

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.]

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Exercise A: What Is It?

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

1. "I did it" is an example of this, and a simple nod may be also. _____
2. Someone with a bad limp might have this kind of leg. _____
3. When the score is 20 to 0, this describes the winner's victory. _____
4. If someone gets a head start in a race, this is what he or she has. _____
5. You ought to do this to the facts before making a difficult decision. _____
6. If a child forgets to say thank you, his mom may do this to him with a nudge. _____
7. To do this to a friendship, a government, or an agreement is to create and develop it. _____
8. If a house is made of rough boards and has a dirt floor, this describes it. _____
9. This is what you would do to your parents' patience if you were really irritating. _____
10. You do this with your food when you just push it around your plate. _____
11. Poor soil may do this to plants, and poor nutrition may do it to people. _____



"Jack and Jill went . . . uh, um . . ."



"UP! THE! HILL!"

Prompting in a very decided way

Exercise B: True or False

Circle TRUE or FALSE for each statement.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 12. You would make an admission by admitting that you did something. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 13. A good education often gives a job seeker an edge | TRUE | FALSE |
| 14. If you weigh certain information, you ignore it. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 15. It shows respect for people to toy with them. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 16. A slang synonym for game is gutsy | TRUE | FALSE |
| 17. Newspaper articles are supposed to be slanted | TRUE | FALSE |
| 18. A pile of blankets on the floor would be a rude bed. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 19. You can fancy yourself as a big movie star only if you really are one. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 20. Good parents try to stunt their children's ability to be responsible people. | TRUE | FALSE |

Exercise C: Synonyms

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

21. Going up a steep hill will strain our old car's engine beyond its ability. _____
22. I tried to creep past the doorway without anyone seeing me. _____
23. The writer used his creative, inventive mind to develop Dougie the Dancing Duck. _____
24. If the actor forgets his lines, provide a hint for him by giving him the first two words. _____
25. I asked who'd ride the new roller coaster with me, and Wanda said, "I'm willing!" _____
26. My dad's being fired was a high price to pay for telling the truth. _____
27. The pioneers were determined to push on across the desert. _____
28. She had a firm manner that showed she had made up her mind. _____
29. You should pay careful attention to what he says before reaching a conclusion. _____

Quick LIST

admission N.
 dear ADJ.
 decided ADJ.
 edge N.
 fancy N., V.
 forge V.
 game ADJ.
 prompt V.
 rude ADJ.
 slanted ADJ.
 steal V.
 stunt V.
 tax V.
 toy V.
 weigh V.

Exercise D: Antonyms

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

30. I don't want to go to the dance with someone I dislike; I want to go with someone I _____. _____
31. Some drugs can increase a growing person's height; others may _____ it. _____
32. Give all the facts and be fair; don't give a _____ report about the issue. _____
33. Butter, which had been quite cheap before, became very _____ during the war. _____
34. Don't stomp into the house and awaken us; just _____ in and go to bed. _____
35. Your ideas of right and wrong will prevent certain actions and _____ other ones. _____



A burglar stealing in

A bank robber
 not stealing out



Exercise E: Fill-in

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

36. If you _____ all the details I've presented, you'll see that they prove I'm right.
37. I admired that _____ little boy who wouldn't let anybody bully him.
38. Doing pull-ups can _____ the strength of even an athlete in good physical condition.
39. If Lisa is waiting for an _____ from John that he was wrong, she'll have a long wait.
40. Mom knows Uncle Cal has a _____ for blueberry pie, so she made one for dessert.
41. The blacksmith hammered away to _____ the hot metal bar into a horseshoe.
42. I sat near the back of the theater so I could _____ out without anyone noticing.
43. Using a wide board, Rob and Danny made a _____ stretcher and carried Hal down the trail.
44. Mary's larger tennis racket gave her the _____ she needed to finally beat Josie.
45. The final vote counts showed a _____ victory for the candidate I supported.
46. It would be really nasty to _____ with a child by making promises you don't intend to keep.
47. Fresh peaches are very _____ this time of year; wait to buy them when they're in season.
48. You may hear a _____ description of an accident if you ask a driver who was involved.
49. "What could _____ someone to do such a horrible thing?" asked Matt.
50. One can _____ a tree's growth by limiting the room for its roots so that it will fit into a small place.

"Alvin," his wife said, "you're 36! Don't toy with those mashed potatoes! It sets a bad example for the kids!"



Alvin fancied that he had been forging a work of art, but he just said, "Yes, dear," and quietly ate.

I had already weighed the question of what object to save from a disaster. So I had the edge when that big flood hit. Hugging my black-velvet painting of Elvis, I forged my way to the boat.



Sadly, all I wound up saving was the frame. Elvis fell into the river (sigh) and sank.

Exercise F: Writing

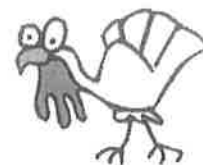
Imagine that your house is on fire or about to be flooded. What one belonging would you be **prompted** to save? (Pets and people are not in danger.) On your own paper, use at least **TWO Words** to explain your answer. You must use the words with the meanings taught in this lesson, but you may also use them with other meanings if you like. For example, you might say that the object you would save is *dear* ("beloved") even though it wasn't *dear* ("costly").

Word Fun 2!

Defining

Match the invented word to its meaning.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. <i>bedlamb</i> | A. flower power |
| ___ 2. <i>confarmity</i> | B. an angry opponent |
| ___ 3. <i>gullibull</i> | C. a watchful female relative |
| ___ 4. <i>hendeavor</i> | D. a chicken's determined effort |
| ___ 5. <i>madversary</i> | E. the result of painting all barns red |
| ___ 6. <i>stemina</i> | F. what an overly trusting male calf is |
| ___ 7. <i>sumber</i> | G. what happens if you share sleeping quarters with a sheep |
| ___ 8. <i>vigilaunt</i> | H. how you feel when you're serious about addition problems |



"I think I can.
I think I can.
I know I can."

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 on the right.

C	W	R	I	S	E	L
H	I	U	S	T	A	Y
E	N	F	L	A	L	J
R	P	A	I	R	I	O
D	G	L	P	E	E	K
Y	O	L	N	O	D	E
S	H	A	K	E	A	T

1. What prices do if they escalate
2. Another word for a witticism
3. What a horde of horses is called
4. A head motion to show you concur
5. What each person in a rivalry wants to do
6. A furtive way to look at something
7. What you do when you tarry

Naming

Match each name to the description it goes best with.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| ___ 1. X. Ottik | A. She makes everything worse. |
| ___ 2. Eska Late | B. She's a cure for what ails you. |
| ___ 3. Eve Aysiv | C. She's always putting people down. |
| ___ 4. Dee Trakt | D. She just won't give straight answers. |
| ___ 5. Hy Strung | E. She's a glamorous stranger from far away. |
| ___ 6. Ann T. Doat | F. He's one nervous fellow! (Maybe it's because of all these women.) |

ALMA: How was your vacation?

ZELMA: Terrible. Rain came down in torrents for two full weeks!

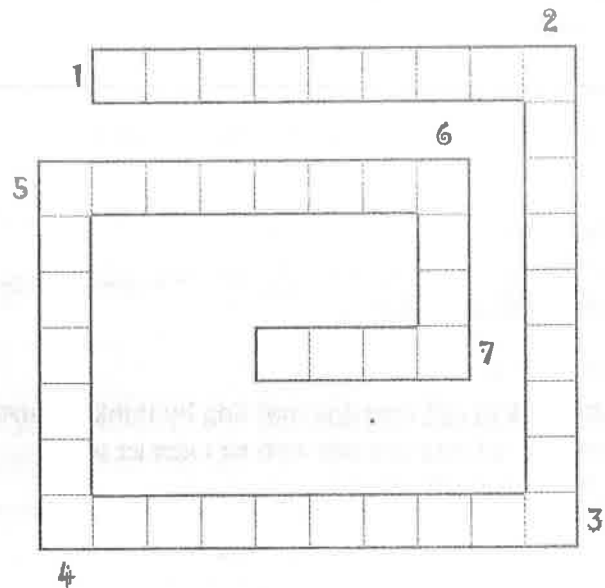
ALMA: So how did you get that great tan?

ZELMA: It's not a tan. It's rust!

A-maze-ing

As a maze, this puzzle is not too amazing, but you do have to know the **Words** in Unit 2—and your directions. It will also help to know some of the words both backwards and forwards!

- 1 **RIGHT** Not afraid to voice an opinion
- 2 **DOWN** Bittersweet feelings about the past
- 3 **LEFT** A partner in wrongdoing
- 4 **UP** Hard to get a grip on
- 5 **RIGHT** What you do when you really try
- 6 **DOWN** Rough and crude or just very simple
- 7 **LEFT** What you have when you've got a foot in the door or a running start



Rhyming

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

1. My hard work in North Dakota
Helped me sell what was my
assigned portion.

2. Here is why I'm always late:
I tend to just put things off!

"I get my job done on time.
It's my twin sister who
puts things off.
Do not tell
her that I
said that."



Matching

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ___ 1. weigh pay | A. a strange stringed instrument |
| ___ 2. a bizarre guitar | B. people's pointless pride |
| ___ 3. designate a date | C. a critter with courage |
| ___ 4. a skunk with spunk | D. stuck-up and sassy |
| ___ 5. haughty and naughty | E. examine earnings |
| ___ 6. the vanity of humanity | F. mark a Monday |

A man at the zoo was sobbing loudly, and a passerby asked a zookeeper what was wrong. The keeper somberly replied, "The zoo's biggest elephant succumbed last night."

"Wow! Did he love the animal that much?"

"No, he loathed it. He's crying because he's the one who has to dig the grave."

