

Lesson 8

allegation al•uh•GAY•shun NOUN

a formal, but not yet proved, accusation
[Armand's *allegation* that I stole money from the club treasury is totally untrue!]

animosity an•uh•MOSS•uh•tee NOUN

obvious anger or hatred [There is no excuse for showing *animosity* toward members of the other team.]

befitting bee•FIT•ing ADJECTIVE

appropriate to; suitable or proper for [That outfit is more *befitting* a casual picnic than a formal dance.]

brevity BREV•uh•tee NOUN

shortness of time; briefness [After so many months, I was glad to see my aunt but sorry about the *brevity* of our time together.]

curtail kur•TAIL VERB

to put limitations on; to cut short; to reduce
[Having little money will definitely *curtail* our activities this weekend.]

deface dee•FACE VERB

to damage or spoil the surface or appearance of
[A child's crayon marks can *deface* a wall.]

frivolous FRIV•uh•lus ADJECTIVE

not very important or serious [My cousin is always interested in *frivolous* things like what the latest fashions are.]

impart im•PART VERB

1. to give or add something, such as a quality
[Using a flute always seems to *impart* cheerfulness to a melody.]
2. to give information or knowledge [Please *impart* to Helen the time of the meeting.]

oppression uh•PRESH•un NOUN

1. the act of keeping down by unjust use of power [Thomas Jefferson and many others objected to England's *oppression* of the American colonies.]
2. a sense of being heavily weighed down or troubled [The heat and humidity created an *oppression* that made it hard to work.]

peevish PEEV•ish ADJECTIVE

easily annoyed [The children were *peevish* because they missed their nap.]

proficient proh•FISH•unt ADJECTIVE

very capable; quite able [A *proficient* writer, Frankie always gets excellent grades on his research papers.]

regress ri•GRESS VERB

to go back; to move backward; to return to an earlier condition or behavior [Problems at home made the seven-year-old *regress*, and she went back to sucking her thumb again.]

stodgy STAH•jee ADJECTIVE

dull or uninteresting due to being overly traditional or formal; boringly old-fashioned [My uncle is much too *stodgy* to even listen to the kind of music I like, much less dance to it!]

totality toh•TAL•uh•tee NOUN

the condition or fact of being complete or total; the total amount [We need to consider the problem in its *totality* in order to figure out how best to deal with it.]

unkempt un•KEMPT ADJECTIVE

untidy in a way that results from neglect
[Your hair is looking pretty *unkempt* today.]

Question: What is Japan more proficient at producing than any other country?

Japanese people
Answer:



Question: How might people impart messages to each other deep in the forest?

by Moss Code
Answer:

Exercise A: Mini-Rhyme Time

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

USE A WORD ONLY ONE
TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

1. Destructive people who throw paint on a room's walls ____ the space. _____
2. A useful bag that is worthy of holding the scarf a lady is making is one ____ her knitting. _____
3. A charge that a country has broken an international law is an ____ against a nation. _____
4. A company that can't afford what it has been spending on postage may have to ____ its mail. _____
5. To think about every part of a girl's nature and all of her individual qualities would be to consider the ____ of her personality. _____

Exercise B: Opposites

They say that opposites attract, and these couples are good examples. Complete the sentence about each couple with a **Word**.

6. Bonnie cooks badly, clogs up the vacuum cleaner, and smears the windows. At domestic chores, however, Ronnie is _____. _____
7. Morris is lively, amusing, bright, and bouncy. He loves to have fun, take chances, and try new things, and he's about as up-to-date as anyone can be. Doris, however, is _____. _____
8. Pearl is cheerful, even-tempered, patient, and agreeable. No matter what happens, she deals with it in a pleasant way. It seems that nothing upsets her. Earl, however, is _____. _____
9. Farrell makes changes that are for the better and sticks to them. He keeps on going and making progress. After a few days of improvement, however, Cheryl is likely to _____. _____
10. Manny shaves every morning, gets regular haircuts, uses his brush and comb often, sews missing buttons on his clothes, and irons his shirts. Fannie, however, is _____. _____
11. Trudy goes on and on and on when she talks. She is chatty, gabby, and long-winded. She takes forever to say anything. Rudy's remarks, however, are known for their _____. _____

Exercise C: What Is It?

Write the **Word** that each clue describes. This exercise continues on the next page.

12. Patients do this when they start to get better, then get worse again. _____
13. This is stated when a person is arrested and charged with a crime. _____

gth

14. You'd want to find this quality in a speech that bored you.

15. Sudden bad weather might do this to a camping trip.

16. Graffiti and vandalism do this to property.

Exercise D: Yes or No

Circle YES or NO for each statement.

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 17. Would putting a spice in a stew impart a flavor to it? | YES | NO |
| 18. Are you happy to see people toward whom you feel animosity ? | YES | NO |
| 19. Would an old barn be a place befitting a conference of world leaders? | YES | NO |
| 20. Are debts and overdue bills likely to give a person a feeling of oppression ? | YES | NO |
| 21. Does a lawn look unkempt when it is overgrown and full of weeds? | YES | NO |
| 22. Would a stodgy party be likely to keep all the neighbors awake? | YES | NO |
| 23. Is an Olympic gold medalist proficient at his or her sport? | YES | NO |

Exercise E: Synonyms

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

24. carefree; silly; light

25. messy; rumpled; sloppy

26. ill will; bitterness; dislike

27. professional; qualified; expert

28. mistreatment; persecution; abuse

29. tell; pass on; communicate

30. irritable; touchy; grouchy

31. entirety; wholeness; sum

Dr. Kato and Dr. Sato shared offices. Although serious and proficient at their work, the two dentists tended to be rather frivolous in their tastes and hoped to move to new, less stodgy offices.

One day Dr. Kato said, "Dr. Sato, I have found a space befitting both the importance of our work and our pleasingly light-hearted approach to it!"

"Splendid, Dr. Kato!" said Dr. Sato. "I have felt an oppression here that, I must admit, has made me peevish. Where is it?"

"On the river, Dr. Sato!" said Dr. Kato. "It is a boat!"

"Marvelous, Dr. Kato!" said Dr. Sato, and they soon began to fix up the

Exercise F: Other Forms of Words

Use what you know about the **Words** to choose the correct answers. This exercise continues on the next page.

32. Taxes would be considered **oppressive** if they were
A. very high. B. not adequate. C. urgently needed.
33. If what a boy does **peeves** you, you'd be most likely to
A. thank him. B. avoid him. C. try to help him.

Quick LIST

allegation N.
animosity N.
befitting ADJ.
brevity N.
curtail V.
deface V.
frivolous ADJ.
impart V.
oppression N.
peevish ADJ.
proficient ADJ.
regress V.
stodgy ADJ.
totality N.
unkempt ADJ.

boat, giving extra effort to imparting a sense of fun to its decoration. They even hired a captain to sail it up and down the river while they saw patients.

On opening day, Dr. Kato and Dr. Sato happily stepped out onto the dock to hang their new sign. "A model of wit and brevity," it said: "TOOTH FERRY." ■



"Cool!" said Dr. Kato.
 "In totality!" said Dr. Sato.

- ____ 34. A day of **frivolity** might include a visit to
 A. a prison. B. a lecture. C. an amusement park.
 ____ 35. If you **allege** that a woman committed a crime, you are saying
 A. she did it. B. she's innocent. C. you have proof.

Exercise G: Fill-in

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

36. His study habits improved, but he began to _____ after a while and was soon back to his old, lazy ways.
 37. Buying fashion magazines seems to be a _____ use of money when there isn't enough food in the house.
 38. Our family's new budget requires us to _____ our expenses.
 39. Photographs of the boss's family _____ a warmth to his office.
 40. The cats showed such _____ toward each other that I feared they would fight.
 41. Dad looked _____ after a week of camping, but with a shower and fresh clothes, he was his normal, tidy self again.
 42. Jilana is _____ in both Italian and English, having lived for long periods in both Italy and Britain.
 43. The _____ of the Russian people by the czars eventually led to the Russian Revolution.
 44. Don't _____ the library books by writing in them or underlining passages.
 45. Luca was _____, snapping at me about every little thing; I guess he got up on the wrong side of bed.
 46. Due to the _____ of our coach's instructions, we didn't need all the time allowed during our time out.
 47. The mayor denied the _____ that she had accepted bribes while in office.
 48. I wanted to dress in a way _____ the occasion, but I really couldn't afford anything new.
 49. We soon realized that Yolanda was just too _____ to lighten up and get into the spirit of the party.
 50. Although each task was a simple one, the _____ of the effort was huge because there were so many tasks.