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<td>alleviate, astrology, differentiate, disrupt, equation, err, erroneous, frantic, hull, inadvertent, improvise, latitude, mariner, multitude, nuisance, permanence, revolve, soothe, stranded, volatile</td>
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<td>congested, courier, deform, etiquette, exclusive, freight, garment, insomnia, intuitive, liable, obsess, overboard, premium, privilege, propel, socialize, suppress, tram, unsettle, warp</td>
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<td>artery, deterioration, elusive, forage, impede, induce, inseparable, invalid, magnify, mainstream, microbe, negligible, paralysis, pest, prevail, respiration, rupture, savage, stun, susceptible</td>
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<td>certify, collaborate, compile, counteract, curb, diagnose, enact, federation, gross, humane, intolerable, needy, onset, pledge, prohibit, rash, render, smallpox, transmit, vow</td>
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<td>camouflage, contemplate, contend, cot, enlist, frontier, handbook, hesitant, lush, marrow, outfit, paw, quiver, splendid, stray, substantial, torch, tract, vigil, weary</td>
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<td>adhere, administer, compassionate, contaminate, deficiency, epidemic, hazard, imperative, intestines, manifest, metabolic, overcrowded, paramount, practitioner, provision, replenish, sterile, upgrade, viable, voluntary</td>
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<td>amid, backstage, billionaire, brute, clumsy, collide, culprit, evacuate, flammable, mob, premature, resent, satire, scrutiny, segregate, subject, testify, tumult, underestimate, uproar</td>
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<td>accelerate, anew, defect, dreary, duplicate, electromagnetic, electron, glide, ingenious, innovation, innovative, launch, meteorological, meteorology, penetrate, propulsion, simulate, spur, stimulate, tenacious</td>
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<td>beforehand, centigrade, chatter, concerto, condense, cove, deteriorate, exterior, freeway, hearty, hospitable, manor, monastery, nursery, outstretched, parcel, profile, vivacious, winding, zip</td>
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<td>airway, Almighty, advent, constellation, definitive, equate, inhale, invoke, lunar, novelty, outmoded, personalize, certain, primal, psychiatric, psychiatry, reflex, seizure, session, utensil</td>
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<td>adhesive, adverse, dependency, dump, eternal, fluctuate, fro, inclusion, intermediate, intermittent, mentor, phoenix, photosynthesis, pollen, regain, reverse, swarm, texture, tickle, vibrant</td>
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<td>abide, conversion, cram, defer, export, fume, habitual, justify, output, overpopulation, patent, penalize, petroleum, prototype, scrap, sector, subscribe, subsist, suspend, synthesis</td>
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<td>acrobat, advocacy, communal, fluid, harmonize, industrious, inventive, judicial, Mandarin, metropolitan, mimic, misguided, rehearse, scorn, sensory, staple, statute, veteran, villain, vine</td>
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<td>analogous, binoculars, bulk, comprise, depict, dual, Fahrenheit, fulfill, grove, ore, outback, outweigh, paradox, pier, shortcut, tariff, thermometer, tilt, vice versa, whereabouts</td>
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About the Vocabulary

The 600 words in each book of this series along with the additional target words presented in the appendices included in the first three books of the series are the most useful words in English. They were found by analysis of a collection of English course books from various levels in the primary, secondary and tertiary school systems. The words included in this series were chosen because they occurred many times in different levels of these materials. Because of the way that they were chosen, these words have the following characteristics:

1. They are useful in both spoken and written English. No matter what English course you are studying, the words in these books will be of value to you.

2. Each word in these books is a high-frequency word. This means that the effort in learning the words is well repaid by the number of times learners have a chance to encounter or use them.

3. These books as a whole cover a large proportion of the words in any spoken or written text. They cover at least 80% of the words in newspapers and academic texts, and at least 90% of the words in novels. They also cover at least 90% of the words in conversation.

About the Books

The activities in these books are specially designed to make use of important learning conditions. Firstly, the words are introduced using sentence definitions and an example sentence. The activities that follow in the units encourage learners to recall the meanings and forms of the words. Some activities also make the learners think about the meaning of the words in the context of a sentence—a sentence different from the sentences that occurred in the introduction of the words. Moreover, each unit ends with a story containing the target words. While reading the story, the learners have to recall the meanings of the words and suit them to the context of the story. Such activities help learners develop a better understanding of a common meaning for a given word which fits the different uses.

Illustrations for each target word are provided to help learners visualize the word as it is being used in the example sentence. These word/image associations aim to help students grasp the meaning of the word as well as recall the word later.
It should be noted that words have more than one grammatical category. However, this series focuses on the word’s most common form. This is mentioned to remind learners that just because a word is labeled and utilized as a noun in this series does not mean that it can never be used in another form such as an adjective. This series has simply focused on the word in the form that it is most likely to be expressed.

Supporting Learning with Outside Activities

A well-balanced language course provides four major opportunities for learning: learning through input, learning through output, deliberate learning, and fluency development. The highly structured activities in these books support all four types of learning opportunities. In addition, learning can further be supported through the following activities:

1. Have students create vocabulary cards with one word from the unit on one side of the card and the translation of the word in the student’s first language on the other side. Students should use the cards for study in free moments during the day. Over several weeks, students will find that quick repeated studying for brief periods of time is more effective than studying for hours at one sitting.

2. Assign graded readers at students’ appropriate levels. Reading such books provides both enjoyment as well as meaning-focused input which will help the words stick in students’ memory.

3. Practice reading fluency to promote faster recall of word meaning for both sight recognition and usage. Compass Publishing’s Reading for Speed and Fluency is a good resource for reading fluency material.

4. Include listening, speaking, and writing activities in classes. Reinforcement of the high-frequency vocabulary presented in this series is important across all the four language skills.

Author Paul Nation

Paul Nation is professor of Applied Linguistics in the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. He has taught in Indonesia, Thailand, the United States, Finland, and Japan. His specialist interests are language teaching methodology and vocabulary learning.
alleviate  [əˈliːvɪət]  v.
To alleviate pain or suffering means to make it less intense or severe.
→ She needed something to alleviate the pain in her back.

astrology  [æstrəˈlɒdʒɪ]  n.
Astrology is the study of the stars in the belief that they influence people’s lives.
→ Jack, who studies astrology, believes that the stars can predict the future.

differentiate  [dɪˈfɜːrəntiət]  v.
To differentiate things or people is to show the difference between them.
→ It was hard to differentiate between the identical twins.

disrupt  [dɪˈrʌpt]  v.
To disrupt something or someone is to prevent them from working.
→ The loud crash disrupted the class lecture.

equation  [ɪˈkweɪʃən]  n.
An equation is a math operation to determine the value of something.
→ I used the Pythagorean theorem to solve the equation.

err  [ɜːr]  v.
To err means to make a mistake.
→ The pilot erred in his estimate of the time it would take to make the trip.

erroneous  [ɪrˈɔnɪəs]  adj.
When something is erroneous, it is incorrect or only partly correct.
→ The child held the erroneous belief that time machines were real.

frantic  [frentɪk]  adj.
If people or things are frantic, they behave in a wild way because they are frightened.
→ The cat became frantic when I tried to give it a bath.

hull  [hʌl]  n.
The hull of a boat or tank is the main body of it.
→ After the wreck at sea, the ship’s hull was the last part to sink.

inadvertent  [ɪnədˈvɜːrənt]  adj.
When an action is inadvertent, it is done without realizing what you are doing.
→ She made an inadvertent error when she knocked over the nail polish.
improvise [ɪmprəˈvaɪz] v.
To improvise something is to do it with whatever is available or without planning.
→ There was no meat for the pizza, so we improvised with what was in the fridge.

latitude [ləˈtætjuːd] n.
The latitude of a place is its distance from the equator.
→ The device was able to tell the traveler his exact latitude.

mariner [ˈmærənər] n.
A mariner is a sailor.
→ The old mariner used his telescope to find the shore.

multitude [ˈmɔltɪtjuːd] n.
A multitude of things or people is a very large number of them.
→ A multitude of people were waiting at the airport.

nuisance [njuːˈsɑːns] n.
A nuisance is a person or thing that is annoying or causes a lot of problems.
→ The teenager considered her noisy little brothers to be quite a nuisance.

permanence [pərˈmænəns] n.
The permanence of something is its ability to last forever.
→ Poor results will threaten the permanence of the new teaching system.

revolve [rɪˈvləv] v.
To revolve around something is to keep it as the main feature or focus.
→ My life revolves around sports.

soothe [suːð] v.
To soothe means to calm someone who is angry or upset.
→ The mother soothed her crying baby by rocking him in her arms.

stranded [strændid] adj.
If someone is stranded, they are prevented from leaving a place.
→ When the plane left, my sister and I were stranded in China.

volatile [vɒləˈtɪl] adj.
When something is volatile, it is likely to change suddenly and unexpectedly.
→ The volatile volcano might explode at any moment.

www.irlanguage.com
Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. He chose to paint a picture on the **main body** of the boat.
   
2. When the plane crashed on the island, the passenger knew he was **prevented** from leaving.
   
3. I admired the **very large number** of stamps in his collection.
   
4. I took some aspirin to make **less** my back pain.
   
5. The countries were concerned about the treaty’s **ability to last forever**.
   
6. Australia’s distance from the equator is **less extreme** than I imagined.
   
7. I’m still not sure if the math operation I did was correct.
   
8. When the rats got out of the cage, the girl was **behaving in a wild way because of fear**.
   
9. The incorrect or partly correct information gave us the wrong idea about the president.
   
10. When he forgot his rope at home, he had to **make one using whatever was available**.
Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Word Bank:

- nuisance
- frantic
- latitude
- soothe
- multitude
- mariners
- hull
- erroneous
- volatile
- stranded

When the heat was turned off, we became quite 1 _________.
When it finally came back on, our concerns and fears were 2 _________.

The iceberg caused severe damage to the ship’s 3 _________.
The motor stopped working, and the ship became 4 _________.

When he has too much to drink, he can become quite 5 _________.
His unpredictable behavior is not dangerous, but he is a 6 _________.

During our journey, we arrived at the wrong 7 _________.
I suppose our calculations were 8 _________.

When the ship came in, I was surprised at the number of 9 _________.
I thought there would only be a few sailors, but there was a 10 _________.

Exercise 3

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ She loves to *improvise* peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for lunch.
2. ___ Ice packs are sometimes used to *alleviate* headaches.
3. ___ This math book is full of *equations* for students to practice.
4. ___ The expert in *astrology* went to work every day to study rocks and soil.
5. ___ This math problem is tricky, so be careful not to *err*.
6. ___ The *permanence* of the flood was gone in a couple of days.
7. ___ After months of planning, the *inadvertent* decision to sell the company was carried out.
8. ___ The Earth and other planets *revolve* around the sun.
9. ___ Two flat tires *disrupted* our drive to the countryside.
10. ___ What *differentiates* Dan from his brother is Dan’s unmatched love of sports.
The North Star

Among the multitude of stars in the universe, there are a couple that are of great importance to people on Earth. The sun, of course, is one of them. The other is known as Polaris, the North Star. Polaris is special because it is the only star that always appears to be in the same place in the sky. Therefore, Polaris is a great compass. When people in the northern hemisphere of Earth look toward Polaris, they can be certain that they are facing north. The permanence of Polaris in the north sky has helped countless people find their destinations.

Before the invention of modern navigation tools, mariners relied on Polaris. From the top of their hulls, sailors would look for Polaris to figure out their place at sea. They figured out the angle between the star and the horizon to determine their latitude. As long as the equations weren’t erroneous, the results were very reliable. Polaris also let sailors determine North, South, East, and West. By knowing directions and their location, mariners could easily navigate their ships.

To those who sail at night, volatile storms and dark clouds were more than nuisances. They could disrupt entire journeys by blocking the view of Polaris. A captain could err and make an inadvertent wrong turn. The ship could become stranded at sea, and the frantic captain would have no way to improvise to get the ship back on the right course. The mariner’s fears wouldn’t be soothed until the clouds cleared and Polaris came back into view. Even today, sailors sometimes opt to navigate by using Polaris on clear nights.

It’s not difficult to differentiate Polaris from other stars. The Big Dipper, a constellation that is well known in astrology, appears to revolve around Polaris. The handle of the Big Dipper always points to the North Star. When people get lost, it’s comforting to know that their problems can be alleviated by looking at the sky.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ Even today, sailors opt to improvise by using Polaris on clear nights.

2. ____ A ship could become stranded if a captain erred and made an inadvertent wrong turn.

3. ____ People who are lost can be alleviated by gazing up at a frantic sky.

4. ____ Volatile storms were more than nuisances because they disrupted entire journeys.

5. ____ It is not difficult to differentiate Polaris from the multitude of other stars in the universe.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. How did mariners determine their latitude from the top of their hulls?

2. What has the permanence of Polaris done for people?

3. How did sailors figure out latitude?

4. What well-known constellation in astrology revolves around Polaris?

5. On a cloudy night, when would a mariner finally feel soothed?
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<tr>
<th><strong>arduous</strong></th>
<th><strong>[əˈrdʒjuːs]</strong> adj.</th>
<th>When something is <strong>arduous</strong>, it demands great effort or labor.</th>
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<td></td>
<td>➔ The explorers began their <strong>arduous</strong> hike up the steep mountain.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>attain</strong></th>
<th><strong>[əˈtein]</strong> v.</th>
<th>To <strong>attain</strong> something means to gain or achieve it, often after a lot of effort.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ In two more years, I will <strong>attain</strong> my high school diploma.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>coexist</strong></th>
<th><strong>[kəˈɛksɪst]</strong> v.</th>
<th>To <strong>coexist</strong> with something means to exist with it in the same time and place.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ Our pets <strong>coexist</strong> at our home with little or no problems.</td>
<td></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>conceive</strong></th>
<th><strong>[kənˈsiːv]</strong> v.</th>
<th>To <strong>conceive</strong> something means to be able to imagine or believe it.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ The child could not <strong>conceive</strong> the actual size of the Earth.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>dubious</strong></th>
<th><strong>[djuˈbiəs]</strong> adj.</th>
<th>When something or someone is <strong>dubious</strong>, they are not considered honest.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ The police thought that the man’s description of the crime was <strong>dubious</strong>.</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ego</strong></th>
<th><strong>[iˈɡou]</strong> n.</th>
<th>An <strong>ego</strong> is a person’s sense of their own worth.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ Kelly’s <strong>ego</strong> made her think that she was some kind of a superhero.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th><strong>elastic</strong></th>
<th><strong>[ɪˈlæstɪk]</strong> adj.</th>
<th><strong>Elastic</strong> is a rubber that stretches when it is pulled.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ He attached the <strong>elastic</strong> bungee to his legs before he jumped off the platform.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>endeavor</strong></th>
<th><strong>[ɪnˈdɛvər]</strong> n.</th>
<th>An <strong>endeavor</strong> is an attempt to do something, especially something new or original.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ The company’s new advertising <strong>endeavor</strong> ended in a horrible failure.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>engrave</strong></th>
<th><strong>[ɪnˈɡrɛiv]</strong> v.</th>
<th>To <strong>engrave</strong> means to cut a design or words into the surface of something.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ The couple <strong>engraved</strong> their names onto the old pine tree.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th><strong>excavate</strong></th>
<th><strong>[ɪkˈskeɪvət]</strong> v.</th>
<th>To <strong>excavate</strong> means to dig on land and remove dirt to look for something.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➔ The team wishes to <strong>excavate</strong> the site in hopes of finding fossils.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
jagged  [dʒægd]  adj.
When something is **jagged**, it has a tough, uneven shape or edge.
→ The swimmer was hurt when he fell on the **jagged** rocks.

locale  [loukæl]  n.
A **locale** is a small area or place where something specific happens.
→ The spa was the perfect **locale** for my mother to relax and enjoy her vacation.

mold  [mould]  n.
A **mold** is a hollow container that is used to make certain shapes.
→ Using a cupcake **mold** will ensure that they come out just right.

outright  [autrait]  adj.
When something is **outright**, it is open and direct.
→ Everyone knew that the boy’s story was an **outright** lie.

periphery  [pərɪfərɪ]  n.
The **periphery** of an area, place, or thing is the edge of it.
→ A beautiful floral pattern is on the **periphery** of the stationery.

plaster  [plæstar]  n.
Plaster is a smooth paste that gets hard when it dries.
→ He used **plaster** to fill in the cracks in the old walls.

shovel  [ʃəʊvəl]  n.
A **shovel** is a tool with a long handle that is used for digging.
→ The boy grabbed his **shovel** and got all of the snow off of the sidewalk.

skeletal  [skɛlətl]  adj.
When something is **skeletal**, it relates to bones in the body.
→ We studied the **skeletal** system in anatomy class.

terrestrial  [tərəstriəl]  adj.
If something is **terrestrial**, it relates to Earth.
→ There are billions of **terrestrial** life forms.

vicious  [vɪdʒəs]  adj.
When something or someone is **vicious**, they are violent and cruel.
→ The **vicious** dog tried to bite the small child.
Exercise 1

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. He chose to make his sculpture out of a smooth paste that hardens when it dries.
   ____________________________

2. Our violent and cruel boss forced us to work twelve hours in a row without a break.
   ____________________________

3. The race was close, so it was difficult to determine an open and direct winner.
   ____________________________

4. This is the perfect small area where something happens for a picnic.
   ____________________________

5. Truck drivers often stay awake for many hours to make their difficult and tiring drives.
   ____________________________

6. The salesperson's claim seemed quite dishonest, unsafe, and unreliable.
   ____________________________

7. Mike was thrilled to pass the driving test and gain his driver's license.
   ____________________________

8. Physics on the moon are much different than Earth-related physics.
   ____________________________

9. The prisoners were unable to imagine and believe a plot for escaping the jail.
   ____________________________

10. To plant these seeds, I will first need to buy a tool used for digging.
    ____________________________

Exercise 2

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. What might a person with a large ego say?

2. Which is likely to be jagged?

3. Which is likely to be excavated?
   a. Water  b. A sofa  c. A computer  d. The ground

4. What is part of the skeletal system?
   a. The skin  b. The tongue  c. The skull  d. The fingernails

5. What is an example of an endeavor?
   a. Waking up  b. Inventing a new machine  c. Making coffee  d. Combing your hair

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Exercise 3

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ____ The alarm clock was set to **endeavor** every morning at seven A.M.

2. ____ Experts **excavated** the site in hopes of finding an ancient city buried underneath.

3. ____ Everyone loved to hug and kiss the **vicious** baby.

4. ____ The elephant is one of the largest **terrestrial** animals still in existence.

5. ____ The **dubious** chocolate ice cream is a favorite treat at the restaurant.

6. ____ The concerned owner built a fence along the **periphery** of the parking lot.

7. ____ Preparing for the difficult test was an **arduous** task for the nervous students.

8. ____ You'll need a **shovel** if you plan on getting on top of the roof.

9. ____ The delicate flower was a **jagged** addition to the arrangement.

10. ____ Children cheered as the circus clown **attained** balloons into different shapes.

11. ____ He filled the ugly holes in the ceiling with **plaster**.

12. ____ At the factory, the workers made screws by pouring liquid metal into a **mold**.

13. ____ I hope she is able to **engrave** all of her homework before school tomorrow.

14. ____ I cannot **conceive** the reason why he would act in such a mean way.

15. ____ The small fights and arguments eventually led to an **outright** war.

16. ____ When the glass vase fell to the floor, we heard an **elastic** sound.

17. ____ She bought a cute new **ego** from the pet store today.

18. ____ We need to choose a **locale** for Brian's birthday party.

19. ____ Derrick bought a **skeletal** from that new clothing store downtown.

20. ____ Although they were rivals, the stores were able to **coexist** in the same neighborhood.
The Fossil Hunters

Tim and Dean were great fossil hunters. They were the very best at finding dinosaur bones. Although Tim and Dean were quite similar, they were outright enemies. The two men got into vicious arguments all the time. They couldn’t coexist peacefully because their egos were too large. Tim thought he was the best fossil hunter, while Dean was sure that he was much better than Tim.

One day, Tim was searching for fossils on the periphery of the city when he discovered a huge bone. He had never seen anything like it! He took his shovel and carefully excavated the dirt around it. As he dug, he uncovered more jagged bones. He realized that he had found an entire dinosaur skeleton! Tim couldn’t conceive a plan to remove the huge skeleton all by himself. Such an endeavor would be too arduous. He needed help. He tried to think of people who would be capable of helping him remove the skeleton without breaking it. The only person Tim could think of was Dean, his enemy.

Tim ran into the city to find Dean. Tim found him and said, “Dean, I’ve found the skeletal remains of a huge terrestrial animal. But I can’t get the skeleton out by myself. Will you please help me?”

Dean thought that Tim’s claim might be dubious. He replied, “If you’re serious about the skeleton, I’ll help.”

Tim excitedly showed Dean the skeleton’s locale. They worked together to carefully remove each bone. And to keep the bones together, they tied them with elastic strips. When they were finished, they had attained a perfect skeleton. They used plaster to make a mold of the dinosaur’s skull. They engraved their initials into it and gave it to the curator of a local museum.

Tim and Dean found out that they could work very well together. They decided to end their feud and become friends. By combining their talents, the men became even greater than they were before.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ Tim and Dean were outright enemies who got into vicious arguments.

2. ____ Tim and Dean removed the jagged bones and used elastic to attain them.

3. ____ Tim couldn’t conceive a plan to remove the bones because the endeavor would be too arduous.

4. ____ Dean thought that Tim’s ego might be dubious.

5. ____ When Tim excavated the land, he uncovered many engraved bones.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Why couldn’t Tim and Dean coexist peacefully?

2. What did Tim use his shovel to do?

3. What was Tim doing on the periphery of the city?

4. What did the fossil hunters do to the plaster mold before they gave it to the curator?

5. What did Dean say before he went to the locale of the terrestrial animal’s skeletal remains?
absurd  [absərd]  adj.
If something or someone is absurd, they are ridiculous.
→ That group of people making animal noises sounds completely absurd.

anemia  [ani:mie]  n.
Anemia is a blood condition that causes a person to be pale and tired.
→ When she first developed anemia, she became tired often.

aristocracy  [ərɪstəkrəsi]  n.
The aristocracy is the highest class of people in certain societies.
→ Most members of the aristocracy were very well-fed.

aristocrat  [əristəkraːt]  n.
An aristocrat is a person who is of the highest class in certain societies.
→ The aristocrat did not need a job because his family was wealthy.

attire  [əˈtaɪər]  n.
Attire is nice or special clothing.
→ Everyone wore their best attire to the president’s daughter’s wedding.

craze  [kreiz]  n.
A craze is a brief and popular activity or object.
→ Wearing bright red socks was a craze when I was in high school.

enlarge  [ɪnˈlaːrdʒ]  v.
To enlarge something means to make it bigger.
→ The classrooms were enlarged over the summer to make room for more students.

excess  [ɛksəs]  n.
An excess is an amount of something that is more than needed or wanted.
→ Because it never got cold that winter, many stores had an excess of coats.

feminine  [fɪˈmənɪn]  adj.
If something is feminine, then it has qualities that are commonly related to women.
→ Many of the older people thought his long hair made him look too feminine.

hallmark  [ˈhɔːlmɑːrk]  n.
A hallmark is a unique characteristic of something.
→ Different types of pasta and tomato sauces are hallmarks of Italian food.
pad  [pæd]  n.
A pad is a thick piece of soft material used to protect or clean things.

→ Football players wear shoulder pads to keep them safe.

predominant  [prɪdəˈmænənt]  adj.
If something is predominant, then it is the most important, common or strongest.

→ Before cars were invented, horses were the predominant method of travel.

reputable  [rɪˈpjuːtəbəl]  adj.
If someone or something is reputable, then they have a good reputation.

→ The service from the less than reputable company made her angry.

rouge  [ruːʒ]  n.
Rouge is a red powder or cream used as makeup on the cheeks or lips.

→ Even when she didn’t wear rouge, her cheeks appeared red.

signify  [sɪgˈnaɪfaɪ]  v.
To signify means to be a symbol of something.

→ A red octagon is used to signify to stop.

strap  [stræp]  n.
A strap is a thin long piece of fabric used to fasten, carry, or hold something.

→ She put the strap of her purse over her shoulder and walked out of the door.

tangle  [ˈtæŋɡəl]  n.
A tangle is something or many things twisted together.

→ The laces of his shoes were in such a tangle that he could not untie them.

vanity  [ˈvænətɪ]  n.
Vanity is excessive pride or love of one’s own appearance or things one has done.

→ Her vanity won’t allow her to pass a mirror without looking at herself.

vie  [vai]  v.
To vie for something means to compete against others for it.

→ The three boys vied for the prize in the chemistry contest.

vulgar  [ˈvʌlɡər]  adj.
If something or someone is vulgar, then they are rude or lacking in style.

→ Her vulgar behavior got her into trouble with her parents.

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**Exercise 1**

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. **vanity**  
   a. truck  
   b. pride  
   c. dusk  
   d. shelf  

2. **aristocrat**  
   a. noble  
   b. painting  
   c. weather  
   d. angel  

3. **pad**  
   a. pocket  
   b. cushion  
   c. alley  
   d. subject  

4. **vulgar**  
   a. young  
   b. faint  
   c. short  
   d. rude  

5. **predominant**  
   a. mysterious  
   b. gradual  
   c. superior  
   d. parallel  

6. **attire**  
   a. clothing  
   b. wheel  
   c. labor  
   d. smell  

7. **tangle**  
   a. knot  
   b. tint  
   c. slope  
   d. spice  

8. **enlarge**  
   a. fight  
   b. rent  
   c. greet  
   d. swell  

9. **absurd**  
   a. hungry  
   b. round  
   c. funny  
   d. polite  

10. **signify**  
    a. scribble  
    b. symbolize  
    c. consult  
    d. remove

**Exercise 2**

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. I broke the long piece of fabric that goes over my shoulder on my purse.

2. Matt's female appearances made everyone take notice of him immediately.

3. You must wear proper clothing if you plan on attending the formal dance.

4. He works for a well-respected firm downtown.

5. The soft materials in his helmet will protect him if he should fall and strike his head on an object.
Exercise 3

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Word Bank

- strap
- feminine
- aristocracy
- rouge
- excess
- hallmark
- vie
- reputable
- craze
- anemia

Beth’s 1___________ had made her face lose a lot of its color.
She decided to use some 2___________ to make her cheeks look less pale.

All the girls had to own that style of purse with the yellow 3___________.
But Pam knew that it was just another 4___________.

John was not like the other members of the 5___________.
Though he had a(n) 6___________ of money, he gave it to help people.

Will had to 7___________ with other students for the respect of the teacher.
However, once he became a(n) 8___________ student, he stopped studying.

Some people thought the musician’s lipstick made him look 9___________.
But others felt that this 10___________ is what made him so popular.

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ We all felt that the new office rules were completely absurd.
2. ___ The bushes were tangled with vine.
3. ___ Losing your memory as you get older is called anemia.
4. ___ A strong smell is the hallmark of a good cheese.
5. ___ It was easy to get lost in the big house. Its many hallways made it seem like a craze.
6. ___ The local vanity asked people to give old clothing and money.
7. ___ After putting on too much rouge, she looked like a clown.
8. ___ Everyone may attend excess those who have not finished their assignment.
9. ___ Talking to people with food in your mouth is not only gross. It is also quite vulgar.
10. ___ Because he was an aristocrat, he had to wash dishes in order to make enough money.
Dressed to Excess

If you traveled back in time to the 1700s in Europe, you would laugh when you saw how the aristocracy dressed. Soon you’d realize, though, that the aristocrats of Europe were very serious about their appearance.

The predominant style in women’s attire was enormous dresses. They were often three times larger than the wearer. Ladies even used pads to enlarge the appearance of their hips and shoulders. On the other extreme, the aristocratic women made their waists appear extremely thin. It took several maids stretching fabric and pulling straps in order to get a lady’s waist to the proper thinness. These ladies could barely breathe and often fainted.

Pale skin was also a craze, yet this too was done in excess. One could not simply be pale. Instead, she needed to look as if she had anemia. In order to look paler, ladies actually cut themselves daily, so they would bleed.

The hairstyles, however, were the hallmark of women’s fashion. These stood a meter high on the ladies’ heads. The columns of hair were a ridiculous tangle of wigs, jewels, flowers, and even stuffed birds.

Men’s fashion was similarly absurd. Today it would probably seem very feminine. Reputable men wore wigs of long curly hair. Their shoes had large soles or high heels so that they could walk high above the filth on the streets. Furthermore, just like the ladies, the men wore lipstick and put rouge on their cheeks.

Their clothes were brightly colored, often purple and pink. They were made from the finest of fabrics and decorated with jewels and lace. The men vied with one another to see who wore the more expensive clothes, for the clothing signified his wealth and status.

Both men and women spent huge amounts of money and time on how they looked. Though such vanity would seem vulgar today, three hundred years from now, the fashions of our time might also seem completely ridiculous.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. _____ Ladies used pads to enlarge their hips and shoulders.

2. _____ Only the ladies wore lipstick and rouge.

3. _____ The aristocracy’s vanity would seem vulgar today.

4. _____ Women’s hair was a tangle of wigs, straps, flowers, and stuffed birds.

5. _____ Men’s fashion was absurd and feminine.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What was the predominant style in women’s attire?

2. What did the clothing of an aristocrat signify?

3. What craze was done in such excess that women had to look like they had anemia?

4. What was the hallmark of women’s fashion?

5. When reputable men vied with each other, what were they trying to see?
attic [ætɪk] n.
An attic is a room just below a house’s roof.
→ There were two windows in their attic.

chunk [tʃæŋk] n.
A chunk is a thick, solid piece of something.
→ When they broke open the rock, they saw it was filled with chunks of gold.

civic [sɪvɪk] adj.
If something is civic, then it is related to a town or city, especially its government.
→ Most of the important civic buildings are located downtown.

descent [dɪsent] n.
A descent is a movement downwards.
→ During the space shuttle’s descent, the Earth became larger and larger.

din [dɪn] n.
A din is loud, unpleasant, and extended noise.
→ The din of the rusty machinery made the factory a horrible place to work.

dissatisfy [dɪsəˈtɪsfai] v.
To dissatisfy someone means to fail to please them.
→ He was dissatisfied with his meal.

fuss [fʌs] n.
A fuss is excited or annoyed behavior that is not useful in any way.
→ The child made an awful fuss because she didn’t want to go to bed.

gourmet [ɡuərˈmiː] adj.
If food is gourmet, then it is nicer and more expensive than regular food.
→ In order to get a gourmet meal, you have to eat at an expensive restaurant.

hence [hens] adv.
If something happens hence, then it happens as a result of something.
→ John forgot the key. Hence, we couldn’t open the door.

intrinsic [ɪnˈtrɪsnɪk] adj.
If something is intrinsic, then it is related to the basic nature of that thing.
→ Paper money has no intrinsic value. It is useful simply because society says it is.
kettle  [kɛtl]  n.
A kettle is a large metal pot used for boiling liquids or cooking food.
→ The soup was being cooked in a large kettle.

ministry  [mɪnɪstri]  n.
A ministry is a government department.
→ The Ministry of Trade is responsible for taxing imports and exports.

ordeal  [ˈɔrdiəl]  n.
An ordeal is a bad experience.
→ Driving in the snowstorm was an ordeal she’d never forget.

outspoken  [ouˈspoukən]  adj.
If someone is outspoken, then they are not afraid to say what they think.
→ She was an outspoken critic about the new banking laws.

overwork  [ˈouvərwaːrk]  v.
To overwork someone means to make them tired with too much work.
→ After working for three weeks with only one day of rest, Judy was overworked.

particular  [ˈpɑːtɪkjələr]  adj.
If something is particular, then it is a single, important part of a group of things.
→ The dress shop didn’t have the particular dress she was looking for.

pungent  [ˈpʊŋdʒənt]  adj.
If something is pungent, then it tastes or smells strong and sharp.
→ The garlic made the soup taste so pungent that the chef wouldn’t serve it.

snore  [snɔːr]  v.
To snore means to make a loud noise each time a sleeping person breathes.
→ It was impossible to get to sleep because my husband snored.

soundly  [saʊndli]  adv.
If something is done soundly, then it is done in the best or most complete way.
→ The nearest opponent was ten meters behind. She won the race soundly.

superintendent  [suˈpɜːrɪntendənt]  n.
A superintendent is a person who runs a certain department or building.
→ The superintendent decided to close the schools because of the weather.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. din
   a. home   b. supper   c. silence   d. ghost
2. outspoken
   a. quiet   b. little   c. inside   d. bright
3. pungent
   a. hurt   b. mild   c. kind   d. young
4. civic
   a. swollen   b. happy   c. private   d. mature
5. descent
   a. climb   b. odor   c. plate   d. bill
6. attic
   a. mouse   b. square   c. number   d. cellar
7. fuss
   a. complaint   b. calm   c. argument   d. commerce
8. dissatisfy
   a. cleanse   b. leap   c. trim   d. please
9. overwork
   a. relax   b. understand   c. select   d. repair
10. chunk
    a. bridge   b. song   c. whole   d. lamp

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. intrinsic
   a. logical   b. natural   c. usable   d. fragile
2. ministry
   a. porch   b. coast   c. agency   d. bush
3. snore
   a. grunt   b. fly   c. rain   d. call
4. kettle
   a. cup   b. bucket   c. pot   d. pan
5. superintendent
   a. diner   b. manager   c. sunrise   d. beginning
6. gourmet
   a. delicious   b. comfortable   c. legitimate   d. pleasant
7. soundly
   a. slowly   b. totally   c. loudly   d. briefly
8. hence
   a. also   b. instead   c. still   d. thus
9. ordeal
   a. problem   b. direction   c. bargain   d. request
10. particular
    a. moody   b. beaten   c. exact   d. secret
Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The movement downward from the mountain was because it had started to rain.
   ________________________________

2. The berries were not ripe when he tried them. Their taste was extremely sharp and strong.
   ________________________________

3. A thick, solid piece of dirt was stuck underneath the wagon’s tire.
   ________________________________

4. Please share your suggestions with the department leader so she can address them.
   ________________________________

5. After toiling for hours in the hot sun, the prisoners were tired from too much work.
   ________________________________

6. For her birthday, her boyfriend took her out for a fancy and expensive dinner.
   ________________________________

7. The room just below the roof is on the third floor of the house.
   ________________________________

8. She was respected by many because she was not afraid to say what she thought.
   ________________________________

9. He always dreamed of getting a job with one of the departments of government.
   ________________________________

10. Getting lost in the desert would have been quite an awful experience.
    ________________________________

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ____ The caffeine in the tea gave him more energy. Hence, he was more alert.

2. ____ Mom, something smells good in the kitchen. I can’t wait for din.

3. ____ The cat waited outside the door and made a fuss until someone let her inside the house.

4. ____ See that politician over there? He works in the Ministry of Truth.

5. ____ The need to protect one’s family is an intrinsic quality found in many animals.

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The Butler's Bad Day

The Superintendent of Civic Projects was a busy man. He worked every day of the week and had fancy parties at his house every night.

However, if there was someone busier than him, it was his butler. He worked all day organizing the superintendent's parties and then cleaned up after them late at night. Hence, while the superintendent slept soundly, snoring loudly in his bed, the butler was still awake.

Sadly, though the butler was always overworked, his profession's intrinsic nature demanded he never be outspoken. Therefore, his employer never knew the butler hadn't slept for several days. On any day the butler might make a mistake.

One day, the superintendent said, “This particular party is important. People from the ministry are coming. Everything must be perfect.”

The butler began preparing at once. First he went to the attic to get more chairs and tables. But on his descent, he realized he needed to make the food. A gourmet dinner was necessary for such a party. He boiled water in a kettle for soup and chopped some beef into chunks. Just as he was starting the soup, he remembered that he had to sweep the veranda. As he was sweeping the veranda, he realized that he had to clean the sauna.

By this time, the first guests had arrived. The veranda was still dirty. There were not enough chairs for the guests to sit on, and the soup tasted too pungent. Some guests were dissatisfied. They started to make a fuss, and the party was filled with a din of complaints.

The superintendent’s party was a disaster. He wondered why his butler had made so many mistakes. At last, the butler admitted to being exhausted. His boss felt pity for the butler. He had no idea the butler was so tired. He said, “You should have told me earlier, then we could have avoided this whole ordeal.”
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. T The Superintendent of Civic Projects cleaned late at night; hence, he was busier than his butler.

2. F Though the butler was outspoken, his job's intrinsic nature made him never become overworked.

3. T This particular party was important because people from the ministry were coming.

4. T The butler boiled caffeine in a kettle and chopped beef into chunks.

5. T The soup for the gourmet dinner tasted too pungent.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. How was the butler while the superintendent slept soundly and snored?

2. On his descent from the attic, what did the butler realize?

3. How could the butler have avoided the entire ordeal?

4. Just as he started the soup, what did the butler remember?

5. Why was the party filled with a din of unhappy guests making a fuss?
**Alternate** [ɔ:ltərˈneɪt] v.
To alternate means to switch back and forth between two things.
→ The best exercise *alternates* muscle and heart strengthening.

**Apologetic** [əˈpɒlədʒətɪk] adj.
If someone is apologetic, they are sorry about something.
→ The boy felt apologetic after losing his sister’s favorite toy.

**Benign** [ˈbɛnɪŋ] adj.
If something or someone is benign, they do not hurt anyone.
→ Many spiders look scary, but most are actually benign.

**Char** [ʃɑr] v.
To char means to burn something so that it turns black.
→ While Frank went inside to get the mustard, he accidentally charred the hotdogs.

**Clarify** [ˈklærəfaɪ] v.
To clarify means to make something easier to understand by explaining it.
→ Drew tried to clarify all the functions of Michelle’s new computer.

**Distress** [ˈdɪstrɛs] n.
Distress is the feeling of being upset or worried.
→ Failing a class caused the student a lot of distress.

**Dogged** [ˈdɒɡd] adj.
When someone’s actions are dogged, they try hard to continue something.
→ Her dad bought her a new jacket after her dogged requests for one.

**Ensure** [ɪnsʊr] v.
To ensure means to happen after something.
→ After a few minutes of lightening, thunder ensued.

**Gasp** [ɡæsp] v.
To gasp means to make a noise by quickly breathing in when surprised.
→ John always *gasp* when watching a scary movie.

**Negotiate** [nɪɡəˈʃeɪt] v.
To negotiate means to try to make an agreement through discussion.
→ Mario and Joe took a long time *negotiating* the contract between the companies.
**overdose**  [ˈouvərdəʊs]  *n.*
An overdose is an instance of taking or having too much of something.
→ *John’s skin was burned from an overdose of sunshine.*

**persuasion**  [ˈpɜrswərən]  *n.*
Persuasion is the act of making someone do or believe something.
→ *The persuasion of his argument convinced the customer to buy the laptop.*

**relay**  [ˈreɪli]  *n.*
A relay is a race in which teams of runners or swimmers race against each other.
→ *Jerry was the fastest on his team, so he ran the last part of the relay.*

**reluctance**  [rɪˈʌktəns]  *n.*
Reluctance is a feeling of not wanting to do something.
→ *Jesse took out the trash with great reluctance.*

**restate**  [rɪˈstɛt]  *v.*
To restate something means to say it again or in a different way.
→ *Mrs. Jones restated the test question to the class.*

**sesame**  [ˈsesəm]  *n.*
Sesame is an herb that is grown for its small seeds and its oil.
→ *I used the buns with the sesame seeds on them.*

**sip**  [sɪp]  *v.*
To sip something means to drink a small amount at a time.
→ *Liza relaxed on the beach, sipping fruit juice through a straw.*

**verge**  [vɜːrdʒ]  *n.*
The verge is the point at which something is about to happen.
→ *Joan was on the verge of leaving her house when the phone rang.*

**wary**  [ˈwɛəri]  *adj.*
If someone is wary, they are cautious or mistrusting.
→ *She was wary of going to school because she hadn’t done her homework.*

**waver**  [ˈweɪvər]  *v.*
To waver is to be unable to decide between two choices.
→ *I wavered between eating the apple or the cake for a snack.*

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Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. An overdose of something is ______.
   a. expensive
   b. too much
   c. not true
   d. not enough

2. What might cause someone to gasp?
   a. Falling asleep
   b. Getting a surprise party
   c. Eating too much
   d. Laying on a bed

3. What is something that can be sipped?
   a. A plate of rice
   b. A bowl of fruit
   c. A glass of soda
   d. A piece of chicken

4. If you knew that a snake was benign, you would probably feel like this:
   a. Fine
   b. Scared
   c. Angry
   d. Hungry

5. She felt apologetic about ______.
   a. calling her friend back
   b. walking home alone
   c. forgetting her friend’s birthday
   d. giving to charity

6. If people are negotiating, what are they doing?
   a. Deciding on something
   b. Arguing about a silly topic
   c. Meeting for the first time
   d. Going on a date

7. What does charred meat look like?
   a. It is raw and not cooked enough.
   b. It is cooked perfectly.
   c. It is black on the outside.
   d. It is red on the outside.

8. If someone does something with reluctance, how do they feel?
   a. Excited
   b. Unwilling
   c. Frightened
   d. Nervous

9. What might ensue after someone has misplaced a lot of money?
   a. A worried search
   b. A visit from the doctor
   c. The arrival of a friend
   d. A party

10. What might cause a teacher distress?
    a. All the students doing their homework
    b. Her students always arriving on time
    c. Her students not coming to class
    d. Her students all passing an exam
### Exercise 2

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Similar Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>reluctance</td>
<td>a. loneliness</td>
<td>b. hesitance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>apologetic</td>
<td>a. unsure</td>
<td>b. lucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>char</td>
<td>a. burn</td>
<td>b. cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>relay</td>
<td>a. plate</td>
<td>b. race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>persuasion</td>
<td>a. talent</td>
<td>b. influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>restate</td>
<td>a. decide</td>
<td>b. discuss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>gasp</td>
<td>a. breathe</td>
<td>b. announce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>negotiate</td>
<td>a. decide</td>
<td>b. discuss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>sesame</td>
<td>a. container</td>
<td>b. food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>verge</td>
<td>a. edge</td>
<td>b. done</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exercise 3

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Opposite Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>benign</td>
<td>a. quick</td>
<td>b. painful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>dogged</td>
<td>a. working</td>
<td>b. arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>clarify</td>
<td>a. confuse</td>
<td>b. clean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>waver</td>
<td>a. river</td>
<td>b. determine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>distress</td>
<td>a. thoughtful</td>
<td>b. reasonable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>sip</td>
<td>a. gulp</td>
<td>b. laugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>alternate</td>
<td>a. divide</td>
<td>b. move</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>overdose</td>
<td>a. lack</td>
<td>b. mixture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>wary</td>
<td>a. tired</td>
<td>b. mad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>ensue</td>
<td>a. come before</td>
<td>b. safe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Bet

Russell finished running a relay and joined his friend Becky in the cafeteria. He asked, “What’s for lunch?”

“She’s chicken. It’s OK, except the meat’s charred. Oh, and watch out for the chili peppers,” Becky said.

“Chilies don’t bother me!” said Russell.

“My stepmother says you should be careful with them,” replied Becky.

An argument ensued about eating chilies. “Chilies aren’t so bad. I bet I can take more bites of this chili than you,” Russell said.

Becky was wary of eating the pepper. Despite her reluctance, she didn’t want to say no to the bet. She wavered about whether to do it or not. She negotiated the details. “What will the winner get?” she asked.

“The loser has to carry the winner’s books for a year! I’ll even let you go first.”

Becky replied, “Fine, but to clarify, you’ll carry my books for the entire school year, right?”

Russell restated the agreement, “That’s right . . . I’ll carry your books all year if you win—which you won’t!”

His dogged persuasion convinced her. The chili looked benign, but Becky knew it could cause a lot of pain. She bit the bottom of the pepper. Surprisingly, she felt nothing.

“My turn,” said Russell. He bit the middle of the chili. Immediately, he seemed to be in distress. He gasped and his face alternated between brave and pained expressions. He experienced an overdose of spice. He was on the verge of tears and finally let out a horrible cry.

“Take this,” said Becky, handing him her drink.

“That was awful!” he said, continuing to sip from the glass.

That night, Becky researched chilies. The next day she said in an apologetic voice, “I read that the hot part of chilies is in the middle, where the seeds are. I’m sorry—I feel like I cheated by going first.”

Russell was relieved, not only did he learn something new about chilies, but he learned that Becky was a good friend.

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PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Becky was having charred sesame chicken for lunch.

2. ___ The argument ensued because Becky wavered about whether to run the relay.

3. ___ After Russell and Becky negotiated the bet, they decided that whoever lost would carry the winner’s books for a year.

4. ___ Russell was wary about eating the pepper even if it looked benign.

5. ___ Becky was apologetic because of her choice to take the first bite of the pepper.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Why did Becky take the bet in spite of her reluctance?

2. Why did Russell have to restate the terms of the bet?

3. How did Becky know that Russell was in distress and had an overdose of spice after he ate the pepper?

4. Who warned Becky about chilies?

5. What did Russell do after he ate the chili?
ashore  [əʃɔː]  adv.
If something goes ashore, it goes from water to the land.
→ After a long day of fishing, Glen pulled his boat ashore, so it wouldn’t float away.

contradict  [kəntrəˈdɪkt]  v.
To contradict means to state the opposite of what someone else has.
→ Ken was always fighting with his little sister because she kept contradicting him.

counterpart  [ˈkʌntərpɔːt]  n.
A counterpart is something that is very similar to something else in what it does.
→ Our manager will meet our rival company’s counterpart later today.

devoid  [dɪˈvaɪd]  adj.
When something or someone is devoid of a thing, they are missing it.
→ The movie was devoid of any violence, so it was a perfect movie for the family.

diverge  [dɪˈvɜrdʒ]  v.
To diverge is to become different or to follow a different direction.
→ The road diverged into two paths that led to our houses.

elude  [ɪˈluːd]  v.
To elude means to avoid being caught by something.
→ The rabbit eluded the wolf by hiding in a bush.

embryo  [ˈɛmbrɪəʊ]  n.
An embryo is a human or animal that is still growing inside its mother.
→ Some doctors say that what a mother eats has a big effect on her embryo.

fend  [fend]  v.
To fend off something means to push it away and avoid it.
→ Dave spent all night fending off bugs instead of sleeping.

fictitious  [fɪkˈtɪʃəs]  adj.
When something is fictitious, it is made up and not real.
→ The author said that the characters in her book were completely fictitious.

gazette  [ˈɡæzət]  n.
A gazette is a newspaper.
→ Alice wants to write for a gazette when she’s older.
homogeneous [həʊməˈdʒiːnəs] adj.
If something is homogeneous, it is made up of things which are all the same.
→ All of the houses on Victor’s block were boring and homogeneous.

obstruct [əˈstrʌkt] v.
To obstruct something means to get in its way.
→ The car broke down on the road and obstructed traffic for hours.

plunge [plʌndʒ] v.
To plunge means to move down into something very quickly.
→ The water in the pool was very cold, but the boy plunged in anyway.

prolong [prəˈlɒŋ] v.
To prolong means to make something last for a longer time.
→ Sandy walked slowly across the beach, trying to prolong her lunch break.

publicize [ˈpʌblɪsaɪz] v.
To publicize is to make something get a lot of attention.
→ The company publicized the job positions in the newspaper.

sparse [spɑːrs] adj.
If something is sparse, there is not very much of it in a big area.
→ Rob spent Saturday in his garden, clearing out the sparse weeds.

surplus [sərˈplʌs] n.
A surplus is an extra amount of something.
→ The store sold their surplus items on sale.

theorize [θiˈəraɪz] v.
To theorize means to develop ideas about something.
→ They enjoyed theorizing about how things worked.

verify [vəˈraɪ] v.
To verify means to find out if something is true.
→ Julian called the movie theater to verify that the movie started at nine.

vigorous [vɪˈɡərəs] adj.
If something or someone is vigorous, they use a lot of energy.
→ Henry uses vigorous exercise to keep himself in shape.
Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. What animal can survive ashore?
   a. A dolphin  
   b. An alligator  
   c. A shark  
   d. A goldfish

2. How can someone devoid of any happiness be described?
   a. Lazy  
   b. Content  
   c. Depressed  
   d. Humorous

3. How do turtles elude predators?
   a. They walk fast.  
   b. They hide in their shells.  
   c. They have sharp teeth.  
   d. They dig a hole in the ground.

4. What is something that people can plunge into?
   a. A school  
   b. A car  
   c. A cup  
   d. A pool

5. Which of the following is NOT used to obstruct sunlight?
   a. Sunglasses  
   b. Curtains  
   c. A telescope  
   d. A baseball cap

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. Human undeveloped babies grow inside the mother for up to nine months.

2. The concert was made well-known over the radio.

3. Ms. Hiller had a spare amount of clothes, so she gave them to charity.

4. The philosopher developed an idea about what happens to good people.

5. The principal called Alex's house to make certain he was sick at home.

6. Margaret collected shells that had come from the water to land on the beach.

7. Elliot moved down into the water as soon as he arrived at the beach.

8. Oscar hid behind a tree to not get caught by the bully who was chasing him.

9. The beads in the box were all the same.

10. The amount of hair he had on his head was a small amount.
Exercise 3

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. prolong
   a. show   b. ensure   c. extend   d. destine

2. fictitious
   a. invented   b. realistic   c. wonderful   d. unseen

3. contradict
   a. move away   b. disagree   c. think about   d. describe

4. homogeneous
   a. same   b. weak   c. unrelated   d. barred

5. vigorous
   a. untamed   b. skilled   c. qualified   d. energetic

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. I obstructed my brother from coming in by locking the door.

2. I ate a light snack to fend off my hunger.

3. The river diverged into three different channels.

4. Sheila publicized her party over the Internet. She didn’t want a lot of people to know about it.

5. I viewed this morning’s gazette to find out about today's weather.

6. Jason always contradicted what his friend said. They agreed about everything.

7. Andrew verified that his friends were coming to his house, so his mom could make enough food for dinner.

8. Did you remember to take the hot pan off of the counterpart?

9. Class was prolonged because Shelly had a lot of questions. By the time she was done, school had been over for ten minutes.

10. Greg didn’t like vigorous exercise, so he played many different sports.
Amazing Komodo Dragons

Once, a British gazette had an unusual story. Scientists at a zoo made a discovery about komodo dragons. Komodo dragons are giant lizards that grow up to two and a half meters long. A female lizard at the zoo had babies. However, it had never been around a male lizard in its entire life. After the scientists publicized their discovery, many people thought it was fictitious.

But it was true. It was discovered that female komodo dragons can have babies without the help of their male counterparts. This contradicts what scientists know about how most animals have babies.

In most cases, there are many things that can obstruct this type of reproduction. For example, adult males and females carry different genes needed to make an embryo. If the genes are homogeneous, the babies are weaker and have genetic problems. Over time, the weakened species dies out completely. This makes it necessary for the male to be involved. However, scientists verified that when Komodo babies are born, their genes aren’t the exact same genes as their mother. Also, they are devoid of any genetic problems.

Scientists theorize that Komodo dragons developed the ability because it helps the species fend off extinction. If a volcano erupts, lava can kill all of the komodo dragons on an island. However, as long as one female eludes death, she can prolong the survival of the species. Luckily, Komodo dragons are vigorous swimmers. So the surviving female can plunge into the ocean and swim to another island. When she comes ashore, she can reproduce by herself. Over time, the genes within the population diverge. Then, the sparse population increases. Once again there is a surplus of lizards on one island. Scientists think that this may be how the lizards took over all of the islands in that area.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ People thought that the story publicized in the gazette about the komodo dragons was fictitious.

2. ___ Female komodo dragons can have babies without their male counterparts.

3. ___ Scientists verified that baby komodo dragons have homogeneous genes if they don’t have fathers, which leads to genetic problems.

4. ___ Scientists theorize that the special ability of komodo dragons help them elude predators.

5. ___ A female komodo dragon can increase a sparse population so that there are surplus lizards on one island.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. How do komodo dragons contradict what scientists know about reproduction?

2. Why is it possible for a komodo dragon to come ashore at a different island?

3. How can a female komodo dragon prolong the survival of the species in case of a disaster?

4. According to the passage, what happens to the genes of the population over time?

5. What will happen to the komodo bobies if the genes are homogeneous?
altar  [ˈɔːltər]  n.
An altar is a table used in churches.
→ The altar had many lit candles on it.

arthrosis  [əˈrɔrəθrɪs]  n.
Arthritis is an illness causing pain and swelling in a person’s joints.
→ Agatha couldn’t play the piano anymore because of her arthritis.

botany  [ˈbɒtəni]  n.
Botany is the study of plants.
→ Gardens are the best places for botany.

credible  [krɪˈdɛbl]  adj.
If something or someone is credible, they can be believed or trusted.
→ Dick gave a credible reason for being late and didn’t get in any trouble.

decreeed  [dɪˈsiːt]  adj.
If someone is deceased, they are dead.
→ We visited the graves of our deceased grandparents.

decipher  [dɪˈsaɪfər]  v.
To decipher writing is to figure out what it says.
→ My teacher complained that she couldn’t decipher my essay.

dung  [dʌŋ]  n.
Dung is solid waste material produced by animals.
→ There was cow dung all over the field.

dusk  [dʌsk]  n.
Dusk is the time in the evening when it begins to get dark.
→ After dusk, Hannah would catch fireflies in the park.

gratify  [ɡrætəˈfaɪ]  v.
To gratify someone means to please them.
→ Bonnie was gratified after receiving her gift from her parents.
hone [noun] v.
To hone something is to improve it and make it very good.
→ Lisa honed her chess skills by hours and hours of practice.

mash [mæʃ] v.
To mash something is to crush it so that it is soft.
→ We mashed the hard potatoes and served them for dinner.

ornate [ɔːrnət] adj.
If something is ornate, it is decorated with a lot of fancy things.
→ Kim’s prom dress was very expensive since it was so ornate.

pneumonia [njuːmˈɒnja] n.
Pneumonia is a dangerous illness causing the lungs to fill with liquid.
→ Elaine got pneumonia after playing outside in the rain without a coat.

psychic [səˈsɪk] adj.
When someone is psychic, they know what will happen or what people think.
→ I think my grandmother has psychic abilities because she can predict anything.

psychotic [saɪˈkɒtɪk] adj.
If someone is psychotic, they have a very serious mental illness.
→ The psychotic patient believed he saw things that weren’t real.

scope [skɔːp] n.
The scope of something is how many people or things it relates to.
→ Modern history has a wide scope.

sinister [ˈsɪnɪstər] adj.
If something or someone is sinister, they are evil.
→ Bad guys in most movies have sinister laughs.

strife [strʌɪf] n.
Strife is disagreement or fighting between people or groups.
→ There was a lot of strife between Jim and Lisa about what TV show to watch.

therapeutic [θəˈræpjuːtɪk] adj.
If something is therapeutic, it helps to cure a disease or makes you healthier.
→ After a stressful day of working, Phoebe would take a therapeutic bath.

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Exercise 1

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. credible
   a. unbelievable  b. incorrect  c. sly  d. unprocessed
2. deceased
   a. healed  b. affected  c. young  d. alive
3. ornate
   a. unworthy  b. simple  c. cruel  d. blessed
4. therapeutic
   a. valued  b. sickening  c. unavailable  d. extra
5. dusk
   a. moon  b. sunrise  c. eclipse  d. month

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The journalist checked all her sources to make sure they were believable.
   ____________________________

2. The hospital had a separate section for very mentally ill people.
   ____________________________

3. The child’s handwriting was almost impossible to figure out.
   ____________________________

4. The priest stood behind a(n) table used in religious ceremonies.
   ____________________________

5. Her new sweater was colorful and decorated.
   ____________________________

6. My dad crushes food for my baby brother because he doesn’t have teeth yet.
   ____________________________

7. People with an ailment affecting the joints are often unable to do physical activities.
   ____________________________

8. Some people think I have future seeing powers, but in reality I’m just very observant.
   ____________________________

9. Cows release so much waste material that some scientists believe they harm the environment.
   ____________________________

10. He didn’t like attending the opera, but he did it to satisfy his mother.
    ____________________________

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**Exercise 3**

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. hone
   a. game  b. pain  c. curse  d. improve

2. gratify
   a. admire  b. please  c. approve  d. layer

3. mash
   a. crush  b. place  c. leave  d. gather

4. strife
   a. hurt  b. death  c. conflict  d. weakness

5. sinister
   a. evil  b. futuristic  c. willful  d. thoughtless

**Exercise 4**

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scope</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 1______________ of the medical book is broad.
It deals with all illnesses from colds to 2________________.

Marcia found the sound of the river 3______________.
She went there every day at 4______________ to relieve her stress.

The criminal fooled everyone with his 5______________.
If only someone had stopped him from doing his 6______________ crimes.

Solomon's grandmother was 7______________.
Before she died, she taught him a lot about gardening and 8______________.

After the war, there was much 9______________ about land.
It was difficult for the people to 10______________ the new laws about ownership.
The Greek Magical Papyri is a collection of writing about magic. After it was found in the Egyptian desert, it took experts years to decipher it. The text was written in at least three different ancient languages. After many years, experts realized it contained a number of spells that varied greatly in scope.

The most common types of magic in the collection dealt with healing illnesses like pneumonia. Some spells also gave advice for treating people with mental illnesses, such as those who became psychotic. Some spells asked for unusual things, like crocodile dung. But botany was an important part of the magic. Many healing spells gave instructions on how to use herbs and plants that were believed to be therapeutic. For example, in order to cure arthritis, the book says that the magician should build an ornate altar. Then he should mash different types of herbs and place them on top of it. At dusk, he is supposed to say a spell, so the gods would be gratified.

Other parts of the collection describe how to hone one’s psychic abilities and how to give credible descriptions of the future. Often, the book advised people how to use different objects to tell the future, including tea leaves. Also, one part of the book tells what different dreams might mean. It gives advice for using dreams to tell the future.

A small part of the book, however, is more sinister than the rest. It is meant to cause strife and deception. For example, one tells how to give someone warts, while another will make all of the victim’s farm animals die. However, if someone’s farm animals died as a result of a curse, he could ask a magician to perform magic that makes the deceased come back to life.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The Greek Magical Papyri was hard to decipher because it was too large in scope.

2. ____ The book is about botany.

3. ____ The book gave advice for using crocodile dung to heal.

4. ____ A spell is spoken at dusk to become more credible.

5. ____ The book had instructions for honing one’s psychic powers.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What illnesses does the book have advice for healing?

2. What kind of plants does the book recommend using?

3. What should someone do if they want to cure arthritis?

4. What does the sinister part of the book focus on?

5. What could someone ask a magician to do if their farm animals died?
congested [kændʒəstid] adj.
If something is congested, it is full or blocked.
→ Tom didn’t get home until after dark because the road was so congested.

courier [ˈkʊəriər] n.
A courier is someone who takes and delivers mail or packages.
→ Before trains, most couriers used horses to travel.

deform [dɪˈfɔːrm] v.
To deform something means to change it from its correct or original shape.
→ The computer program deformed the building’s picture into an unreal sight.

etiquette [ˈɛtɪkɪt] n.
Etiquette is the group of rules about how to be polite.
→ When in Asian countries, bowing is a form of etiquette.

exclusive [ɪkˈskluːsɪv] adj.
If something is exclusive, it is expensive and only for rich people.
→ The golf course was so exclusive that most people hadn’t even heard of it.

freight [freɪt] n.
Freight is a set of items carried on a train, boat, or airplane.
→ Trade ships only carried valuable freight like silk and spices.

garment [ˈɡɑːrment] n.
A garment is a piece of clothing.
→ The business man had all of his garments cleaned before the important meeting.

insomnia [ɪnˈsʌmnɪə] n.
Insomnia is a condition in which a person has difficulty sleeping.
→ Nate’s insomnia prevented him from getting enough rest.

intuitive [ɪnˈtjʊɪtɪv] adj.
Intuitive is knowing about something without naturally having support or proof.
→ Rhonda had an intuitive feeling that Shane wasn’t coming to school today.

liable [ˈlaɪəbəl] adj.
If something is liable to happen, it is very likely that it will happen.
→ During the summer months, hikers in the forest are liable to see deer and elk.
obsess  [əbˈses]  v.
To obsess about something means to think about it all of the time.
→ After watching the Star Wars movies, Ike obsessed about becoming a Jedi.

overboard  [ˈouərˈboʊrd]  adv.
When something is overboard, it is over the side of a boat and in the water.
→ Tom and Gary slipped on the wet floor and fell overboard.

premium  [prɪˈmɪriəm]  n.
A premium is a payment that is higher than average.
→ Tony paid for premium gas because it made his car run the best.

privilege  [prɪˈviklɪdʒ]  n.
A privilege is a special right given to only a certain person or group of people.
→ Only the best employee had the privilege of parking in that spot.

propel  [prəpəl]  v.
To propel something means to push or move it somewhere.
→ The strong wind propelled the leaf through the air and across the street.

socialize  [soʊˈʃəlaɪz]  v.
To socialize is to have a good time with people.
→ I like to socialize with my classmates after school.

suppress  [səˈpres]  v.
To suppress something means to prevent it from happening.
→ She suppressed her urge to scream because she didn’t want to be noticed.

tram  [træm]  n.
A tram is a vehicle like a streetcar that runs on electricity above ground.
→ I took the tram to Eighth Avenue.

unsettle  [ənˈsetl]  v.
To unsettle someone means to make them anxious or worried.
→ The dark clouds in the sky unsettled Beth.

warp  [wɔrp]  v.
To warp means to become bent into the wrong shape.
→ The woman put the clock above the fireplace, and the heat warped it.
Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. congested
   a. normal  
   b. crowded  
   c. distinct  
   d. hostile

2. exclusive
   a. limited  
   b. ancient  
   c. inexpensive  
   d. unruly

3. unsettle
   a. bring  
   b. intend  
   c. increase  
   d. worry

4. garment
   a. clothing  
   b. equipment  
   c. criticism  
   d. unplanned action

5. propel
   a. avoid  
   b. push  
   c. capable  
   d. toughen

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The meeting of the citizens’ group was prevented from happening by the police.
   ____________________________________________

2. The warm weather had changed the ice sculptures into strange shapes.
   ____________________________________________

3. Dad says drinking milk before going to bed helps with a disorder that makes it hard to sleep.
   ____________________________________________

4. After I saw the scary movie, walking home in the darkness upset me.
   ____________________________________________

5. After school, I'm likely to go visit my friend at her house.
   ____________________________________________

6. Dylan believed it to be his special right to be treated as superior to all the others.
   ____________________________________________

7. A gust of wind blew her scarf over the edge of the boat while she was sailing.
   ____________________________________________

8. He didn't know what the proper set of rules about being polite was for returning a gift.
   ____________________________________________

9. The train was full of clothes that were to be sold overseas.
   ____________________________________________

10. The wax candle twisted and formed a different shape because it was left in the sun.
   ____________________________________________
Exercise 3

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>congested</th>
<th>exclusive</th>
<th>suppress</th>
<th>premium</th>
<th>etiquette</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>courier</td>
<td>socialize</td>
<td>warp</td>
<td>tram</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The club was very 1__________ and didn’t have many members. The members had to pay a 2__________ just to join.

My mother is 3__________ with making sure we impress our guests. For example, she makes sure our 4__________ is perfect.

I stepped onto the 5__________ and couldn’t find a seat right away. Finally, I made my way through the 6__________ aisle and sat down.

Hannah worked as a 7__________ for an advertising company. Between making deliveries, she liked to 8__________ with the employees.

The glue couldn’t 9__________ the water from leaking from the pipes. Since I didn’t clean it up right away, it caused the wooden floor to 10__________.

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ Allie could always count on her intuitive powers to know where her cat was. That’s why the cat never got lost.

2. ___ The weatherman said it was liable to rain over the entire weekend, so we decided to go for a picnic on Saturday.

3. ___ Jared couldn’t stop obsessing about his grade. When his teacher returned his test, he forgot about it immediately.

4. ___ Maxine suffers from insomnia. She has seen several doctors, but none have helped her get any more sleep.

5. ___ Walter didn’t know what to wear to the concert. All of his best garments needed to be washed.

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Watch Out!

Kevin stepped off the tram and walked toward the ship, holding a package tightly in his hands. He had been hired as a courier for an important broker. All he needed to do was deliver a package to an office in New York City; the ship would take him there.

When he boarded, the ship was congested with people. As Kevin walked to his cabin, he saw the exclusive first-class section. Everybody inside was wearing fancy garments. He would have liked to socialize with the people inside, but it was against proper etiquette. People paid a premium for the privilege to ride in first-class.

Instead, he went to his cabin next to the freight section of the boat. His room smelled bad, and the floorboards were warped and deformed in some areas. He could also hear the motor humming as it waited to propel the ship forward. Suddenly, Kevin was unsettled by something, but he wasn’t sure why.

He took a short walk on the ship’s deck, but he still felt strange. That night, he suffered from insomnia—he couldn’t suppress his obsessing over how strange he felt.

Kevin went back on deck. It was cold and dark outside. He looked overboard, but it seemed that everything was all right. “Just go back inside,” he thought. Then Kevin saw it. A giant iceberg was sticking out of the ocean in the distance!

“Help!” he yelled.

People looked at him as if he was crazy, but he continued to shout until he saw the captain.

“There’s an iceberg out there,” Kevin said to him. “If the ship doesn’t move, we’re liable to crash,” he said, pointing toward the iceberg.

The captain saw it and immediately instructed the crew to change the ship’s direction. “Without your help, we would have definitely hit the iceberg. That would have been a terrible disaster!” he said to Kevin.

Kevin felt relieved. Now he knew to always trust his intuitive sense.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Kevin took a taxi to the ship.

2. ___ In order to get the privilege to be in the exclusive section, one had to wear fancy garments.

3. ___ Kevin didn't socialize with the people in the exclusive section because it was too congested.

4. ___ Kevin could not sleep because he had insomnia.

5. ___ If Kevin hadn't seen the iceberg, the ship was liable to have crashed into it.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Describe Kevin's room next to the freight section.

2. While he was on the ship, what could Kevin hear humming?

3. What did Kevin see when he looked overboard the first time?

4. What did the captain do when he heard the news about the iceberg?

5. What did Kevin learn at the end of the story?
artery [ərtəri] n.
An artery is a tube that takes blood from the heart to the rest of the body. → Eating healthily keeps your arteries clean, so blood can flow with ease.

deterioration [diˈtɪəriərɪˈeɪʃən] n.
Deterioration is the act of becoming worse. → The lack of care led to the deterioration of the house.

elusive [ɪˈljuːsiv] adj.
If something or someone is elusive, they are hard to find. → The elusive fish only came out at night.

forage [fɔːridʒ] v.
To forage means to look around for food. → Many animals hide food in the fall since little can be foraged in winter.

impede [ɪmˈpiːd] v.
To impede something means to keep it from moving or going forward. → The barrier impeded our ability to get closer to the building.

induce [ɪnˈdjuːs] v.
To induce something means to make it happen. → Running without good shoes may induce leg pain.

inseparable [ɪnˈsɛpərəbəl] adj.
If two things are inseparable, they can’t be separated. → Denise and Diana have been inseparable since they first met.

invalid [ɪnˈvælid] adj.
If something is invalid, it is not correct. → The way to winning debates is to avoid invalid arguments.

magnify [mæɡnaɪfaɪ] v.
To magnify something means to make it look bigger than it really is. → Astronomers use telescopes to magnify far-away stars.

mainstream [ˈmeinstriːm] n.
The mainstream is a group of ideas that are considered normal and accepted. → Before punk rock music became part of the mainstream, only a few people liked it.
**microbe** [máikrób] *n.*
A microbe is a very small living thing that often makes people sick.

→ *The first step in curing a disease is finding the microbe that causes the disease.*

**negligible** [neglǐdʒəbəl] *adj.*
If something is negligible, it is extremely small and not important.

→ *The amount she owed was negligible. It was less than ten cents.*

**paralysis** [parəlæsɪs] *n.*
Paralysis is the loss of the ability to move all or part of your body.

→ *His paralysis meant that he had to use a wheelchair to get around.*

**pest** [pest] *n.*
A pest is an animal or insect that hurts plants or food.

→ *Many farmers put up scarecrows to keep pests off of their corn.*

**prevail** [prɛvɛil] *v.*
To prevail means to be accepted or very common.

→ *Unfortunately, injustice still prevails in the country’s court system.*

**respiration** [rɛspərəˈeɪʃən] *n.*
Respiration is the act of breathing.

→ *Artificial respiration is the best thing to do if someone stops breathing.*

**rupture** [rʌptʃər] *v.*
To rupture means to tear or burst open.

→ *Sarah put too much water into the balloon, and it ruptured.*

**savage** [sævidʒ] *adj.*
If something or someone is savage, they are very violent or cruel.

→ *Wild animals are very savage when defending their babies.*

**stun** [stʌn] *v.*
To stun someone means to make them unable to speak due to surprise or shock.

→ *Tim fell off the swing and was too stunned to cry.*

**susceptible** [səsɛptəbəl] *adj.*
If one is susceptible to something like disease, they are easily harmed by it.

→ *Not eating enough vegetables makes you more susceptible to getting sick.*

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Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. microbe
   a. germ
   b. type
   c. liquid
   d. difficulty

2. respiration
   a. living
   b. sleeping
   c. breathing
   d. moving

3. artery
   a. vein
   b. area
   c. medication
   d. tube

4. pest
   a. bug
   b. food
   c. toy
   d. victim

5. induce
   a. take out
   b. cause
   c. stop
   d. chase

6. invalid
   a. hurt
   b. unproven
   c. critical
   d. untrue

7. rupture
   a. burst
   b. reach
   c. sting
   d. bother

8. forage
   a. plant
   b. cook
   c. search
   d. hide

9. stun
   a. shock
   b. injure
   c. threaten
   d. attack

10. susceptible
    a. helpful
    b. at risk
    c. informative
    d. suffering

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The old house was full of insects that cause harm.
   ____________________________

2. My brother-in-law always tries to enlarge small problems so that they seem much greater than they really are.
   ____________________________

3. Mr. Robinson owned a violent dog that terrified all the children in the neighborhood.
   ____________________________

4. If you eat spicy food at night, it will lead to heartburn.
   ____________________________

5. His tubes that carry blood are clogged.
   ____________________________
Exercise 3

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. impede
   a. allow         b. start         c. anger         d. heal
2. elusive
   a. available    b. under         c. venomous      d. shy
3. paralysis
   a. illness      b. mobility      c. problems      d. doctor
4. mainstream
   a. uncommon     b. untested      c. scientific    d. wild
5. negligible
   a. cared for    b. reasonable    c. important     d. unexpected
6. magnify
   a. release      b. check         c. save          d. shrink
7. prevail
   a. conquer      b. fail          c. take          d. feel
8. deterioration
   a. improvement  b. back-up       c. function      d. loss
9. savage
   a. hungry       b. cruel         c. gentle        d. unwilling
10. inseparable
   a. protective   b. dividable     c. kind          d. resigned

Exercise 4

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>elusive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stunned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mainstream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>susceptible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paralysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deterioration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>microbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impede</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The movie's unusual topic might 1 _____________ its popularity.
Most 2 _____________ movies don't deal with strange themes.
The 3 _____________ fox finally came out of its den.
It planned to 4 _____________ for food before winter.
Rats are 5 _____________ that are found all over the world.
They carry 6 _____________ that can make people very sick.
Mr. Garson was 7 _____________ by the bright light.
His shock caused a momentary 8 _____________ that kept him from moving.
Mrs. Draper's old age made her 9 _____________ to some illnesses.
Doctors told her that the 10 _____________ of her health could be avoided.
Dangerous Bites

There are many animals with dangerous bites in the world, but which one is the worst? Some would say that the elusive short-tailed mamushi has the worst bite. The snake only goes into homes to chase pests such as mice. Otherwise, it stays in the fields, where it’s dangerous to people who forage for food there. If someone stuns it by accidentally stepping on it, it bites to protect itself. At first, the effects of the bite may seem negligible because it doesn’t cause a lot of bleeding. However, after a few moments, the venom induces paralysis in the area where the individual was bitten. Furthermore, the venom can also impede respiration. If the person doesn’t go to the doctor, they are susceptible to kidney deterioration.

Others would argue that tigers have the worst bite. Mother tigers are inseparable from their babies and seem to be the gentlest creatures when they are around their young. However, if the babies are threatened, the mother tiger’s savage nature prevails. With strong jaws and the ability to move quickly, the tiger can kill someone with one bite. That’s because it always tries to bite an important artery when it attacks. If the artery is ruptured, the victim will bleed to death.

In the mainstream, animal bites are seen as the most dangerous. But some scientists think this idea is invalid. In fact, the most dangerous bite might be the human bite. When scientists magnified the contents in human saliva, they found about three hundred different microbes in it. A human bite can be dangerous if the bacteria enters the body through a cut, which can make people very sick. Furthermore, most people don’t realize how serious a human bite can be, so they don’t go to the doctor right away. This gives the wound a chance to get infected and cause more problems.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1.  ____ The elusive mamushi attacks humans if it is bothered by pests in houses.

2.  ____ The consequences of a mamushi bite are negligible.

3.  ____ Mother tigers are inseparable from their babies.

4.  ____ When tigers attack, they try to rupture an important artery.

5.  ____ Scientists think that the mainstream idea that human bites are the most dangerous is invalid.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1.  What group of people is at risk for mamushi bites?

2.  What are the effects of a mamushi bite?

3.  When does a tiger’s savage nature prevail?

4.  What did scientists find when they magnified human saliva?

5.  Why do human bites often become infected?
Word List

- **accumulate** [akjuˈmjəleɪt] v.
  To accumulate something is to collect a lot of it over time.
  → *The mail accumulated in their mailbox while they were on vacation.*

- **aerial** [əˈɛrəl] adj.
  When something is aerial, it relates to being in the air or flying.
  → *The aerial photographer took pictures from the air balloon.*

- **apparatus** [æpəˈrætəs] n.
  An apparatus is a device used for a particular purpose.
  → *The campers had an apparatus that showed them their exact location.*

- **avalanche** [ˈævəlæntʃ] n.
  An avalanche is a large amount of snow, ice, and rock falling off a mountain.
  → *The avalanche destroyed the mountain village.*

- **consistency** [ˈkɒnsɪstənsi] n.
  Consistency is the state of always behaving in the same way.
  → *Her consistency in archery meant that our team had a chance to win.*

- **convection** [kənˈvekʃən] n.
  Convection is the flow of hot air through gas or liquid.
  → *The weather changed because of convection in the atmosphere.*

- **discharge** [dɪsˈtʃɑːrdʒ] v.
  To discharge someone is to allow them to leave from a place, usually a hospital.
  → *I was discharged from the hospital after three days.*

- **intact** [ɪnˈtækt] adj.
  When something is intact, it is complete and not damaged.
  → *Despite being over ten years old, my father’s model ship is still intact.*

- **mortal** [ˈmɔːrtəl] adj.
  When a person is mortal, they cannot live forever.
  → *All people are mortal.*

- **omen** [ˈəʊmən] n.
  An omen is a sign of what will happen in the future.
  → *He thought that seeing a black cat in the street was an omen of bad luck.*

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overcast [ˈouvərkɑːst] adj.
When the sky is overcast, it is full of clouds and is not sunny.
→ The sky was overcast in the morning, but by noon it was bright again.

poignant [ˈpɔɪənt] adj.
When something is poignant, it causes a very strong feeling of sadness.
→ The girls cried at the end of the poignant movie.

ranger [ˈreindʒər] n.
A ranger is a person who protects the forest or parks.
→ Peter wanted to be a ranger because he liked spending time outside.

rubble [ˈrʌbl] n.
Rubble is piles of broken stone and wood created after a building is destroyed.
→ There was rubble all over the city after the earthquake.

seclude [sɪkluːd] v.
To seclude someone means to keep them away from other people.
→ She was secluded on an island for over a year.

sideways [ˈsaɪdweɪz] adv.
If something moves sideways, then it moves to or from the side.
→ Jim turned sideways in order to slow down and stop his snowboard.

sob [sɒb] v.
To sob is to cry loudly.
→ I sobbed when my youngest daughter got married.

sober [ˈsəʊbaːr] adj.
When something or someone is sober, they are serious and calm.
→ After the funeral, everybody felt very sober.

speck [spek] n.
A speck is a very small mark or amount.
→ A speck of blood appeared where the mosquito bit him.

upbringing [ˈʌprɪnɪŋ] n.
An upbringing is the way that someone is taught to behave by their parents.
→ He had a strict upbringing and was never allowed to watch television.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. omen
   a. sign
   b. storm
   c. accident
   d. item

2. apparatus
   a. method
   b. idea
   c. device
   d. name

3. convection
   a. weather
   b. belief
   c. heat flow
   d. movement

4. sob
   a. watch
   b. serve
   c. wait
   d. cry

5. seclude
   a. study
   b. repair
   c. hide
   d. purchase

6. ranger
   a. forest worker
   b. police
   c. lumberjack
   d. guard

7. avalanche
   a. landslide
   b. snowstorm
   c. disaster
   d. believable

8. accumulate
   a. impressive
   b. winning
   c. collect
   d. wave

9. rubble
   a. boards
   b. dirt
   c. ruins
   d. ice

10. upbringing
    a. background
    b. routine
    c. schedule
    d. experience

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The accident wasn’t serious, and Ernest was released from the hospital quickly.

2. My grandfather says that if you have itchy hands, it’s a(n) sign that you’ll receive money soon.

3. The book’s emotional descriptions taught me that war brings sadness to everyone.

4. The photograph was perfect except for a tiny mark on the corner.

5. The child cried loudly because his mother wouldn’t buy him a toy he wanted.
Exercise 3

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. overcast
   a. warm  b. bright  c. morning  d. apparent

2. consistency
   a. irregularity  b. delicacy  c. loyalty  d. intelligence

3. poignant
   a. gloomy  b. supportive  c. thoughtful  d. unemotional

4. intact
   a. alive  b. broken  c. aged  d. tired

5. mortal
   a. natural  b. content  c. deadly  d. everlasting

6. speck
   a. huge  b. fragment  c. far  d. clear

7. sober
   a. drunk  b. caring  c. calm  d. ready

8. discharge
   a. cure  b. imprison  c. pay  d. arrive

9. aerial
   a. from ground  b. technology  c. emergency  d. safety

10. sideways
    a. quickly  b. forward  c. again  d. safely

Exercise 4

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Word Bank

aerial  overcast  accumulated  avalanche  sober  sideways  rubble  ranger  intact  mortal

Before the storm, it was very windy and 1________________ outside.
When it began to snow, it quickly 2________________ on the roof.
The old wall fell over 3________________ and broke to pieces.
Afterwards, nothing was left but some 4________________.
The photograph, though old, was still 5________________.
It showed my father in his forest 6________________ uniform.
After the 7________________, much of the town was destroyed by snow.
8________________ photographs showed that only a few houses remained.
It was a very 9________________ moment for him when his wife passed away.
He truly realized that people are 10________________.

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The Avalanche

Randy was a forest ranger. Because of his job, he was secluded in a cabin in the wilderness.

One day, the radio reported, “Convection in the atmosphere is causing a lot of clouds to form. A serious storm . . .” Suddenly, the radio went silent. The signal was lost.

He went outside and looked at the overcast sky. Anybody else would have taken the dark sky as an omen of a very bad storm, but not Randy. His upbringing had taught him consistency. He had done this job for years, and nothing could stop him. Besides, he thought nothing could hurt him.

Today, he had a very important task to do. The snow was starting to pile up high on the mountain. If too much accumulated, it could cause an avalanche. But Randy had an apparatus to get rid of the snow. It used dynamite to shake the snow and make the top layer of snow come down.

As the snow started falling, he thought about returning to the office until the storm stopped, but he decided not to. Suddenly, he heard a loud noise behind him. It was an avalanche! He started to run, but within seconds, he was knocked sideways and buried by the snow and rubble from an old cabin that had been destroyed. An aerial rescue team came quickly. Randy was just a speck amongst the great pile of snow, but the team found him thanks to his brightly colored jacket. They quickly took him to a hospital.

After a few hours, Randy woke up in the hospital. He looked at the sober faces of the doctors and saw his wife sobbing.

“What’s wrong?” he asked. He didn’t remember what had happened.

“You were almost killed!” his wife said.

“You broke several ribs. But the rest of you is still reasonably intact. You are really lucky to be alive,” the doctor said.

After five days, Randy was discharged from the hospital. The experience had taught him a poignant lesson: he was a mortal, and nature was much more powerful than him.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The avalanche was caused by convection in the atmosphere. 

2. ____ Randy’s job as a ranger had taught him consistency. 

3. ____ Randy had an apparatus that moved snow sideways to help avoid avalanches. 

4. ____ Randy was seen by the aerial rescue team thanks to his brightly colored jacket. 

5. ____ According to the doctor, Randy was lucky to be alive after the avalanche. 

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What was the overcast sky an omen of?

2. What did Randy see when he woke up after the avalanche?

3. Why was Randy secluded in the wilderness?

4. How long was it before Randy was discharged from the hospital?

5. What poignant lesson did Randy learn from his experience?
Word List

advocate [ædvəkˈeɪt] v.
To advocate a plan or idea is to support or suggest it in public.
→ The group advocated increased spending on education and schools.

authorize [ɔːrəˈraɪz] v.
To authorize something means to give permission for it.
→ The mayor authorized the construction of a new statue in the park.

civilian [sɪvɪlɪən] n.
A civilian is someone who is not in the military.
→ It was Todd’s job to keep civilians from entering the army facility.

commodity [kɒˈmɒdəti] n.
A commodity is something that can be bought or sold.
→ Fran’s uncle made most of his money trading commodities.

conquest [kɒŋkwəst] n.
A conquest is an event by which one country takes over another country.
→ After the conquest, the people of the small city had no freedom.

disclose [dɪskləuz] v.
To disclose something means to tell it to someone else.
→ John came home late, so he had to disclose his activities to his wife.

dynamics [daiˈnæmɪks] n.
The dynamics of a situation are the way that parts of it affect each other.
→ A good psychologist needs to know a lot about the dynamics of brain disorders.

enroll [ɪnˈrəʊl] v.
To enroll in something is to put one’s name on a list as a member of a group.
→ The students had to enroll in the class one semester in advance.

envious [ɪnˈviəs] adj.
When someone is envious, they want something that another person has.
→ They were envious of their neighbor’s front yard.

euphoria [juːˈfɔːrə] n.
Euphoria is a feeling of extreme happiness.
→ The athlete felt euphoria after he won the important game.
festive [fístiv] adj.
When something is festive, it is happy and related to a party or celebration.
→ Dean’s favorite part of Christmas is the festive clothing that people wear.

jolly [dʒəli] adj.
When someone is jolly, they are cheerful and happy.
→ My grandmother’s jolly attitude always made me smile.

lentil [lɛntіl] n.
Lentils are very small beans that people cook and eat.
→ Danni made her special soup with lentils when her husband was sick.

marshal [mɑrʃəl] v.
To marshal a group means to assemble them in order.
→ The students were marshaled outside and put into groups.

morale [mɔrəl] n.
Morale is the amount of hope that people have during a difficult situation.
→ To improve our family’s morale, mom suggested going on a picnic.

prophecy [prɒfəsi] n.
A prophecy is a prediction about what will happen in the future.
→ Some people believe that prophecies are actually true.

sage [sɑdʒ] n.
A sage is someone who is very wise.
→ Hal always visited the local sage for help with love.

senate [ˈsɛnət] n.
A senate is a part of the government in some countries.
→ Everybody liked Caroline and chose her to speak for them in the senate.

sentiment [sɛntəmənt] n.
A sentiment is an opinion based on your feelings.
→ Tess told everyone at the table her sentiments about eating meat.

unrest [ənˈrest] n.
Unrest is a state of anger about something among the people in a place.
→ High taxes caused much of the unrest that led to the Revolutionary War.
Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. Who is a person with the power to authorize a war?
   a. A teacher
   b. A guard
   c. A chef
   d. A president

2. Which of the following might give you euphoria?
   a. Winning a great prize
   b. Falling off your bike
   c. Having your jacket stolen
   d. Cutting your finger

3. What best describes a sage?
   a. Alert
   b. Intelligent
   c. Heavy
   d. Unreliable

4. Which of the following is a valuable commodity?
   a. Oil
   b. Mountains
   c. Rainwater
   d. Grass

5. What might cause unrest at a school?
   a. Students receiving lunch for free
   b. Students getting rewarded for good grades
   c. Students having daily tests
   d. Students being told to go home early

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. authorize
   a. make easy
   b. reinforce
   c. declare
   d. reject

2. conquest
   a. combination
   b. liberation
   c. eliminate
   d. shortage

3. disclose
   a. conceal
   b. support
   c. dry out
   d. show as guilty

4. euphoria
   a. measurement
   b. suggestion
   c. depression
   d. untruthfulness

5. unrest
   a. no planning
   b. peace
   c. early stage
   d. generosity

6. sage
   a. fool
   b. stubborn
   c. gloomy
   d. praiseworthy

7. civilian
   a. traditionalist
   b. salesman
   c. preacher
   d. soldier

8. festive
   a. honest
   b. penniless
   c. unhappy
   d. unchanging

9. enroll
   a. quit
   b. imply
   c. enlist
   d. make better

10. advocate
    a. fallen
    b. sinner
    c. antisocial
    d. oppose
### Exercise 3

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. lentil
   a. prize  b. bean  c. nut  d. coin
2. envious
   a. awkward  b. sensible  c. jealous  d. cowardly
3. commodity
   a. product  b. inactivity  c. genius  d. act of scolding
4. dynamics
   a. angry speech  b. edge of  c. aspects  d. enthusiasm
5. prophecy
   a. comes before  b. prediction  c. true story  d. large amount
6. morale
   a. goodness  b. confidence  c. sympathy  d. temperature
7. marshal
   a. assemble  b. promise  c. attempt  d. contain
8. jolly
   a. inspiring  b. appealing  c. merry  d. rational
9. senate
   a. nice feeling  b. aspiration  c. school  d. government
10. sentiment
    a. confidence  b. effort  c. acceptance  d. opinion

### Exercise 4

Write **C** if the italicized word is used correctly. Write **I** if the word is used incorrectly.

1. **C** Janice’s dad was a part of the *senate*. He fixed cars all day.

2. **I** Damon read about the Roman *conquest* of northern Africa. He was amazed by all the places that the Romans took over.

3. **C** The teacher understood the *dynamics* between instructors and students in the classroom.

4. **C** Mariah *enrolled* the clothes and put them in her drawer.

5. **C** Sheldon was a vegetarian. He *advocated* for people not to eat meat.

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The Lydian King

King Croesus was once one of the richest kings in the world. He ruled over Lydia, an ancient empire located near modern-day Turkey and controlled a valuable commodity: gold. Many people were very envious of him.

One day, a messenger disclosed some interesting news: political unrest in Persia had weakened the empire. Before then, the Persians had taken over many countries. Many leaders were scared of the Persian conquest. But King Croesus understood the dynamics of war better than most. He decided that it would be a good time to try to beat the Persians while they were weak.

He advocated starting war, but nobody shared his sentiment. Then he asked a wise member of the senate who was visiting from Athens. The sage didn’t say whether he should attack the Persians or not. He only warned him that his good luck wouldn’t last.

Finally, King Croesus sent a messenger to visit the Oracle, a special lady who could see the future. The messenger gave the Oracle jugs of wine and baskets of lentils in order to make her happy.

When the messenger came back, he was in a festive mood.

“What was the Oracle’s prophecy?” asked King Croesus.

The jolly messenger responded, “She said that if you attack Persia, you will destroy a great empire.”

The news filled Croesus with euphoria. After hearing the Oracle’s prophecy, many civilians enrolled in the Lydian army. The king marshaled his troops and prepared them for a war with Persia. Their morale was high because they were sure they would win. Soon, King Croesus authorized an attack against the Persians.

However, the Persian army was still very strong. After a few months of fighting, it was obvious that the Oracle’s prophecy had come true: by attacking the Persians, King Croesus had destroyed a great empire—his own! King Croesus should have considered the advice more carefully.
PART A Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ People were envious of King Croesus because he understood the dynamics of war better than anybody else.

2. ___ The messenger disclosed that the Persians were in a state of unrest.

3. ___ The sage man from the senate was the only one that shared the king's sentiment.

4. ___ The messenger gave the Oracle jugs of wine and baskets of lentils to make her happy.

5. ___ The Oracle's prophecy was that the Lydian conquest of Persia would be successful.

PART B Answer the questions.

1. Why did King Croesus advocate war against the Persians?

2. Why was the messenger in a festive and jolly mood when he returned from seeing the Oracle?

3. How did King Croesus feel after he heard the Oracle's prophecy?

4. How did the civilians who enrolled and were marshaled in the Lydian army feel about the war?

5. What did King Croesus learn from the experience?
adorn [ədɔrn] v.
To adorn something means to make it more beautiful by decorating it.
→ Small glass beads adorned the vase.

bliss [blis] n.
Bliss is a state of complete happiness.
→ Every time he sees his girlfriend, he feels a sense of bliss.

butler [bʌltər] n.
A butler is the most important male servant in a wealthy house.
→ Whenever he needed something, he rang a bell, and the butler appeared.

cramp [kræmp] n.
A cramp is a strong pain caused by a muscle after a lot of physical use.
→ After the marathon, Jenny got a terrible cramp in her calf muscle.

dilapidated [dɪləpədɪtɪd] adj.
When a building is dilapidated, it is old and in bad condition.
→ Paint peeled off of the old dilapidated apartment building.

evoke [ɪvʊk] v.
To evoke a memory or emotion means to make it occur.
→ The picture evoked memories of when grandmother was a girl.

farewell [ˈfeərwel] n.
A farewell is an instance of saying goodbye or a way to say it.
→ She got on the plane after we said our farewells.

faucet [ˈfɔːsɪt] n.
A faucet is a device that controls the flow of a liquid or gas.
→ Turn off the faucet when you are done brushing your teeth.

filth [fiːθ] n.
Filth is a large amount of dirt or dirty things that disgust you.
→ There was tons of filth and trash on the shore of the river.

flaw [flɔː] n.
A flaw is a mistake in something that causes it to be less effective or correct.
→ We discovered a major flaw in the metal chain.
**grin** [grin] v.
To grin means to smile broadly.
→ That joke makes me grin every time I hear it.

**housekeeping** [hauski:pın] n.
Housekeeping is the maintenance of a house or an establishment like a hotel.
→ Housekeeping is not much fun, but it has to be done.

**mound** [maund] n.
A mound of something is a large pile of it.
→ There was a mound of clothes on the messy teenager’s floor.

**numb** [nʌm] adj.
When a body part is numb, it does not have any feeling.
→ After holding my hand under the icy water, my fingers went numb.

**reckless** [reklis] adj.
When people are reckless, they act in an unsafe way.
→ The reckless driver posed a threat to everyone else on the road.

**slate** [sleit] n.
Slate is a dark grey rock that can easily be split into layers.
→ The roof of the church was made of slate.

**stool** [stu:l] n.
A stool is a seat with legs but no support for a person’s arms and back.
→ I don’t find stools very comfortable to sit on.

**testament** [testament] n.
A testament to something shows that it exists or is true.
→ The beautiful performance was a testament to the singer’s natural talents.

**timber** [timbər] n.
Timber is wood that is used for building houses and making furniture.
→ Trees in this area are grown specifically to be used for timber.

**valve** [vɛlv] n.
A valve is a device attached to a pipe that controls the flow of liquid or air.
→ The mechanic removed the dirt to clear the engine valve.
**Exercise 1**

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. reckless
   a. impressive  b. careless  c. fake  d. colorful
2. flaw
   a. loss  b. injury  c. mistake  d. relative
3. farewell
   a. goodbye  b. maybe  c. instead  d. with luck
4. filth
   a. ice  b. dirt  c. tear  d. track
5. bliss
   a. boldness  b. comfort  c. greatness  d. happiness

**Exercise 2**

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The large pile of dirt covered most of the backyard.
2. Please call for the most important male servant.
3. I don’t think we have enough wood used for building furniture to complete the project.
4. The playful puppy made the baby smile broadly.
5. We’ll have to install a new device that attaches to a tube to control the flow of liquid.
6. I got a small muscle pain in my leg after having a long workout at the gym.
7. To reach the TV, the young girl stood on the seat with legs but no arm support.
8. A high examination score is a proof of the existence of good studying skills.
9. The man became worried when his arm was without feeling.
10. He was hired to repair the house that had become old and in bad condition.

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Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ The scientist's theory was full of flaws. There was no way it could work.
2. ___ The butler catered to the old man's every need.
3. ___ I hope we do not have to say farewells to the bus to school.
4. ___ The teacher was proud of the filth her students achieved in class.
5. ___ After the initial pain of dropping the hammer on my toe, it went numb.
6. ___ He was not looking forward to cleaning the huge mound of dirty dishes in the sink.
7. ___ The scared child felt bliss and cried for his mother.
8. ___ Huge stained-glass windows adorn the new church.
9. ___ Fossil evidence is a testament to the immense size of dinosaurs.
10. ___ The reckless climber took every precaution to insure a safe climb.
11. ___ The girl's jump rope has a cramp in it.
12. ___ The weather report says slate will fall for the next three days.
13. ___ My entire family helps with housekeeping. I sweep the floor, and my brother dusts.
14. ___ The mother grinned when her child scored the winning run in the baseball game.
15. ___ The timber was a nice addition to our breakfast meal.
16. ___ He took off his shoes and leaned back into the comfortable stool.
17. ___ Adjust the valve to insure proper airflow.
18. ___ The dilapidated fire truck was a beautiful site.
19. ___ The movie was great because it evoked strong feelings in viewers.
20. ___ You can get hot or cold water from this faucet.
The Butler

Greta was an elderly lady who lived alone in a huge, dilapidated mansion. The mansion was in terrible condition. It was covered with filth, and most of the furniture was broken. Plus, the kitchen sink leaked water all over the floor. Greta was too old to do housekeeping and repairs herself, so she hired a butler named Gordon.

Gordon was a young, muscular man. His muscles were a testament to his strong work ethic. He believed that if he worked hard, great things would happen for him. On his first day, he worked for hours cleaning and making repairs. He swept up mounds of dirt. He tightened the valve underneath the kitchen faucet to stop the leak. He even bought timber to build new stools for the kitchen. He worked so hard that his fingers went numb, and he got cramps in his shoulders.

Gordon worked hard every day. Even when tasks were boring, he was never reckless. He made sure there were no flaws in his work. Gordon was worried, however, that Greta wasn’t pleased. She never expressed thanks or said that he did a good job. The lack of appreciation evoked unhappy feelings in Gordon. He even thought about quitting. But he decided the right thing to do was to keep working hard.

One day, while Gordon was sweeping, Greta said, “Gordon! I have a surprise for you!” He went to Greta’s room and saw a beautiful slate statue. It looked just like him! It was adorned with a banner that read: “Welcome home.”

Greta said, “You’ve made this ugly old mansion look new again. I’m so thankful for your hard work that I want you to have it. I’ll move into a smaller house.”

He grinned and gave Greta a big hug. He said, “I’m in bliss! My hard work really paid off!”

The two said their farewells, and Gordon spent the afternoon admiring his beautiful new home.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The dilapidated mansion was covered in filth.

2. ____ Gordon’s muscles were a testament to his flaws.

3. ____ Gordon was never reckless even when tasks were boring.

4. ____ The mound of dirt evoked unhappy feelings in Gordon.

5. ____ Gordon tightened the valve under the kitchen faucet and bought timber to build stools.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Why did Greta hire a butler to do the housekeeping and repairs?

2. Why did Gordon’s shoulders get cramps and his fingers become numb?

3. What was written on the banner that adorned the slate statue?

4. What did Gordon say when he grinned and felt bliss?

5. What happened after Greta and Gordon said their farewells?
certify [səˈrɪtɪ] v.
To certify something means to confirm that its results are true.
→ The photograph on her passport certified that she was indeed Jolene Sawyer.

collaborate [kələˈbærət] v.
To collaborate means to work together on something.
→ When they collaborated, they managed to finish their chores early.

compile [kəmˈpɑːl] v.
To compile things means to collect a variety of them into a group.
→ She compiled a list of people who she wanted to attend her birthday party.

counteract [ˈkɑːntərækt] v.
To counteract something means to act against it in order to reduce or stop it.
→ Medicine is supposed to counteract illnesses.

curb [kəːr] v.
To curb something means to prevent it from happening or increasing.
→ She curved her anger by listening to a relaxing song.

diagnose [daiˈægnəs] v.
To diagnose someone means to identify the medical condition they have.
→ Several of the children were diagnosed with the flu.

enact [ɪnəkt] v.
To enact something means to make it into a law.
→ The council enacted a law that would only allow buses to drive downtown.

federation [fəˈdɛrəʃən] n.
A federation is a group of states or businesses working for a common cause.
→ The United Nations is a federation designed to prevent war, disease, and famine.

gross [ɡrous] adj.
If something is gross, then it is disgusting.
→ The food was so gross that the dog couldn’t eat it without feeling sick.

humane [ˈhuːmən] adj.
If something is humane, then it is good and kind.
→ Helping build homes for poor people is very humane.
intolerable [ɪntəˈlɛrəbəl] adj.
If something is intolerable, then it is so bad that people cannot bear it.
→ *The weather was so intolerable that I had to put on my warmest clothes.*

**needy** [niːdi] adj.
If someone is needy, they are very poor.
→ *After he lost his job, he became very needy.*

**onset** [ˈɒnset] n.
The onset of something unpleasant is the beginning of it.
→ *At the onset of the battle, the enemy wasn’t prepared for such a large attack.*

**pledge** [pledʒ] v.
To pledge means to make a promise to do something.
→ *Her mother pledged that she would find her daughter’s lost kitten.*

**prohibit** [prəˈhaɪbɪt] v.
To prohibit something means to not allow it.
→ *She prohibited the students from speaking until their work was done.*

**rash** [reɪʃ] n.
A rash is an infected area of the skin with redness, bumps, itching, or dryness.
→ *The new perfume left a horrible rash on my skin.*

**render** [rɛnər] v.
To render something means to make it become something else.
→ *His report was rendered unimportant by the release of new information.*

**smallpox** [ˈsmɔːlpɒks] n.
Smallpox is a disease that causes tiny bumps on the skin and high fevers.
→ *When she saw the tiny bumps, she thought her son might have smallpox.*

**transmit** [trænsmɪt] v.
To transmit something means to pass it from one person or place to another.
→ *The radio tower transmits a signal to all the radios in a 20-kilometer radius.*

**vow** [vɔː] v.
To vow means to make a promise to do something.
→ *Before they are allowed to work, all senators must vow to never accept bribes.*
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. federation
   a. motion  b. union  c. suction  d. tension
2. render
   a. stop  b. tear  c. rent  d. make
3. smallpox
   a. disease  b. match  c. arrive  d. hide
4. curb
   a. drain  b. excuse  c. prevent  d. breathe
5. diagnose
   a. smell  b. continue  c. extend  d. identify
6. certify
   a. apply  b. reduce  c. confirm  d. listen
7. rash
   a. pants  b. bumps  c. lists  d. pies
8. needy
   a. poor  b. sweet  c. moist  d. short
9. onset
   a. fork  b. show  c. light  d. start
10. collaborate
    a. cooperate  b. estimate  c. understand  d. determine

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. enact
   a. open  b. travel  c. cancel  d. recline
2. intolerable
   a. chewable  b. washable  c. bearable  d. honorable
3. pledge
   a. lie  b. write  c. throw  d. fall
4. counteract
   a. pretend  b. arrange  c. support  d. repair
5. vow
   a. command  b. gather  c. elect  d. deceive
6. prohibit
   a. examine  b. undo  c. allow  d. chew
7. transmit
   a. ride  b. hold  c. dig  d. burn
8. gross
   a. little  b. similar  c. powerful  d. pretty
9. compile
   a. tower  b. scatter  c. mound  d. dinner
10. humane
    a. hairy  b. kind  c. close  d. cruel
Exercise 3

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The new law will make the schools less effective at teaching certain subjects.
   ____________________________

2. Some countries have a larger population of poor citizens than other countries do.
   ____________________________

3. The teachers collected the names of all the students who passed the test in her book.
   ____________________________

4. If you touch that plant, you might get a sore and infected area of skin that itches badly.
   ____________________________

5. The doctor identified her illness as being only a mild stomach flu.
   ____________________________

6. I don't like those kinds of movies because they have scenes that are really disgusting.
   ____________________________

7. Many diseases are passed from one person to another when they shake hands.
   ____________________________

8. The companies agreed that it would be cheaper to ship the fruit if they formed a group.
   ____________________________

9. Her treatment of the patients was good and kind, and they seemed to heal much faster.
   ____________________________

10. The two artists decided to work together on their next series of sculptures.
   ____________________________
The End of Smallpox

Smallpox was once the most deadly disease in the world. During the 1800s, more than 20 million people got the disease every year. Of those, nearly half died. At the onset of smallpox, people suffered from high fevers, headaches, vomiting, and aching muscles. Yet the worst symptom of all was an intolerable rash that caused irritation on the entire body. Those who survived the disease were often rendered blind or left with gross scars on their face and body.

Today, however, cases of smallpox are very rare due to the work of many countries during the late 1900s. This federation of countries collaborated to completely destroy smallpox. Early in the century, wealthy countries in Europe and North America had developed a substance that made the body immune to smallpox. They had required all their citizens to get this vaccine to counteract the disease. Hence, the people of these countries no longer had to worry about smallpox.

However, many of the needy people in poorer parts of the world still suffered from the disease. Their countries could not afford the vaccine nor supply enough doctors to curb the spread of smallpox.

In 1950, the wealthier countries of the world vowed to free the world of the disease. They pledged to supply the vaccine to any country that could not afford it. Scientists compiled lists of areas where the disease still thrived. Then doctors diagnosed people who had the disease in these areas. They enacted laws that prohibited people with smallpox from mixing with those who did not. In this way, they could not transmit the disease to others. Then the doctors gave all of them the vaccine.

It took a long time and a lot of work. But nearly thirty years later, on December 9, 1979, a group of scientists certified that smallpox had been successfully stopped. The humane efforts of people from all over the world had accomplished a great task.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ In the 1800s, more than 20 million people were diagnosed with smallpox each year.

2. ____ Smallpox rendered people bald and caused an intolerable rash that left gross scars.

3. ____ Laws were enacted to prohibit sick people from mixing with healthy people.

4. ____ The wealthier countries pledged to give North America a vaccine to counteract smallpox.

5. ____ The humane efforts of people everywhere helped to successfully stop smallpox.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What did people suffer from at the onset of smallpox?

2. What did the federation of countries collaborate in order to do?

3. Why couldn’t the needy peoples’ countries curb the spread of smallpox?

4. What did doctors do to help reduce the spread of smallpox?

5. Who certified that smallpox had been stopped in December of 1979?
camouflage  [kæməˈflaɪ]  n.
Camouflage is something used to hide people and things.
→ The green and brown camouflage was best used for hiding in forests and jungles.

contemplate  [kəntəmplət]  v.
To contemplate something means to think about it.
→ Mark took a moment to contemplate the math problem before solving it.

contend  [kəntənd]  v.
To contend with something means to struggle to overcome it.
→ Stacy had to contend with a learning disability throughout high school.

cot  [kɒt]  n.
A cot is a small portable bed.
→ At the camp, the boys’ cabin was lined with cots.

enlist  [ɪnlist]  v.
To enlist means to join the military.
→ In their final year at school, the students were asked to enlist in the military.

frontier  [ˈfrʌntɪər]  n.
A frontier is a border between two regions or countries.
→ A fence was built along the frontier where the river curved.

handbook  [ˈhændbʊk]  n.
A handbook is an item that gives specific information or instructions.
→ If you look at the handbook, it will tell you which wires to connect to the TV.

hesitant  [ˈhezətənt]  adj.
If someone is hesitant, then they are not sure or slow in acting or speaking.
→ Though he knew the answer, he was hesitant to say it because he might be wrong.

lush  [lʊʃ]  adj.
If something is lush, then it is full of a variety of large, healthy plants.
→ The lush jungle was filled with plants, trees, and vines.

marrow  [ˈmeərou]  n.
Marrow is the soft substance in the center of bones.
→ Dissolved marrow is a common ingredient in soups.
**outfit** [ˈaʊtfɪt] n.
An outfit is a set of clothes worn together, often for a certain job or event.
→ *Kelly’s new outfit made her look so glamorous.*

**paw** [pɔː] n.
A paw is an animal’s foot that has claws or soft bottoms.
→ *The kitten cleaned its paws with its tongue.*

**quiver** [kwɪvər] v.
To quiver means to tremble or shake.
→ *The flame on the candle quivered whenever someone opened or closed a door.*

**splendid** [ˈsplɛndɪd] adj.
If something or someone is splendid, then they are very good.
→ *From his head down to his shoes, his clothes looked splendid.*

**stray** [streɪ] v.
To stray means to go in a wrong direction and often become lost.
→ *He found himself lost because he had strayed from the tour group.*

**substantial** [ˈsʌbstaŋʃəl] adj.
If something is substantial, then it is of great importance, size, or value.
→ *The bank said that he owed it a substantial amount of money.*

**torch** [tɔːtʃ] n.
A torch is a stick with one end on fire that can be carried in order to give light.
→ *He grabbed a piece of wood and stuck it in the fire in order to make a torch.*

**tract** [traːkt] n.
A tract is a large area of land.
→ *On the other side of the mountains was a long tract of forest.*

**vigil** [ˈvɪdʒɪl] n.
A vigil is a period of watchful attention at night for a specific purpose.
→ *He had a vigil in front of the tomb for three days.*

**weary** [ˈwiərɪ] adj.
If someone is weary, then they are tired.
→ *Jane was weary after a long day of work.*

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Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. paw
   a. father b. foot c. fort d. fashion

2. cot
   a. chamber b. bed c. fabric d. hut

3. camouflage
   a. disguise b. funny c. tired d. scared

4. lush
   a. shelf b. poem c. weather d. green

5. substantial
   a. backward b. majestic c. large d. comfortable

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Word Bank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>camouflage</th>
<th>outfit</th>
<th>weary</th>
<th>handbook</th>
<th>lush</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>torches</td>
<td>paw</td>
<td>vigil</td>
<td>enlist</td>
<td>contemplated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At first, he didn’t know to which animal the 1______________’s print belonged. But after he looked it up in the 2______________, he knew what it was.

He decided to 3______________ in the army. After he was done signing the papers, he dressed in his new 4______________.

She was supposed to keep a(n) 5______________ all night. However, she soon became 6______________ and fell asleep.

Because the forest was so 7______________, it was dark inside even during the day. So, in order to see the path, the explorers had to light their 8______________.

He 9______________ how to get the stains out of his favorite suit. At last, Mark decided to wear another 10______________.
Exercise 3

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. contend  
   a. give up  
   b. ready  
   c. quick  
   d. ugly

2. substantial  
   a. bright  
   b. runny  
   c. small  
   d. handsome

3. hesitant  
   a. visible  
   b. certain  
   c. colorful  
   d. broken

4. splendid  
   a. night  
   b. whale  
   c. terrible  
   d. skin

5. enlist  
   a. resign  
   b. erase  
   c. boil  
   d. increase

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ I am so weary. The loud music kept me awake most of last night.

2. ___ The pages in the book were quivering with sheer horror.

3. ___ Bill was hesitant to speak to his teacher. But after thinking about it, he talked to her.

4. ___ You can tell that the bones are old because they don’t have any marrow left in them.

5. ___ I have five siblings. We often contend with each other for our parents’ attention.

6. ___ After the meal, Father strayed the bill, and we left.

7. ___ Mountains divide the northern frontier from the southern plains.

8. ___ He parked the car in the cot but didn’t notice he was on the wrong street.

9. ___ I installed a new tract in the bathroom today.

10. ___ I had to contemplate what I was going to do with my life.

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The Coward’s Lesson

Tom was easily frightened. He enlisted in the army because he thought the military would teach him courage. And though he needed courage, he never imagined how he would learn it.

During a march across a tract of wilderness near his country’s frontier, Tom strayed from his squad. He had stopped to gaze at a splendid view of a lush valley. When he turned around, his squad was gone. He searched for them, but because their outfits had camouflage, he couldn’t find them.

It was getting dark, and Tom grew weary. All he had was a knife, a boomerang, and his handbook. He made a camp for the night. It was cold, and the ground was hard. He wished he had his cot and a blanket. Instead, he made a fire, wrapped himself tightly in his jacket, and fell asleep.

A loud noise roused him from his sleep. “What was that?” he wondered. Then he noticed it. An animal of substantial size had left a print from its paw in the dirt. He sat closer to the fire and looked into the darkness. He imagined a large beast jumping from the gloom and attacking him. He shook so much from fear that it felt like the marrow in his bones quivered.

Tom contemplated many different plans. He was hesitant to act. He decided to stay by the fire, but during his vigil, he heard more noises.

He couldn’t contend with his fear any longer. He knew what he had to do. He made a torch and followed the prints. He heard a twig snap very close ahead, but he bravely went on. Seconds later, he discovered what had scared him. It was only a kangaroo.

Tom went back to his camp and slept. In the morning, he found his squad. He had finally learned courage. He learned that he had to confront his fear in order to conquer it.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ Tom strayed from his squad to gaze at a splendid view of a lush forest near the frontier.

2. ____ Tom couldn’t find his squad on the tract of wilderness because their outfits had camouflage.

3. ____ All Tom had with him was his cot, a boomerang, and his handbook.

4. ____ A monster of substantial size left a print from its paw in the dirt near Tom’s fire.

5. ____ A loud noise woke him from his sleep.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Why did Tom enlist in the military?

2. What roused Tom from his sleep?

3. What caused Tom to shake so much that the marrow in his bones quivered?

4. Though he contemplated many plans, he was hesitant to act. What did he finally decide to do?

5. During his vigil, what could Tom not contend with any longer?
adhere [adhiər] v.
To adhere means to act in the way that a rule or agreement says is right.
→ If the new employees wish to succeed, they must adhere to the boss’s rules.

administer [ədˈmiːnɪstreɪtər] v.
To administer means to take responsibility for organizing something.
→ The teacher’s assistant will administer the test.

compassionate [kæmpəˈʃænit] adj.
When people are compassionate, they feel pity and sympathy for others.
→ The compassionate nurse tried to make the sick man feel comfortable.

contaminate [kanˈteɪmenət] v.
To contaminate something means to put dirty or harmful chemicals into it.
→ The lake was contaminated when pollutants entered into the water.

deficiency [dɪfɪˈjændı] n.
A deficiency is a lack of something, especially something that is needed.
→ Your snack has a deficiency of any real nutrients.

epidemic [ɪˈpɪdemɪk] n.
An epidemic is an outbreak of a disease that spreads quickly.
→ It was difficult to stop the flu epidemic.

hazard [ˈhæzərd] n.
A hazard is something that could be dangerous to a person’s health or safety.
→ Smoking cigarettes poses many health hazards.

imperative [ɪmˈpɜːrətɪv] adj.
When something is imperative, it is extremely important and must be done.
→ It was imperative for him to find a job.

intestines [ɪnˈtestɪnz] n.
Intestines are tubes through which food passes after it leaves the stomach.
→ Whatever you eat goes into your intestines.

manifest [maɪnˈfæst] v.
To manifest means to make something visible or obvious.
→ The holiday season manifested joy in the children.
metabolic  [ˈmɛtəbɒlɪk]  adj.
When something is metabolic, it relates to a person’s or animal’s metabolism.
→ People who have a low metabolic rate will gain weight.

overcrowded  [ˈəʊvərkraʊdɪd]  adj.
When a place is overcrowded, it has too many people or things in it.
→ The lobby was overcrowded with people.

paramount  [ˈpærəmɔːnt]  adj.
When something is paramount, it is more important than anything else.
→ The safety of passengers must be paramount when designing a car.

practitioner  [præktɪʃənər]  n.
A practitioner is a doctor.
→ She made an appointment with the practitioner to treat her cough.

provision  [prəvɪʒən]  n.
The provision of something is the act of giving it to people in need or want.
→ That department is responsible for the provision of emergency supplies.

replenish  [rɪˈplɛnɪʃ]  v.
To replenish something means to make it full or complete again.
→ We planted nearly one hundred seeds to replenish the garden after the fire.

sterile  [ˈstɛrɪl]  adj.
When something is sterile, it is completely clean and free from germs.
→ The hospital room looked quite sterile.

upgrade  [ʌˈpɒrɡrid]  v.
To upgrade something means to improve it or make it more efficient.
→ He upgraded to a real fancy car.

viable  [ˈvaɪəbəl]  adj.
When something is viable, it is capable of doing what it is intended to do.
→ Her method of solving the math problem seemed viable.

voluntary  [ˈvɒləntərɪ]  adj.
When something is voluntary, it is done by choice but is not required.
→ Many people attended the voluntary boat safety class.
Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. What can start an epidemic?
   a. A kingdom
   b. A virus
   c. A fire
   d. A storm

2. What is found inside intestines?
   a. Books
   b. Students
   c. Food
   d. Electronics

3. If you replenish an empty refrigerator, you ______.
   a. turn the temperature down
   b. fill it with food
   c. clean it with a sponge
   d. replace the light bulb

4. What is a hazard on a street?
   a. A stop sign
   b. A hole in the ground
   c. A carpool lane
   d. A crosswalk

5. What can contaminate the air?
   a. A poison
   b. A flower
   c. A mosquito
   d. A flag

6. Which of the following is the most serious to have a deficiency of?
   a. Children
   b. Addresses
   c. Vitamins
   d. Pencils

7. What process is metabolic?
   a. Sitting quietly
   b. Learning to spell
   c. Sleeping
   d. Digesting food

8. What is paramount when swimming underwater?
   a. Not getting wet
   b. Holding your breath
   c. Breathing regularly
   d. Stretching your limbs

9. What needs to be sterile?
   a. A hospital room
   b. An ocean
   c. A bicycle rack
   d. The soil

10. What does a practitioner do?
    a. Make furniture
    b. Fight crime
    c. Make laws
    d. Treat the sick
Exercise 2

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. voluntary
   a. heavy
   b. required
   c. obvious
   d. nonexistent

2. imperative
   a. unimportant
   b. faulty
   c. mastered
   d. chosen

3. compassionate
   a. likely
   b. distant
   c. afraid
   d. uncaring

4. sterile
   a. not fair
   b. not clean
   c. not free
   d. not working

5. overcrowded
   a. empty
   b. costly
   c. silly
   d. bland

Exercise 3

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. They need to improve and make more efficient the medical devices in the hospital.
   ________________________________

2. To save the boy, rushing into the burning house is extremely important and must be done.
   ________________________________

3. Handing out rain jackets was a necessary act of giving.
   ________________________________

4. Sometimes, cold weather can be made visible or obvious in the most unlikely places.
   ________________________________

5. The theory seems capable of doing what it needs to do to me.
   ________________________________

6. You must act in a way that is right according to the rules of the game.
   ________________________________

7. Joining the choir will be an action that is done by choice.
   ________________________________

8. The amusement park was no fun because it was occupied by too many people.
   ________________________________

9. Who is going to take responsibility for organizing the protest?
   ________________________________

10. The criminal was certainly not feeling pity or sympathy for suffering people.
    ________________________________
Epidemic in Zimbabwe

In August of 2008, a deadly cholera epidemic manifested in Zimbabwe. A severe health hazard caused the outbreak. There was an extreme lack of clean drinking water in the overcrowded urban cities. Garbage and chemicals got into the public water supplies and contaminated them. Since people did not have access to other sources, they had to drink the dirty water.

The outbreak spread rapidly and infected almost 16,000 people. The illness caused extreme pain in people’s intestines. It also caused a deficiency of important fluids in sick people’s bodies. Without the proper fluids and minerals, metabolic processes stopped working correctly. People were unable to digest food properly or replenish their lost nutrients. If they had not received viable treatment, they would have been likely to die. It was imperative for help to come soon.

However, the government of Zimbabwe was unable to provide help to its people. The government didn’t have a plan to stop the spread of cholera. In addition, the country was too poor to get clean water or medication for the sick. The people seemed to be doomed.

Luckily, many other countries recognized the paramount need to contain the outbreak. Dozens of voluntary practitioners from Britain, France, the United States, and other countries went to Zimbabwe to treat the disease. Through the provision of sterile drinking water and medication, people finally got the treatment they badly needed. The compassionate doctors were able to save the lives of thousands. By January of 2009, the epidemic was almost completely contained.

Today, the Zimbabwean government is working with other countries to prevent future epidemics. They are cleaning up the water supply and learning how to avoid health hazards. The system used to filter water is being upgraded. The government now administers the water supply plants and makes sure that they adhere to strict safety guidelines. Hopefully, future instances of cholera will be treated before they start deadly epidemics.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The health hazard was a lack of sterile drinking water in overcrowded urban cities.

2. ____ A deficiency of contaminated water caused metabolic processes to stop working correctly.

3. ____ It was imperative that people received viable treatment quickly.

4. ____ The government used to filter water is being upgraded.

5. ____ The government now administers water supply plants to make sure they adhere to guidelines.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What paramount need did other countries recognize?

2. When did the cholera epidemic manifest itself in Zimbabwe?

3. Where did the voluntary practitioners come from?

4. What were infected people unable to replenish in their intestines?

5. What provisions did the compassionate doctors provide?
**amid** [əmɪd] prep.
If something is amid something else, then it is in the middle of it.
→ The bee was busily flying amid the flowers in the garden.

**backstage** [bækstɛidʒ] adv.
If something happens backstage, it occurs behind a theater’s stage.
→ After the show, the director went backstage and thanked the actors.

**billionaire** [bɪljənɛər] n.
A billionaire is someone who has at least one billion dollars.
→ The sale of his inventions made the inventor a billionaire.

**brute** [bruːt] n.
A brute is someone who behaves or looks like a violent animal.
→ My older brother can act like a brute when he doesn’t get his way.

**clumsy** [klʌmsi] adj.
If someone is clumsy, then they are awkward in handling things.
→ The businessman was clumsy and dropped his work files.

**collide** [kəlaɪd] v.
To collide with something means to hit into it while moving.
→ The two cars collided with each other because their drivers were not careful.

**culprit** [kəˈprɪt] n.
A culprit is someone who did a crime or other bad deed.
→ The police were still searching for the culprit from the robbery.

**evacuate** [ɪvəkjuːet] v.
To evacuate means to leave a place of danger to a place of safety.
→ During the flood, many families were evacuated to higher ground.

**flammable** [flæməbəl] adj.
If something is flammable, then it is able to catch on fire.
→ Be careful with that blanket near the candle. It is extremely flammable.

**mob** [mob] n.
A mob is a large crowd of people that often wants to cause violence.
→ The copier was destroyed by a mob of angry workers.
**premature** [priˈmeɪtʃər] adj.
If something is premature, then it is done too early or before the proper time.
→ Mark’s celebration was premature because the ball hadn’t fallen in the hole.

**resent** [ˈrɛsənt] v.
To resent something means to have bad feelings about it.
→ She resented the fact that she had never been able to play an instrument.

**satire** [ˈsætər] n.
A satire is a work of art that uses humor and irony to make fun of something.
→ This book is a satire of what life was like in the army.

**scrutiny** [ˈskruːtəni] n.
Scrutiny is the careful examination of something.
→ A scientist should always practice scrutiny with their work.

**segregate** [ˌsɛɡrɪˈɡeɪt] v.
To segregate something means to place it in a group apart from other things.
→ In gym class, the children were segregated into two groups: boys and girls.

**subject** [ˈsəbdʒɛkt] v.
To subject someone to something means to force them to do or experience it.
→ The officers subjected everyone to a careful search before they left the plane.

**testify** [ˈtestɪfi] v.
To testify means to give evidence as a witness.
→ The judge listened while the victim testified about the robbery.

**tumult** [ˈtʌmʌlt] n.
A tumult is a loud and confused noise made by a large crowd of people.
→ She couldn’t hear her friend over the tumult of the other excited guests.

**underestimate** [ˌʌndərˈɛstɪmeɪt] v.
To underestimate something or someone means to think they are not important.
→ We lost the game because we underestimated the other team’s skill.

**uproar** [ˈʌprɔːr] n.
Uproar is loud noise caused by people who are very angry or upset.
→ The fans made a great uproar when their team lost the game.
**Exercise 1**

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. culprit
   a. sewer  
   b. engine  
   c. victim  
   d. muscle

2. segregate
   a. defend  
   b. whisper  
   c. combine  
   d. improve

3. uproar
   a. calm    
   b. particle  
   c. jewels  
   d. substance

4. clumsy
   a. helpful  
   b. quick  
   c. healthy  
   d. graceful

5. premature
   a. smart  
   b. late  
   c. near    
   d. great

**Exercise 2**

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
<th>Word Bank</th>
<th>Word Bank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>clumsy</td>
<td>billionaire</td>
<td>culprits</td>
<td>flammable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>premature</td>
<td>uproar</td>
<td>segregated</td>
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When they canceled the show, there was a great ________ from the crowd. It was so loud that the actors could hear it ________.

He placed the rags ________ the pile of logs.
The rags were very ________ and would help start the fire.

I wouldn't ________ that man’s class just by the way he talks and dresses. I’ve heard that he is actually a(n) ________.

It might have been ________ of her to walk so soon after the operation. Her movements were very ________, and she might have hurt herself.

The police officer ________ the people into two groups. One group was innocent people, and the other was the ________.
Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. mob
   a. broom  b. crowd  c. gun  d. choice
2. tumult
   a. plan  b. gate  c. tent  d. noise
3. brute
   a. monster  b. camera  c. smell  d. temper
4. resent
   a. buy  b. lose  c. give  d. hate
5. scrutiny
   a. tower  b. part  c. study  d. dream
6. testify
   a. learn  b. solve  c. greet  d. declare
7. collide
   a. sing  b. crash  c. float  d. bake
8. subject
   a. force  b. show  c. sleep  d. teach
9. evacuate
   a. leave  b. suck  c. check  d. share
10. satire
    a. supper  b. promise  c. coffin  d. comedy

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ We had very little time to evacuate the building before the earthquake.
2. ___ The guards sometimes subjected the prisoners to unfair punishments.
3. ___ Some people like to watch action movies. But I enjoy a good satire.
4. ___ When we heard the phone collide, we thought it was our uncle calling us.
5. ___ We whispered very quietly in all the tumult, or someone might have easily heard us.
6. ___ The women loved the brute because he was so kind and gentle.
7. ___ My brother was one of the angry people in the mob that day.
8. ___ Her father had to testify in court about the car accident he saw.
9. ___ I tried to solve the math problem several times and finally resented it in the morning.
10. ___ He has several large homes and his own airplane because he's a billionaire.

www.irlanguage.com
The Brute and the Billionaire

Hundreds of people had come to see a popular satire, but during the performance a fire started in the theater. The audience and actors evacuated the building. Luckily, no one was hurt, and the fire was soon put out. Immediately, the audience assembled into an angry mob and demanded to know what had happened.

It was soon revealed that the fire had started backstage, and only two people were in the area at the time. One was the husband of the play’s star actress, the billionaire Henry Rich. The other was the theater’s janitor, Bill, a large and strong man who looked like a brute.

The crowd segregated the two men and demanded to know who the culprit was. Most of the crowd thought that Bill was to blame. They felt that he had started the fire without ever subjecting him to any scrutiny. Bill resented this but said nothing.

Luckily, the billionaire’s wife testified in his defense. “Your decision is premature,” she told the crowd. “I fell down amid the tumult while everyone fled the fire. Bill rescued me and carried me out of the building. I think you underestimate his character. Besides, in order to be close enough to save me, he couldn’t have been near the place where the fire began.”

The crowd then turned their eyes to the billionaire. “He did it!” they shouted. “Make him pay!”

“Wait,” the billionaire said over the uproar. “I admit that I started the fire, but it was an accident. I was going backstage to see my wife and was clumsy. I collided with a lamp, and it fell to the floor. The floor was flammable. A fire started, and I fled.”

The mob was surprised. The man they blamed was innocent, and the billionaire was guilty. To pay for his error, the billionaire not only repaired the theater but had it remade to be better than before.
PART A Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ The performance was a satire of Communism.

2. ___ The billionaire and the play's star actress were the only two people backstage.

3. ___ Because Henry looked like a brute, the crowd underestimated his character.

4. ___ The billionaire fell down amid the tumult while everyone fled the fire.

5. ___ The crowd made an uproar when they learned who had started the fire.

PART B Answer the questions.

1. Why did the actors and audience have to evacuate the theater?

2. When the mob segregated the two men, who did they first think was the culprit?

3. Who testified in the Bill's defense since the mob didn't subject him to any scrutiny?

4. What was the flammable object that caught fire when Mr. Rich collided with a lamp?

5. Because their decision was premature, what was the mob surprised to learn in the end?
accelerate [aeksələrəit] v.
To accelerate means to increase in speed.
→ When he stepped on the gas pedal, the motorcycle accelerated.

anew [ənju:] adv.
If you do something anew, you do it again and in a different way.
→ Though he had failed his driving test, he decided to try it anew.

defect [difekt] n.
A defect is a part of something that is wrong or missing.
→ All these bottles have a defect and must be sent back to the warehouse.

dreary [driəri] adj.
If something is dreary, then it is dull, dark, and lifeless.
→ After the fire, this section of forest is rather dreary.

duplicate [djuːplikeit] v.
To duplicate something means to copy it.
→ She duplicated her friend’s movements like she was in front of a mirror.

electromagnetic [ɪlktrəmaɡnɛtɪk] adj.
If something is electromagnetic, it is related to electricity and magnetic fields.
→ Different colors of light come from different levels of electromagnetic energy.

electron [ɪləktrɒn] n.
An electron is a particle in all atoms that has a negative electric charge.
→ The number of electrons in an atom determines the substance the atoms make.

glide [ɡlaɪd] v.
To glide means to fly on extended wings with little or no effort.
→ When the wind is blowing, birds can glide easily through the sky.

ingenious [ɪndʒiˈnɪəs] adj.
If someone is ingenious, then they are very smart.
→ Charles was the only person ingenious enough to repair the plane’s engines.

innovation [ɪnəˈveɪʃən] n.
An innovation is a product or an idea that is new or very original.
→ Mrs. Johnson made a great innovation to the company’s business plan.
innovative  [ɪnəʊˈvætɪv] adj.
If something or someone is innovative, they can think in creative ways.
→ Since Peter was so innovative, he was chosen to lead the science team.

launch  [lɑːnʃ] v.
To launch something means to make it go into motion.
→ The boat launched from the dock and floated down the river.

meteorological  [miːtəˈrɒlədʒɪkəl] adj.
If something is meteorological, it is concerned with the science of weather.
→ The thunderstorm was so large that it became a great meteorological event.

meteorology  [miːtəˈrɒlədʒɪ] n.
Meteorology is the science that studies the weather.
→ In order to understand the weather, you have to study meteorology.

penetrate  [pɛnəˈreɪt] v.
To penetrate something means to enter into it.
→ The knife easily penetrated the surface of the orange.

propulsion  [prəˈpʌlsən] n.
Propulsion is the force that moves something forward.
→ The propulsion lifted the rocket into the sky.

simulate  [sɪmˈjəleɪt] v.
To simulate something means to copy its actions or characteristics.
→ The French language teacher could simulate the accent of a French citizen.

spur  [spɜːr] v.
To spur someone means to urge them into action.
→ The coach’s speech spurred her team into playing the best game of their lives.

stimulate  [stɪmˈjəleɪt] v.
To stimulate something means to cause or to increase activity in it.
→ Doctors sometimes use electric shock to stimulate a patient’s heartbeat.

tenacious  [ˈtenəʃəs] adj.
If someone is tenacious, then they do not easily give up.
→ I’m sure that he’ll finish that difficult sale. He is very tenacious.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. defect
   a. perfect    b. broken    c. clean    d. magical

2. innovation
   a. obsolete   b. cunning   c. original  d. compatible

3. accelerate
   a. speed up   b. slow down c. open      d. melt

4. meteorological
   a. weather    b. past      c. body     d. mind

5. dreary
   a. bright    b. fluorescent c. frigid    d. dull

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. You can hear because sound causes activity in the tiny hairs on the inside of your ear.

2. Some worms are small enough to enter into the skin without being detected.

3. She tried to copy the way her best friend dressed.

4. The teacher offered the kids candy in order to urge them into finishing their homework.

5. In science class, we learned about the particles in atoms that have a negative electric charge.

6. Every time the children’s fort fell down, they built it again and better.

7. She took classes in the science that studies the weather and became a weatherperson.

8. The small airplane flew without any effort through the sky.

9. A rocket requires a lot of fuel in order to start it into the sky.

10. Amanda is quite an intelligent girl for her young age.
Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ____ Just when you thought you’d caught up to Brian, he’d accelerate and quickly get away.
2. ____ The orchestra made a very tenacious sound, and many in the audience decided to leave.
3. ____ Dan had duplicated the sculpture exactly. It now looked nothing like the original one.
4. ____ Lions are dangerous hunters. They can glide through the air to capture their prey.
5. ____ They had a picnic in the park and launched on small sandwiches and grapes.
6. ____ We made a small toy train that stimulated how real trains worked 100 years ago.
7. ____ Cellular phones are one of the most popular innovations in the world today.
8. ____ The knight’s sword could not penetrate his opponent’s armor.
9. ____ The thought of his warm bed spurred the traveler on through the cold night.
10. ____ We didn’t mind that our paintings got ruined. It was fun to start them anew.
11. ____ Satellites are very important for gathering meteorological data.
12. ____ Fish use their fins for propulsion in the water.
13. ____ I wish Dad wasn’t so innovative. He always comes into my room without knocking.
14. ____ Some metals are attracted to other metals due to an electromagnetic force.
15. ____ Certain kinds of light can simulate flowers into producing seeds earlier than usual.
16. ____ John is so ingenious. He hasn’t passed a single test so far this year.
17. ____ I’ve always been interested in meteors. That’s why I want to study meteorology.
18. ____ The lake was frightening. The water was still and dreary.
19. ____ Everyone who voted in the electron was given the day off of work.
20. ____ The new pot looked perfect. It was covered in new, shiny defects.
The Tenacious Inventor

A young student of meteorology was having a difficult time with an experiment. He was attempting to duplicate lightning in clouds. He had made a device that could simulate lightning. It worked by releasing an electromagnetic pulse into the cloud. This pulse, in turn, stimulated the electrons in the cloud’s particles. Then the electrons produced lightning.

But his meteorological experiment had a major defect. He couldn’t get the device into the sky.

He had tied it to balloons, but they had burst. He had shot the device from a cannon, but the force of the cannon had damaged it.

“You should give up,” his friends told him. “You’ll never get that thing into the air.”

But his friends’ criticisms only spurred him to try again. The student was very innovative, and at last, he thought that he had an innovation that would work. He attached wings to the device, and on one dreary day, when clouds blocked the light of the sun, he started his experiment anew.

He placed the device on a rocket and launched it into the sky. The propulsion of the rocket carried the device high into the air. The rocket accelerated into the clouds and then released the device. It glided on its wings through the clouds, and when it penetrated the center of a large black cloud, it emitted the electromagnetic pulse. And just as he had predicted, lightning shot from the cloud!

He called his professors, and the next day they came to watch. He successfully duplicated the experiment. His teachers were extremely impressed and called the student and his invention ingenious.

The student was given many awards and became a famous inventor. He had not given up. He had remained tenacious and succeeded.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The student of meteorology had bought a device that simulated lightning in clouds.
2. ____ The electromagnetic pulse stimulated the electrons in the cloud's particles.
3. ____ The student's friends' criticisms spurred him to try his experiment anew.
4. ____ It was a dreary day when the device glided into the clouds.
5. ____ The propulsion of the rocket accelerated the speed of the lightning.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What was the defect of the student's meteorological experiment?
2. What innovation did the innovative student use to launch his device into the clouds?
3. For whom did the student duplicate his ingenious experiment?
4. What did the device do when it finally penetrated the center of a large black cloud?
5. What happened to the student because he was tenacious?
beforehand  [bɪˈfɔːr.hænd]  adv.
If something is done beforehand, then it is done in advance.
→ He packed his luggage beforehand, so he was able to leave right away.

centigrade  [sɛntɪˈɡreɪd]  n.
If a temperature is centigrade, it is scaled, so water freezes at 0° and boils at 100°.
→ During the spring time, the temperature gets as warm as 26 degrees centigrade.

chatter  [ˈtʃætər]  v.
To chatter means to talk quickly about unimportant things.
→ The children chattered in the back of the classroom.

concerto  [kɒnˈtɜːrtoʊ]  n.
A concerto is music for a solo instrument and played with an orchestra.
→ The piano concerto has a section in which only the piano plays.

condense  [kændəns]  v.
To condense a gas means to make it a liquid.
→ The cool air made tiny drops of water condense on the tops of the grass.

cove  [kəʊv]  n.
A cove is a part of land where it curves inward around the sea.
→ They hid the boat in a small cove on the south side of the island.

deteriorate  [dɪtərɪərət]  v.
To deteriorate means to become steadily worse.
→ The nation’s economy continued to deteriorate despite the politicians’ efforts.

exterior  [ɪkˈstɪəriər]  n.
An exterior is the outside surface of something.
→ The exterior of the nut was hard and woody, but the inside was soft and delicious.

freeway  [ˈfriː.wei]  n.
A freeway is a road with no stops where cars travel at high speeds.
→ Once you get on the freeway, it only takes an hour to drive to my parent’s farm.

hearty  [ˈheərti]  adj.
If someone or something is hearty, then they are loud and happy.
→ The grandmother ended her story with a hearty laugh that pleased her grandchild.
hospitable [həˈspɪtəbəl] adj.
If someone is hospitable, they are friendly to strangers.
→ At dinner, Dad was very hospitable to my friends.

manor [ˈmænər] n.
A manor is a large house with many rooms.
→ The manor had over forty rooms in addition to beautiful gardens.

monastery [ˈməʊnəstəri] n.
A monastery is a building in which monks live.
→ The monks at this monastery are famous for their bread and music.

nursery [ˈnɜːsəri] n.
A nursery is a room where babies and children sleep, play, or are cared for.
→ The children kissed their parents goodnight and went upstairs to the nursery.

outstretched [ˈaʊstrɛstʃt] adj.
If something is outstretched, then it is extended to its full length.
→ The cat stood on its back legs with its front legs outstretched.

parcel [ˈpærsəl] n.
A parcel is a package of things to be carried or mailed somewhere.
→ The parcel looked like it had been stepped on by someone.

profile [ˈprəʊfl] n.
A profile is an outline of a face, usually as seen from the side.
→ The drawing of Olivia’s profile came out very well.

vivacious [vɪˈvæʃəs] adj.
If someone is vivacious, they are talkative and cheerful.
→ Everyone at the party was very vivacious and having a good time.

winding [ˈwændɪŋ] adj.
If something is winding, then it follows a twisting course.
→ The winding river turned and looped around the bases of the hills.

zip [zip] v.
To zip something means to close it with a zipper.
→ She zipped her backpack closed after putting her books inside it.
Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. Who is someone that would most likely be hospitable?
   a. An enemy  
   b. A host  
   c. A singer  
   d. A gangster

2. At what temperature centigrade does water freeze?
   a. 0 degrees  
   b. 32 degrees  
   c. 100 degrees  
   d. 132 degrees

3. If the mist from fog condensed, what would happen to the ground?
   a. It would be wet.  
   b. It would be dry.  
   c. It would be sandy.  
   d. It would be snowy.

4. If you are going on a trip, which is something you should do beforehand?
   a. Exercise  
   b. Take a walk  
   c. Throw a party  
   d. Pack clothes

5. Who of the following would most likely perform a concerto?
   a. A musician  
   b. A pilot  
   c. A swimmer  
   d. A superhero

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. monastery
   a. stairs  
   b. currency  
   c. abbey  
   d. frown

2. winding
   a. spiral  
   b. stormy  
   c. broken  
   d. tiny

3. cove
   a. tomb  
   b. oven  
   c. term  
   d. bay

4. freeway
   a. road  
   b. path  
   c. slow  
   d. farther

5. manor
   a. polite  
   b. hut  
   c. large home  
   d. field

6. parcel
   a. landscape  
   b. package  
   c. battery  
   d. moisture

7. nursery
   a. auditorium  
   b. nurse’s lounge  
   c. hospital  
   d. infant’s center

8. vivacious
   a. angry  
   b. quiet  
   c. cheerful  
   d. tired

9. exterior
   a. priest  
   b. region  
   c. bridge  
   d. outside

10. zip
    a. close  
    b. toss  
    c. join  
    d. walk

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Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. They didn’t want to get covered with sand, so they relaxed on an extended blanket.
   _____________________________

2. The boys were talking quickly about what they were going to do that weekend.
   _____________________________

3. It’s easy to go past the exit when you’re driving on the road where cars drive fast.
   _____________________________

4. This building used to be a house where monks lived, but now it’s used as a museum.
   _____________________________

5. The twisting path that went through the mountains was beautiful to hike in the spring.
   _____________________________

6. The photograph showed one side of the man’s face.
   _____________________________

7. Their chances of escaping the room became worse as the water level continued to rise.
   _____________________________

8. The outside surface of the car looked bad, but the inside still looked new.
   _____________________________

9. Lisa is a very loud and happy person.
   _____________________________

10. I’ll remember her forever. I had never before met such a cheerful, talkative person.
    _____________________________
The Nurse’s Lesson

One of the children in the nursery was sick. The child’s mother, who was usually quite vivacious and chattered constantly, was quiet and worried. She knew that if she did not act quickly, the child’s condition would deteriorate.

She summoned the children's nurse and said to her, “The monks make a medicine that can cure my child’s sickness. Please, hurry tonight to the monastery and get it.”

The nurse immediately hurried from the manor to get the medicine. The monastery was far away by Rabbit Cove, and there was no freeway leading to it. The only way there was to walk along a dark and winding trail.

The temperature was close to zero degrees centigrade, and it was raining. Luckily, the nurse had grabbed her raincoat beforehand. She zipped it up and pulled the hood over her head.

“I’ll never make it there,” she thought. “Perhaps I should return and go in the morning.” But she remembered the sick child and decided to continue.

Finally, she arrived at the monastery. It was very late. She feared the monks would not be hospitable. But she approached the door and knocked anyway. The rain had condensed on the exterior of the windows by the door. All she could see was the profile of a large man coming to answer the door. Again, she was filled with fear.

But the monk smiled at her when he opened the door. He took her outstretched hand and welcomed her with a hearty voice. The place was warm, and she heard a concerto playing in another room. She relaxed.

“How can I help you?” the monk asked, and the nurse explained the situation. He instantly knew what to do. He grabbed a parcel of medicine and took her back to the manor in a carriage. The medicine worked. The nurse was happy she had persevered through the bad weather and found the monastery. Now the boy would be able to live a long natural life.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The nurse was usually a vivacious woman who constantly chattered.

2. ____ The nursery was far from the freeway that was near Rabbit Cove.

3. ____ When it started to deteriorate, the nurse zipped up the jacket she had brought beforehand.

4. ____ The temperature was close to zero degrees centigrade.

5. ____ When the nurse heard a concerto playing in another room, she became hospitable.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Where did the dark and winding trail lead?

2. Who took the nurse’s outstretched hand and welcomed her with a hearty voice?

3. How did the nurse feel when she saw the profile of a man coming to answer the door?

4. What had condensed on the exterior of the monastery’s windows?

5. What was in the parcel that the nurse took back to the manor?
airway [ˈɛərweɪ] n.
An airway is the passage by which air reaches a person’s lungs.
→ Since he was sick, mucus would occasionally get stuck in his airway.

Almighty [ɔːlˈmætɪ] n.
The Almighty is a name for a god in a religion.
→ Before eating, they thanked the Almighty for their food.

advent [əˈdvent] n.
An advent is the arrival or beginning of an important person, thing, or event.
→ During the advent of radio, very few programs actually played music.

constellation [ˈkɒnstələdʒɪn] n.
A constellation is a group of stars with a recognizable shape.
→ That constellation in the shape of a square is named after a flying horse.

definitive [dɪˈfɪnɪtɪv] adj.
If something is definitive, then it is the most official.
→ This library has the definitive collection of books on ancient Egypt.

equate [ɪkˈweɪt] v.
To equate one thing with another is to compare them and consider them very similar.
→ She equated the man’s messy appearance with a lack of responsibility.

inhale [ɪnˈheɪl] v.
To inhale means to take air or a smell into the lungs.
→ The camper inhaled the cool and fresh mountain air and felt relaxed.

invoke [ɪnˈvouk] v.
To invoke something is to mention it to support an argument or ask for help.
→ Before going into battle, the soldier invoked the name of his god for protection.

lunar [ˈljuːnər] adj.
If something is lunar, then it is related to the moon.
→ During a lunar eclipse, Earth’s shadow darkens the moon’s surface.

novelty [ˈnɒvəltɪ] n.
A novelty is something that is new, original, or strange.
→ Ice cream was a novelty for him since he rarely had any.
outmoded  [autmou'did] adj.
If something is outmoded, then it is no longer in fashion or use.
→ Black and white television sets are outmoded.

personalize  [pa'seənəlaɪz] v.
To personalize something means to design it to meet a person’s unique needs.
→ He personalized the woman’s exercises to give her a better workout.

pertain  [pə'teɪn] v.
To pertain to something means to be related or connected to it.
→ All of the lawyer’s questions pertained to events around the night of the crime.

primal  [præiməl] adj.
If something is primal, then it is very basic or related to the origin of something.
→ Cooking the food over the camp fire felt like a primal way of making a meal.

psychiatric  [sæikə'tetrik] adj.
If something is psychiatric, then it is related to mental illness or its treatment.
→ The doctor said the patient might have a psychiatric problem.

psychiatry  [saikia'tri] n.
Psychiatry is the study and treatment of mental illness.
→ Studying psychiatry has taught me a lot about mental illness.

reflex  [ri'fleks] n.
A reflex is an unconscious action in which a body part responds to an event.
→ There was a reflex when the doctor hit his knee with a rubber hammer.

seizure  [siː'zɔːr] n.
A seizure is sudden illness in which the body loses control and shakes.
→ Bright flashing lights can cause seizures in children.

session  [ˈseʃən] n.
A session is a meeting at a regular time in order to discuss and solve an issue.
→ Every three months the managers met in a session to discuss regional sales.

utensil  [juː'tensəl] n.
A utensil is a common tool or container.
→ It seemed that a fork was the wrong utensil for trying to eat the soup.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. lunar
   a. sun  b. moon  c. stars  d. earth

2. reflex
   a. response  b. delay  c. broken  d. squeeze

3. pertain
   a. piece  b. fact  c. describe  d. relate

4. utensil
   a. horn  b. badge  c. spoon  d. glove

5. outmoded
   a. old-fashioned  b. new  c. outdoors  d. innovative

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

The doctors thought that too much sugar caused the 1_____________.
However, their findings weren't 2_____________.

A star burning at night as brightly as the moon was quite a(n) 3_____________.
In fact, the 4_____________ glow was actually not as bright.

Those seven stars form the 5_____________ known as the Big Dipper.
A dipper is a(n) 6_____________ shaped like a spoon used for getting water.

There are many methods used in 7_____________ to help cure mental illnesses.
They are all 8_____________ to the specific needs of the patient.

The body's 9_____________ are too quick to be controlled by the brain.
These actions 10_____________ to the nerves and spine rather than the brain.
Exercise 3

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. inhale
   a. breathe  b. exit  c. sell  d. borrow
2. psychiatric
   a. passionate  b. cozy  c. mental  d. similar
3. advent
   a. start  b. moment  c. candle  d. pipe
4. equate
   a. prepare  b. drip  c. sleep  d. relate
5. session
   a. ocean  b. sweater  c. rubbish  d. meeting
6. invoke
   a. allow  b. resist  c. request  d. divide
7. Almighty
   a. fire  b. capital  c. god  d. tower
8. primal
   a. basic  b. bright  c. wooden  d. strict
9. airway
   a. cloud  b. throat  c. road  d. plane
10. outmoded
    a. wild  b. whole  c. dumb  d. old

Exercise 4

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The coach designed to their unique needs a program for each of the athletes.
   ____________________________

2. Jack’s parents had a weekly meeting with his teacher to discuss Jack’s schoolwork.
   ____________________________

3. If you look at that group of stars in the sky, what do you see?
   ____________________________

4. The priest asked the god to bless everyone in the church.
   ____________________________

5. She compared the pain in her back to being stabbed with a knife.
   ____________________________

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Seizures Then and Now

If a person who lived 200 years ago was treated for a seizure today, they would be surprised by the treatment’s novelty. That’s because doctors in the 1800s were influenced more by primal medical beliefs than science.

Rather than thinking the brain caused seizures, people in the 1800s still thought they were the result of strange forces. They equated seizures with the work of evil spirits. Others felt that the seizures had a cosmic or lunar cause. They believed that the cycles of the moon and constellations could make someone have a seizure.

During a session to treat a patient who had seizures, doctors would force the patient to invoke the grace of the Almighty. They thought if the patient did this, then the patient would rid themselves of the evil spirits causing the seizures.

The advent of modern psychiatry occurred during the 1800s. At that time people who suffered from seizures were placed in psychiatric hospitals. They were treated like they were insane. However, none of the outmoded treatments worked.

It wasn’t until the late 1850s that the causes of seizures were understood. We know today that these causes pertain to the brain. Misfired signals from the brain cause a jerking reflex in the body. These usually occur when someone is very tired.

Once the causes of seizures were known, definitive treatments were developed. Today, treatments range from taking pills to having surgery. Treatment is personalized according to the type of seizure the patient has.

Even today, some people are unsure about seizures. Their most common mistake is thinking that a person having a seizure will swallow their tongue. They often shove some utensil in the person’s mouth. However, this doesn’t help. The utensil often blocks the airway and prevents the person from inhaling. Yet most of the public no longer fear people who have seizures. Instead, they can now help and comfort a person if they have a seizure.
Reading Comprehension

PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Doctors who treated patients for seizures in the 1800s were influenced by primal medical beliefs.

2. ___ Doctors still used outmoded treatments even after definitive treatments were developed.

3. ___ The cause of seizures used to be equated to the work of the Almighty.

4. ___ Today, care for people with seizures is better because treatment sessions are more personalized.

5. ___ The cause of seizures pertain to misfired signals in the brain that cause a jerking reflex in the body.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Why would someone from the past be surprised by the novelty of today’s treatments for seizures?

2. How does a utensil placed in someone’s airway prevent them from inhaling?

3. During the advent of modern psychiatry, how were people treated in psychiatric hospitals?

4. What did some people believe constellations and lunar cycles could cause?

5. What did doctors force seizure patients to invoke in order to treat their seizures?

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**adhesive** [ˈæd.hi.veɪ] n.
An adhesive is a substance used for sticking things together.
→ *The carpenter used an adhesive to hold the two pieces of wood together.*

**adverse** [ædˈvɛrs] adj.
If something is adverse, then it is harmful.
→ *Not eating healthy foods can have an adverse effect on your health.*

**dependency** [dɪˈpendənsi] n.
A dependency is a strong need for someone or something.
→ *The child still has a dependency on her mother.*

**dump** [dʌmp] v.
To dump something means to throw it away or get rid of it.
→ *She dumped the garbage into the trash can.*

**eternal** [ɪtərməl] adj.
If something is eternal, then it lasts forever.
→ *She said that her love for him was eternal.*

**fluctuate** [ˈflʌktjuət] v.
To fluctuate means to rise and fall in number or amount.
→ *Prices for gasoline have been fluctuating all month.*

**fro** [frəʊ] adv.
If something moves to and fro, it moves backward and forward or side to side.
→ *Her long hair went to and fro as she swung on the swing.*

**inclusion** [ɪnˈkluːʒən] n.
Inclusion is the act of including someone or something in a group.
→ *Her inclusion into the photo club was well received.*

**intermediate** [ɪntərˈmiːdiət] adj.
If something is intermediate, then it is in the middle of two levels, places, or times.
→ *He selected the intermediate ski hill to begin his afternoon of skiing.*

**intermittent** [ɪntərˈmiːtənt] adj.
If something is intermittent, then it happens in a way that is not constant.
→ *It was hard to focus because intermittent noises came from the workers outside.*
mentor  n.
A mentor is a person with experience or knowledge who advises someone.
→ The students each chose a mentor to help them with the experiment.

phoenix  n.
A phoenix is an imaginary bird that burned to ashes and was reborn.
→ Some believe the phoenix is a symbol for rebirth and a new beginning.

photosynthesis  n.
Photosynthesis is the process in which plants change sunlight and air.
→ The chemical in plants that makes them green is used in photosynthesis.

pollen  n.
Pollen is the tiny yellow powder made in the flowers of plants.
→ During the spring, the pollen in the air makes some people become sick.

regain  v.
To regain something means to get it back.
→ The battery regained its power after being recharged.

reverse  v.
To reverse means to change to the opposite direction.
→ They reversed their direction after seeing the sign.

swarm  n.
A swarm is a group of flying insects.
→ A beautiful swarm of butterflies filled the summer sky.

texture  n.
Texture is the quality of something that can be known by its touch.
→ The texture of her skin was very soft and smooth.

tickle  v.
To tickle someone is to touch them in a way that causes laughter.
→ The mother tickled the little boy’s foot, and he screamed with laughter.

vibrant  adj.
If something is vibrant, then it is bright and full of color.
→ Their new shirts were a vibrant shade of red.
Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. reverse
   a. spell       b. train       c. switch       d. camp
2. adverse
   a. written     b. harmful     c. tense       d. blank
3. intermediate
   a. amazing     b. safe        c. stupid      d. middle
4. regain
   a. reclaim     b. book        c. member      d. length
5. mentor
   a. flavor      b. terror      c. teacher     d. painter
6. inclusion
   a. energy      b. moment      c. peninsula   d. welcome
7. adhesive
   a. paste       b. floor       c. segment    d. treasure
8. vibrant
   a. dangerous   b. messy       c. dynamic    d. hollow
9. dependency
   a. expanse     b. need        c. freshness  d. tone
10. swarm
    a. heat        b. group       c. truth      d. ledge

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

He enjoyed watching the 1 ____________ movement of the branch in the wind.
As the branch moved to and 2 ____________, he felt calmed.
Her favorite magical creature was the 3 ____________.
The bird’s feathers were always a(n) 4 ____________ mix of red and orange.
Actually, those flowers have a(n) 5 ____________ effect on my mother’s health.
The 6 ____________ in it makes her sneeze.
Mr. Roth had been a valuable 7 ____________ for so many years.
You could feel the knowledge from the 8 ____________ of his wrinkled hands.
Plants have a(n) 9 ____________ on sunlight.
It’s a necessary ingredient for the process of 10 ____________.

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Exercise 3

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. inclusion
   a. exclusion  b. inside  c. instant  d. unclean

2. regain
   a. snow  b. break  c. lose  d. smell

3. eternal
   a. great  b. true  c. flat  d. brief

4. dump
   a. gather  b. explain  c. solve  d. glow

5. fluctuate
   a. heal  b. remain  c. stutter  d. choose

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ The branches moved to and fro in the breeze.

2. ___ Honeybees collect pollen from flowers.

3. ___ The meeting was eternal. It lasted only ten minutes.

4. ___ The adhesive on this tape doesn’t work anymore. It won’t stick.

5. ___ In order to get into the sports arena, we had to pay a phoenix.

6. ___ This past week the weather has fluctuated a lot. It’s been warm and sunny every day.

7. ___ Don’t touch my knee. It tickles when anything touches me there.

8. ___ She dumped the dirty water out back in the garden.

9. ___ My level of Spanish is only at the intermediate stage.

10. ___ The texture of his workload was incredible.
The Greedy Bee

A young bee had passed his intermediate level exams. He now knew everything about flowers. He understood how they used photosynthesis to make oxygen and which ones produced the best pollen. Bees had an important dependency on pollen. From the beginning of time, bees’ eternal task was to gather pollen and make honey with it.

Since he passed his exams, the little bee had earned his inclusion in the swarms that gathered pollen. He was excited because he was finally allowed to leave the hive. He left with the next swarm and was determined to find the perfect flower. Soon he saw a large, vibrant flower full of pollen. He landed on a petal and walked toward the pollen at the flower’s center.

Immediately, he began rolling in the pollen, gathering it on his legs and wings. The fine texture of the pollen tickled when it stuck to his body. It was the best experience the little bee had ever had. He gathered as much as he could.

But when he was flying back home, he realized that all the pollen had an adverse effect. He had no control over his flight. The intermittent wind fluctuated in power. He was blown to and fro. One minute he was flying straight, and the next minute the wind had reversed his course.

He tried to dump some of the pollen, but it acted as an adhesive. He couldn’t get it off. He became tired and fell to the ground.

“What am I going to do now?” he thought. Just then, his mentor landed next to him and began cleaning the excess pollen off the little bee. “You shouldn’t have taken so much,” his mentor said.

Finally, with the pollen off of him, the bee easily regained his strength, and like a phoenix, the young bee flew back into the air. When he returned to the hive, he turned to his mentor and said, “I learned an important lesson today. I will never be greedy again.”
**PART A** Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The bees had an important dependency on pollen.

2. ____ The texture of the petals in the vibrant flower tickled.

3. ____ The little bee was blown to and fro and reversed in his direction.

4. ____ Because the pollen acted like an adhesive, the little bee couldn’t dump it.

5. ____ After his mentor helped him regain his strength, the little bee lost his ambitions and fell to the ground like a phoenix.

**PART B** Answer the questions.

1. After the intermediate exams, what did the bee know about photosynthesis?

2. What did his inclusion in the swarms finally allow the little bee to do?

3. What was the bees’ eternal task?

4. How did the excess pollen have an adverse effect on the bee’s flight?

5. What was intermittent and fluctuated in the bees’ power?
abolish [ˈabəlɪʃ] v.
To abolish something means to put an end to it, such as a system or law.
→ President Lincoln abolished slavery in the US.

amend [ˈæmənd] v.
To amend something means to change it to improve or make it accurate.
→ The countries were in agreement that the treaty needed to be amended.

aspire [əˈspaiər] v.
To aspire means to have a strong desire to achieve or do something.
→ George aspired to be a doctor from a young age.

censor [ˈsɛnsər] v.
To censor information means to remove it if it is rude or rebellious.
→ To protect innocent people, the location of the bomb was censored.

charter [ˈtʃɑːtər] n.
A charter is a document that describes the rights of an organization or group.
→ The company charter explained that all employees had to pay a tax.

constitution [ˌkɒnəstəˈʃən] n.
A constitution is a document of principles for a government.
→ The country's constitution said a prime minister could only serve three terms.

cosmopolitan [ˈkɒzməpələtən] adj.
When a place is cosmopolitan, it is full of people from many different places.
→ There are dozens of different types of restaurants in a cosmopolitan city.

disseminate [dɪsɪˈməneɪt] v.
To disseminate information or knowledge means to distribute it.
→ The organization disseminates information about the dangers of smoking.

flatter [ˈflætər] v.
To flatter people means to praise them in an effort to please them.
→ He was just flattering me when he said that my new dress looked gorgeous.

infamous [ɪnˈfəməs] adj.
When someone is infamous, they are well known for something bad.
→ That news channel is infamous for presenting biased information.
lame [leim] adj.
If one is lame, they cannot walk properly due to an injury to the leg or foot.
→ The terrible accident left many people dead and several others lame.

limp [imp] v.
To limp means to walk with difficulty because someone’s leg or foot is hurt.
→ After the injury, the player limped off of the field.

outburst [autbərst] n.
An outburst is a sudden, strong expression of an emotion.
→ There was an outburst of cheers when the comedian took the stage.

pathological [pæθələdʒikəl] adj.
When a behavior is pathological, it is extreme, unacceptable, and uncontrollable.
→ The pathological liar could not even tell the truth about unimportant matters.

phenomenal [fɪnəmənəl] adj.
When something is phenomenal, it is unusually great.
→ The child’s ability to play the piano is nothing short of phenomenal.

poll [poul] n.
A poll is a survey in which people give their opinions about important things.
→ The poll showed that many people support the plan to stop gang violence.

remorse [rɛmɔrəs] n.
Remorse is a strong feeling of sadness and regret.
→ When I realized what I did, I felt remorse for my actions.

secrecy [siˈkræsɪ] n.
Secrecy is the behavior of keeping things secret.
→ The secrecy of the big organization made the government nervous.

tackle [tækəl] v.
To tackle something means to deal with it in a determined and efficient way.
→ Such social problems need to be tackled right away.

trance [træns] n.
A trance is a state where people seem asleep and have no control of themselves.
→ The woman’s powerful eyes often put men in a trance.

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Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. What might be abolished?
   a. A rule
   b. A toy
   c. A car
   d. A star

2. Who tackles crime?
   a. Bankers
   b. Criminals
   c. Postal workers
   d. Police officers

3. Who is infamous?
   a. A trusting friend
   b. An evil king
   c. A tiny puppy

4. If a behavior is pathological, it _____.
   a. is envied
   b. cannot be controlled
   c. can be bad
   d. is pleasant

5. Who might be lame?
   a. A healthy baby
   b. An athlete
   c. A young man
   d. Someone in a wheelchair

6. A trance is most similar to _____.
   a. dancing
   b. eating
   c. showering
   d. sleeping

7. What is most likely to have a charter?
   a. An unknown island
   b. A new automobile
   c. A large company
   d. A basketball

8. What might be censored?
   a. A newspaper
   b. A fly

9. If your skills are phenomenal, they are _____.
   a. ordinary
   b. not appreciated
   c. in need of practice
   d. great

10. Which area is likely to be cosmopolitan?
    a. A television set
    b. A bedroom
    c. A big city
    d. A small village

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. lame
   a. rude
   b. kind
   c. smart
   d. healthy

2. secrecy
   a. well known
   b. hidden
   c. upset
   d. popularity

3. abolish
   a. great
   b. start
   c. round
   d. caring

4. remorse
   a. again
   b. grief
   c. happiness
   d. glow

5. disseminate
   a. distribute
   b. collect
   c. open
   d. forget
Exercise 3

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. His moving speech caused a huge strong, sudden expression of happy tears.
   _____________________________

2. The main goal of the group was to distribute information about the needs of the poor.
   _____________________________

3. The wounded soldier had to walk with difficulty because of a hurt foot back to the base.
   _____________________________

4. We excitedly watched the results of the survey in which people give opinions.
   _____________________________

5. The boys have a strong desire to finish college in less than three years.
   _____________________________

6. When he saw how badly things had turned out, he felt a strong feeling of sadness and regret.
   _____________________________

7. It is a difficult process to improve the official rulebook.
   _____________________________

8. Those salesmen praise in an insincere way people to trick them into buying useless items.
   _____________________________

9. The document of principles for the government was based on freedom for all people.
   _____________________________

10. We were immediately suspicious of the boy because of his act of keeping things secret.
    _____________________________

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ____ The boy tackled when he slipped on the ice.

2. ____ Many different languages are spoken in this cosmopolitan area.

3. ____ The trance was a beautiful arrangement of fruits and flowers on the table.

4. ____ The doctor had to amend the man’s lungs to help him breathe better.

5. ____ The new country created a strong constitution to help guide it through the years.

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The Mayor of Sherman

The cosmopolitan city of Sherman needed to elect a new mayor. Two men aspired to become mayor: Mr. Jones and Mr. Webb. Mr. Jones was a tall, handsome man. He was a phenomenal speaker, and the citizens loved him. However, Mr. Jones didn’t know much about running a city. He was a pathological liar who merely flattered people with his words. Mr. Webb was very different. He was a small, unattractive man. He was lame and limped when he walked. But he was an expert on politics and knew what was best for the people.

The citizens of Sherman didn’t care about what the politicians had to say. No one listened to Mr. Webb, even though he had great ideas. They cheered when Mr. Jones spoke, although he didn’t talk about important things. His pretty words put people in a trance. All the polls predicted that Mr. Jones would win the election.

When the votes were totaled, Mr. Jones won easily. But when he took office, he didn’t know what to do! He tried to hide his ignorance by working in secrecy. He added a law to the city’s constitution that prevented citizens from seeing the mayor. He even censored newspapers that tried to disseminate information about his inability to help the people.

Soon, however, Mr. Jones became infamous for his poor leadership. There was an outburst of anger among the citizens. They were full of remorse for their misguided decision to elect an ignorant mayor. They voted to remove Mr. Jones and let Mr. Webb take over. Immediately, Mr. Webb proved that he was a great mayor. He abolished Mr. Jones’s law, and he was willing to talk openly with everyone. He tackled important issues and amended unfair laws in the city’s charter.

The citizens learned that a pleasant appearance and nice words do not make a good leader. The most important qualities are intelligence and a desire to help others.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Two men aspired to be mayor of the cosmopolitan city of Sherman.

2. ___ Mr. Jones was a pathological speaker who flattered people with his words.

3. ___ Mr. Webb was lame, so he limped when he walked.

4. ___ Mr. Webb tackled important issues and amended unfair laws in the city charter.

5. ___ Mr. Jones censored newspapers that tried to disseminate outbursts of anger.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What did the polls predict after the people were put into a trance?

2. What misguided decision did the people feel remorse for making?

3. What was Mr. Webb willing to do after he abolished Mr. Jones's laws from the constitution?

4. What did the phenomenal speaker become infamous for?

5. What was Mr. Jones trying to do by working in secrecy?
Word List

- **coward** [kaʊərd] n.
  A coward is a person who lacks courage to do risky or dangerous things.
  → A firefighter cannot be a coward. They have to be able to act quickly.

- **delete** [dɪˈlɛt] v.
  To delete something means to remove or erase written material.
  → Several lines had been deleted from her speech.

- **firsthand** [ˈfaːrsthænd] adj.
  If something is firsthand, then it is from an original source.
  → If you want firsthand knowledge, ask someone who saw it.

- **earnest** [ˈɔːrnist] adj.
  If someone is earnest, then they are honest.
  → The child was very earnest when she told her mother how she broke the dish.

- **ethnic** [ˈɛnɪk] adj.
  If something is ethnic, then it is related to a group with a similar culture.
  → Many sections of the city are home to different ethnic communities.

- **exclude** [ɪkˈskluːd] v.
  To exclude someone means to not accept them into a group.
  → Carol was excluded from the contest because her friend was a judge.

- **fluent** [ˈfluənt] adj.
  If someone is fluent in a language, then they are able to speak it very well.
  → She was so fluent in German that you’d have thought she was from Germany.

- **imperial** [ɪmˈpiəriəl] adj.
  If something is imperial, then it is of, or related to an empire.
  → These old imperial coins were once used in the Roman Empire.

- **inclusive** [ɪnˈkluːsɪv] adj.
  If something is inclusive, then it is open to all groups and people in society.
  → A more inclusive event would have allowed children to attend.

- **legislature** [ˈlɛdʒɪslətʃər] n.
  A legislature is the section of a government that makes laws.
  → The senator had served ten years in the national legislature.
linguistic [lingwistik] adj.
If something is linguistic, then it is concerned with language.
→ A linguistic way of studying culture focuses on words within that culture.

monolingual [mənəlɪŋwəl] adj.
If someone is monolingual, then they speak only one language.
→ In today’s global economy, being monolingual limits your opportunities.

nationality [næʃənləti] n.
Nationality is an identity based on the nation from which you come.
→ His nationality is German, but he speaks French, Spanish, and Korean.

patriot [peɪtriət] n.
A patriot is someone who loves, supports, and defends their country.
→ Every year young patriots join their countries’ militaries.

prosecute [prəsəkjuːt] v.
To prosecute someone means to take legal action against them.
→ They were prosecuted for fishing in the river without a permit.

racial [rɪˈʃəl] adj.
If something is racial, then it is related to a race or races.
→ The differences between racial groups are physical characteristics and culture.

solemn [səˈlem] adj.
If something is solemn, then it is serious and honest.
→ The professor preferred a solemn relationship between him and his students.

solidarity [ˈsɔldəərəti] n.
Solidarity is a union formed from common responsibilities or interests.
→ All the citizens came together in a show of solidarity to create change.

tact [tækt] n
Tact is the ability to avoid offending people when dealing with problems.
→ Since both sides would not agree, it required someone with tact to make peace.

undermine [ʌndərˈmaɪn] v.
To undermine someone means to betray or weaken their efforts or authority.
→ The documents helped to undermine the workers’ trust in their bosses’ honesty.
Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. No matter how much she begged, the older girls still did not accept Suzy.
   
2. Language based approaches are the best way to learn about a culture.
   
3. Constant changes were weakening the project’s chances of being finished on time.
   
4. The boy made a serious and honest promise to his parents that he would never again cheat.
   
5. The movie director gave the actors and actresses a personal and original view of the newly completed movie.
   
6. Everyone knew that Luke studied Chinese. But no one knew he was able to speak it very well.
   
7. The teacher was waiting for one of the students to be honest about what had happened on the playground.
   
8. The Internet has made talking to people everywhere very natural. As a result, having a sense of common support for your ideas is easy.
   
9. Though he looked Greek, his identity based on the country he came from was Mexican.
   
10. Today, no one lives in the old royal palace. Instead, it’s part of the university.
Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ Peter is so *earnest*. He made more money than anyone I know.

2. ___ If you like *ethnic* foods, then you like foods from other cultures.

3. ___ Though it’s the same language, there are *linguistic* differences between the two areas.

4. ___ The *patriot* is an amazing bird. It can repeat anything you tell it.

5. ___ If you want someone to care for your cattle, you should call a *coward*.

6. ___ The boy said that the test was unfair, and his classmates showed *solidarity* and agreed.

7. ___ The king said the princes had *undermined* his authority when they issued new orders.

8. ___ We *deleted* all the words that were spelled wrong.

9. ___ “I’m sorry you can’t eat here. This restaurant is *inclusive*.”

10. ___ The road going to the farmhouse is *monolingual*, so watch cars coming your way.

11. ___ He had seen the battle *firsthand* in old movies.

12. ___ If someone goes to court, then they are judged by the *legislature*.

13. ___ This city’s history is important. It was once the *imperial* capital.

14. ___ His friends had left him alone in the library, but he didn’t mind being *solemn*.

15. ___ The criminals were *prosecuted* for the crimes they had committed.

16. ___ That college *excludes* anyone who has low test scores.

17. ___ Many people wonder about her *nationality*. However, he knows where she’s from.

18. ___ The mothers covered their children’s heads because the rain was so *fluent*.

19. ___ I liked all the cars, but I bought the *racial* car because it was the fastest.

20. ___ His method had a lot of *tact*. Soon, everyone agreed with his point of view.
The Editor’s Choice

A newspaper editor sat at his desk and stared at the flashing cursor on his computer’s screen. He didn’t know if he should delete the article he had just written or go ahead and publish it. He was scared and filled with doubt.

The empire had passed a new law stating that citizens could only use the imperial language. The editor disagreed with the law and decided to write an article about why it was wrong. He felt that the new law excluded people of different nationalities and racial and ethnic backgrounds. He had firsthand knowledge of what it feels like not to be fluent in the imperial language because he was from a remote part of the empire.

He felt that the empire shouldn’t be monolingual and should be more inclusive. Yet he was afraid that he would get in trouble for having this belief. Many would say that he was not a patriot—that he didn’t love the empire. But he didn’t wish to undermine the authority of the empire. He wanted to argue that the empire could be stronger if it accepted people of various cultures and beliefs.

At last, he decided to stop being a coward and to be earnest about how he felt. He wrote the article. It wasn’t rude or angry, but rather, very solemn and intelligent. The next day it was published in all the papers.

Everyone was impressed by his tact and showed solidarity with his ideas. He expected to be arrested any day, but the police never came. Surprisingly, instead of being prosecuted, he became a hero. The legislature changed the law, and people from many linguistic backgrounds praised him.

“Never be afraid to be vocal,” the editor later wrote. “If you think something is wrong, then stand up for what you believe.”
PART A Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ The editor felt the imperial law excluded people of different nationalities and racial and ethnic backgrounds.  

2. ___ The legislature prosecuted the editor for undermining the authority of the empire.  

3. ___ The editor was not fluent in the empire's language.  

4. ___ Everyone was impressed by the editor's tact and showed solidarity with his ideas.  

5. ___ The article wasn't solemn and intelligent, but rather rude and angry.  

PART B Answer the questions.

1. Where was the editor sitting when the cursor was ready to delete his article?  

2. After the editor decided not to be a coward but be earnest, what did he do?  

3. If the empire accepted other languages, what did the editor think would happen?  

4. Why was the editor afraid to say that the empire should be more inclusive?  

5. What did the editor write about being vocal?
**Word List**

- **allocate** [ələˈkɛit] v.
  
  To allocate something means to put it aside for a certain purpose or person.
  
  → The government **allocated** $100 million to aid the disaster relief effort.

- **appetizing** [əˈpɛtɪzɪŋ] adj.
  
  When food is **appetizing**, it looks and smells very good.
  
  → The **appetizing** plate of cookies was gone in half an hour.

- **blizzard** [ˈbʌlɪzərd] n.
  
  A **blizzard** is a severe snow storm with strong winds.
  
  → We did not dare to go outside during the terrible **blizzard**.

- **cavity** [ˈkeɪvəti] n.
  
  A **cavity** is a hole or space in something.
  
  → There was a small **cavity** in the wall of the cave where an animal lived.

- **clockwise** [ˈklɒkwaɪz] adv.
  
  If something moves **clockwise**, it moves in a circle in the same direction as a clock.
  
  → Turn the screw **clockwise** to tighten it.

- **concentric** [ˈkɒnsɛntrɪk] adj.
  
  When circles or rings are **concentric**, they have the same center.
  
  → The target was a series of **concentric** circles.

- **courtesy** [ˈkærətəsi] n.
  
  **Courtes y** is the excellence of manners or social conduct.
  
  → Jenna always behaves with great **courtesy** when people visit her home.

- **crisp** [krɪsp] adj.
  
  When food is **crisp**, it is hard or has a hard surface in a way that is pleasant.
  
  → My favorite snack is a bag of **crisp**, delicious potato chips.

- **discord** [ˈdɪskɔːrd] n.
  
  **Discord** is disagreement or fighting between people.
  
  → There was much **discord** between the experts on the talk show.

- **frigid** [ˈfriʤid] adj.
  
  When something is **frigid**, it is extremely cold.
  
  → We decided not to go on the hike because the weather was too **frigid**.
generate  [dʒə'nəreɪt]  v.
To generate something means to cause it to develop or begin.
→ The mayor promised to generate new jobs and programs to help the poor.

glacial  [ɡlɪˈeɪʃəl]  adj.
When something is glacial, it relates to large masses of ice that move slowly.
→ Penguins thrive in the glacial regions of Antarctica.

interchange  [ˌɪntərˈʃɛndʒ]  n.
An interchange of ideas between people is a discussion of each person’s idea.
→ There was an interchange of ideas between the groups.

locker  [ˈləkər]  n.
A locker is a small cabinet with a lock where people store their possessions.
→ I keep my school books in my locker.

multicultural  [ˌmʌlˈtɪkəlʊərəl]  adj.
When something is multicultural, it relates to many different cultures.
→ Everyone was welcomed to attend the multicultural celebration.

omission  [əʊˈmɪʃən]  n.
An omission is something that has been left out or not done.
→ Mike was upset because of the omission of his name during the ceremony.

oversee  [ˈəʊvərsi:]  v.
To oversee something means to make sure that it is being done properly.
→ His job was to oversee the progress of the construction project.

pierce  [pɜːrs]  v.
To pierce something means to make a hole in it using a sharp object.
→ The arrow pierced the target in the very center.

replicate  [rɪˈpleɪkət]  v.
To replicate something is to do it in the exact same way as someone before.
→ I would love to replicate my father’s achievements in school.

wavy  [ˈweivi]  adj.
When something is wavy, it is not straight but has a series of curves.
→ The child drew wavy lines all over the piece of paper.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. frigid  
   a. happy  
   b. hot  
   c. open  
   d. clear

2. wavy  
   a. straight  
   b. pretty  
   c. likely  
   d. quick

3. crisp  
   a. more  
   b. slow  
   c. nice  
   d. soft

4. replicate  
   a. flight  
   b. original  
   c. friend  
   d. agreement

5. allocate  
   a. take away  
   b. freeze  
   c. close  
   d. fight

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. No one else can open my small cabinet with a lock.  
   ___________________________

2. How can we prevent argument and disagreement in the future?  
   ___________________________

3. The brave travelers were not stopped by the snow storm with strong winds.  
   ___________________________

4. The organizers made sure that the parade was related to many different cultures.  
   ___________________________

5. The thief hid the money in a small hole in the wall.  
   ___________________________

6. I thought the hosts showed a lot of politeness and respect for others.  
   ___________________________

7. It was her job to make sure everything was being done properly on the project.  
   ___________________________

8. What can we do to cause the beginning or development of interest in our product?  
   ___________________________

9. People cannot withstand extremely cold temperatures without clothing and shelter.  
   ___________________________

10. John used a knife to make a hole in the thick rubber.  
    ___________________________
Exercise 3

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ This is a *multicultural* holiday. People from all over the world celebrate it.

2. ___ The valuables are kept in a secure *locker*.

3. ___ If things move *clockwise*, they move in reverse.

4. ___ The doctor *pierced* his skin with the needle to draw blood.

5. ___ The scientist tried to *replicate* the experiment and compare the results.

6. ___ The *cavity* quickly traveled down the stream and to the lake.

7. ___ The *frigid* soup burned my tongue!

8. ___ School was cancelled today because of the horrible *blizzard* outside.

9. ___ The *appetizing* scene made everyone in the theater cry.

10. ___ After a brief *interchange* of ideas, we were ready to begin the new project.

11. ___ Make sure to include an *omission* of our goals in the presentation.

12. ___ The charity raised money for all of the *wavy* children in the city.

13. ___ Tim was chosen to *oversee* the progress of the building crew.

14. ___ The *glacial* dog loved to run and chase the ball in the park.

15. ___ We need to *generate* a new plan because this one isn't going to work.

16. ___ He was not pleased with the movie. He thought it was too *concentric*.

17. ___ The brothers cannot work together. There is always *discord* between them.

18. ___ The *crisp* lettuce went well with the sandwich.

19. ___ The mother was disappointed with the extreme *courtesy* her children displayed.

20. ___ Seats will be *allocated* to the people who are the first to arrive.

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The Ice House

Last year, Erik constructed one of the world’s strangest houses in the glacial landscape of northern Sweden. He called it the Ice House: a house made entirely of ice and snow. All of the beds, chairs, tables, and walls are cold, hard sculptures of ice.

A group of architects and volunteers from all over the world traveled to the site of the Ice House and began its construction. The multicultural group journeyed through blizzards and frigid temperatures to reach the site. Once the builders arrived, there was an interchange of ideas, and tools were allocated to each worker. An expert was selected to oversee the building process to make sure there was no discord between the workers. Once a plan was generated, they got right to work. The design was very unique; the builders couldn’t replicate the design from normal houses.

The first step was to build the walls and ceiling. The builders used a metal frame to help them build the structure. After the ice was in place, the frame was removed. The builders then created furniture and art pieces. Designs were carved into each piece. One worker carved big wavy lines, and another made tiny clockwise, concentric circles. Finally, the workers carved small cavities in the roof and inserted colored lights. When the work was finished, the beautiful house was ready for a resident to enjoy.

Living in the Ice House is an experience like no other. Erik stores his belongings in an ice locker and lays out a sleeping bag on his ice bed. At dinner, he dines on a delicious salad with crisp toppings. And for the main course, he enjoys appetizing fish caught from a nearby river. The fish are pierced with icicles and served on ice plates. After dinner, he gets ready for a cold night. The omission of heaters can be too much for his visitors sometimes. Luckily, there are warm rooms nearby, as a courtesy to people who get too cold.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. _____ A multicultural group traveled through blizzards and frigid temperatures to reach the site.

2. _____ Erik dines on crisp, appetizing fish that are pierced with icicles.

3. _____ The expert who oversaw the process made sure there wasn’t discord in the glacial landscape.

4. _____ One worker carved big wavy lines, and another made tiny clockwise, concentric circles.

5. _____ The builders replicated the design from normal houses.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What was allocated to the workers after an interchange of ideas?

2. What was put in cavities in the roof?

3. What happened when a plan was generated?

4. What is provided as a courtesy when guests get too cold?

5. What did Erik put in his ice locker?
abide [əˈbaɪd] v.
To abide by something, like a rule, means to obey it.
→ If you want to play the game with us, you must be willing to abide by our rules.

conversion [ˌkɒnvəˈrʒən] n.
Conversion is the act of changing something into a different state or form.
→ The city discussed the conversion of the parking lot into a skate park.

cram [kraːm] v.
To cram things means to put them into a place that can barely contain them.
→ He crammed all of his shirts into the top drawer of the dresser.

defer [dɪˈfɜːr] v.
To defer means to arrange for an action to happen at a later time.
→ The girl was very sleepy, so she chose to defer her bath until morning.

export [ɪkˈspɔːrt] v.
To export products means to sell them to other countries.
→ The United States exports many cereals and grains.

fume [fjuːm] n.
Fumes are unhealthy smoke and gases that are made by fires or chemicals.
→ The engine put unpleasant, black fumes into the air.

habitual [ˈhæbɪtjuəl] adj.
When something is habitual, it is a behavior that a person usually does or has.
→ The man was a habitual liar who was incapable of being honest with the police.

justify [dʒəˈstɑːfai] v.
To justify something means to show or prove that it is necessary.
→ The government tried to justify its decision to bring the country into a war.

output [ˈaʊtput] n.
Output is the amount of something that a person or thing produces.
→ The boss hired more workers to increase the factory’s output of products.

overpopulation [ˌauvərˈpɒpjʊələʃən] n.
Overpopulation is the state of having too many people in an area.
→ The organization is concerned with overpopulation of the world.
patent [pætənt] n.
A patent is a right to be the only person allowed to make or sell a new product.
→ He quickly established a patent for his brilliant invention.

penalize [pi:nəlaiz] v.
To penalize someone means to punish him or her.
→ The team was penalized when they broke the rules.

petroleum [petrouliam] n.
Petroleum is a liquid natural resource from which many fuels are made.
→ The petroleum at that factory is used to make gasoline.

prototype [prəʊtətaɪp] n.
A prototype is a new machine that is not ready to be made in large quantities.
→ He introduced his prototype to the motorcycle company.

scrap [skraep] n.
A scrap of something is a small amount of it.
→ Chris liked to use many scraps of paper when thinking up ideas.

sector [sektər] n.
A sector is a part of a country’s economy in a specific type of industry.
→ We learned about just a few of the factories within the manufacturing sector.

subscribe [səbˈskraɪb] v.
To subscribe to something is to agree or to concur with it.
→ She subscribed to the view that musical education should be kept in schools.

subsist [səbˈsɪst] v.
To subsist means to have the food, water, and money needed to stay alive.
→ Some people are forced to subsist on only a few dollars a month.

suspend [səˈspend] v.
To suspend something means to delay or stop it from happening for a while.
→ The oil company suspended production until it was sure the factory was safe.

synthesis [sɪnˈθɛsɪs] n.
A synthesis is a combination of different ideas or styles.
→ The band’s music was a synthesis of many different musical genres.
Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. What is needed to subsist?
   a. Rainy weather
   b. Clean water
   c. Fast cars
   d. The Internet

2. What is someone penalized for?
   a. Falling in love
   b. Winning a race
   c. An invention
   d. Breaking the law

3. What does a business owner justify?
   a. Her house
   b. Her decision
   c. Her workers
   d. Her family

4. Which one of these uses a product made from petroleum?
   a. A sandwich
   b. A telephone
   c. An automobile
   d. A cow

5. What releases fumes?
   a. An old truck
   b. A baby cat
   c. A tired worker
   d. A bicycle

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Everyone was very excited about the new 1 ______________.
The inventor of the machine got a 2 ______________.
The dramatic increase of people into the city led to 3 ______________.
It is the most important problem in the human services 4 ______________.
The mother was worried that her child’s bad behavior was 5 ______________.
She decided on some new rules to which her child had to 6 ______________ by.
The factory produced 5000 computers a day as 7 ______________.
But the machines used to make them also let out harmful 8 ______________.
The country prepared tons of different materials to 9 ______________.
However, some of the materials were just 10 ______________.
Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. The best theory was the one that was a **combination** of all the scientist's ideas.

2. When the power went out, he was forced to stop or delay progress on his project.

3. The brothers believe along with other people to the opinion that socialism is best.

4. The cutting tool was just a new machine not ready to be made in large amounts.

5. Her job was to get all of the goods ready to **sell** to other countries.

6. The chemist demonstrated the **change** into a different form of liquid water into gas.

7. After the tornado, it was difficult for the family to **have** the food and money needed to live.

8. The mechanic yelled when he stepped on the sharp **small** amount of metal.

9. It is the policeman's job to make sure people **do** what is **right** by the law.

10. We'll have to postpone our vacation until next month.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ The big city worked hard to prevent **overpopulation** problems.

2. ___ I tried to **cram** all of my clothes into one suitcase.

3. ___ The machine's **output** was so great that we ran out of room to store the products.

4. ___ Why don't we **defer** the decision until right now?

5. ___ The **conversion** over the bridge was scary.
Overpopulation is a big problem in the world today. Too many people are crammed into cities and towns around the globe. Earth’s population is about 6.5 billion people. This number is growing every day. In just 50 years, the population will be almost 9 billion.

Many people worry that the Earth won’t have enough resources to support so many people. One major reason for this is that wasting resources and polluting have become habitual behaviors. Industrial output results in polluting the air with dangerous fumes. Also, cars and machines waste a ton of important natural resources like oil and water. It’s possible that the Earth may become so damaged that it cannot support a large population of humans.

Another issue is the lack of useful land for cultivating crops. Even today, many people subsist on mere scraps of food and little water. In 50 years, many experts worry that huge numbers of people will starve to death. So what is being done to prepare for the future?

People are realizing they can no longer justify their wasteful behavior or defer action to fix it. Many car companies already have patents on prototypes for very efficient cars. Such cars waste no resources and produce no pollution. A conversion to clean cars means that petroleum can be saved for the future. In addition, the environmental sectors of many governments are setting strict rules for industries that pollute too much. If companies do not abide by the standards, they are penalized with higher taxes. In some cases, their operations might be suspended altogether.

Food is also an issue that is being tackled. Many countries are now subscribing to the point of view that immediate action is needed. They are determining ways to export goods to people in need, so that no one goes hungry. Experts will continue to come up with ideas for the future, and a synthesis of these ideas will help to support the growing population.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Because of overpopulation, too many people are crammed into cities and towns.

2. ___ The environmental sectors of many governments are deferring strict standards.

3. ___ Some car companies have patents on prototypes.

4. ___ A conversion to clean cars means petroleum can be used right now for people.

5. ___ Companies that don’t abide by standards are penalized or their operations might be suspended.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What will a synthesis of good ideas for the future do?

2. What have become habitual behaviors in the world today?

3. What prototypes do companies have patents for in the passage?

4. What behavior can no longer be justified?

5. What point of view are many countries subscribing to?
acrobat  [ækroˈbeɪt]  n.
An acrobat is a person who entertains people by doing amazing physical things.
→ There were acrobats at the circus that did impressive and complicated jumps.

advocacy  [ədˈvəkəsɪ]  n.
Advocacy is the act of supporting or recommending something.
→ Janine’s strong advocacy for the event made people want to attend.

communal  [kəˈmjuːnl]  adj.
If something is communal, it involves a group of people.
→ On the weekends, Theo and his son picked up trash in the communal park.

fluid  [ˈfluːɪd]  adj.
If something is fluid, it is smooth and moves gracefully.
→ Boris was a famous ballet dancer because people admired his fluid movements.

harmonize  [ˈhaːmənaɪz]  v.
To harmonize means to make different things go well together.
→ The sweet and sour flavors of the dish harmonized well and tasted great.

industrious  [ɪnˈdʌstriəs]  adj.
If someone is industrious, they work hard.
→ Dennis was very industrious, so he never had problems finding a job.

inventive  [ɪnˈventɪv]  adj.
When someone is inventive, they are good at creating new things.
→ The inventive student built a robot to help her with her chores.

judicial  [dʒuˈdɪʃəl]  adj.
If something is judicial, it is related to judges or courts of law.
→ The laws changed the way the judicial system was structured.

Mandarin  [mændəˈrɪn]  n.
Mandarin is one of the two main Chinese languages.
→ Although John’s parents both spoke Mandarin, he could only speak English.

metropolitan  [məˈtrəpəlɪtən]  adj.
If something is metropolitan, it relates to a large city.
→ All of the metropolitan excitement of New York City made Rufus nervous.
mimic [mɪmɪk] v.
To mimic something means to copy the way it sounds or moves.
→ The hunter mimicked a duck’s call and shot the two ducks that called back.

misguided [mɪsˈɡaɪdɪd] adj.
When something is misguided, it is based on bad judgment or wrong beliefs.
→ The snake bit Molly during her misguided attempt to grab it.

rehearse [rɪˈhɑːrs] v.
To rehearse means to practice and prepare for a performance in front of people.
→ Vick’s band rehearsed all week before their first show.

scorn [skɔrn] v.
To scorn someone means to behave without respect toward them.
→ The criminal was scorned by everyone in the community.

sensory [sɛnsəri] adj.
If something is sensory, it is related to the senses.
→ Iris and Eric preferred the sensory thrill of watching movies in the theater.

staple [stɛipəl] adj.
If something is staple, it is standard or basic.
→ Hamburgers, steaks and hotdogs are staple foods to cook on a grill.

statute [stæˈjuːt] n.
A statute is a law that is official and has been written down.
→ The new statute made it illegal to walk dogs in the park.

veteran [ˈvetərən] n.
A veteran is someone who has a lot of experience doing something.
→ Hank was the team veteran and had played in more games than anyone else.

villain [ˈvɪlɪn] n.
A villain is an evil person who breaks the law or hurts others.
→ The villain escaped with half of my family’s valuables.

vine [vain] n.
A vine is a plant that has long, twisting stems and climbs upward.
→ The branches of the trees were covered with vines.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. veteran
   a. wet        b. amateur        c. young        d. vague

2. harmonize
   a. exaggerate b. disagree       c. lessen        d. mark

3. misguided
   a. lost       b. lengthy         c. common       d. well-planned

4. villain
   a. supporter b. thief           c. hero         d. loud person

5. scorn
   a. respect   b. weird           c. delicate      d. factory-related

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

Stella was amazed by the performance of the 1___________.
She thought their 2___________ movements were beautiful.

Dave had four siblings, so he was used to 3___________ living.
They shared almost everything and were 4___________ about finding new uses for old things.

The 5___________ system has many roles.
It interprets laws and 6___________ and judges whether they are fair.

The students 7___________ for the play every day after school.
They were very 8___________ and often stayed after dark.

9___________ is spoken throughout northern and southwestern China.
However, other languages are also popular in 10___________ areas.
Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ The animal rights *advocacy* group worked to protect animals.
2. ___ He was well-liked by people in his class. A lot of people *scorned* him.
3. ___ Going on a rollercoaster is a wild *sensory* experience.
4. ___ Items like sunscreen, towel and bathing suit are *staple* items needed for the beach.
5. ___ The hotel had a *communal* kitchen that the guests were free to use.
6. ___ The *acrobat* had studied biology for many years before he became successful.
7. ___ The audience *rehearsed* the play for the actors.
8. ___ Chris’s actions were *misguided*. He should have found out the facts first.
9. ___ The people of the small town were very *metropolitan*.
10. ___ *Mandarin* Chinese is said to be one of the hardest languages to learn.
11. ___ Kayla watched the *fluid* motions of the graceful bird.
12. ___ The *statute* was placed in front of the new police station.
13. ___ The singers *harmonized* during the last part of the song. It sounded lovely.
14. ___ After his shoelaces tore, the *inventive* boy used floss to tie his shoes together.
15. ___ Mrs. Campbell’s son was lazy and *industrious*.
16. ___ I’m interested in getting a job as a *judicial* officer, like my father the judge.
17. ___ Some insects *mimic* the appearance of poisonous bugs to keep predators away.
18. ___ The *veteran* gave my pet dog medicine to feel better.
19. ___ Long *vines* grew around the side of the house and covered up the front wall.
20. ___ The *villain* helped the family escape their house when it caught fire.
Hundred Plays

Over two thousand years ago, Chinese farmers had a problem. Even though they were very industrious, the weather became too cold outside to plant their staple food, rice. So what did they do? Since they had so much free time during the long, cold winters, the inventive farmers started performing tricks to entertain themselves. They used their farm tools and anything they could find to make their tricks more spectacular. They even twisted their bodies into crazy shapes and performed awesome jumps. Over time, they became great acrobats, and their art form came to be known as “Hundred Plays.”

Hundred Plays involves doing many kinds of tricks. For example, in Mandarin-speaking parts of China, performers do the lion dance. They wear costumes and mimic the animal’s movements. Early performers also did tricks on ropes and vines that were high above the ground.

Even though the acrobats’ fluid movements may have looked easy, they took a lot of work.

Learning Hundred Plays is a communal event. A veteran of the acrobatic arts usually teaches younger people in the village. They spend a lot of time rehearsing. The young performers also learn an old philosophy. The teachings help them harmonize the sensory aspects of acrobatics with mental aspects. In other words, it teaches them to use their physical and mental strength together.

Since the art has its origins with poor farmers, rich people used to scorn acrobats. They thought acrobats were villains. The rich people thought the acrobats just wanted to trick them. But later, their misguided opinions changed. Acrobats came to be respected in Chinese society. They were invited to perform in metropolitan areas as well as in small villages. They performed for important people, including judicial officers. Arts advocacy groups convinced the government to support Chinese acrobatics. As a result, there is now a statute that made several villages the center of training future acrobats.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ The Chinese farmers became great acrobats while planting staple crops like rice.

2. ____ The version of the lion dance in Mandarin-speaking areas involves performers mimicking the movements of the lion.

3. ____ Chinese acrobats gain their fluid motions by rehearsing often.

4. ____ The art form of Hundred Plays harmonizes the sensory and mental aspects of acrobatics.

5. ____ Advocacy groups worked to get a statute that would protect acrobats from being scorned.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. According to the passage, what were the early Chinese farmers like?

2. How are new acrobats trained?

3. What were the misguided judgments about acrobats in the past?

4. What unusual object was used by early acrobats to do tricks high above the ground?

5. How did the location and audience of a Hundred Play change after acrobats gained respect?
constrain  [kanstrèn]  v.
To constrain something means to limit its development.
→ Jim cannot join us because he is constrained by previous plans.

depot  [dɪˈpou]  n.
A depot is a bus or train station.
→ He waited for his mother to arrive at the depot.

evulate  [ɪˈmjælət]  v.
To emulate people means to imitate them because they are greatly admired.
→ As a small boy, he always tried to emulate his big brother.

forefinger  [fɔrˈfɪŋər]  n.
The forefinger is the finger between one’s thumb and middle finger.
→ He shouted, “There it is!” and pointed with his forefinger.

guts  [gʌts]  n.
The guts are all the organs inside a person or animal.
→ The doctor can tell you every process that happens in one’s guts.

inherent  [ɪnˈhɪrənt]  adj.
When something is inherent, it is a natural part of something else.
→ Sweating is an inherent bodily function when exercising.

intimidate  [ɪntɪˈmeɪdət]  v.
To intimidate means to frighten others.
→ My dad intimidates my friends whenever they visit.

janitor  [dʒænɪtər]  n.
A janitor is a person who makes repairs and takes care of a building.
→ The school janitor cleaned up the messy cafeteria.

moist  [moist]  adj.
When something is moist, it is slightly wet.
→ The ground is still moist from the rain last night.

nope  [nʌp]  adv.
Nope is an informal way of saying “no.”
→ He asked if I had any money, and I had to say, “Nope.”
prod [prod] n.
To prod means to push someone or something with a finger or pointed object.
→ The bully prodded me in the chest with his finger.

ransom [rænsəm] n.
A ransom is a sum of money paid to a kidnapper to set the person free.
→ He kidnapped the prince and demanded $1 million as ransom.

restrain [rɪstrɛɪn] v.
To restrain someone or something means to use physical strength to stop them.
→ Mike restrained Allen from reaching the door.

saliva [səˈlaɪvə] n.
Saliva is the watery liquid in people’s mouths that helps in digestion.
→ The baby could not keep the saliva from dripping out of its mouth.

spit [spɪt] v.
To spit means to force liquid from one’s mouth.
→ He emerged from the pool and spit water from his mouth.

sprint [sprint] v.
To sprint means to run very fast over a short distance.
→ The kids didn’t want to be late to class, so they sprinted to the bus stop.

stunt [stʌnt] n.
A stunt is something that is done in order to get attention or publicity.
→ The man jumped over the cars as a promotional stunt.

tolerant [təˈlɛrənt] adj.
When people are tolerant, they are approved of because they accept others.
→ The tolerant leader thought that everyone was equal regardless of race.

vampire [ˈvæmpaɪər] n.
A vampire is a fictional monster that sleeps in a coffin and sucks people’s blood.
→ The vampire snuck up on the woman and bit her in the neck.

yawn [ɔːn] v.
To yawn means to open one’s mouth wide and breathe in air.
→ The child yawned and stretched her arms before bed for the night.
Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. I'm glad our teacher is so accepting of others as they are.
   ____________________________

2. Chewing gum creates a lot of watery liquid used for digestion and chewing food.
   ____________________________

3. She had to use physical strength to stop the big dog so that it did not try to attack us.
   ____________________________

4. Let's see who can run fast over a short distance to the car in the shortest amount of time.
   ____________________________

5. Lots of people try to imitate the sports star.
   ____________________________

6. The ache is coming deep from within her organs within the body.
   ____________________________

7. Please take a slightly wet towel and wipe the surface of the table to clean it.
   ____________________________

8. She wore a ring on her finger between her thumb and middle finger.
   ____________________________

9. A lack of money might limit the development of the project.
   ____________________________

10. His answer is always an informal way of saying no.
    ____________________________
Exercise 2

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. prod
   a. eat   b. push   c. speak   d. believe
2. nope
   a. no   b. free   c. brave   d. alive
3. sprint
   a. crave   b. drive   c. run   d. pretend
4. emulate
   a. annoy   b. proceed   c. fear   d. imitate
5. vampire
   a. car   b. monster   c. feather   d. trait

Exercise 3

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. After walking through the desert, the thirsty man had no saliva left in his mouth.
2. We've been waiting at the depot for two hours for the train to arrive!
3. The joke was so funny that it made him yawn.
4. The tolerant coach didn't think that girls were good enough to play on the team.
5. He spit on the ground to show his disgust for the situation.
6. I hope I don't have to constrain another essay at school tomorrow.
7. The boy's dream was to restrain as well as his father someday.
8. He is usually a very calm person. His anger today was just an inherent act.
9. The evil man expected a large ransom before he would return the child to her mother.
10. The rotten meal gave me a terrible pain in my guts.
11. I intimidated my homework, so I could go outside and play baseball.
12. No one was impressed with Bobby's stunt to get attention.
13. Using his forefinger, he pointed to a plane in the sky.
14. Take plenty of water with you before you begin the journey across the moist desert.
15. The janitor had to fix the heater before people could enter the building.

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The Kidnapping

Anne was a very quiet girl who had an inherent fear of almost everything. The kids at school would play tricks on her all the time. They would hide behind the door of the school janitor’s closet, then jump out to scare her. Once, a boy dressed up like a vampire and chased her down the street. Anne hated being constrained by her fears, but she didn’t know how to be brave.

She was walking home from school one day when someone came up behind her. Before she could turn around, a powerful man grabbed her. She couldn’t scream because a huge hand was put over her mouth. Anne knew that this could not be another stunt by her classmates. The scary man restrained her arms and legs and carried her to his house. He tied Anne to a chair. Her guts began to hurt because she was so scared.

The man prodded Anne with his forefinger and said, “You’ll stay right here until I get a ransom from your parents. Then I’ll be rich!” The dirty man spit when he talked. A string of saliva hung from his moist lips. Anne was terrified and intimidated by the horrible man. But she knew she had to escape somehow.

Eventually, the man yawned. Anne waited quietly until he fell asleep. As he slept, she carefully wiggled her arms and legs until the ropes became loose. She slipped out of the ropes and carefully opened the door. She sprinted to the bus depot and boarded a bus to the police station. She told the police what happened, and they arrested the kidnapper.

The kids at school were amazed. They asked her, “Weren’t you too scared to escape?”

She said, “Nope, I knew that I had to be brave and get out of there!”

The kids were very tolerant of Anne from then on. They even decided that they would emulate her bravery if they ever got into a tough situation.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ Anne was constrained by her inherent fears.

2. ____ The vampire restrained her arms and legs and carried her to his house.

3. ____ Anne’s guts began to hurt because she was intimidated by her classmates.

4. ____ The dirty man spit when he talked.

5. ____ At the end, the kids were tolerant of Anne and decided to emulate her bravery.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What would the kids do in the janitor’s closet?

2. What happened after the man yawned?

3. After the man prodded Anne with his forefinger, what did he say about the ransom?

4. What did Anne do after she sprinted to the bus depot?

5. To what question did Anne respond by saying “nope”?

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analog
dy [anəledʒ] n.
An analogy is a connection made between things to show that they are similar.
→ The doctor made an analogy between the human heart and a water pump.

ancestry [ænsɛstrɪ] n.
A person's ancestry is the series of people from whom a person descended.
→ We studied our ancestry and found out that we are related to royalty.

archer [ɑ r tʃər] n.
An archer is a person who uses a bow and arrows.
→ The expert archer hit the target every time.

conspiracy [kənspərəsi] n.
A conspiracy is a secret plan made by a group of people to do something illegal.
→ Some people think that there was a conspiracy to kill American president John Kennedy.

deputy [dɛpˈjeɪt] n.
A deputy is the second-highest-ranking person in a business or government.
→ While the sheriff was ill, the deputy took over his duties.

earl [ə rl] n.
An earl is a nobleman from Britain.
→ The Earl of Canterbury lived in a huge mansion.

fragrant [frægrant] adj.
When something is fragrant, it has a pleasant smell.
→ The girl picked delicious berries and fragrant flowers.

funnel [ˈfʌnəl] n.
A funnel is an object with a wide top and a narrow bottom for pouring liquids.
→ The worker used a funnel when he poured the oil into the engine.

hereditary [hərəˈdɛtərɪ] adj.
If something is hereditary, it is a trait passed onto children from their parents.
→ The hereditary disease affected three generations of children.

hymn [hɪm] n.
A hymn is a religious song that often praises a god.
→ The book was filled with hymns that the worshippers sang.
invert [ɪnˈvɜːrt] v.
To invert something means to turn it upside down.
→ He inverted the bicycle to make repairs on the wheels.

prey [preɪ] n.
Prey is the animals that are hunted and eaten by another creature.
→ The lion ran as fast as he could to catch his prey.

procession [ˈprəʊsəʃən] n.
A procession is a group of people who walk or drive in a line during a public event.
→ The procession all celebrated when they reached the end.

prophet [ˈprɒfət] n.
A prophet is a person chosen by a god to give the god’s message to people.
→ Harold believed that he was one of the prophets of his god.

sarcastic [særˈkæstɪk] adj.
When something is sarcastic, it is the opposite of what is actually meant.
→ She hurt her mother’s feelings with her constant sarcastic remarks.

seasoning [ˈsiːznɪŋ] n.
Seasoning is a mix of salt, herbs, and spices that improves the taste of food.
→ This steak tastes bland. Maybe I’ll add some seasoning to it.

sodium [ˈsɔːdiəm] n.
Sodium is an element that can be used to make substances such as salt.
→ Sodium and chloride combine to make table salt.

tyrranny [ˈtɪrəni] n.
A tyranny is a cruel and unfair government in which one person has power.
→ His tyranny was impossible to live under.

tyrant [ˈtaɪrənt] n.
A tyrant is someone who treats people in a cruel, harsh, and unfair way.
→ Our boss is a tyrant. He makes us work long hours for little pay.

vinegar [ˈvɪnɪɡər] n.
Vinegar is a strong liquid made from sour wine that is used in cooking.
→ Be careful because too much vinegar will ruin the recipe.
Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. If you invert a bottle, you ______.
   a. drink from it  b. wash it with soap  c. turn it upside down  d. drop it

2. Which of the following would most likely require the use of a funnel?

3. What is a wolf's prey?
   a. Its pups  b. Its den  c. Its food  d. Its ally

4. Which is hereditary?
   a. Place of birth  b. Eye color  c. Favorite foods  d. Hobbies

5. If something is fragrant, you ______.
   a. like to smell it  b. want to eat it  c. try to end it  d. want to sing it

6. Who uses seasoning at work?

7. Which of the following describes a kind of deputy?
   a. A supervisor  b. A CEO  c. A vice president  d. A Manager

8. What is made from sodium?

9. Where would you most likely hear a hymn?
   a. At work  b. Under water  c. At the zoo  d. In a church

10. If your brother is sarcastic, he ______.
    a. wants to hit you  b. insults you  c. betrays you  d. is ill

Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

One ingredient in the recipe is a small amount of 1___________.
Then you need to pour in a pint of 2___________.

She can play many instruments and sing many 3___________.
Her mother is a good musician, too. Her talent must be 4___________.

The hunter was a very talented 5___________.
He only needed one arrow to shoot his 6___________.

Everyone lined up to take part in the 7___________.
We marched to honor the king and the noble 8___________.

When it came to keeping the house clean, his mother was a 9___________.
She punished him if his room did not smell very 10___________.

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Exercise 3

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. He liked to pour the strong tasting liquid made from sour wine directly on his salad.
   
2. To better explain the procedure, he used a great way to show that things are similar.
   
3. We were in awe of the performance of the skilled person who uses a bow and arrows.
   
4. The war was a means to overthrow the cruel and unfair government.
   
5. I have a feeling that the robbery was a secret plan to do something illegal by the owners.
   
6. At the library, we learned how to trace our line of people from which we descended.
   
7. The people were convinced that the strange visitor was a person chosen by God.
   
8. The father acted like a person who treated people in a cruel and unfair way.
   
9. The British nobleman was a very kind and respected man.
   
10. The new mayor’s first priority was to select a second most important person.

Exercise 4

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. ___ The sarcastic teacher was always sure to speak clearly and honestly with his students.

2. ___ The tyranny at the church made people feel welcome.

3. ___ The mechanic used a funnel to pour the gas into the tank.

4. ___ Because of the analogy, many people were injured.

5. ___ I think the addition of more sodium to the recipe made the bread too salty.

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The Earl of Shining

In the village of Hampton, there was an old soldier named Michael, but he was known to the world as the Earl of Shining. Michael was once an expert archer and a great fighter. In fact, his skills seemed to be hereditary; all the people in his ancestry were famous warriors. However, he was getting old and no longer wished to fight.

One day, he was in the forest hunting prey when he saw a beautiful prophet singing a hymn. She said, "Michael, an evil army is involved in a conspiracy to take over Hampton. You're the only one who can defeat them and stop the tyranny. The village needs you!"

Michael replied, "But I'm too old to fight! I'm not confident that I can do it."

The prophet said, "You must try. I will even make a potion to increase your strength."

The prophet took out a bottle and a funnel. She poured some vinegar and garlic into the bottle. Next, she added some seasoning and sodium and shook it up.

Michael smelled the potion. "Wow, this is fragrant," he said in a sarcastic tone. He inverted the bottle and drank the whole potion. He immediately felt stronger. "I'll try my best," he promised.

Michael rode his horse to a hilltop, where he could see the village of Hampton below. He saw the evil tyrant and his men marching in a procession through the town.

Michael charged down the hill and into the village. An enemy deputy officer shouted, "He looks as strong as an ox!" It was an apt analogy. Michael grabbed the officer and threw him across the street with one arm. The rest of the officers screamed and rode away, and their army followed.

The prophet reappeared. Michael said, "It's a good thing you gave me the potion."

She replied, "But Michael, the potion was fake! Your strength really came from having confidence!

Michael realized he really was still great. He just needed to believe in himself.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1.  ____ The Earl of Hampton was an expert archer who was in the forest hunting prey.

2.  ____ The prophet used a funnel to put vinegar, garlic, some seasoning, and sodium in a bottle.

3.  ____ The evil tyrant and his men marched in a procession through the town.

4.  ____ The prophet, who sang a hymn, was involved in a conspiracy to take over Hampton.

5.  ____ Michael's strength really came from the fragrant potion.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What suggests that Michael's skills were hereditary?

2. What analogy did an enemy deputy officer use to describe Michael?

3. What did Michael say in a sarcastic tone before he inverted the bottle?

4. What did Michael say after the prophet said the village needed him to stop the tyranny?

5. What did Michael realize after his final encounter with the prophet?
adjoining  [əˈdʒɔɪnɪŋ] adj.
If something is adjoining, it is next to or joined with a building, or room.
→ I couldn’t sleep because the people in the adjoining room were loud.

allege  [əˈleg] v.
To allege something is to say that it is true without offering proof.
→ The little girl had alleged that her older brother hid her favorite doll.

arch  [aːrtʃ] n.
An arch is a curved opening formed under a structure such as a bridge or doorway.
→ The arch of the bridge was not high enough for the tall boat to pass underneath.

assemble  [əˈsembəl] v.
To assemble means to get together in one place.
→ The parents assembled to discuss ways to improve their children’s education.

casualty  [ˈkæʒuəlti] n.
A casualty is a person killed or injured in a war or an accident.
→ The only casualty in the car accident was a woman who broke her arm.

erect  [ɪˈrekt] v.
To erect something means to build it.
→ The king erected two towers on the north and south sides of his castle.

foul  [fɔul] adj.
If something is foul, then it is not pleasant or enjoyable.
→ He wouldn’t let his dog drink from the water because it had a foul smell.

hectare  [hɪkˈtɛər] n.
A hectare is a unit of measure equal to 10,000 square meters.
→ His family farm covered many hectares.

heighten  [ˈhɛɪtn] v.
To heighten an emotion means to increase the intensity of it.
→ The pleasant music heightened their enjoyment of the wonderful dinner.

hospitality  [ˌhɒspɪˈteləti] n.
Hospitality is friendly behavior and entertainment given to guests or strangers.
→ The travelers were amazed at the hospitality given them by the hotel’s staff.
mansion [mæn'ʃən] n.
A mansion is a large and expensive home.
→ The mansion had thirty bedrooms, two kitchens, and a pool.

outnumber [aut'nəm'bər] v.
To outnumber a group means to have a greater number than it.
→ The girls outnumbered the boys at the school by four to one.

overjoyed [əʊvə'joʊd] adj.
If someone is overjoyed, then they are extremely happy.
→ He was overjoyed by the news of his promotion.

pasture [ˈpæstʃər] n.
A pasture is an area of land covered with grass for animals to use as food.
→ The sheep were taken to a pasture where there was more grass.

petition [ˈpɛtʃən] n.
A petition is a written request asking an authority to do something.
→ The citizens all signed a petition asking the mayor to repair the sidewalks.

renovate [rɪnˈveɪt] v.
To renovate a building means to repair it or build new structures on it.
→ The old fire station was renovated into an apartment building.

revise [rɪˈvaɪz] v.
To revise something means to change or update it to make it better.
→ When the editor discovered certain facts were wrong, he revised the book.

slab [slaːb] n.
A slab is a large, thick, flat piece of stone, concrete, metal, or wood.
→ I looked at various slabs of stone to decorate my house.

terrace [ˈterəs] n.
A terrace is an open area that is connected to a house or an apartment.
→ In the afternoons, she liked to sit on the terrace and check her email.

turf [tɔːrf] n.
Turf is a section of grass and the dirt in which it grows.
→ After the game, the turf looked ragged.
Exercise 1

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. hectare
   a. violence
   b. 10,000m²
   c. temple
   d. caven

2. terrace
   a. festival
   b. temper
   c. video
   d. patio

3. casualty
   a. victim
   b. effect
   c. decision
   d. perfume

4. allege
   a. reverse
   b. accuse
   c. assist
   d. digest

5. renovate
   a. refer
   b. apply
   c. repair
   d. compute

6. outnumber
   a. count
   b. share
   c. exceed
   d. borrow

7. adjoining
   a. talking
   b. reflective
   c. adjacent
   d. absolute

8. revise
   a. cover
   b. detest
   c. plea
   d. change

9. arch
   a. color
   b. feeling
   c. gift
   d. curve

10. petition
    a. request
    b. license
    c. animal
    d. station

Exercise 2

Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.

1. pasture
   a. marsh
   b. scream
   c. future
   d. stance

2. foul
   a. meaningful
   b. dangerous
   c. pleasant
   d. muscular

3. slab
   a. office
   b. freedom
   c. spit
   d. pebble

4. assemble
   a. believe
   b. scatter
   c. repeat
   d. obey

5. overjoyed
   a. stinky
   b. hidden
   c. expensive
   d. miserable

6. turf
   a. ocean
   b. name
   c. effort
   d. sport

7. erect
   a. approve
   b. destroy
   c. donate
   d. contain

8. heighten
   a. balance
   b. pretend
   c. elect
   d. reduce

9. mansion
   a. pencil
   b. shack
   c. female
   d. blouse

10. hospitality
    a. medicine
    b. style
    c. unfriendliness
    d. silence

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Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

1. C Once the weather was *renovated*, the day was warm and sunny. Now, we were all able to go on a picnic in the park.

2. C The scientists worked all day in their *slab*. They were inventing a new plastic that would not melt under the extreme heat of the sun.

3. I The amount of cows *outnumbered* the pigs. There were more pigs than cows.

4. I Why don’t you connect those two large blue *arches*, so that you can form a giant square?

5. I The worse *casualty* from the earthquake was a woman who broke a leg.

6. I The two enemies *erected* a wall between their properties. They had hoped that it would reduce any future arguments.

7. C Whenever Doug was in a *foul* mood, everyone enjoyed being around him.

8. I The glass was filled with a *hectare* of water.

9. C This is the kitchen, and the *adjoining* room is the dining room.

10. I The visit lacked in *hospitality*. There was nothing to eat and nowhere to sit.

11. C You can stay in the house tonight, but your dog has to sleep outside in the *mansion*.

12. C William *alleged* all the way home. As a result, he was out of breath and sweaty by the time he got there.

13. C The grandmother was *overjoyed* to see her grandchildren. She couldn’t stop smiling when she saw their lovely faces.

14. C This room here is the *pasture*. It’s where we keep all our old furniture.

15. C The manager read his employees’ *petition*. They wanted a longer lunch break.
The Lord and the Farmers

A wealthy lord was renovating his mansion. He had added another story to his home with large windows that overlooked the farmers’ pastures on the eastern border of his land. Around the mansion, he then erected a great wall. He built an arch for the gate out of huge slabs of stone. The lord was overjoyed with the addition to his home.

However, one day while he was sitting on the terrace, some farmers knocked at his door. He invited them in. Despite his hospitality, the farmers appeared to be in a foul mood.

“Why are you so upset?” the lord asked.

One farmer replied, “That is actually the reason for our visit.” He then handed the lord a petition. It alleged that the shadow cast by the mansion was harming their pastures. “Your mansion now casts a shadow over several hectares of our land,” the farmer explained. “The turf in the shadow has died, and our cattle now have less grass to eat.”

“It is too late for me to revise my plans,” the lord answered. “You will just have to live with the change.”

His reply only heightened the farmers’ anger. They left, but they assembled that night outside the mansion’s gate. They planned to destroy the mansion. The lord’s servants tried to defend the house, but the farmers outnumbered them.

The servants fled, and the farmers rushed into the mansion and set it on fire. Everyone got out of the house, and there were no casualties. However, the fire soon spread from the house to the adjoining pastures that belonged to the farmers.

Both sides’ properties were destroyed. The lord and the farmers were sorry for their actions. The lord promised to pay for the burned pastures, and the farmers promised to rebuild the mansion. They had learned that when you fight, both sides lose.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ The farmers that assembled outnumbered the lord's servants.

2. ___ Despite the lord's hospitality, the farmers appeared to be overjoyed.

3. ___ The lord built an arch for the gate out of slabs of stone.

4. ___ When the lord said it was too late to revise his plans, it heightened the farmers' foul mood.

5. ___ The pastures were owned by the lord.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What did the farmers' petition allege?

2. While renovating, what did the lord erect around his mansion?

3. What happened to the pastures adjoining the burning mansion?

4. Why were there no casualties in the fire at the mansion?

5. While he was sitting on the terrace, who knocked on the mansion door?
**Word List**

- **analogous** [ænəˈləɡəs] adj.
  If something is analogous to another thing, then it is like it in certain ways.
  → The relationship with his teacher was analogous to that of a son and mother.

- **binoculars** [bɪnəˈkʌlərz] n.
  Binoculars are a device used for seeing things that are far away.
  → He could see the ship on the horizon only if he used his binoculars.

- **bulk** [bʌlk] n.
  The bulk of something is its great size.
  → The large elephant moved its bulk with legs as strong as tree trunks.

- **comprise** [kəmˈpraɪz] v.
  If something comprises something else, it consists of or is made up of it.
  → Our school’s football team is mostly comprised with seniors.

- **depict** [dɪˈpɪkt] v.
  To depict something means to show or portray it, often using art.
  → The statue’s face depicted the general’s determination and courage.

- **dual** [djuːəl] adj.
  If something is dual, then it is made up of two parts.
  → The room had a dual function. It was a living room, but at night it was a bedroom.

- **Fahrenheit** [ˈfærənhæt] n.
  Fahrenheit temperature is a scale where water freezes at 32° and boils at 212°.
  → When the temperature dropped to 32° Fahrenheit, it started snowing.

- **fulfill** [ˈfʊrl] v.
  To fulfill something means to achieve or finish it.
  → The professor did not fulfill his promise not to miss a single class.

- **grove** [ɡrʌv] n.
  A grove is a small group of trees.
  → All the trees in this grove are apple trees.

- **ore** [ɔr] n.
  Ore is the raw form of rock or material from which a valuable metal is taken.
  → The factory melted the ore and used it to make iron products.

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outback [autbaːk] n.
The outback is the wild inland region of Australia where very few people live.
→ Many Australian farmers use the outback to raise cattle.

outweigh [autweɪ] v.
To outweigh something means to exceed it in value, amount, or importance.
→ Finding a warm place to sleep outweighed the need to find something to eat.

paradox [pærədɒks] n.
A paradox is a true statement or real event that seems illogical.
→ The paradox of her work was that the less she worked, the more she got done.

pier [pɪə] n.
A pier is a structure that extends into a body of water.
→ If you want to catch bigger fish, then go to the far end of the pier.

shortcut [ʃɔr'tekt] n.
A shortcut is a route that is shorter than the main route.
→ We got to the house first because we took a shortcut through the forest.

tariff [taːrɪf] n.
A tariff is a tax or fee paid on certain imports or exports.
→ Our tariff on imported wool makes foreign wool more expensive.

thermometer [θərəˈmitər] n.
A thermometer is a device that measures temperature.
→ The thermometer outside the window indicated that it was a hot day today.

tilt [tɪlt] v.
To tilt something means to tip it into a sloping position.
→ She tilted her glass and almost spilled some of the wine inside.

vice versa [ˈvaɪsɪvəsə] adv.
If a statement is vice versa, then its two main ideas are switched with one another.
→ Students learn from their teachers, and vice versa.

whereabouts [ˈwɛərəbɔːts] n.
The whereabouts of someone or something is the place where they are.
→ The police looked for the lost dog, but its whereabouts were still unknown.
Exercise 1
Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. Binoculars help you to see things that are 
   a. close by   b. under the sea   c. far away   d. covered in mud

2. If you have dual responsibilities, then you have _____ things to take care of.
   a. two   b. three   c. ten   d. twelve

3. Which of the following is about the same as a tariff?

4. Where would you most likely see a pier?
   a. In the water   b. On a plane   c. Under the ground   d. On a road

5. Fahrenheit is used to measure _____.
   a. height   b. distance   c. weight   d. temperature

Exercise 2
Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

outback thermometer vice versa ore outweighed
whereabouts grove fulfill Fahrenheit shortcut

When the food is ready, its temperature should be 140 degrees 1___________.
You can use that 2__________ to determine when it is hot enough.

There are not many forests in the Australian 3___________.
But there might be a 4__________ wherever there is enough water.

She didn’t have much time to get to the house to 5__________ her promise.
Therefore, she took a(n) 6__________ that would get her there in no time.

The need to create more jobs 7__________ the need to spend more money.
But in other years it was 8__________.

According to legend, gold was made from the cave’s 9___________.
However, today its 10__________ have been forgotten.

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Exercise 3

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. comprise
   a. return
   b. consist
   c. explain
   d. favor

2. tilt
   a. mix
   b. dig
   c. lean
   d. grip

3. pier
   a. dock
   b. cake
   c. chef
   d. fort

4. analogous
   a. metric
   b. powerful
   c. secure
   d. similar

5. paradox
   a. illogical
   b. cattle
   c. calendar
   d. feather

Exercise 4

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. These mines produce several types of valuable raw forms of rock.

2. The company had to pay a tax on exports for the steel it shipped to Europe.

3. She used the device used for seeing things far away to observe the small bird.

4. The painting portrayed what the beach looked like twenty years ago.

5. He had sent a letter from the city three days earlier. But his precise location was still a mystery.

6. The two-part plan involves scientists from both universities.

7. The meal was made up mostly of beans and vegetables.

8. If you're sick, take your temperature. The device for measuring temperature is in the cabinet.

9. His promotion was a real event opposite to common knowledge due to his sparse knowledge.

10. It was difficult to lift the great mass that had accumulated in his backpack.
The Shortcut

A truck driver was driving cargo from the outback to the coast. His load was comprised of many types of ore. He needed a huge truck to carry its bulk to a ship waiting at a pier on the country’s eastern coast. At the border between two counties, he’d have to pay a tariff on the cargo. However, he could keep his money if he avoided the station at the border. He worried about getting in trouble for not paying the tariff, but the thought of extra money outweighed this concern.

He took out his road map. To his surprise, it depicted a small road that had a dual advantage. It not only avoided the border station but also was a shorter route to the coast. He decided to take the shortcut.

However, along his journey, he soon ran into problems. First, he had to cross a small wooden bridge. His truck weighed too much for the bridge. It was analogous to an elephant trying to stand on a tree branch. The bridge started to break as the truck crossed, and the trailer tilted to the right. Fortunately, the truck made it safely across, but most of the ore fell into the river below.

Next, it was a very hot day. The thermometer read over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The truck’s engine became too hot, so the driver parked it in the shade of a grove of trees until it cooled down.

Later, he took a wrong turn. He stopped and took out his binoculars. He scanned his surroundings and eventually discovered a landmark that led him back to the proper route.

Finally, he arrived at the pier, but the ship wasn’t there. When he asked about the ship’s whereabouts, a man said that it had left thirty minutes ago. He had not fulfilled his duty. He realized then the paradox of the shortcut. The shortest route can be the longest, and vice versa, a long route may be the fastest.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ The driver’s load was comprised of many types of ore.

2. ___ The paradox of the shortcut was that the shortest route could be the longest but not vice versa.

3. ___ The thermometer read under 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

4. ___ When the trailer tilted, the driver’s binoculars fell into the river.

5. ___ The driver had fulfilled his duty.

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. What was the truck crossing the bridge analogous to?

2. What outweighed the driver’s concern of being punished for not paying the tariff?

3. What was the dual advantage of the route depicted on the map?

4. What made the driver park his truck in a grove of trees while in the outback?

5. Why couldn’t the driver determine the ship’s whereabouts at the pier?
amber [ˈæmber] n.
Amber is a hard, yellowish material that comes from trees.
→ The necklace was made from pieces of amber.

charcoal [ˈtʃɑːrkəʊl] n.
Charcoal is a black material that is used as fuel for fire.
→ There was burnt charcoal left on the ground from an old fire.

columnist [kəˈləʊmnɪst] n.
A columnist is a writer who creates articles about a particular subject.
→ The columnist won praise for his articles about life on the farm.

courteous [ˈkɔːrteɪs] adj.
When someone is courteous, they are polite and respectful.
→ The mother asked her family to be courteous to their guests.

credentials [ˈkrɪdɛnʃəlz] n.
Credentials are the proof of someone’s experience or ability to do something.
→ The mechanic hung his credentials on his office wall.

cricket [ˈkrɪkit] n.
A cricket is an insect that makes loud noises, usually at night.
→ In the country, we could see the stars and hear the crickets at night.

delta [ˈdɛltə] n.
A delta is a flat area where a river splits into smaller rivers that flow into the sea.
→ The archeologists found many ancient materials in the delta of the Nile River.

detergent [ˈdɪtərdʒənt] n.
Detergent is soap that is used to clean clothes or dishes.
→ My brother added too much detergent to the wash, and bubbles got all over the floor.

euphemism [juːˈfɛmɪzəm] n.
A euphemism is a term that is used in place of a mean or unpleasant word.
→ “Window maintenance officer” is a euphemism for a window washer.

expire [ɪkˈspʌɪər] v.
To expire is to no longer be effective because its use has come to an end.
→ The man’s driver’s license was going to expire in two days.
**granite** [grænit] *n.*
Granite is a very hard type of rock that is often black or pink.
→ The kitchen counter was made of granite.

**gravel** [grævəl] *n.*
Gravel is a combination of small stones mixed with sand.
→ The ground around the swing set was covered with gravel.

**haunt** [hɔːnt] *v.*
To haunt is to cause problems or negative thoughts over a long period of time.
→ His thoughts about his scary dream haunted him for weeks.

**liberal** [ˈlɪbərəl] *adj.*
When someone is liberal, they accept different ideas and people.
→ My grandparents aren't as liberal as my parents.

**maze** [meɪz] *n.*
A maze is a system of paths that is complicated and easy to get lost in.
→ We got lost in the maze in the garden.

**moss** [moʊs] *n.*
Moss is a small green or yellow plant that grows on wet dirt, rocks, or tree trunks.
→ Be careful not to slip on the moss that's covering those rocks.

**pebble** [ˈpɛbl] *n.*
A pebble is a small, round stone.
→ We threw pebbles into the lake to make the water splash.

**peck** [pek] *v.*
When a bird pecks, it bites or hits something with its beak.
→ The birds pecked at the seeds on the ground.

**reservoir** [ˈrezərvər] *n.*
A reservoir is a place for storing water for a town to use.
→ If it doesn't rain soon, the reservoir is going to dry up completely.

**streak** [striːk] *n.*
A streak is a long, thin mark that is easy to see.
→ Her hair was brown except for a streak which she dyed blonde.
Exercise 1

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

1. Where does a columnist work?
   a. At a university  b. At a newspaper  c. At a restaurant  d. At an airport

2. Which of the following might a liberal person do?
   a. Restrict freedoms  b. Learn new ideas  c. Reject free speech  d. Support tyranny

3. What animal pecks?

4. What is stored in a reservoir?

5. Which of these animals have a long streak on their bodies?

Exercise 2

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. After seeing her house on fire, Jenna was troubled by thoughts of fire.
   ____________________________

2. The boy had small round rocks stuck on the bottom of his shoe.
   ____________________________

3. The bird bit or hit the dish and carried away pieces of bread.
   ____________________________

4. The city made a place to store water, so there would always be water for the people.
   ____________________________

5. She poured soap to clean dishes into the sink and washed the dishes.
   ____________________________

6. The woman was impressed by her friend's polite and respectful brother.
   ____________________________

7. The scientist went to school for many years to earn her proof of ability.
   ____________________________

8. I added some more rocks that served as fuel to the fire.
   ____________________________

9. Clara didn’t want to offend her grandmother, so she used a replacement for an unpleasant word to refer to old age.
   ____________________________

10. The land in the flat place where the river divides was good for growing food.
    ____________________________

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Exercise 3

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

1. columnist
   a. singer  b. journalist  c. electrician  d. CEO

2. cricket
   a. grasshopper  b. beetle  c. ant  d. mosquito

3. maze
   a. disguise  b. hoop  c. tower  d. puzzle

4. gravel
   a. boulder  b. rock  c. hill  d. mound

5. haunt
   a. calm  b. play  c. terrorize  d. soothe

Exercise 4

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

(expired  reservoir  courteous  crickets  amber  maze  pebbles  moss  streak  granite)

They had three minutes to find their way out of the 1___________.
They had to get out before the time 2___________.

Jessica had the carpet in her house replaced with 3___________ tiles.
The tiles had lovely designs on them and also pieces of 4___________.

Gene squeezed the bottle and got a 5___________ of ketchup on his shirt.
The 6___________ host was nice enough to get him a new shirt.

There was a pile of 7___________ near the water.
They had been washed up from the bottom of the 8___________.

We walked down the road and passed many trees covered in 9___________.
It was dark already, and all that could be heard were the 10___________.

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The Mad Hatter

One morning, Lucas sat outside with his grandfather. They looked past the gravel road that led to a natural reservoir on the delta. On the other side of the water, there was a cottage.
“Does a ghost live there?” Lucas asked.
“No, a mad hatter lives there,” said his grandfather. Lucas didn’t know what a mad hatter was, but the image of a scary man haunted him.

Later, Lucas went for a walk in the forest. He collected pieces of amber and granite that he found on the ground. He looked at the moss on the trees and watched a bird peck at the ground. But the forest was like a maze. Soon, Lucas was lost.

Lucas heard somebody behind him. He wanted to run away, but he fell. He had a streak of blood on his shirt and some pebbles stuck in his skin. Then a man appeared.
“I will take you home. First, let’s get you cleaned up,” he said.

Lucas followed him. When they arrived at the cottage, he realized the man was the mad hatter!

He sat down inside. It smelled like charcoal, but it looked like a normal house. The man brought Lucas back some medicine.

“It’s a bit old, but it’s not expired,” the man said.

While Lucas cleaned his cut, the man washed the blood out of his shirt with detergent.

Lucas asked, “Are you a mad hatter?”

The man laughed and replied, “That’s a euphemism for a crazy person. Actually, I’m pretty normal. I’m a columnist for a newspaper,” said the man. He pointed to his credentials which hung on the wall.

Lucas could hear the crickets outside. It was getting dark, so he asked, “Could you take me home now?”

The man said yes. Lucas was surprised that people thought the man was crazy. He was actually very courteous. Maybe Lucas should have a more liberal attitude. Next time, Lucas wouldn’t make judgments about people without getting to know them first.
PART A  Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ___ Lucas’s thoughts about the house across the reservoir haunted him.
   _______________________________________________________

2. ___ Lucas collected crickets and moss while he walked through the forest.
   _______________________________________________________

3. ___ The bird was pecking at the maze.
   _______________________________________________________

4. ___ Lucas got a streak of blood on his shirt and pebbles in his skin from falling down.
   _______________________________________________________

5. ___ The man’s house smelled like food that had expired.
   _______________________________________________________

PART B  Answer the questions.

1. Where was the cottage located in relation to the grandfather’s house?
   _______________________________________________________

2. What did the man wash Lucas’s shirt with?
   _______________________________________________________

3. Why did the man point to his credentials on the wall?
   _______________________________________________________

4. What did the man say about the term “mad hatter”?
   _______________________________________________________

5. What did the courteous man teach Lucas at the end of the story?
   _______________________________________________________

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