an *admission* from the company that it is responsible for the pollution.]

dear ADJECTIVE

high-priced; costly; expensive [Freedom comes at a *dear* price.]

decided ADJECTIVE

1. definite and unmistakable; unquestionable [The other team's experience gave them a *decided* advantage over us rookies.]
2. unhesitating; determined [The president spoke in a *decided* tone of voice.]

edge NOUN

favorable position; advantage [I had the *edge* in height, but Malcolm was quicker.]

fancy

NOUN 1. imagination, especially light, playful imagination; that which is imagined [Unicorns are a product of people's *fancy*.]

NOUN 2. a preference, fondness, or liking [Miss Green has a *fancy* for miniature poodles.]

VERB 1. to form an idea of; to imagine [I just can't *fancy* Norma as a teacher.]

VERB 2. to have a fondness or liking for [Tina *fancies* walks on the beach.]



He has bought something dear for someone he fancies. But will she fancy it? Does she fancy *him*, or is she only toying with him? Is he game enough to find out?

forge VERB

1. to make or work into shape; to form [It took great effort and intelligence to *forge* a nation from thirteen former colonies.]
2. to move forward slowly but steadily in the face of difficulty [We were determined to *forge* ahead despite the darkness.]

game ADJECTIVE

1. courageous [Many animals are *game* fighters when they're defending their babies.]
2. having enough spirit; ready [Mona is always *game* for an adventure.]
3. lame [Uncle Jerome has a *game* ankle.]

prompt VERB

1. to remind a person of something; to assist one's memory [You may *prompt* her with a clue, but don't give her the answer.]
2. to move to action; to urge or inspire [Being mean may *prompt* others to be mean in return.]

rude ADJECTIVE

roughly made or done; crude [They lived in a *rude* hut among the trees.]

slanted ADJECTIVE

written or told in a way that shows only one side or point of view [Rosa's *slanted* version of what happened made her seem blameless.]

steal VERB

to move quietly or sneakily [After the baby drops off to sleep, *steal* out of the room.]

stunt VERB

to hold back growth or development [People used to think that drinking coffee would *stunt* a child's growth.]

tax VERB

to make a heavy demand on; to burden [Having to rush can *tax* your nerves.]

toy VERB

to treat a person, idea, or thing lightly, without serious consideration; to play or fool with; usually used with *with* [He's not the type of man who *toys* with women's affections.]

weigh VERB

to consider or examine thoughtfully and carefully [The jury should *weigh* all of the evidence before announcing its verdict.]