

Lesson 16

ambivalent am•BIV•uh•lunt ADJECTIVE

having conflicting feelings; uncertain due to mixed feelings [Rob was *ambivalent* about the prom; he wanted to go but hated spending the money to rent a tuxedo.]

backlog BACK•log NOUN

a collection or accumulation of tasks not done or orders not filled [Jasmine had a *backlog* of filing to do and worked late to finish it.]

cascade kass•KADE

NOUN something falling or rushing forth in great quantity, as water over steep rocks [Paolo opened his locker, and a *cascade* of books and papers poured out.]

VERB to fall as in a cascade [Catherine let her hair *cascade* over her shoulders.]

cowardice KOW•ur•diss NOUN

lack of courage [Kurt showed his *cowardice* by lying about the accident instead of taking responsibility for it.]

eerie EAR•ee ADJECTIVE

unusual or unnatural in a way that causes a vague uneasiness or fear [The strange howling that came from the house was *eerie*.]

hodgepodge HOJ•poj NOUN

a jumbled mixture of things [Our furniture doesn't really go together; it's a *hodgepodge* of items we've acquired over the years.]

impel im•PEL VERB

to cause by some kind of force, either physical or not physical [Did fear *impel* you to run from the scene?]

jubilation joo•buh•LAY•shun NOUN

great joy, usually with feelings of triumph [We expressed our *jubilation* with loud cheers.]

parody PAIR•uh•dee NOUN

an exaggerated imitation of something for the purpose of making fun of it [One scene was a *parody* of game shows in which every contestant was both annoying and unbelievably dumb.]

queasy KWEE•zee ADJECTIVE

feeling physical or emotional uneasiness; somewhat sick to one's stomach [Just the thought of riding one of those giant roller coasters makes me *queasy*.]

refrain ri•FRAIN

NOUN a phrase or verse that is repeated at the end of each section of a poem or song [The singer asked us to join in on the *refrain*.]

VERB to hold back from doing something [Please *refrain* from shouting in the library.]

saga SAH•guh NOUN

a long, detailed story, usually about legendary figures or historical events [The book was a *saga* of the South that told the story of many generations of one family.]

stupor STOO•pur NOUN

a condition in which the mind and senses are so dulled that one can barely think, act, or feel; a state of being nearly unconscious [Bonita was exhausted; she flopped down on the couch and fell into a *stupor*.]

Question:

What happened to the worm after she fell into a stupor inside Sir Lancelot's apple?

Answer: She woke up in the middle of the knight.



The day before:
"I feel queasy. Dizzy. Hope I don't faint—"

transient TRAN•shunt ADJECTIVE

passing with time; temporary [I had a sudden but *transient* feeling of anger that faded when I thought about the situation.]

tyranny TEAR•uh•nee NOUN

cruel and unjust government by a person or group having complete power; very cruel and unjust use of power or authority [Mr. Lucas's word is law in his household, and his entire family suffers under his *tyranny*.]

Exercise A: Yes or No

Circle YES or NO for each statement.

USE A WORD ONLY ONE TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

1. Would you tell a person in a **stupor** to calm down? YES NO
2. Does feeling **queasy** make you want a big meal? YES NO
3. Would the use of spurs **impel** a horse to move? YES NO
4. Would it be usual to write **sagas** on postcards? YES NO
5. If a big dam broke, would a **cascade** result? YES NO

Question:

Why did the rooster feel impelled to cross the road?

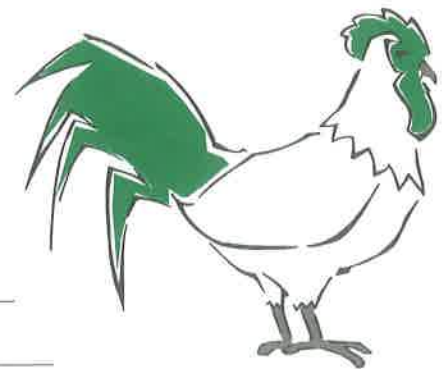
chicken. to prove he was no

Answer: He had

Exercise B: Synonyms

Write the **Word** that is a synonym for each set of words.

6. propel; drive; push _____
7. weird; mysterious; creepy _____
8. brief; momentary; short-lived _____
9. rejoicing; excitement; happiness _____
10. harshness; dictatorship; iron rule _____
11. daze; numbness; stunned condition _____



"Actually, Chicken Little told me the sky was falling and said I'd get a better view from the other side."

Exercise C: What Is It?

Write the **Word** that each clue describes.

12. When your work should be done but isn't, this is what remains. _____
13. This copies something and mocks it at the same time. _____
14. To accuse people of being chicken is to accuse them of this. _____
15. To sing a song with five verses, you might sing this five times. _____
16. The American Revolution was fought against this. _____
17. Anything ghostly might be described with this word. _____
18. A dinner made up of a week's worth of leftovers might be this. _____
19. If it's here today and gone tomorrow, this describes it. _____
20. Many people would feel this way about watching an operation. _____

Exercise D: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that means the opposite of each underlined word or phrase.

21. People's morals can ____ them to do certain things and prevent them from doing certain other things. _____
22. Jed was ____ about marriage, but his feelings became sure and positive soon after he met Roberta. _____
23. Beth's luggage is a ____ of this and that, but Allie has a matched set. _____
24. The winners were filled with ____, and the losers with sorrow. _____
25. Water used to ____ from this faucet; now it won't do any more than dribble. _____
26. Pat tried to ____ from laughing, but she finally just had to let loose with a howl. _____
27. You might expect small dogs to show ____, but they often demonstrate great bravery. _____
28. The joys of a happy childhood are ____, but their effects can be permanent. _____
29. The bumpy boat ride made me ____; now that I'm back on shore, I feel fine. _____
30. Eva's ability to tell what I was thinking was ____; it didn't seem normal to me. _____

Quick LIST

ambivalent ADJ.
backlog N.
cascade N., V.
cowardice N.
eerie ADJ.
hodgepodge N.
impel V.
jubilation N.
parody N.
queasy ADJ.
refrain N., V.
saga N.
stupor N.
transient ADJ.
tyranny N.

Exercise E: Put It Briefly

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence. This exercise continues on the next page.

31. I can't get my bike fixed right away. The bike shop has eighteen bikes waiting to be repaired. They've been there longer and have to be fixed before mine. *Briefly*, the bike shop has a _____
32. Supposedly it's a horror movie, but it doesn't even try to be scary. It's just funny. While creepy music plays, this insane guy sneaks up on people, ties them up, and gives them bad haircuts. Of course, this ruins their lives. *Briefly*, this movie is a _____
33. Do I like summer? Yes and no. I love sleeping late, but I hate not having things to do. I love going swimming, but I hate mowing the lawn. I love lots of things about the season and hate other things. *Briefly*, summer makes me feel _____

34. The TV show went on for six nights. Set in Texas and packed with adventure, it covered events from the fall of the Alamo all the way through World War I. *Briefly*, the show was a
35. Evelyn wasn't asleep, but she didn't seem awake. I smiled, but she didn't notice. I spoke, but she didn't respond. When I nudged her, she said, "Huh? What?" *Briefly*, Evelyn had been in a

Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. Fast-melting snow turned the little stream into a _____ that tumbled wildly down the mountainside.
37. My steak was so rare that it made me feel _____ to try to eat it, so I just pushed it to the side of my plate.
38. Would Americans ever put up with _____ after having known freedom and democracy?
39. Audrey experienced a sense of _____ as she realized that her long, hard efforts had been successful.
40. If Garth and Glenn could _____ from teasing each other, they would get along better.
41. Yanking the leash will _____ a dog to follow you, but gentle training can accomplish the same thing.
42. The store has a _____ of orders that must be filled as soon as the supplies come in.
43. There is a _____ of stuff in the big drawer that my grandfather calls his "junk drawer."
44. It was _____ to see what I had dreamed about actually take place the next day.
45. A _____ about Viking warriors wasn't what Mom had in mind when she asked Dad to tell us a bedtime story.
46. I'm sort of _____ about starting high school; I'm excited, but I'm also scared.
47. Charlie was in a _____ and didn't seem to know what was happening around him.
48. We teased Janelle about her _____ when she was too scared to ride a horse.
49. Happily, the bitter cold of winter is _____ and will eventually be replaced by the warmth of spring.
50. We had read a story in English class, and Cora wrote a _____ of it that was so funny even the teacher laughed out loud.

Question: How can you prevent diseases caused by biting insects?



Answer: Refrain from biting any.