# 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.*

**angle** VERB

to use tricks or sly methods to try to get something [Denzel is sure to *angle* for an invitation to Holly's party.]

**balance** NOUN

the part left over; remainder [I got some of my allowance, and I'll get the *balance* tomorrow.]

**charge**

VERB to give instructions to; to command [If the captain *charges* us to retreat, we'll do so.]

NOUN **1.** someone or something that is put in someone's care [The babysitter kept a close eye on her *charges* at the playground.]

NOUN **2.** care and protection [I won't leave my cats in the *charge* of anyone I don't trust.]

**composed** ADJECTIVE

calm and self-controlled; not confused or excited [Imelda seemed quite *composed* while she waited to give her speech.]

**cow** VERB

to frighten; to take away one's spirit or make timid [You can shake your fist at me all you like, but you're not going to *cow* me.]

**distant** ADJECTIVE

**1.** related, but not closely [I met some *distant* cousins at the family reunion.]

**2.** not actually rude but not at all friendly; indicating cool feelings [Alex's *distant* nod made me wonder if he'd heard my criticism.]

**gravity** NOUN

the condition of being important, serious, or solemn [Josh's worried look made it clear that he realized the *gravity* of the circumstances.]

*Out in a pasture:*

**MADGE:** Isabel, everyone else in the herd is in a panic about mad cow disease! How can you stay so composed?

**ISABEL:** Why should I get upset over some stupid cow disease? I'm a jet airplane! Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!

**harbor** VERB

**1.** to provide a place of protection for (someone); to hide (someone) in order to protect him or her [Any person who knowingly *harbors* a criminal can get into serious trouble.]

**2.** to hold in one's mind; to mentally hold on to [Daphne says she won't cheat anymore, but I *harbor* some suspicions of her.]

**lumber** VERB

to move along heavily, often in a clumsy, slow, or noisy fashion [The truck shifted gears as it began to *lumber* up the hill.]

**mad** ADJECTIVE

**1.** crazy; insane [Everyone thought the old man was *mad* when he claimed to be the king.]

**2.** wildly excited; unable to think clearly; frantic [The mother was *mad* with fear until her lost child was found.]

**3.** devoted to in an excitedly enthusiastic way [That couple is just *mad* about each other.]

**reflect** VERB

**1.** to think carefully and seriously [I need to *reflect* on all the choices before I decide.]

**2.** to show, display, or demonstrate [Chester hoped his paper would *reflect* all the time and effort he had spent on it.]

**spruce** ADJECTIVE

neat, clean, simple, and correct in appearance [Richard looked quite *spruce* in his uniform.]

**stir** NOUN

a state of excitement [The news that a Hollywood star would visit the school created a *stir*.]

**untold** ADJECTIVE

too many or to great to be counted, measured, or accurately described [That statue honors soldiers' *untold* sacrifices for the nation.]

**wasted** ADJECTIVE

weakened; feeble; worn away [Maria's battle with pneumonia had left her *wasted*.]



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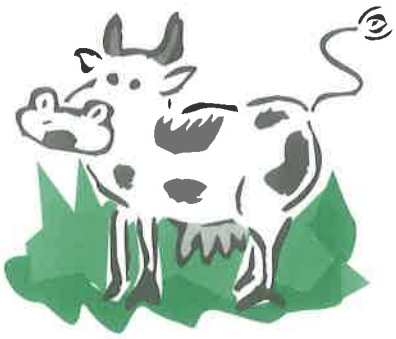
## Exercise A: Put It Briefly

USE A WORD ONLY ONE TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

Write the Word that best completes each sentence.

1. Emilia was hired to feed, water, and walk her neighbor's dog, watch out for it, and deal with any problems that might come up. *Briefly*, the dog was Emilia's ___. _____
2. Hippopotamuses are not dainty or highly flexible animals. They weigh a great deal, and their legs are short and thick, so motion requires real effort. *Briefly*, when hippos walk, they ___. _____
3. We were shocked by Dean's appearance. Hard work and a shortage of rest and food had taken his strength, and he was thin and exhausted. *Briefly*, Dean looked ___. _____
4. A salesman should be tidy and well-dressed. His hair should be trimmed; his clothes should be fresh and ironed; his shoes should be shined. *Briefly*, the salesman should be ___. _____
5. Vicky wants more money but won't ask for it. Instead, she will flatter her boss, show off her best work, and hint about other job offers she has received. *Briefly*, Vicky will ___ for a raise. _____
6. Despite the danger, Enrico seemed undisturbed. He showed no signs of being upset, was in complete command of his actions, and kept his head. *Briefly*, Enrico was ___. _____
7. The dog allowed me to pet him, but he didn't wag his tail and soon turned away. I snapped my fingers and whistled, but he simply ignored me. *Briefly*, the dog was ___. _____
8. Suzanne paid part of her credit card bill. She didn't pay it all, but she will next month. Her paycheck will cover every last cent that she still owes. *Briefly*, Suzanne will pay the ___. _____



MADGE: *Isabel, I don't think you see the gravity of this situation!*
ISABEL: *Not from this altitude! Zoooooom!*

## Exercise B: Matching

Match each phrase on the left to the phrase on the right that means the same, or nearly the same, thing.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ___ 9. ***cow*** a companion | A. | a disturbance at the depot |
| ___ 10. a ***stir*** in the station | B. | fantastically fond of food |
| ___ 11. ***mad*** about mealtime | C. | a dignified delegate |
| ___ 12. ***lumber*** along the lane | D. | in the kids' keeping |
| ___ 13. in the children's ***charge*** | E. | trudge up the trail |
| ___ 14. a ***composed*** congressman | F. | bully a buddy |

## Exercise C: Synonyms

Write the **Word** that could be used in place of each underlined word or phrase.

15. I was embarrassed by Nan's <u>chilly</u> response to my happy greeting. _____
16. The earthquake killed or injured <u>countless</u> thousands of people. _____
17. The judge will <u>order</u> the jury to consider all the evidence. _____
18. Natalie will <u>try to scheme</u> to get free tickets to the show. _____
19. <u>Consider</u> for a moment—do you really want to do this? _____
20. Can you finish the <u>rest</u> of the work tomorrow? _____
21. Why do you <u>cling to</u> resentment toward me? _____

*Up in a jet:*
**WILLY:** I'm always cowed by flying in these jumbo jets. I mean, how often do they crash?
**BILLY:** Once, I imagine.

## Exercise D: Mini-Rhyme Time

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

22. A dentist soberly describing
    tooth decay would discuss a cavity with ___. _____
23. To mention a recent commotion is to refer to the ___. _____
24. A child's soiled clothing, dirty face, and snarled hair ___ neglect. _____
25. Someone who can scare a girl has the power to ___ her. _____
26. A young man who has lost his mind is a ___ lad. _____

*Later:*
**WILLY:** Do cows fly?
**BILLY:** Are you mad?

## Exercise E: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that means the opposite of each underlined word or phrase. This exercise continues on the next page.

27. They have <u>little</u> money now but once had ___ wealth. _____
28. Proceed in a <u>calm, steady</u> manner; don't get into a ___ rush. _____
29. I certainly wasn't expecting to hear such <u>merriment</u> in Dad's voice; I expected ___. _____
30. The long, hard day left Jameel <u>rumpled and grimy</u>, although he had left the house looking ___. _____
31. Our <u>strong, healthy</u> appearance contrasted with the ___ bodies of refugees in the camp. _____
32. A panther and a lion are <u>close</u> relatives; a pet cat and a lion are more ___ relatives. _____



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33. A foreign government might turn over people accused of crimes in this country, or it might ___ them in its own. _____

34. Georgette was able to conceal her lack of training for a while, but eventually her mistakes began to ___ it. _____

35. Try to scamper down to first base, don't ___! _____

## Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. The boss's bad temper and harshness managed to _____ all his employees.

37. Mac was determined that every camper in his _____ would remain healthy and safe.

38. We ate all the peaches we could and saved the _____ of them for canning.

39. Caleb picked up the heavy box and started to _____ through the snow.

40. I think Tammy is annoyed with me; she acted so _____ all evening.

41. Brandon was anxious about whether he looked _____ enough for his job interview.

42. I don't know how Conchita could remain so _____ while everyone else was a nervous wreck.

43. The mood following the tragedy was one of _____; everyone spoke in low tones.

44. A bad call by the line judge produced a _____ among the spectators at the tennis match.

45. Mom told me to sit in my room and _____ on how I'd let the entire family down.

46. The actual result of any war is _____ misery for everyone involved in it.

47. Photographs showed the _____ bodies of those who stood in line for emergency food supplies.

48. I'll bet Glenda will _____ for a ride home by making somebody feel sorry for her.

49. The man was _____ with grief and did not seem to know what he was doing.

50. "Nations that _____ our enemies are enemies themselves," said the general.

### Quick LIST

**angle** V.
**balance** N.
**charge** V., N.
**composed** ADJ.
**cow** V.
**distant** ADJ.
**gravity** N.
**harbor** V.
**lumber** V.
**mad** ADJ.
**reflect** V.
**spruce** ADJ.
**stir** N.
**untold** ADJ.
**wasted** ADJ.

I'd never spied a
flying cow.
I never thought
I'd spy one.
I harbor no hard
feelings,
But I never want
to fly one!



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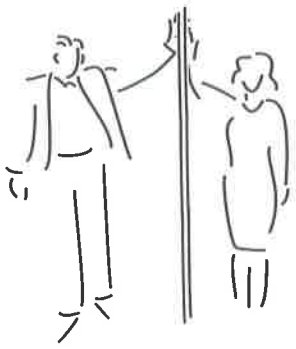
# Word Fun 2!

## Boxing

Fill in each set of blanks with a word you know that matches the clue. The boxed letters will spell out the answer to the question at the bottom.

1. Something that's in vogue for a short time .....
2. What you might use if your hair is unkempt .....
3. A word that means "to impart knowledge" .....
4. What money to be reimbursed is called .....
5. Drivers step on these when their speed becomes precarious ...
6. What a scapegoat gets stuck with .....
7. The color of an overcast sky .....

**Question:** How does a hotdog speak? **Answer:**



## Mad but Unswerving

A man on the bus was complaining to a lady about the tumult at his home. "My three brothers and I live in one room," he said. "One brother has seven dogs, another has six cats, and the third has a baboon. The disarray, noise, and smell are horrendous!"

Envisioning the situation, the lady was sympathetic. "I don't know what you could do to quell the noise or prevent the mess," she said. "But, as for

## Matching

Match each phrase on the left to the phrase on the right that means the same, or nearly the same, thing.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ____ | 1. a mad lad | A. | come up with a costume |
| ____ | 2. a deft theft | B. | praise the playing |
| ____ | 3. a regal beagle | C. | picture a pile-up |
| ____ | 4. a spruce caboose | D. | skillful stealing |
| ____ | 5. acclaim the game | E. | a dignified dog |
| ____ | 6. envision a collision | F. | a tidy train car |
| ____ | 7. improvise a disguise | G. | a batty boy |

## Naming

Match each name below

____ 1. Kurt Ale
____ 2. Bea Fitting
____ 3. Vi Vayshus
____ 4. Annie Mossity
____ 5. Ally Gayshen
____ 6. Kwan Dree
____ 7. Finn Aygul
____ 8. Dee Face

## Rhyming

Make each poem rhyme and have a poetic rhythm by substituting a Word from Unit 2 for the underlined words.

1. I was surprised, and my feelings were hurt
   When replies to my nice, friendly greetings
   were <u>so short as to be almost rude</u>.

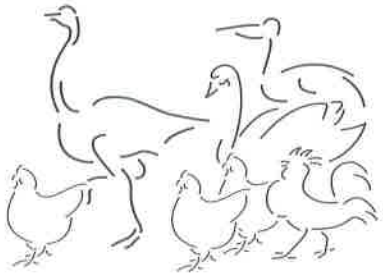
   _____

2. Rocks below the surface make a warning necessary
   For they are quite a hazard to a diver
   who's <u>not alert to possible danger</u>.

   _____

the smell, can't you open a window?"

The man looked at her, aghast. "What, and let all my birds escape?" ■



to the description it goes best with.

A. She's always making accusations.

B. No one's livelier or peppier than she.

C. She tends to clench her fists and snarl.

D. He's between a rock and a hard place.

E. She always dresses and behaves suitably.

F. This guy can shorten or reduce almost anything.

G. She always leaves scratches and dents on things.

H. He gets what he wants by cleverness and trickery.

## Searching

Circle all the words you can find that go from left to right or from top to bottom. Among them, you'll find answers to the clues below.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| U | K | I | M | E | S | S |
| P | C | T | O | P | F | T |
| Y | R | I | O | A | L | O |
| G | A | S | P | Y | O | P |
| L | N | I | E | A | O | T |
| A | K | N | N | W | D | U |
| D | Y | S | D | N | I | R |
| S | U | B | A | C | K | N |

1. Where priorities are on a "to do" list
2. Where you go when you regress
3. What you might do if you're aghast
4. What you do when you veer
5. What immoral actions are
6. How a peevish person feels
7. Another word for *disarray*
8. Another word for *deluge*

**Question:**
When the deluge came, what happened to the cargo ship loaded with paint?

**Answer:** It got wrecked, and all the sailors were marooned!