

Lesson 6

✓ **adversary** AD•vur•sair•ee NOUN
an opponent or enemy [Jed and I are pals, but we're *adversaries* when his team plays mine.]

bizarre bi•ZAR ADJECTIVE
very odd in style, manner, or appearance; weird [The cat's *bizarre* behavior made us think she had eaten something poisonous.]

donor DOH•nur NOUN
one who donates something, such as money, blood, or a body part; a giver [I thanked the many *donors* who helped us reach our goal.]

escalate ESS•kuh•late VERB
to make or become larger or more intense [The cost of traveling will *escalate* if gas prices go up.]

furtive FUR•tiv ADJECTIVE
sly or sneaky; done in a secretive way to avoid being noticed [Mary gave me a *furtive* kick under the table to warn me not to say anything.]

high-strung HIGH•STRUNG ADJECTIVE
very nervous, tense, or sensitive; excitable [During a thunderstorm, my usually calm dog becomes very *high-strung*.]

hinder HIN•dur VERB
to make difficult or delay the movement or progress of; to hold back [Road repairs will *hinder* the flow of traffic today.]

imminent IM•uh•nunt ADJECTIVE
about to happen; likely to occur soon [I saw the two cars heading toward each other and knew that a collision was *imminent*.]

indisputable in•dis•PYOO•tuh•bul ADJECTIVE
not open to dispute or doubt; unquestionable [With eighty percent of the votes, the governor has an *indisputable* victory.]

livelihood LIVE•lee•hood NOUN
(The first i is long, like in the word life.)
a means of supporting life; the way one makes a living [The family's *livelihood* is farming.]

outspoken out•SPOKE•un ADJECTIVE
not shy about speaking out; expressed boldly and openly [Ted was *outspoken* about what he saw as flaws in the plan.]

plenteous PLEN•tee•us ADJECTIVE
having or producing a large supply; more than enough; plentiful [The year's good weather resulted in *plenteous* crops.]

quota KWOH•tuh NOUN
a fixed share or amount assigned to any one person, group, country, and so on [Lori sold her *quota* of tickets and ten more besides.]

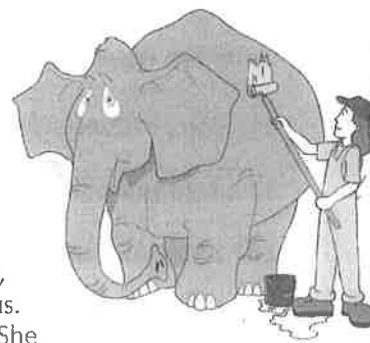
somber SOM•bur ADJECTIVE
1. dark and gloomy [People going to a funeral often dress in *somber* colors.]
2. sad and thoughtful; serious and formal [The crowd grew *somber* when it became obvious that the player was seriously injured.]

tarry TAIR•ee VERB
1. to delay or be slow in starting an action; to hesitate [The room has to be cleaned sooner or later, so why *tarry*?]
2. to remain in a place; to stay for a time [Mom told me not to *tarry* after school but to come straight home.]

A young actor
was having a lot of trouble finding work in the theater. So after a few years, she joined the circus. She had two tasks. She had to wash the elephants every day, and she had to clean up the streets behind them whenever there was a circus parade.

One day her former drama teacher saw her at the circus and exclaimed, "Marilyn, 'this is just awful! Can't you find any other livelihood?'"

"What!" Marilyn replied. "And give up my career in show business?"



Exercise A: Synonyms

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

1. My aunt chose a job that requires her to travel quite a bit. _____
2. Alan has been my foe for a long time, but I respect him. _____
3. The commotion began to increase as more people arrived. _____
4. The horse was jittery, and it was difficult for me to control him. _____
5. The facts were totally clear, so there was no use in trying to argue. _____
6. The generosity of the contributor provided the nature museum with needed funds. _____
7. The monster was extremely strange looking, with extra arms, huge eyes, and bumpy, slimy skin. _____
8. The garden provided us with a considerable supply of earthworms for fishing. _____
9. Paulo counted the sandwiches and said that each person's portion was one and a half. _____
10. The beach was lovely, and Frieda wished she could hang around there for a while. _____
11. Tyrone covered his ears, knowing that the explosion was only seconds away. _____
12. A small child can interfere with a person's ability to get the shopping done! _____

Exercise B: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that is an antonym for each set of words.

13. calm; laid-back; easygoing _____
14. doubtful; uncertain; iffy _____
15. bashful; timid; quiet _____
16. help; assist; aid _____
17. hurry; leave; go _____
18. cheerful; bright; lively _____
19. ordinary; plain; average _____
20. decline; decrease; lessen _____

A **medical doctor** had just been buried, and the last somber words of the funeral service had been said. As the man's family and friends tarried near the grave, they heard a bizarre sound that came, indisputably, from *inside* the coffin! In concern, everyone looked to the widow, who said simply, "It's just his beeper."

Exercise C: If...

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

Special Note:

The quota of jokes for this lesson is three (3).

21. If everyone always knows just what you think because you express your ideas and opinions whether anyone else wants to hear them or not, you are
22. If you are throwing a surprise party for a friend and must arrange it while your friend is around, your planning will have to be
23. If there were a ceremony in memory of a group of people who died in a terrible tragedy, the speeches given would probably be
24. If you were expecting someone to show up at 5:00, and it was 4:48, you might say that the person's arrival was
25. If someone jumps at every noise and is often on edge and is easily upset and finds it difficult to relax, that person is
26. If a park divides baseball equipment so that each team gets three bats, two dozen balls, and four helmets, each team has an equal

Exercise D: Yes or No

Circle YES or NO for each statement.

27. Would a person with green and purple hair look **bizarre**? YES NO
28. Could a married couple have different **livelihoods**? YES NO
29. Do people tend to root for their **adversaries**? YES NO
30. Are **donors** always wealthy people? YES NO
31. Does a feast have **plenteous** food? YES NO

Exercise E: Other Forms of Words

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

- ___ 32. The **imminence** of rain could be indicated by
A. puddles. B. a rainbow. C. dark clouds.
- ___ 33. One person who must carry out many actions **furtively** is a
A. spy. B. judge. C. firefighter.
- ___ 34. Something that would be a **hindrance** on a car trip is a
A. map. B. flat tire. C. gas station.
- ___ 35. You would expect someone to behave **somberly** while giving you
A. directions. B. bad news. C. a compliment.

Quick LIST

adversary N.
bizarre ADJ.
donor N.
escalate V.
furtive ADJ.
high-strung ADJ.
hinder V.
imminent ADJ.
indisputable ADJ.
livelihood N.
outspoken ADJ.
plenteous ADJ.
quota N.
somber ADJ.
tarry V.

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Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. Mom says if I _____ too long in deciding what kind of birthday cake I want, she won't have time to make one at all.
37. In dry conditions, winds can cause a small blaze to _____ into a raging forest fire.
38. My little brother is so _____ that it often takes quite a while to get him calmed down enough to go to sleep at night.
39. When her sister needed a new kidney, Sheila was the _____ who supplied one.
40. Cousin Willy has the _____ habit of sleeping under the bed instead of on top of it.
41. Which girl is taller is _____, but which one is the better athlete is not so clear.
42. Juan was _____ in his criticism of my way of doing things, and I finally asked him to mind his own business.
43. Failing to get a high school diploma can _____ one's ability to get a good job.
44. Buffalo were once _____ on the Great Plains, but irresponsible hunting destroyed the great herds.
45. During World War II, Japan was America's _____, but the two nations now enjoy a cooperative relationship.
46. Ralph's _____ of TV is a half-hour per day on school days, but he sometimes doesn't watch even that much.
47. The bridge has rotted, and we think that its collapse is _____.
48. Someone who wants to move in a _____ way might tiptoe.
49. My _____ mood was matched by a gray, overcast sky.
50. Hank hopes to earn a _____ as a writer one day.

Exercise G: Writing

Some people actually do have *bizarre* jobs such as elephant-washing. Others, such as undertakers, work in more *somber* careers. A few wealthy folks don't have regular jobs at all, but they are *donors* to good causes. How would you like to earn your *livelihood* after you finish your education? Explain your answer in a paragraph using **THREE Words**. (If you say you just want to be rich, describe how you plan to get rich!)

Did you hear about the **old farmer** who always behaved in furtive ways when he went out to work in his fields? He knew that corn has ears, potatoes have eyes, and beans talk!

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