

Lesson 2

✓ **astute** uh•STOOT ADJECTIVE

clever and sharp-minded; showing a thorough and deep understanding [Uncle Kenny is an *astute* lawyer; there isn't much about legal matters that he doesn't know.]

bias BY•us

NOUN a strong leaning for or against something that is based on personal preference or a set idea [The store owner seemed to have a *bias* against teenagers and refused to hire me.]

VERB to cause to look favorably or unfavorably on; to create a bias [Shelly looked as sweet as she could in an effort to *bias* the jury.]

compile kum•PILE VERB

1. to gather together and put in order [After Mrs. Lee *compiles* the receipts, we'll know exactly how much we've spent.]

2. to create something by collecting materials from a variety of sources [The chef will *compile* the best recipes into one cookbook.]

✓ **destitute** DESS•ti•toot ADJECTIVE

extremely poor; without basic necessities [The *destitute* people in the refugee camp had little food and almost no medicine.]

enhance en•HANCE VERB

to make greater or heighten; to add to in a way that improves [Putting in a swimming pool would *enhance* the value of the property.]

extraneous ex•TRAY•nee•us ADJECTIVE

not needed or not related to what is being considered or dealt with [Since only soup was served, the forks on the table were *extraneous*.]

✓ **fabricate** FAB•ri•kate VERB

1. to make or manufacture [This factory *fabricates* various kinds of machine parts.]

2. to make up; to create something untrue [The girl hoped she could *fabricate* a story that would keep her from being punished.]

✓ **flaunt** FLAWNT VERB

to show off [The man took every opportunity to *flaunt* his build by flexing his muscles.]

heyday HEY•day NOUN

the time of greatest success or strength [In their *heyday*, that band was at the top of the charts week after week.]

illegible ih•LEJ•uh•bul ADJECTIVE

impossible to read due to sloppy or faint writing or printing [The sign was so weather-beaten that it had become *illegible*.]

intuition in•too•ISH•un NOUN

an understanding or knowledge of something without the use of reasoning [Peter's *intuition* told him that Gwen was a person he could trust completely.]

lush LUSH ADJECTIVE

1. growing thickly or heavily [The rain forest is full of *lush* vegetation and amazing creatures.]

2. luxurious [Having grown up in much more *lush* surroundings, the princess had difficulty in adjusting to a cottage in the woods.]

✓ **renown** ri•NOWN NOUN

fame; good reputation [The scientist gained *renown* for her successful work in chemistry and eventually won the Nobel Prize.]

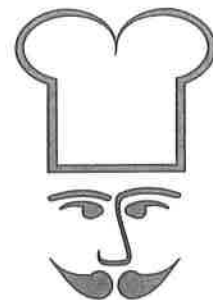
sedate si•DATE

ADJECTIVE calm, serious, and proper [At first, the party guests were *sedate*, but they loosened up when the dancing started.]

VERB to calm with medication [It is often helpful to *sedate* a patient before setting a broken bone.]

✓ **vigil** VIJ•ul NOUN

a period of watch, usually during a time when one would normally be asleep; the act of staying awake to watch over [The sick child's parents took turns keeping a *vigil* over her.]



Question:

What happened to the salad recipe as the chef compiled his cookbook?

Exercise A: Mini-Rhyme Time

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

USE A **WORD** ONLY ONE
TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

1. A woman with a mild, polite, solemn husband has a ___ mate.
2. A senator whose hunches are good is a politician with ___.
3. A village well known for its charm is a town with ___.
4. When you put forms inside a folder, you ___ a file.
5. I put bright patches on my jeans to ___ my pants.

6. Someone who knows everything about pears, oranges, and bananas is ___ about fruit.
7. When plants grow thickly beneath the trees, the woods have ___ underbrush.

Answer: He tossed it.



"It seemed extraneous. Especially the parsley."

Exercise B: What Is It?

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

8. A tailor might use a sewing machine, wool, and a pattern to do this to a suit.
9. To print a book of stories by different authors, a publisher must first do this to the stories.
10. If you scribble over a word, this describes that word.
11. Sticking to the point means leaving out this kind of detail.
12. If your feelings are strong, they may do this to your judgment.
13. People seek this when they try to "make a name" for themselves.

Exercise C: Synonyms

Write the **Word** that could be used in place of each underlined word or phrase. This exercise continues on the next page.

14. When my dad was a boy, his family was penniless.
15. Margaret liked to make a show of her new diamond ring by waving her hand about.
16. During the peak of her stardom, Monica Montana was making several movies each year.
17. Several firefighters kept a lookout throughout the day in case the fire started up again.

18. Ada made intelligent and sensitive comments about the poem.
19. Aunt Corinne, who is usually quite dignified and quiet, surprised me by shrieking.
20. You can fit things into a small suitcase if you leave out items that are not essential.

Exercise D: Antonyms

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

21. During this low period in her career, Mrs. Martinez thought back to when she was in her ____.
22. Brendan's remarks weren't ignorant; they were quite ____.
23. Umpires must show open-minded fairness, not any kind of ____.
24. Will costumes take away from our presentation or ____ it?
25. Copy that over so that the words are neat and clear instead of ____.
26. If fear and pain stir up patients, they may need a drug to ____ them.
27. Dolly used logic to solve the problem, but Molly used ____.
28. Some rich people conceal their wealth while others ____ it.
29. I chose a plain, simple motel since I couldn't afford a ____ resort.
30. Though my family isn't well-to-do, we're not ____ either.

Exercise E: Other Forms of Words

Use what you know about the **Words** to choose the correct answers.

- ____ 31. In order to be **vigilant**, a person must be
A. wise. B. alert. C. brave.
- ____ 32. If you say "That's a total **fabrication**," you mean that it's a
A. lie. B. joke. C. secret.
- ____ 33. A group of people who often live in **destitution** are
A. tourists. B. movie stars. C. the homeless.
- ____ 34. You might describe an **intuitive** response as being a
A. "team effort." B. "gut feeling." C. "slip of the tongue."
- ____ 35. Something that people often use as an **enhancement** to their appearance is
A. make-up. B. a disguise. C. a mirror.

There was
a cowboy
whose
heyday
had long
since come



and gone. One day he
was thrown from his
horse. "Someone
help!" he called
out. "I've fallen,
and I can't
giddyup!" ■

Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. Those _____ vines cover the window and keep my room dim and cool.
37. Mom's _____ always seems to kick in when I'm not telling the truth.
38. During its _____, the Roman Empire was spread across three continents.
39. An actor's _____ will increase after he or she wins an Oscar.
40. Raul tends to _____ his ability to speak French, and it's getting pretty annoying.
41. Anabela is so _____; no one ever has to tell her to settle down.
42. My cousin can _____ an excuse, on the spot, for almost anything he doesn't want to do.
43. Grandma has a _____ against younger doctors; she won't see one who's under forty.
44. Researchers may _____ data from several studies and experiments to prove an idea.
45. The quarterback's _____ play-calling resulted in several quick scores.
46. Some children are so _____ that they don't own a single pair of shoes.
47. The loyal collie kept a _____ at the injured boy's side until help arrived.
48. Scary music was used to _____ the suspense in the movie.
49. The name on this paper is _____; I have no idea who it belongs to.
50. Mom says Dad's hairbrushes are _____ now that he's totally bald.

Exercise G: Writing

On your own paper, write a very brief story using any FIVE of the **Words** in any order. The joke on the right does this, but your story doesn't need to be funny. Make it about any subject you like. Just don't make it *illegible*.

Quick LIST

astute ADJ.
bias N., V.
compile V.
destitute ADJ.
enhance V.
extraneous ADJ.
fabricate V.
flaunt V.
heyday N.
illegible ADJ.
intuition N.
lush ADJ.
renown N.
sedate ADJ., V.
vigil N.



Milly compiled a list of demands. When intuition told her the time was right, she went to see her boss. "I'm your best employee, but to keep me, you'll have to give me a \$20,000 raise and enhance my benefits."

Being an astute businesswoman, the boss said sedately, "What would you think of a \$100,000 raise, eight weeks of vacation each year, plus a lush new company car?"

Milly gasped. "Are you kidding me?"

"Yup," the boss said, "but you started it." ■