

BARRON'S

1100 WORDS You Need to Know

EIGHTH EDITION

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in just 15 minutes a day

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RICH CARRIERO,
MURRAY BROMBERG,
AND MELVIN GORDON

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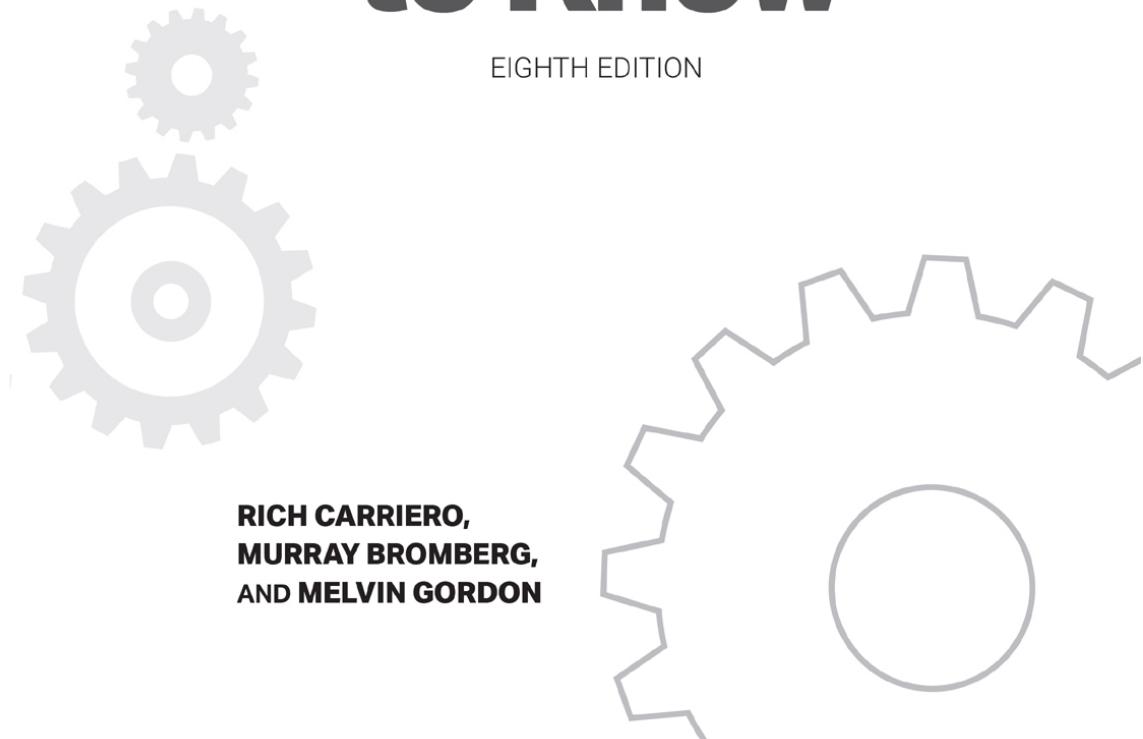
1100

WORDS

You Need

to Know

EIGHTH EDITION



**RICH CARRIERO,
MURRAY BROMBERG,
AND MELVIN GORDON**

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is designed around a simple principle: information is more easily assimilated when you have context.

Words Organized by Theme

Rather than studying random or alphabetized lists of words (which are quite arbitrary when it comes to how words are related), in this edition the words are organized into lists based on common concepts or themes. Themes are noted on the top right of the page. This should, on its own, make the words easier to retain. For example, if you forget what *languid* means but remember that it belongs to the list of words related to *sloth*, you'll know that it probably has something to do with laziness or lacking energy.

This way of organizing words affords a few study options. For example, you can study related groups of words like *speech*, *expression*, and *writing* or opposite pairs of words like *success* and *failure* to build ever larger frameworks of context.

A natural consequence of organizing words by common meaning is that you will encounter many words with similar or identical meanings. So, while working through exercises, do not be disturbed by the fact that while you used one word to answer a question, a synonymous word is listed as the answer. **If your answer is synonymous with the correct answer, both answers are correct!**

Notable Roots

Another feature of this book is the list of *notable roots* that follows each day's words. This includes roots, prefixes, and suffixes found in your vocabulary words that can also be found in other words. This gives you yet another context for study: groups of words that share common roots.

Weekly Study Program

The book is organized into 46 weeks of study, each containing four lists of six words to be studied during the week and a series of review exercises for the fifth day (or weekend if you prefer). Review exercises not only cover that week's words, but also periodically review words learned on previous weeks. This brings up an important point—success with vocabulary study comes through repetition. Each day's words should be reviewed a few times throughout the day, and past words need to be studied and used in order for them to stick.

FULL PRONUNCIATION KEY

a apple, bat

ā age, lace

ä alms, father

är arm, jar

b bag, sob

ch chill, such

d done, said

ə around, waken,
pencil, demon

e elk, met

ē ease, see

er air, wear

ér urn, worth

f feel, stiff

g gone, big

h him, behind

hw which, whale

i inch, pin

ir ear, cheer

ī ivy, hide

j just, enjoy

k kin, talk

l lose, hurl

m mice, cram

n **not, into**

ŋ **song, ring**

o **ox, rot**

ō **open, blow**

ô **all, bought**

oi **oil, boy**

ɔr **ore, cord**

ou **owl, mouse**

p **pest, cap**

r **red, tree**

s **spell, best**

sh **shrug, crash**

t **time, act**

th **think, teeth**

TH **this, breathe**

u **bull, foot**

ur **sure, pure**

ū **ooze, cute**

û **up, month**

v **vast, have**

w **wish, squeak**

y **youth, few**

z **zoo, buzz**

zh **genre, pleasure**

- denotes separate syllables

WEEK 1 DAY 1 Wisdom

NEW WORDS

astute

ə - stüt

surmise

sur - mīz

acuity

ə - kyū - i - tē

proffer

pro - fér

probity

prō - bi - tē

prudence

prū - dins

Notable Roots:

mis = send out;

ac = sharpness; prob = worth, goodness

READING WISELY

An *astute* reader can *surmise* the logic and general meaning of a text without necessarily being influenced by it. She has the mental *acuity* to

separate fact from opinion. She does not shun the latter but instead weighs *proffered* insights according to the *probity* of the writer as well as the degree to which subjective views conform with her experience, values, and *prudence*.

Sample Sentences: Use your new words in the following sentences. Occasionally, it may be necessary to change the ending of a word (e.g., *indiscriminate* to *indiscriminately*).

1. The mayor's business dealings left his _____ open to question.
2. To receive a driver's license you must demonstrate your visual _____.
3. _____ is the hallmark of a sound investment strategy.
4. Above all, a hiring manager must be a(n) _____ judge of character.
5. The professor _____ the following advice: choose a well-researched topic.
6. From his demeanor, Beth _____ that her brother wished to be left alone.

Definitions: Now that you have seen and used the new words in sentences and have the definitions “on the tip of your tongue,” try to pair the words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. astute | _____ | a. to determine by observation and deduction |
| 8. surmise | _____ | b. to present in a helpful manner |
| 9. acuity | _____ | c. upright moral character |
| 10. proffer | _____ | d. caution; good sense |
| 11. probity | _____ | e. clever; keenly observant |
| 12. prudence | _____ | f. sharpness; perceptiveness |

WEEK 1 DAY 2 Wisdom

NEW WORDS

cognizant

kog - ni - zent

apprise

ə - prīz

circumspect

ser - kûm - spekt

concoct

kun - kokt

peruse

pə - rūz

pedantic

pə - dan - tik

Notable Roots:

cog = thought,

knowledge; circum = circle; spec = sight;

ped = teaching, child

INFORMATION OVERLOAD

Though information technology has put a glut of it at our fingertips, knowledge is not always power. A healthy democracy does depend on a citizenry *cognizant* of facts and *apprised* of current events. To be truly *circumspect* about it, however, we *concoct* so many studies, “news” articles, and angry screeds for *perusal* that readers can become numb, while the *pedantic* merely use facts and talking points to impress.

Sample Sentences: Now that you’ve seen the words used in context and have an idea of their meanings, try to use them in the following sentences. Remember that a word ending may have to be changed.

1. The teacher easily saw through the excuse her student had _____.
2. An array of intelligence services keeps the president _____ of foreign and domestic threats to national security.
3. _____ of what the pitcher was about to throw, the center fielder confidently swung the bat.
4. Einstein was modest and never _____ toward those who lacked his brilliance.
5. While the young are prone to rashness, the old are more _____.
6. The young couple had their attorney _____ the contract before they would sign it.

Definitions: Test yourself by matching the new words with the definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. cognizant | _____ | a. to review with care |
| 8. apprise | _____ | b. thoughtful; cautious |
| 9. circumspect | _____ | c. showing off one’s knowledge |
| 10. concoct | _____ | d. to be aware of specific information |
| 11. peruse | _____ | e. to create or prepare |
| 12. pedantic | _____ | f. to provide information |

WEEK 1 DAY 3 Wisdom

NEW WORDS

canny
kan - nē

politic
pol - i - tik

introspective
in - trō - spek - tiv

cogent
kō - jent

incisive
in - sī - siv

ruminate
rū - min - āt

Notable Roots:

polis = city; intro = inward; spec = sight; cis = cut; rumen = chew on

LEND FEW THY TONGUE

Sylvia was a *canny* survivor. For months one decree after another came down from the new management team without any input from the workforce. Accustomed to a more open corporate culture, griping

colleagues found themselves victims of “restructuring.” Sylvia had found that a *politic* approach gave her a better chance at keeping her post. Thus, she maintained an *introspective* silence. When the atmosphere finally became too toxic, she crafted a corporate memo offering a *cogent* analysis of company failings with many *incisive* critiques. After *ruminating* over whether to send it, however, she chose instead to polish her resume and begin the search for an employer that deserved her skills and loyalty.

Sample Sentences: Try your hand at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change the endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. Luddendorf’s _____, feverish mind was steadied by Hindenberg’s pragmatism and calmness; together they formed a highly effective leadership team.
2. Dole and Clinton were _____ in their eulogies of the polarizing Nixon, choosing to focus on his many foreign policy achievements while glossing over the Watergate scandal.
3. The quiet of nature allows us a chance to _____, finding insights into and solutions for the vexations of everyday life.
4. A _____ argument will always win more people over than a convoluted one.
5. Malik is naturally more _____, often apologizing for breaches of etiquette that are barely noticed, if at all.
6. Lincoln’s kindly, story-telling persona belied what a _____ politician he was.

Definitions: If you are having trouble picking the right definitions, it may be best *not* to do them in the order given, but to do the ones you are surest of first.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--|
| 7. canny | _____ | a. inward looking; self-aware |
| 8. politic | _____ | b. expressed clearly and forcefully |
| 9. introspective | _____ | c. careful to avoid giving offense; shrewd |
| 10. cogent | _____ | d. to consider carefully |
| 11. incisive | _____ | e. perceptive; astute*; cautious |
| 12. ruminate | _____ | f. clear and penetrating; harsh |

*astute—studied previously, see [page 1](#). Each review word studied previously will be followed by an asterisk—you will find the first use of the

word by consulting the index at the back of the book.

WEEK 1 DAY 4 Wisdom

NEW WORDS

pensive

pen - siv

pragmatic

prag - ma - tik

perspicacious

pér - spik - ā - shəs

trenchant

tren - chent

stipulate

stip - ū - lāt

pedagogue

ped - ə - gog

Notable Roots:

pens = thinking;

spec = sight; trench = depth; ped = teaching, children

NERVOUS NELLY

Contract signing always made Chris feel *pensive*. He had done his job well, bringing buyers and sellers together. This was the moment when he would

earn his commission, but past experience had taught him to take a *pragmatic* view: so many things could still go wrong. *Perspicacious* first-time homebuyers asked many questions, some reasonable and *trenchant*, others quibbling and paranoid. To assuage their fears as much as possible, he felt it best to be transparent. “The contract *stipulates* \$20,000 in earnest money,” he pointed out, then added, *pedagogically*, “That’s a down payment the sellers keep in case you back out before closing.”

Sample Sentences: Getting the hang of it? Now go on to use the six new words in the following sentences—remember, past tenses may be required.

1. Few modern satirists are as _____ as H. L. Mencken, whose wit was devastating.
2. Elle’s _____ expression stood out in the sea of smiling faces in the class photo.
3. As a natural _____, Malini was a font of both useful information and trivia.
4. The visionary Root designed buildings of sublime beauty for the clients secured by the charming and _____ Burnham.
5. The _____ general manager, “Stick” Michael, assembled the Yankee dynasty of the late 1990s by recognizing the latent potential of unsung prospects and free agents.
6. The terms _____ in the labor agreement are so clear that management and the workforce rarely have serious disagreements.

Definitions: Pick the letter of the definition that matches your new word and write it in the answer space.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--|
| 7. pensive | _____ | a. to set as a condition for an agreement |
| 8. pragmatic | _____ | b. teacher; one who offers unsolicited information |
| 9. perspicacious | _____ | c. observant; sarcastically witty |
| 10. trenchant | _____ | d. thoughtful; nervous |
| 11. stipulate | _____ | e. perceptive; discerning |
| 12. pedagogue | _____ | f. having a practical point of view |

WEEK 1 DAY 5 Wisdom

GROUP REVIEW

You have accomplished something worthwhile this week. In learning 24 useful words, you have taken a step toward a greater mastery of the English language. In studying a single group of related words, you are more likely to retain this mastery. As a result of today's lesson, you will become aware of those words that require greater study on your part for complete success in these first lessons.

Matching

Directions: Take the following quiz by matching the best possible definition with the words you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. acuity
2. apprise
3. astute
4. canny
5. circumspect
6. cogent
7. cognizant
8. concoct
9. incisive
10. introspective

DEFINITIONS

- a. to be aware of specific information
- b. having a practical point of view
- c. to consider carefully
- d. thoughtful; nervous
- e. perceptive; astute*; cautious
- f. upright moral character
- g. perceptive; discerning
- h. expressed clearly and forcefully
- i. to determine by observation and deduction
- j. teacher; one who offers unsolicited information

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | 11. pedagogue | k. clear and penetrating; harsh |
| _____ | 12. pedantic | l. thoughtful; cautious |
| _____ | 13. pensive | m. observant; sarcastically witty |
| _____ | 14. perspicacious | n. showing off one's knowledge |
| _____ | 15. peruse | o. to set as a condition for an agreement |
| _____ | 16. politic | p. caution; good sense |
| _____ | 17. pragmatic | q. careful to avoid giving offense; shrewd |
| _____ | 18. probity | r. clever; keenly observant |
| _____ | 19. proffer | s. to review with care |
| _____ | 20. prudence | t. sharpness; perceptiveness |
| _____ | 21. ruminate | u. to provide information |
| _____ | 22. stipulate | v. to present in a helpful manner |
| _____ | 23. surmise | w. to create or prepare |
| _____ | 24. trenchant | x. inward looking; self-aware |

Exploring Roots

As the most common roots are to be found in many different words, knowledge of them is an important tool for breaking down new and unfamiliar vocabulary. Whether you recognize a word's etymology or its similarity to a foreign language word, improving your knowledge of these building blocks will improve your mastery of vocabulary.

Directions: Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word using the same root.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------|---|
| _____ | 1. teaching, child | a. <i>Ruminants</i> are the principle source of milk production. |
| _____ | 2. sight | b. The modern <i>metropolis</i> offers much for tourists to admire. |
| _____ | 3. depth | c. Judges often sentence first-time offenders to <i>probation</i> . |
| _____ | 4. circle | d. Some personality disorders can be treated with <i>cognitive behavioral therapy</i> . |
| _____ | 5. thought | e. <i>Entrenched</i> attitudes are the hardest to eradicate. |
| _____ | 6. chew on | f. Magellan died before he could complete the <i>circumnavigation</i> of the world. |
| _____ | 7. city | g. The daredevil amazed the <i>spectators</i> . |
| _____ | 8. worth | h. Vaccination is a contentious subject among parents and <i>pediatricians</i> . |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

Reggie the Con Man

In the annals of crime, there are few scoundrels who could match the exploits of Reggie Hayes, who also used the names of Reginald Haven, Ricardo Hermosa, Father Harris, and dozens of other aliases. Reggie's police record, principally in Chicago and Baltimore, demonstrates his _____ knack for exploiting the gullible.

Dressed as a priest ("Father Harris"), he _____ his most daring ruse. An _____ judge of character, he would carefully select his mark, then "find" a wallet stuffed with hundred-dollar bills (but lacking identification) outside a supermarket and invite his victim to share his good fortune. But first, to establish her credibility, he _____ that his victim had to put up a sum of money as a testimonial to her _____. Mrs. Emma Schultz, age 72, tearfully told the police that she had withdrawn \$14,000 from her bank and placed it in a shopping bag supplied by the helpful priest. He told her to hold onto the bag while he went next door to a lawyer's office to make the sharing of their good fortune legal.

After a seemingly interminable wait, Mrs. Schultz discovered to her chagrin that the heartless thief had skipped out the back way, leaving her "holding the bag"—a switched bag containing shredded newspaper—while he made his getaway with her life savings.

WEEK 2



DAY 1

Folly

NEW WORDS

dilatory

dil - ə - tōr - ē

unsavory

un - sāv - or - ē

iniquity

in - i - kwi - tē

egotist

ē - gō - tist

infamous

in - fə - mus

impish

imp - ish

Notable Roots:

dil = delay; equi = equal; ego = self; fam = fame, celebration

TO THE POINT

Calvin Coolidge was one of the most *dilatory* presidents in history. Elevated to the Oval Office by the unexpected death of his predecessor, Warren Harding, Coolidge presided over the boom economy of the Roaring

Twenties. While an improvement over the *unsavory* scandals of the Harding days, the benign neglect of the Coolidge administration allowed the *iniquities* of the era to thrive. Believing government should do as little possible, Coolidge was no *egotist*; he avoided grand gestures and was *infamous* for his laconic speech. One Sunday, after Mr. Coolidge had listened to an interminable sermon, a throng of newsmen gathered around him. An intrepid reporter asked: “Mr. President, we know that the sermon was on the topic of sin. What did the minister say?” Coolidge replied, somewhat *impishly*, “He was against it.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The 1919 White Sox are _____ for accepting bribes to throw the World Series.
2. The _____ behavior of their two-year-old made the Antonuccis miss their flight.
3. The kitten had an _____ streak, often pouncing on unsuspecting passersby.
4. The _____ details of his dishonesty ruined the ambassador’s public image.
5. Prior to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, minority renters faced entrenched _____ in their search for quality homes and apartments.
6. An unrepentant _____, Walter White is as reckless as he is arrogant, rising and falling spectacularly during his brief criminal career.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|---|
| 7. dilatory | _____ | a. well known for negative reasons; notorious |
| 8. unsavory | _____ | b. slow; tending to cause delay |
| 9. egotist | _____ | c. mischievous |
| 10. iniquity | _____ | d. conceited; boastful |
| 11. infamous | _____ | e. wickedness; unfairness |
| 12. impish | _____ | f. distasteful; morally questionable |

WEEK 2



DAY 2

Folly

NEW WORDS

miscreant

mis - crē - ent

slovenly

slov - ən - lē

untoward

un - tōrd

asinine

as - i - nīn

scurrilous

scur - ə - ləs

brigand

brig - ənd

Notable Roots:

mis = evil; crea = create; sloven = careless;
ward = direction

IF I HAD THE WINGS OF AN ANGEL

Casting a furtive glance over his shoulder, the *miscreant* slipped out the main prison gate, his *slovenly* appearance unnoticed in the British fog.

Though few, if any, figures in mainstream media made *untoward* remarks about the penal system, the plethora of escapes from supposedly secure prisons embarrassed the *asinine* wardens. To compound their problems, irate citizens spread *scurrilous* rumors that some guards were accepting bribes from *brigands* and thieves whose motto was: “Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. _____ dress and grooming belies the impressiveness of any resume.
2. The presence of _____ on the plains during the nineteenth century was a natural consequence of the failure to develop adequate law enforcement.
3. Many, but by no means all, _____ grow up without proper parental guidance.
4. In the minds of many voters, the arcane details of public policy are no match for the _____ details of scandal.
5. Hannibal defeated well-disciplined Roman legions led by _____ commanders.
6. The politician, rather than apologize for the _____ comments he had made, claimed that they were taken out of context.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 7. miscreant | _____ | a. inappropriate |
| 8. slovenly | _____ | b. robber |
| 9. untoward | _____ | c. vulgar |
| 10. asinine | _____ | d. immoral person |
| 11. scurrilous | _____ | e. foolish |
| 12. brigand | _____ | f. sloppy in appearance |

WEEK 2



DAY 3

Folly

NEW WORDS

callow

cal - ō

sinister

sin - i - stér

pathological

path - ə - loj - ik - əl

megalomania

meg - ə - lō - mā - nē - ə

dilettante

dil - ə - tant

obsequious

ob - sē - kwē - us

Notable Roots:

path = feeling, suffering; mega = great; mania = madness; dil = delay

UNEARNED RESPECT

The young can be forgiven the *callow* conviction that they are the center of the universe. After all, the constant validation of early childhood makes each of us feel talented and special. While there's nothing *sinister* about

parents seeking to instill confidence in their children, some grow up to be adults with a *pathological* need for praise, often coupled with an inability to acknowledge criticism or to persevere in the face of failure. A hallmark of such *megalomania* is to consider oneself a master of any skill, refusing to accept that without hard work one remains a *dilettante* in all endeavors. Such individuals who attain positions of power surround themselves with *obsequious* “yes men” who spare them such hard truths.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The cardiologist politely withheld comment as the _____ lectured her about the latest heart-healthy fad diet.
2. Iago’s _____ demeanor gives Othello no reason to suspect him of treachery.
3. A _____ speaker, Wilfred’s use of impressive vocabulary cannot conceal the vapidness of his discourse.
4. While a runner on second base stealing a catcher’s signs is a time-honored tradition, there’s something _____ about using long-range photographic equipment.
5. A _____ liar will make false statements about easily verifiable facts.
6. Germany began to lose the Second World War when Hitler’s _____ caused him to ignore or overrule his general staff.

Definitions: Pick the letter of the definition that matches your new word and write it in the answer space.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. callow | _____ | a. caused by disease; abnormal |
| 8. sinister | _____ | b. one who has superficial knowledge of a subject |
| 9. pathological | _____ | c. excessively flattering |
| 10. megalomania | _____ | d. immature; inexperienced |
| 11. dilettante | _____ | e. delusions of greatness |
| 12. obsequious | _____ | f. threatening; foreboding |

WEEK 2



DAY 4

Folly

NEW WORDS

sordid

sôr - did

nefarious

nə - fer - ē - us

bias

bī - us

callous

cal - us

servile

sér - vīl

lurid

lèr - id

Notable Roots:

ne = not, bad; far/fer = make, do; call = skin; serv = servant, slave

CASTLES OF AIR

No form of securities fraud is as *sordid* as the Ponzi Scheme. In 1920, Charles Ponzi, a charming Italian immigrant whose name was soon to become *nefarious*, set up a company to take advantage of a loophole that

made it possible to purchase postage in Italy and redeem it for more valuable U.S. stamps. He promised investors a 50% profit within three months and attracted \$1,800 in startup capital. Ponzi met his initial target and, thanks to the economic *bias* known as “fear of missing out,” within months he had amassed millions in new investment capital. Unfortunately, when Ponzi’s postage idea didn’t work, he *callously* began paying out “profits” to older investors with newly invested money. As long as *servile* reverence for Ponzi’s supposed financial acumen* persisted, he was safe as most simply reinvested their profits. By July of 1920, however, investigators realized that no legitimate firm could consistently offer such large returns. Ponzi’s exposure was more than a *lurid* national scandal: his investors had been cheated out of \$20 million (roughly \$200 million today), and his name became a byword for corruption.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences. You may have to change the ending of a word.

1. Predatory animals have an instinctive _____ toward hunting easier prey.
2. The _____ aversion of his eyes betrays how much Theon has suffered at his captor’s hands.
3. High-speed chases, while captivating news, show a _____ disregard for public safety and should be avoided.
4. George Remus left the _____ business of distributing bribes to underlings.
5. All of suspects were, in fact, guilty, but the victim was such a _____ blackmailer that the inspector chose to report that an unknown assailant was responsible.
6. Sensationalist newspapers devote color photographs and banner headlines to the most _____ stories.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. sordid | _____ | a. villainous; notorious |
| 8. nefarious | _____ | b. insensitive |
| 9. bias | _____ | c. slavish |
| 10. callous | _____ | d. distasteful |
| 11. servile | _____ | e. repulsive; horrifying |

12. lurid

f. favoritism

WEEK 2 **DAY 5** **Folly**

GROUP REVIEW

Keep adding to your vocabulary, as it is one of the most useful tools you can possess. Let's go over the 24 new words you studied during this week.

Matching

Directions: In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the words you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ **1.** asinine
- _____ **2.** bias
- _____ **3.** brigand
- _____ **4.** callous
- _____ **5.** callow
- _____ **6.** dilatory
- _____ **7.** dilettante
- _____ **8.** egotist
- _____ **9.** impish
- _____ **10.** infamous
- _____ **11.** iniquity
- _____ **12.** lurid
- _____ **13.** megalomania
- _____ **14.** miscreant

DEFINITIONS

- a.** repulsive; horrifying
- b.** delusions of greatness
- c.** slavish
- d.** evil person
- e.** robber
- f.** sloppy in appearance
- g.** foolish
- h.** vulgar
- i.** insensitive
- j.** inappropriate
- k.** one who has superficial knowledge of a subject
- l.** well known for negative reasons
- m.** threatening; foreboding
- n.** excessively flattering

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. nefarious | o. favoritism |
| _____ | 16. obsequious | p. mischievous |
| _____ | 17. pathological | q. slow; tending to cause delay |
| _____ | 18. scurrilous | r. villainous; notorious |
| _____ | 19. servile | s. distasteful |
| _____ | 20. sinister | t. wickedness; unfairness |
| _____ | 21. slovenly | u. morally questionable |
| _____ | 22. sordid | v. caused by disease; abnormal |
| _____ | 23. unsavory | w. conceited; boastful |
| _____ | 24. untoward | x. immature; inexperienced |

Exploring Roots

As the most common roots are to be found in many different words, knowledge of them is an important tool for breaking down new and unfamiliar vocabulary. Whether you recognize a word's etymology or its similarity to a foreign language word, improving your knowledge of these building blocks will improve your mastery of vocabulary.

Direction: Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word with the same root.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| _____ 1. | feeling | a. By <i>dallying</i> too long, Ron was unable to make the last ferry. |
| _____ 2. | creation | b. It's actually quite normal for toddlers to exhibit <i>egocentric</i> behavior. |
| _____ 3. | delay | c. The 13th Amendment prohibits involuntary <i>servitude</i> . |
| _____ 4. | not | d. The arson investigator recognized the signature techniques of the notorious <i>pyromaniac</i> . |
| _____ 5. | slave | e. A bad reputation can fade, but <i>infamy</i> endures. |
| _____ 6. | madness | f. Too much food is wasted because of public <i>apathy</i> . |
| _____ 7. | self | g. The impression of brilliance is too often <i>negated</i> by arrogance. |
| _____ 8. | fame | h. The title <i>Frankenstein</i> refers to the doctor, not his unnatural <i>creature</i> . |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

The Best Laid Plans

Gloria Rogers overslept and then had to sprint to catch the same Greyhound Bus that she boarded on the last Thursday of every month. After a three-hour uneventful ride, she finally arrived at the bus terminal where a courtesy van was ready to transport bus passengers to Visitors Day at the State Penitentiary.

Although Gloria tried to act casually, she was more than a little nervous. Her boyfriend, Art, a convicted felon and _____ liar, had managed to gain admittance to the prison's hospital on the pretense of having a gall bladder attack. Fortunately, no one had noticed her _____ manner of dress: under her own pants and bulky sweater, Gloria had been wearing an extra set of clothes that she removed in the hospital bathroom and passed on to Art. He planned to use them after making his escape in the back of the prison ambulance that was parked outside his ward.

Art had spelled out his escape plan during Gloria's last visit. He disguised his _____ lack of concern by making the plan seem foolproof. All that she had to do was appear to have a seizure. Then she would fabricate a story about her epilepsy while Art, with the smuggled clothes concealed under his prison bathrobe, would slip out of the ward during the excitement. As a naturally _____ girlfriend, she agreed. Unfortunately for the _____ schemers, when they set their plan in motion, an astute* hospital guard spotted Art climbing into the rear of the ambulance and quickly foiled the escape attempt. The result was that Art had three years added to his sentence, and Gloria was imprisoned for her role in the misadventure.

WEEK 3



DAY 1

Success

NEW WORDS

prestigious
pres - tē - jus

prolific
prō - lif - ik

zenith
zē - nith

acclaim
ə - klām

feasible
fē - zə - bəl

sally
sal - ē

Notable Roots:

pre = before;

pro = forward;

clamo = announce

THE PEP TALK

A *prestigious* team, defending champs and *prolific* scorers, we were undefeated. But spending so much time at the *zenith* of our sport, we had become complacent, buying into the *acclaim* dished out in the newspapers. Now we were losing 45–20 at halftime to our crosstown rivals. “If there’s one thing I hate,” the coach said, “it’s a quitter.” Just as coach’s caustic remarks had us fired up, he changed tone, reminding us that a comeback was still *feasible*. Thus, with renewed confidence, we *sallied* forth, determined to wrest control of the game from our rivals.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After presenting a business idea that was both _____ and profitable, Ashanti acquired the business loan.
2. While today an underdog and crowd favorite, at the _____ of his powers, Tiger Woods dominated professional golf.
3. Attending a _____ college not only promises an excellent education, but it can provide valuable social connections to those in the most competitive fields.
4. Before the overloaded *Eastland* could _____ out onto Lake Michigan on a pleasure cruise, the ship rolled over at dockside.
5. Picasso was a _____ painter, producing hundreds of works during his long career.
6. *Casablanca* more than lives up to the _____ of critics; it’s a timeless masterpiece.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. prestigious | _____ | a. public recognition |
| 8. prolific | _____ | b. highest point of trajectory |
| 9. zenith | _____ | c. to charge; set out |
| 10. acclaim | _____ | d. realistic |
| 11. feasible | _____ | e. highly regarded; exclusive |
| 12. sally | _____ | f. productive |

WEEK 3 DAY 2 Success

NEW WORDS

ebullient

eb - ul - ē - ent

prodigy

pro - di - jē

plaudits

plō - ditz

acme

ak - mē

pinnacle

pin - ik - əl

fortuitous

fôr - tū - it - tus

Notable Roots:

pro = forward; laud = praise; fortui = luck, fortune

ALL GLORY IS FLEETING

As the Bombers took the field for the first game of the series, the young players were *ebullient*, anticipating their success. Jeffries, however, the Bombers' captain and veteran catcher, was circumspect.* Waiting to be

announced, he took in the light show of countless camera flashes and the din of 50,000 fans roaring in unison. He dwelled on how fleeting such moments can be. When the Bombers last won it all, he was a rookie: a *prodigy* with the bat looking ahead to the future of the franchise. He had naively believed the *plaudits* of his adoring fans and had taken reaching the *acme* of his sport for granted. In the ensuing 15 years, he had never been back. Now, at the *pinnacle* of his profession once more, he appreciated all it had taken to reach this moment, how *fortuitous* that he had stayed healthy and played well for long enough to earn this chance.

Sample Sentences: Can you put the new words in the right sentences?

1. Setting foot on the _____ of Mount Everest is widely considered the zenith* of mountaineering.
2. Theodore Roosevelt is remembered for his _____ smile.
3. At the _____ of her career, Marilyn Monroe was considered an icon, more famous for her persona than her achievements.
4. A musical _____, Mozart began composing at age five.
5. A _____ turn of phrase can be the result of tireless writing practice or a gift of unpredictable inspiration.
6. The effusive _____ that marked her introduction left the brilliant historian blushing as she stepped up to the lectern.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. ebullient | _____ | a. highest point; summit |
| 8. prodigy | _____ | b. statements of praise |
| 9. plaudits | _____ | c. accidentally favorable |
| 10. acme | _____ | d. highest level of achievement |
| 11. pinnacle | _____ | e. lively; cheerful |
| 12. fortuitous | _____ | f. person possessing great talent |

WEEK 3 DAY 3 Success

NEW WORDS

sanguine

seng - gwin

anoint

ə - noint

viable

vī - ə - bəl

efficacy

ef - ik - ə - sē

ascend

ə - send

nirvana

nér - vo - nə

Notable Roots:

sangre = blood; via = way; able = able;
scend = move

CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM

The polls had been predicting a landslide for weeks, but you'd never know it from the pensive* mood at campaign headquarters. Public statements and

press interviews were appropriately *sanguine*, but seared into everyone's mind was the gut punch four years ago when the pollsters and pundits had practically *anointed* Gwen Martinez the next governor of North Carolina before a flurry of returns from rural districts put Brad Olsen ahead at the wire. This time around, the party took nothing for granted. Olsen campaigned as the most *viable* candidate. A platform of policies of known *efficacy* was drafted. A relentless ground game was unleashed upon the state. Only when the TV showed a weary, slump-shouldered Governor Olsen *ascend* the stage did a sense of relief spread through the crowd, followed swiftly by *nirvana*.

Sample Sentences: Fill in the blanks with the new words you learned.

1. Bluffing is only a _____ poker strategy if you can remain impassive.
2. After the pressure of executing a large wedding, a honeymoon can be a period of blissful _____.
3. Bronze Age kings were often _____ through a ceremony during which oil was poured on their heads.
4. A West Point education will give you an advantage if you wish to _____ to a higher rank in the U.S. Army.
5. Despite the onset of gangrene, President Garfield's doctor remained _____ that his patient would recover and refused all professional assistance.
6. The _____ of vaccines is embraced by doctors but sometimes doubted by a skeptical public.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. sanguine | _____ | a. offering a prospect of success |
| 8. anoint | _____ | b. optimistic |
| 9. viable | _____ | c. a carefree and joyous state of mind |
| 10. efficacy | _____ | d. to rise |
| 11. ascend | _____ | e. to proclaim; to sanctify |
| 12. nirvana | _____ | f. effectiveness |

WEEK 3 DAY 4 Success

NEW WORDS

halcyon

hal - sē - on

auspicious

ô - spi - shəs

felicitous

fə - lis - it - əs

laudable

lō - də - bəl

propitious

prō- pish - əs

burgeon

ber - jən

Notable Roots:

auspice = good omen; felix = happy, lucky; laud = praise; pit = strive

CALL ME BY MY RIGHT NAME

In the *halcyon* days of the Roman Republic, priests spent much of their time interpreting signs in nature to determine which public endeavors were *auspicious*. Luck was not considered a matter of cold probability but a

manifestation of the will of the gods. Fortuna, the Roman goddess of luck, was depicted with veiled eyes, a fact that calls to mind the *felicitous* expression that “luck is blind.” The lucky were considered more industrious, honest, and pious. The gods tended to reward such *laudable* qualities with *propitious* outcomes in civil life. In war, generals often invoked Alexander the Great’s maxim “fortune favors the bold” to justify swift action and the *burgeoning* of Roman power.

Sample Sentences: Fill in the blanks with the new words you learned.

1. Wei’s _____ network of contacts allowed easy recruitment of new talent.
2. F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald’s portraits give the misleading impression of a power couple living a _____ existence.
3. Ned Stark embodies _____ ideals that become a liability in corrupt times.
4. Antoninus Pius presided over such a _____ era that few dramatic events occurred during his reign to attract the attention of historians.
5. McClellan, with his trim good looks and martial bearing, at first seemed a _____ commander when he took command of the Army of the Potomac.
6. To be the target of bird droppings is, oddly enough, considered _____ by some.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. halcyon | _____ | a. predictive of good fortune |
| 8. auspicious | _____ | b. praiseworthy |
| 9. felicitous | _____ | c. favorable to success |
| 10. laudable | _____ | d. to expand |
| 11. propitious | _____ | e. happy; well suited |
| 12. burgeon | _____ | f. characterized by success and prosperity |

WEEK 3 DAY 5 Success

GROUP REVIEW

The word *review* means “to view again,” and that is the purpose of our weekly review. You will have noticed, of course, that many of the words that appear as new words are repeated in subsequent lessons. Sometimes they are in the paragraph, sometimes in the sample sentences, and occasionally in the definitions or directions. This continued emphasis on “viewing again” will help you to become familiar with the vocabulary.

Matching

Directions: In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the words you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. acclaim
- _____ 2. acme
- _____ 3. anoint
- _____ 4. ascend
- _____ 5. auspicious
- _____ 6. burgeon
- _____ 7. ebullient
- _____ 8. efficacy
- _____ 9. feasible
- _____ 10. felicitous

DEFINITIONS

- a. to rise
- b. happy; well suited
- c. highest point of trajectory
- d. favorable to success
- e. predictive of good fortune
- f. person possessing great talent
- g. highly regarded; exclusive
- h. characterized by success and prosperity
- i. to proclaim; to sanctify
- j. realistic

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 11. fortuitous | k. offering a prospect of success |
| _____ | 12. halcyon | l. praiseworthy |
| _____ | 13. laudable | m. optimistic |
| _____ | 14. nirvana | n. effectiveness |
| _____ | 15. pinnacle | o. productive |
| _____ | 16. plaudits | p. accidentally favorable |
| _____ | 17. prestigious | q. lively; cheerful |
| _____ | 18. prodigy | r. to charge; set out |
| _____ | 19. prolific | s. to expand |
| _____ | 20. propitious | t. highest level of achievement |
| _____ | 21. sally | u. public recognition |
| _____ | 22. sanguine | v. a carefree and joyous state of mind |
| _____ | 23. viable | w. statements of praise |
| _____ | 24. zenith | x. highest point; summit |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

Desert Storm Decision

The 1991 Persian Gulf War, where the United Nations forces, led by Americans, ousted the invading Iraqi army from Kuwait's soil, met with much popular _____. The United States won the gratitude of Kuwait and the admiration of world in part because the conflict was a master class in the overwhelming technical superiority of an elite military at the _____ of its powers. The Gulf War is also remembered, however, as a mercifully short conflict thanks to the setting of specific, _____ objectives.

When asked by the media why he hadn't pursued the enemy all the way to Baghdad, General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the U.S. field commander, explained:

"It would have been foolhardy for us to try to occupy that capital city and pile up American casualties from sniper attacks by Iraq's guerillas. That may be hard for you Monday morning quarterbacks to understand, but I thoroughly agreed with the president who was convinced that such an action would have sent a bad message to the world and would have splintered the Allied partnership." This proved a _____ decision in light of the bloody insurgency that would follow the Iraq War 12 years later.

Schwarzkopf added "that dictator's days are numbered, but I expect his end is likely to come at the hands of his own people." This _____ prediction turned out to be quite accurate: after his capture by American forces in December 2003, Saddam was tried and later executed by the new Iraqi government.

Synonym Shout-Out

Since the words in each group are related to a common concept, some are naturally going to be exact or very close synonyms. Match each word with the choices most similar in meaning. As indicated by the number in parentheses, some words will have more than one match.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|
| 1. acclaim | _____ | a. ebullient |
| 2. servile | _____ | b. propitious |
| 3. nefarious | _____ | c. sordid |
| 4. prudent | _____ | d. feasible |
| 5. fortuitous (3) | _____ | e. felicitous |
| 6. pensive | _____ | f. canny |
| 7. acme (2) | _____ | g. infamous |
| 8. incisive (4) | _____ | h. zenith |
| 9. viable | _____ | i. circumspect |
| 10. sanguine | _____ | j. unsavory |
| 11. miscreant | _____ | k. astute |
| 12. untoward (3) | _____ | l. plaudits |
| | | m. perspicacious |
| | | n. pinnacle |
| | | o. obsequious |
| | | p. auspicious |
| | | q. trenchant |
| | | r. lurid |
| | | s. introspective |
| | | t. brigand |

WEEK 4



DAY 1

Failure

NEW WORDS

carnage

kär - nej

ominous

om - in - us

harbinger

här - bin - jer

incapacitate

in - kə - pas - i - tāt

succumb

sə - kǔm

debacle

də - bok - əl

Notable Roots:

carn = flesh; omen = bad sign; capit = head

MULLINS, A K.O. VICTIM

In every press conference and interview, K.O. Mullins promised *carnage*. In *ominous* tones, he declared himself the *harbinger* of the champion's downfall, that his foe would be *incapacitated* by stinging jabs and *succumb*

to a hail of body blows within five rounds. The result was a pure *debacle*. When the bell sounded, Mullins sprang from his stool and charged across the ring, showing disdain for the champion. Although his belligerence seemed impressive, it failed to intimidate the champ, who laid the hapless Mullins low with an adroit feint and an uppercut.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Before Mt. Pelée's catastrophic eruption, many _____ signs were observed.
2. The Army of the Potomac lost many hard-fought encounters with the Confederates, but the Battle of Fredericksburg was a true _____.
3. Ninety-degree weather in Alaska could be a _____ of long-term climate disruption.
4. The 2004 tsunami caused _____ on all coasts of the Indian Ocean.
5. When a stroke _____ Woodrow Wilson, his wife, Edith, helped him execute the duties of his office.
6. Ruth did not _____ to her desire to retaliate against the player who tripped her.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 7. carnage | _____ | a. portending doom |
| 8. ominous | _____ | b. to disable |
| 9. harbinger | _____ | c. to give in; to die |
| 10. incapacitate | _____ | d. bloodshed |
| 11. succumb | _____ | e. an abject disaster |
| 12. debacle | _____ | f. a sign of bad luck |

WEEK 4



DAY 2

Failure

NEW WORDS

abortive

ə - bôr - tiv

nadir

nā - dēr

ramifications

ram - ə - fik - ā - shuns

forestall

fôr - stäl

moribund

môr - i - bund

balk

bälk

Notable Roots:

fic/fac = make/do;

fore = before; mori = death; bund = bound

MULLINS THROWS DOWN THE GAUNTLET

His *abortive* challenge for the title proved to be the *nadir* of K.O. Mullins's career. Ignoring the *ramifications* of the loss on his ranking and reputation,

the pugnacious Mullins demanded a rematch. To *forestall* any attempt to ignore him, he took out a full-page ad in the newspaper calling out the champ. When the champ's manager saw the ad, he accosted Mullins, who was surrounded by a throng of reporters. The manager belittled his antics as a pathetic attempt to resurrect a *moribund* career. Mullins, never one to *balk* at such barbs, punched the manager, knocking them both off their feet.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After the scandal broke, a confession and apology might have _____ demands for the prime minister's resignation.
2. Three _____ empires did not survive the Great War: the Austrian, Ottoman, and Russian.
3. The investors who _____ at the opportunity to purchase shares in the new software company would come to regret it within a decade.
4. When Alaric sacked Rome in 410, it was the _____ of the empire's long history.
5. Given the complexity of Earth's natural cycles, the _____ of human activities can take decades to reveal themselves.
6. Attempts to create a universal language have proven _____ from the start.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. abortive | _____ | a. to head off |
| 8. nadir | _____ | b. consequences |
| 9. ramifications | _____ | c. dying |
| 10. forestall | _____ | d. doomed from the start |
| 11. moribund | _____ | e. to hesitate; to refuse |
| 12. balk | _____ | f. the low point of one's fortunes |

WEEK 4



DAY 3

Failure

NEW WORDS

catastrophic

cat - ə - strof - ik

fruitless

frūt - les

besiege

bē - sēj

capitulate

kə - pit - ū - lāt

repulse

rē - püls

fiasco

fē - a - skō

Notable Roots:

fruit = product; capit = head; pulse = push

MULLINS FORCED TO EAT HUMBLE PIE

The consequences of K.O. Mullins's foolish actions proved to be *catastrophic*. The irate 80-year-old manager pressed charges against Mullins, suing him for assault. Any attempt to deny such a public act was

fruitless: dozens of reporters had witnessed the event, and the manager carried a deep laceration over his eyebrow. When the case was brought before the court, the *besieged* defense team *capitulated*. The judge castigated Mullins for the sordid* incident and *repulsed* his plea for leniency. In addition to a costly financial settlement, Mullins was required to make a public apology to the octogenarian. The *fiasco* marked the ignominious end of Mullins's career.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Team USA was able to _____ every Soviet rush and hold on for a 4–3 win.
2. Failure to freeze the cookie dough proved a _____ error.
3. During the nine months that Petersburg was _____, much of Lee's army deserted.
4. After the first fall, the rest of the skater's routine turned into a _____.
5. Swatting away the cloud of mosquitoes proved to be a _____ endeavor.
6. Rather than _____, Richard III became the last English king to die in battle.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. catastrophic | _____ | a. to attack relentlessly |
| 8. fruitless | _____ | b. embarrassing performance |
| 9. besiege | _____ | c. disastrous |
| 10. capitulate | _____ | d. to fend off |
| 11. repulse | _____ | e. to surrender |
| 12. fiasco | _____ | f. futile |

WEEK 4



DAY 4

Failure

NEW WORDS

impasse

im - pas

falter

fäl - tēr

stymie

stī - mē

quandary

kwon - drē

plight

plīt

thwart

thwärt

Notable Roots:

pass = way; falt = defect, mistake;

quand = when

THE DECLINE OF MULLINS

After the trial, K.O. Mullins found his bid for a rematch at an *impasse*. He attempted to rebuild his image by hiring a publicist to set up appearances on

talk shows during which he would profess to be a “changed man.” In the end, however, this campaign *faltered, stymied* by Mullins’s impulsivity and proclivity for misbehavior. Only genuine remorse and meaningful change could have rescued him from his *quandary*. Rather than accepting that his actions had brought about his *plight*, however, Mullins blamed the champ and his old manager. In a frenzy of self-pity, he would often trumpet scurrilous* attacks on the champ, the old manager, and the judge, whom he blamed for *thwarting* his dreams.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The Joker is always _____ in his plans by the timely arrival of Batman.
2. In 1922, a young Hemingway chronicled the _____ of Greeks fleeing Anatolia.
3. Cracking the Enigma codes presented Bletchley Park with a _____: how to use the intelligence without tipping off the Germans that they’d been hacked.
4. Dreams _____ for many reasons: laziness, doubt, and distraction among them.
5. Sultan Mehmet II broke the _____ by having his ships dragged overland to harass the Byzantines from within their secure harbor.
6. The gale-force winds _____ all attempts to fight the forest fire from the air.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. impasse | _____ | a. to lose strength; to fail |
| 8. falter | _____ | b. to defeat another’s plans |
| 9. stymie | _____ | c. hardship |
| 10. quandary | _____ | d. stalemate |
| 11. plight | _____ | e. to block another’s success |
| 12. thwart | _____ | f. dilemma |

WEEK 4



DAY 5

Failure

GROUP REVIEW

Let's see how many of the new words studied during the course of this week you remember. Incidentally, try to keep a record of the many times you find your new words in magazines, newspapers, and books. Before you knew the meanings of those words, you probably skipped right over them.

Matching

Directions: In the following quiz, match the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the correct letter in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abortive
- _____ 2. balk
- _____ 3. besiege
- _____ 4. capitulate
- _____ 5. carnage
- _____ 6. catastrophic
- _____ 7. debacle
- _____ 8. falter
- _____ 9. fiasco
- _____ 10. forestall
- _____ 11. fruitless
- _____ 12. harbinger

DEFINITIONS

- a. futile
- b. to head off
- c. dilemma
- d. to disable
- e. to fend off
- f. the low point of one's fortunes
- g. to defeat another's plans
- h. an abject disaster
- i. dying
- j. portending doom
- k. to lose strength; to fail
- l. disastrous

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ | 13. impasse | m. consequences |
| _____ | 14. incapacitate | n. hardship |
| _____ | 15. moribund | o. to hesitate; to refuse |
| _____ | 16. nadir | p. to block another's success |
| _____ | 17. ominous | q. to give in; to die |
| _____ | 18. plight | r. stalemate |
| _____ | 19. quandary | s. embarrassing performance |
| _____ | 20. ramifications | t. bloodshed |
| _____ | 21. repulse | u. doomed from the start |
| _____ | 22. stymie | v. to surrender |
| _____ | 23. succumb | w. a sign of bad luck |
| _____ | 24. thwart | x. to attack relentlessly |

Sensible Sentences?

(From Week 4)

Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The linebacker was (*forestalled, incapacitated*) by a broken tibia.
2. The riots that followed Caesar's assassination proved a (*harbinger, quandary*) of the civil wars to come.
3. The (*plight, impasse*) of the polar bear is symbolic of the dangers of climate change.
4. Hudson's voyage up the river that bears his name in search of a Northwest Passage to India proved both (*catastrophic, fruitless*) and time-consuming.
5. With the advent of online shopping, once great retail chains have become (*moribund, ominous*)—if not defunct—enterprises.
6. His first professional defeat, a loss to reigning champion, Joe Frazier, proved to be the (*debacle, nadir*) of Ali's storied career.
7. The destruction of the Baltic Fleet at Tsushima completed the (*impasse, fiasco*) of the Russo-Japanese War.
8. George Bailey's plan to see the world before heading to college was (*faltering, thwarted*) by his father's untimely death.
9. Most (*abortive, moribund*) attempts to open a restaurant are the brainchildren of dilettantes* ignorant of the demands of the food service industry.
10. Despite the intense scrutiny of the media, Jackie Robinson never (*faltering, besieged*), sparking the Dodgers to a decade of success while never giving in or reacting to bigotry.

Antonyms Attract

Directions: Another way to get vocabulary to stick in your memory is to develop an awareness of antonyms. If you can remember a word's opposite, you can remember the word. Match the following words with their antonyms. Multiple antonyms indicated by parentheses.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-------|---------------|
| 1. | ominous (2) | _____ | a. probity |
| 2. | nadir (2) | _____ | b. propitious |
| 3. | prestigious | _____ | c. callous |
| 4. | iniquity | _____ | d. viable |
| 5. | callow (2) | _____ | e. infamous |
| 6. | introspective | _____ | f. scurrilous |
| 7. | fruitless (2) | _____ | g. politic |
| 8. | falter | _____ | h. auspicious |
| 9. | laudable (3) | _____ | i. capitulate |
| 10. | asinine | _____ | j. astute |
| 11. | repulse (2) | _____ | k. zenith |
| 12. | ebullient | _____ | l. feasible |
| | | | m. pragmatic |
| | | | n. sally |
| | | | o. acme |
| | | | p. succumb |
| | | | q. lurid |
| | | | r. moribund |
| | | | s. sordid |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

4th Day

1st Day

1st Day

2nd Day

Want to Run for Office?

In these hyper-partisan years, as all cooperation between parties is at an _____, we have seen the phenomenon of incumbent politicians retiring in record numbers. When interviewed, many of them admitted that they had lost their taste for the job because of the abuse to which a candidate for office is subjected.

“My last campaign was a sordid* affair in which my opponents did everything to sully my record and air scurrilous* charges about my private life,” said one congressman, bemoaning his _____. “I won’t stand still for such treatment,” he added, “which was terribly embarrassing to me and my entire family.”

Citizen groups, appalled by the candidates’ mudslinging, have sought to do something about the _____. Committees have been formed in a number of states to study ways to elevate the tone of the process to intelligent discourse on the issues instead of the _____ of all-out war.

“Unless we clean up this mess,” said the chairman of an Illinois caucus, “the best and the brightest will _____ at entering a career in politics. After all, who but a masochist wants to be a punching bag?”

WEEK 5



DAY 1

Dishonesty

NEW WORDS

duplicity
dū - pli - si - tē

chicanery
shi - kon - ə - rē

subterfuge
sub - ter - fūzh

dupe (v.)
dūp

perfidious
per - fid - ē - us

abscond
ab - skond

Notable Roots:

dup = two; plac = please; sub = below; fide = belief; ab = away

CHEATING

Because of my code of ethics, I have always considered the *duplicity* of cheating to be dishonorable. Apparently, some students are not above such *chicanery*. Recently, I read an article in which, under the *subterfuge* of

learning disabilities that they did not possess, a group of friends visited unscrupulous learning specialists whose recommendations gain them extra time to take exams. By *duping* the system, these students gain an unfair advantage over others while abusing accommodations reserved for those who honestly need them. Another *perfidious* scheme involves students *absconding* with their phones to the bathroom to look up answers to test questions.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Lies and _____ are necessary skills for successful espionage.
2. The perpetrator of the Ponzi Scheme _____ with a sizable stash of his clients' investments but was recognized abroad and apprehended.
3. While the workmanship might fool the untrained eye, a \$50 price tag for a Rolex isn't going to _____ anyone.
4. The _____ of bogus medicine, once the purview of nineteenth-century snake oil salesmen, has made a resurgence thanks to cheap online advertising.
5. Honesty will get you out of some speeding tickets; _____ will always increase the fines.
6. The queen was so pathologically* _____ that none in the North expected the reinforcements she had promised to materialize.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. duplicity | _____ | a. to trick |
| 8. chicanery | _____ | b. to sneak away |
| 9. subterfuge | _____ | c. falseness of character |
| 10. dupe | _____ | d. faithless to one's word |
| 11. perfidious | _____ | e. scheming; trickery |
| 12. abscond | _____ | f. trick to gain advantage |

WEEK 5



DAY 2

Dishonesty

NEW WORDS

mendacious

men - dā - shəs

foist

fōi - st

duress

dur - es

cabal

kə - bäl

fabricate

fab - ri - kāt

charlatan

shär - lə - tin

Notable Roots:

mend/ment = lie; dur = hard; fabric = create

CRACKING DOWN

Mr. Dorsey, our new principal, was determined to do something about the rash of *mendacious* academic behavior. He issued bulletins and began to admonish those teachers who did not proctor alertly. Though they did not

appreciate the responsibility *foisted* upon them, under *duress* the faculty reported the worst *cabals* of habitual cheaters. Though their possessors claimed that they were *fabricated*, several cheat sheets were turned in as tangible evidence of the offense. Mr. Dorsey's inexorable campaign against academic *charlatans* seemed to be paying off.

Sample Sentences: Into which sentences do the new words fit best?

1. A _____ of aristocrats initiated the assassination plot against Julius Caesar.
2. Confessions given under _____ are rarely admissible in court.
3. Because the criminals did not _____ their stories together, questioning them separately quickly brought out the truth.
4. A _____ story repeated enough can become nearly impossible to debunk.
5. It is a historical irony that most people will reject a democracy _____ upon them.
6. Always a _____, the con man became a magician using tricks to entertain.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. mendacious | _____ | a. to lie; to make up |
| 8. foist | _____ | b. trickster |
| 9. duress | _____ | c. a secret group |
| 10. cabal | _____ | d. to place an unwelcome burden |
| 11. fabricate | _____ | e. characterized by dishonesty |
| 12. charlatan | _____ | f. force or threats to obtain compliance |

WEEK 5



DAY 3

Dishonesty

NEW WORDS

fawning
fô - niŋ

fulsome
ful - sûm

artifice
är- tə - fis

usurp
ū - sérp

guile
gîl

prevarication
prē - var - i - kā - shun

Notable Roots:

artific = created by man; pre = before;
vari/veri = truth

STAR PLAYER IS CAUGHT

The cheating scandal came to a head when Art Krause, our football captain, was caught cheating on a midterm exam. An all-conference quarterback, Art

was used to *fawning* fans, *fulsome* press clippings, and a certain leniency from his teachers. His ghostwritten term papers were explained away by the *artifice* of having a “writing tutor.” Art was happy to *usurp* the grades that other students worked hard to earn. With such an attitude, it’s unsurprising he would put little *guile* into his cheating and was easily caught by the first teacher to keep an eye on him. If Art were suspended, however, our chances for winning the city championship would evaporate, so the coach asked the principal to overlook Art’s *prevarication*. Mr. Dorsey replied that the players “needed coaching in morality.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Dillinger’s _____, rather than his capacity for violence, made him Public Enemy #1 for federal law enforcement.
2. Since he had been caught on film, no amount of _____ could explain his actions.
3. By collecting funds for the army, Bismarck _____ the power of Parliament.
4. The _____ manner of the sycophant repulses* true leaders.
5. Returning to play an encore after a prolonged ovation is an _____ lovingly enacted by musicians and audiences alike.
6. Queen Margaret warns the Yorkist nobles that Richard’s _____ often precedes his most egregious crimes.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. fawning | _____ | a. to seize unlawfully or by force |
| 8. fulsome | _____ | b. dishonest or evasive statements |
| 9. artifice | _____ | c. excessive flattery |
| 10. usurp | _____ | d. cleverness; trickery |
| 11. guile | _____ | e. a lie of convenience |
| 12. prevarication | _____ | f. obnoxious through excessive praise |

WEEK 5 DAY 4 Dishonesty

NEW WORDS

guise
gīz

fallacious
fə - lā - shəs

feint (v.)
fēnt

canard
kən - ärd

factitious
fak - tish - shəs

repress
rē - pres

Repress:

falt = defect; fac/fec = create; press = push, convey

OUR PYRRHIC VICTORY

Mr. Dorsey summoned a group of teachers and student leaders to his office under the *guise* of gauging their reactions to the suspension. One teacher suggested that rather than “punishing the whole school for one student’s

transgression,” the suspension should be delayed. Mr. Dorsey, however, would not indulge such *fallacious* wishful thinking. He countered that *feinting* discipline would make a *canard* of the school’s zero-tolerance policy. He loathed having to discipline Art Krause so severely, but all excuses for the quarterback’s activity were completely *factitious*. Unless strict measures were taken, other students would regard the school’s honor code as toothless. “We may lose a football game,” the principal said, “but we can salvage our self-respect.” After the principal’s diatribe, all present *repressed* any further dissent.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The normally stoic Jeter could not _____ his emotions before leaving the field in uniform for the last time.
2. The famed frontier politician never denied the _____ that he’d killed a notorious outlaw in a duel.
3. Such was Janine’s charm that interviewers never seemed to notice the _____ items of her CV.
4. The Parthians were known for _____ a mounted retreat before turning in the saddle to fire a fusillade of arrows at their pursuers.
5. The Supreme Court prefers not to reverse precedents unless the justices find the reasoning of the predecessors to be particularly _____.
6. Dictators maintain the _____ of popular support by holding rigged elections.

Definitions: Place the letter of the correct definition in the blank next to the new vocabulary word.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. guise | _____ | a. to make a deceptive move |
| 8. fallacious | _____ | b. an unproven lie or rumor |
| 9. feint | _____ | c. to hold back opinions or emotions |
| 10. canard | _____ | d. surface appearance |
| 11. factitious | _____ | e. based on faulty reasoning |
| 12. repress | _____ | f. artificially created |

WEEK 5 **DAY 5** **Dishonesty**

GROUP REVIEW

Congratulations! You have covered the first 120 words in the book. With the same diligence, you should be able to tackle the remaining work and to master most of the challenging words.

Matching

Directions: Take the following quiz by matching the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. abscond
2. artifice
3. cabal
4. canard
5. charlatan
6. chicanery
7. dupe
8. duplicity
9. duress
10. fabricate
11. factitious
12. fallacious
13. fawning

DEFINITIONS

- a. excessive flattery
- b. dishonest or evasive statements
- c. to hold back opinions or emotions
- d. characterized by dishonesty
- e. a secret group
- f. based on faulty reasoning
- g. to sneak away
- h. faithless to one's word
- i. surface appearance
- j. to seize unlawfully or by force
- k. trick to gain advantage
- l. force or threats to obtain compliance
- m. cleverness; trickery

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ | 14. feint | n. to trick |
| _____ | 15. foist | o. artificially created |
| _____ | 16. fulsome | p. to make a deceptive move |
| _____ | 17. guile | q. to lie; to make up |
| _____ | 18. guise | r. obnoxious through excessive praise |
| _____ | 19. mendacious | s. scheming; trickery |
| _____ | 20. perfidious | t. to place an unwelcome burden |
| _____ | 21. prevarication | u. falseness of character |
| _____ | 22. repress | v. a lie of convenience |
| _____ | 23. subterfuge | w. trickster |
| _____ | 24. usurp | x. an unproven lie or rumor |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

Noncooperation

One of the great _____ of history is that successful nonviolent movements are passive in nature. Gandhi famously balked* at such a notion, retorting that he had never advocated passivity in anything. Nonviolent movements based on civil disobedience are actually quite active. They require patience, _____, and the courage to face legal consequences. Henry David Thoreau, Martin Luther King, and Gandhi all spent time in jail cells.

One common _____ that has been successfully deployed by oppressive societies is that they are civilized and decent. Under _____, however, such as when facing the economic consequences of a strike or disruption of civil services, those in power have a tendency to brutally crack down. When authorities _____ a marginalized group by force, such as using firehoses against civil rights marchers or jailing suffragettes, average citizens are forced to confront systemic injustice.

Exploring Roots

As the most common roots are to be found in many different words, knowledge of them is an important tool for breaking down new and unfamiliar vocabulary. Whether you recognize a word's etymology or its similarity to a foreign language word, improving your knowledge of these building blocks will improve your mastery of vocabulary.

Directions: Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word with the same root.

- | | | |
|-------|------------|---|
| _____ | 1. defect | a. The Hollywood law firm earned half of its revenue from the <i>infidelity</i> of married celebrities. |
| _____ | 2. truth | b. The most powerful emotions are often <i>inexpressible</i> . |
| _____ | 3. belief | c. Moriarty is Sherlock Holmes's most <i>implacable</i> foe. |
| _____ | 4. hard | d. Whenever you make a mistake, remember that no one is <i>infallible</i> . |
| _____ | 5. convey | e. Sears homes, though <i>prefabricated</i> , were legendary for their elegance and quality. |
| _____ | 6. please | f. <i>Abdication</i> did not ultimately save the life of Tsar Nicholas II or his family. |
| _____ | 7. created | g. Too often, partisans willingly confuse honesty with <i>verisimilitude</i> . |
| _____ | 8. away | h. The marathon is a well-known trial of <i>endurance</i> . |

WEEK 6



DAY 1

Wealth

NEW WORDS

mercenary (adj.)

mér - sen - er - ē

surfeit

sér - fit

lucrative

lū - krə - tiv

glut

glut

underwrite

un - dər - rīt

pecuniary

pə - kyū - nē - er - ē

Notable Roots:

merc = sell/hire;

sur = above; pecunia = money

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Most inventors, although motivated by *mercenary* interests, recognize that the key to success is identifying an unmet need in the lives of potential

customers. While a *surfeit* of unusual and ultimately useless products are out there, the most *lucrative* inventions are those that possess a simplicity that makes their utility obvious. During the nineteenth century, a *glut* of overelaborate electronic communication devices failed to catch on until Samuel Morse created a very simple code made of nothing more than simple pulses of energy. Devices that are simple, reliable, and of obvious value like the telegraph are most likely to be *underwritten* by investors and reap the *pecuniary* rewards of a grateful public.

Sample Sentences: Fit the new words into the proper blanks.

1. The most _____ government contracts attract the fiercest bidding.
2. The team owner gave the coach one more season to improve but made it clear that he would no longer _____ failure.
3. Despite her excellent work, Ellen's superiors felt she lacked commitment to the company vision and was a purely _____ worker.
4. Fracking has produced a prolonged _____ in the natural gas markets, and prices have yet to recover.
5. Despite his reputation with free market capitalists as a _____ wizard, J. P. Morgan was known in his day for ruthlessly throttling destructive competition.
6. The Covid-19 pandemic has made it clear that a _____ of medical supplies should be maintained at all times.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. mercenary | _____ | a. an oversupply |
| 8. surfeit | _____ | b. related to money or finances |
| 9. lucrative | _____ | c. motivated solely by money |
| 10. glut | _____ | d. an abundance |
| 11. underwrite | _____ | e. profitable |
| 12. pecuniary | _____ | f. to accept financial responsibility |

WEEK 6



DAY 2

Wealth

NEW WORDS

hoard (n.)
hôrd

affluent
af - lū - ent

copious
cō - pē - us

largess
lär - jes

avarice
av - ə - ris

compensation
com - pen - sā - shən

Notable Roots:

flu = flow; copia = plenty; pen = hang

GOLD IN THE HILLS

A *hoard* of jewels and gold coins worth more than \$2 million could be hiding in the Rocky Mountains. It sounds like an Old West legend, but it's very much a twenty-first-century story. In 2010, Forrest Fenn, an *affluent*

art dealer from New Mexico, announced that he had hidden a chest filled with *copious* riches somewhere in the Rockies. He published the “treasure map” in his autobiography, a poem containing clues to the casket’s whereabouts. He explained that his *largess* was intended to inspire people. Be it by adventure or *avarice*, the Fenn treasure has certainly motivated legions of hunters. Most were *compensated* for their lost time in exercise and fresh air, but an unlucky few have actually died from mishaps in the wilderness.¹

Sample Sentences: Use the clues above to help find the proper words.

1. The _____ of wealthy benefactors provides considerable support for the arts.
2. The greatest entertainers in the world command levels of _____ unimaginable even a century ago.
3. Seed banks are _____ of biological treasure meant to secure our survival in the event of a global catastrophe.
4. Despite the anonymity of a uniform, officers born _____ can often be distinguished by their speech and mannerisms.
5. The _____ fruit from this year’s tomatoes allowed me to give many away.
6. Kaiser Wilhelm II erroneously believed Britain too motivated by _____ to go to war to protect Belgian neutrality.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 7. hoard | _____ | a. generosity |
| 8. affluent | _____ | b. in great quantity |
| 9. copious | _____ | c. payment |
| 10. largess | _____ | d. having a significant amount of money |
| 11. avarice | _____ | e. a valuable collection |
| 12. compensation | _____ | f. greed |

¹ In 2020, Fenn announced on social media that the treasure had been found. The identity of its discoverer is as yet unknown.

WEEK 6



DAY 3

Wealth

NEW WORDS

sumptuous

sümp - shū - us

remuneration

rē - myūn - ēr - ā - shun

sinecure

sin - ə - kyur

covet

kuv - it

fiscal

fis - kəl

voracious

vör - ā - shəs

Notable Roots:

muni = gift; sine = without; vor = eating

RENAISSANCE RESEARCHERS

Many of the first scientists were what we would consider today to be amateurs. Some were independently wealthy and pursued what they termed “natural philosophy” from the comfort of their *sumptuous* palaces and

mansions. The work they did was simply to indulge their own curiosity and not with any thought of *remuneration*. Brilliant scholars born without means, on the other hand, could hope for a church *sinecure*, a much-coveted arrangement, which provided income without responsibility so that they could pursue their scientific inquiries at their leisure. The less fortunate would work enough to meet their *fiscal* needs while conducting research in whatever time they could spare. Prior to the Scientific Revolution, the only truly paid research work was that which benefited European militaries, which *voraciously* consumed innovations that could be used against rival powers in times of war.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. Corrupt politicians often offer _____ to their most generous supporters.
2. Sound _____ policy rests on the principle of keeping debt low unless government spending is needed to stave off recession.
3. The Palace of Versailles was intended to be a _____ cage allowing the French King to keep a close eye on his nobility.
4. Donald Trump is known to be a _____ consumer of cable television.
5. Native Americans rarely received the _____ for their land promised by treaties.
6. It is one thing to admire those we find heroic but quite another to _____ the wealth and status that others have earned through talent and hard work.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. sumptuous | _____ | a. a paid position without duties |
| 8. remuneration | _____ | b. characterized by great luxury |
| 9. sinecure | _____ | c. relating to finance |
| 10. covet | _____ | d. having great appetite |
| 11. fiscal | _____ | e. compensation; reward |
| 12. voracious | _____ | f. to desire immorally; to envy |

WEEK 6



DAY 4

Wealth

NEW WORDS

cupidity

kyū - pi - də - tē

bountiful

boun - tə - ful

opulence

op - yə - ləns

palatial

pə - lā - shul

munificent

myū - ni - fi - sənt

rapacious

rə - pā - shəs

Notable Roots:

cupid = desire; bounti = reward; opus = achievement; rapa = grasping

IS GREED GOOD?

Without a doubt, the profit motive is one of the most powerful creative engines that exists. The *cupidity* of entrepreneurs can bring the dreams of inventors to life if both parties recognize the value a new idea can provide.

During the Gilded Age, Andrew Carnegie was pillar of a *bountiful* economy featuring countless innovations that made use of the cheaper and more reliable steel his mills created. Certainly, tycoons like Carnegie lived in *opulence*, constructing *palatial* estates along Manhattan's Fifth Avenue and Long Island's "Gold Coast." They were also *munificent* benefactors of public institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Carnegie Hall. While there are exceptions—*rapacious* speculators like Jay Gould, who could wreck economies—history teaches that on the balance, the drive for wealth and success benefits society if leavened by social conscience.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. Some of the most _____ homes are bequeathed as parks and museums.
2. The motivation of past amateur athletes was love of the game rather than mere _____.
3. Eighteenth century pirates were so _____ that they would seize ships regardless of flag.
4. Rome's burgeoning* empire relied on _____ Egyptian grain harvests.
5. The _____ of Venice is astonishing to those who have never seen Byzantine art.
6. "Golden Parachutes" are _____ severance packages for business executives whose failures have too often cost shareholders billions.

Definitions: Play the familiar matching game.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. cupidity | _____ | a. extremely generous |
| 8. bountiful | _____ | b. fitting for royalty |
| 9. opulence | _____ | c. eagerness to possess something |
| 10. palatial | _____ | d. overly greedy; willing to take by force |
| 11. munificent | _____ | e. plentiful; abundant |
| 12. rapacious | _____ | f. impressive wealth |

WEEK 6 **DAY 5** **Wealth**

GROUP REVIEW

After reading about these new ideas, you should be inventive enough to handle this review. If there is a necessity for it, you may turn back to the original lesson to check on the meaning of a word. As someone once remarked, “Necessity is the mother of invention.”

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. affluent
2. avarice
3. bountiful
4. compensation
5. copious
6. covet
7. cupidity
8. fiscal
9. glut
10. hoard
11. largess
12. lucrative
13. mercenary

DEFINITIONS

- a. compensation; reward
- b. plentiful; abundant
- c. payment
- d. characterized by great luxury
- e. motivated solely by money
- f. having great appetite
- g. greed
- h. in great quantity
- i. profitable
- j. impressive wealth
- k. to accept financial responsibility
- l. a paid position without duties
- m. generosity

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 14. munificent | n. extremely generous |
| _____ | 15. opulence | o. to desire immorally; to envy |
| _____ | 16. palatial | p. having a significant amount of money |
| _____ | 17. pecuniary | q. an oversupply |
| _____ | 18. rapacious | r. an abundance |
| _____ | 19. remuneration | s. fitting for royalty |
| _____ | 20. sinecure | t. a valuable collection |
| _____ | 21. sumptuous | u. relating to finance |
| _____ | 22. surfeit | v. related to money or finances |
| _____ | 23. underwrite | w. eagerness to possess something |
| _____ | 24. voracious | x. overly greedy; willing to take by force |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

From Nomads to Subjects

While violence from nature or rival bands were constant hazards, hunter-gatherer societies were characterized by relative equality. After all, without permanent homes, early humans could amass little in the way of wealth. With nothing to fight for, members of each group cooperated with one another to face external threats.

The invention of agriculture changed everything. Cultivation of food crops was arduous work and required settlement. The payoff was a _____ of calories that allowed human populations to grow as never before. Larger populations and food surpluses led to specialization: people no longer needed for the harvest could become builders, craftsmen, and warriors. Thus, villages grew into towns and towns into cities.

People in cities situated along migration routes or waterways discovered that trading goods could be just as _____ as producing them. As a city's wealth grew, so too did the demands of urban life. As the needs of buyers and sellers became more specific, _____ systems became necessary to replace bartering. Judicial systems were also needed to resolve disputes. Sophisticated production and trade enterprises needed to learn the science of _____ management. Writing was thus invented initially as a means for bookkeeping.

By the Bronze Age, the greatest cities in China, India, and the Near East had become so large and complex that they appointed the most prominent leaders to become kings who would enforce the law and face down military threats. These first monarchs enjoyed great wealth and power. Some became tyrants, styling themselves as gods and committed only to their own pleasures. The wisest, however, like Sargon of Akkad and Hammurabi recognized that _____ and pageantry were conspicuous ways to advertise their importance and to maintain control over their societies with minimal bloodshed.

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. Spanish treasure ships that sank in storms left behind submerged (*gluts, hoards*) of gold.
2. The position of customs agents of the seldom-visited port was a desired (*sinecure, surfeit*).
3. During the Thirty Years' War, Italian (*pecuniary, mercenary*) soldiers pillaged at will.
4. Henry VIII was known for his (*rapacious, copious*) appetite.
5. The (*largess, cupidity*) of religious missions is motivated by the desire to win converts.
6. The representatives of the Estates General were adamant in their refusal to (*underwrite, compensate*) the monarchy's financial irresponsibility any further.
7. The (*sumptuous, bountiful*) quality of Chinese silk is renowned throughout the world.
8. Clever accountants help their (*rapacious, affluent*) clients avoid excessive tax exposure.
9. The (*opulence, avarice*) of Gatsby's mansion was intended to impress his lost love.
10. Debasing silver coinage with cheaper metals proved a disastrous (*fiscal, munificent*) policy that sparked rampant inflation.

WEEK 7



DAY 1

Poverty

NEW WORDS

bereft

bē - reft

pittance

pit - ins

insolvent

in - solv - ent

liquidation

lik - wid - ā - shun

futile

fyūt - tīl

destitution

des - ti - tū - shun

Notable Roots:

reft = robbed;

solv = solution

THE CRASHING TWENTIES

The Roaring Twenties was a time *bereft* of caution. Everyday Americans played the market on credit, paying only a *pittance* up front. One morning

in 1929, the investor Bernard Baruch got a stock tip from his shoeshine boy. Recognizing in this that the stock boom had become a bubble, he sold off his shares just before the market collapsed in a welter of panicked selling. Millionaire speculators became *insolvent*. Banks faced *liquidation* of their assets in a *futile* attempt to recover their depositors' money. The savings of millions of Americans were wiped out. Within months credit froze, businesses shuttered, and jobs evaporated, leaving average Americans facing *destitution*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After a _____ effort to stop the inferno, the crew abandoned the *Morro Castle*.
2. Savvy buyers frequent _____ sales to get steep discounts.
3. _____ of wise counsel, the queen consented to the destruction of the rebel city.
4. The _____ of the Paris slums and the countryside radicalized the French peasantry that took charge of the revolution in 1792.
5. The seizure of his bank accounts left the fugitive embezzler_____.
6. While in prison, convicted felons are paid a _____ for their work.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. bereft | _____ | a. abject poverty |
| 8. pittance | _____ | b. unable to pay one's debts |
| 9. insolvent | _____ | c. useless |
| 10. liquidation | _____ | d. selling of assets (often to pay debts) |
| 11. futile | _____ | e. to be completely without something |
| 12. destitution | _____ | f. a trivial sum of money |

WEEK 7



DAY 2

Poverty

NEW WORDS

penniless

pen - ē - les

barren

bar - in

dearth

dérth

supplicant

sup - lik - ent

alms

älmz

meager

mē - gēr

Notable Roots:

penni = penny; bar = bare; plic/plac = plea

BREAD LINES

By 1933, one in four American workers was unemployed and many were soon *penniless*. Entire manufacturing districts in once-thriving cities were now silent and *barren*. With entire professions out of work, there was a

dearth of well-paying jobs and too many *supplicants* for each. These conditions left many workers reliant on *alms* to support the *meager* existence of themselves and their children. Soon lengthy bread lines formed to provide sustenance to the poor.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. No Man's Land was a particularly bleak and _____ landscape.
2. Those seeking _____ in the medieval town lined up on the cobblestone bridge.
3. Ebenezer Scrooge's dinner of cold gruel was quite _____.
4. Faced with a _____ of public support, the candidate dropped out.
5. To seek favor of a tyrant, a _____ had best resort to flattery.
6. For those in serious debt, to be literally _____ would be an improvement.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. penniless | _____ | a. deficient in quantity or quality |
| 8. barren | _____ | b. a scarcity |
| 9. dearth | _____ | c. charity for the poor |
| 10. supplicant | _____ | d. lacking any money |
| 11. alms | _____ | e. unproductive; devoid of improvement |
| 12. meager | _____ | f. one seeking assistance |

WEEK 7



DAY 3

Poverty

NEW WORDS

piteous
pi - tē - us

indigent
in - di - jint

scanty
skan - tē

pauper
pô - pér

privation
prī - vā - shun

penury
pen - yur - ē

Notable Roots:

piti = pity; dige = desire/consume;
priva = necessary

HOOVERVILLE

One of the most *piteous* sights during the Great Depression was the sudden appearance of shanty towns known as Hoovervilles, after the sitting

president, Herbert Hoover. Since many of the newly *indigent* in America were now also homeless, accommodations in public shelters soon became *scanty*. Many of America's *paupers* possessed building skills and began constructing shelters on public lands. One such community in New York's Central Park was constructed from driftwood from the Hudson River. This example in particular shows how *privation* can encourage resourcefulness but also how widespread *penury* had become in the working classes.

Sample Sentences: In which of the following newspaper headlines do the new words belong?

1. From Prince to _____: The Fall of a Tycoon
2. Does _____ Set Students Up for Success?
3. Information About Suspect Still _____
4. Donated Suits and Showers Help the _____ Get Work
5. Once Great Hotel Now in _____ Condition
6. Lack of Health Insurance Drives Many to _____

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. piteous | _____ | a. the condition of being needy |
| 8. indigent | _____ | b. the condition of doing without |
| 9. scanty | _____ | c. extreme poverty |
| 10. pauper | _____ | d. evoking sympathy |
| 11. privation | _____ | e. insufficient in quantity or quality |
| 12. penury | _____ | f. a very poor person |

WEEK 7



DAY 4

Poverty

NEW WORDS

abjection

ab - jek- shun

extortion

ex - tōr - shun

parsimonious

pâ - sim - ō - nē - us

miserly

mī - zer - lē

paucity

pô - si - tē

mendicant

men - də - kənt

Notable Roots:

ab = away; ject = throw; tort = twist/squeeze; pauca = few

DUST BOWL

The *abjection* of the Great Depression was not limited to cities. Farmers had been suffering ever since the collapse of agricultural pricing that followed World War I. At the same time, small farmers faced mortgage rates

that were little better than *extortion*. As the Depression worsened, a *parsimonious* president and his cabinet of *miserly* millionaires were not inclined to offer much relief. To make matters worse, decades of short-sighted farming practices had allowed much of the topsoil in the Midwest to erode away, creating a barren* landscape of windswept fields festooned with clouds of dust. With a *paucity* of options left to them, many farmers abandoned their land in their automobiles to join the *mendicants* in the Hoovervilles on the West Coast.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Thriftiness is a virtue but those who act in a _____ manner are pathologically* greedy or cheap.
2. The _____ of quality programming on any one television channel may stem from the number of channels now in competition.
3. Odysseus appeared as a _____ in his own court when he returned from Troy.
4. The line between persuasion and _____ is crossed when threats come into play.
5. The _____ of the town became certain when the last factory closed.
6. His _____ gift-giving matched his harsh manner of speaking with family.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. abjection | _____ | a. a short supply |
| 8. extortion | _____ | b. beggar |
| 9. parsimonious | _____ | c. characterized by cheapness |
| 10. miserly | _____ | d. the worst degree of a bad situation |
| 11. paucity | _____ | e. to act in a stingy manner |
| 12. mendicant | _____ | f. obtaining money or cooperation by threat |

WEEK 7 **DAY 5** **Poverty**

GROUP REVIEW

Pupils want to be individuals these days, and many of them refuse to conform to regulations unless there are good reasons for such rules. In the area of vocabulary study, however, the only rule that makes sense to all is that true mastery derives from continuous practice.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer spaces. (Which two review words are almost synonymous?)

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abjection
- _____ 2. alms
- _____ 3. barren
- _____ 4. bereft
- _____ 5. dearth
- _____ 6. destitution
- _____ 7. extortion
- _____ 8. futile
- _____ 9. indigent
- _____ 10. insolvent
- _____ 11. liquidation
- _____ 12. meager

DEFINITIONS

- a. unproductive; devoid of improvement
- b. abject poverty
- c. deficient in quantity or quality
- d. insufficient in quantity or quality
- e. to act in a stingy manner
- f. to be completely without something
- g. the condition of being needy
- h. beggar
- i. extreme poverty
- j. evoking sympathy
- k. unable to pay one's debts
- l. a very poor person

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 13. mendicant | m. the worst degree of a bad situation |
| _____ | 14. miserly | n. one seeking assistance |
| _____ | 15. parsimonious | o. characterized by cheapness |
| _____ | 16. paucity | p. charity for the poor |
| _____ | 17. pauper | q. a trivial sum of money |
| _____ | 18. penniless | r. a short supply |
| _____ | 19. penury | s. selling of assets (often to pay debts) |
| _____ | 20. piteous | t. a scarcity |
| _____ | 21. pittance | u. obtaining money or cooperation by threat |
| _____ | 22. privation | v. lacking any money |
| _____ | 23. scanty | w. useless |
| _____ | 24. supplicant | x. the condition of doing without |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

4th Day

Happy Days Are Here Again

Herbert Hoover became a millionaire through a career in mining. Ironically, he entered public life providing relief to the people of Belgium and Northern France who had been reduced to _____ by German occupation during World War I. After America's entry in 1917, Hoover was named to head the U.S. Food Administration. In this role, he encouraged citizens to voluntarily endure limited _____ though initiatives like "Meatless Monday" and "Wheatless Wednesday," to ensure sufficient supplies for the troops without causing shortages.

In 1921, Hoover became President Harding's Secretary of Commerce. Hoover's stewardship helped new fields like radio and air travel expand with minimal growing pains. As the economy boomed through the 1920s, Hoover seemed destined to succeed President Coolidge. Then, in 1927, he virtually clinched the White House by effectively providing relief to several states following the Mississippi River floods of that year. Hoover's election in 1928 was by landslide with 58% of the popular vote and 40 out of 48 states.

Hoover entered office promising an end to _____ by effective partnership between government and private enterprise. Prior to the stock market crash on October 29th, few had reason to doubt him. As the Great Depression set in, however, Hoover fundamentally misread the crisis. He sought to buoy confidence in business by avoiding government intervention, failing to see that lack of oversight had led to the Crash. He also refused to offer financial relief to everyday Americans, believing such measures would make Americans permanent _____.

No other president who won election so convincingly has been so soundly defeated when bidding for reelection. In 1932, Franklin Roosevelt became president by promising to bring relief to those who were struggling. His buoyant rhetoric instilled confidence in voters, inviting them to overcome their fears. Herbert Hoover, a man who had made his reputation offering relief in the wake of disaster and war, in the end has gone down, somewhat unfairly, as a_____ and uncaring millionaire who ignored his countrymen's pleas for help.

Synonym Shout-Out

Directions: As you might imagine, studying words that are related by concept will expose you to many pairs and groups of synonyms. In fact, some words are so close that if you mistake one synonym for another in an answer to a question in this book, you still basically got the question right. In the following exercise, match the words from weeks 5–7 with their close synonyms.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------|
| 1. pecuniary | _____ | a. supplicant |
| 2. avarice | _____ | b. bountiful |
| 3. perfidious | _____ | c. surfeit |
| 4. chicanery | _____ | d. penury |
| 5. copious | _____ | e. palatial |
| 6. destitution | _____ | f. mendacious |
| 7. meager | _____ | g. cupidity |
| 8. sumptuous | _____ | h. artifice |
| 9. mendicant | _____ | i. scanty |
| 10. glut | _____ | j. fiscal |

WEEK 8



DAY 1

Youth

NEW WORDS

neophyte

nē - ḍō - fīt

fledgling

flej - ling

incipient

in - sɪp - ē - ənt

indolence

in - dō - ləns

impetuous

im - pech - ū - us

nascent

nā - sənt

Notable Roots:

neo = new; cip = grasp; dol = pain, sadness; nasc/nat = birth

ENTER DR. THOMAS A. DOOLEY

In 1956, *Look Magazine* named Thomas Dooley as one of the year's ten most outstanding men. A *neophyte* just under 30 years of age at the time, Dr. Dooley had already distinguished himself by caring for a half-million

sick and emaciated Vietnamese refugees. When fighting broke out in the divided country of Vietnam, the northern communist Viet Minh forces surged southward, scattering thousands of refugees before them. The *fledgling* doctor was a lieutenant during the *incipient* war, chafing at the *indolence* of his position at a tranquil naval hospital in Japan. With the *impetuous* confidence of youth, he volunteered for duty on a navy ship that had been chosen to transport the refugees to sanctuary in Saigon. The curtain was beginning to ascend* on Dooley's *nascent* career.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Lee's decisions are sometimes regarded as _____ by critics who fail to see that the general took the initiative as a way to offset his inferior numbers.
2. The _____ rebellion must be put down before it spreads.
3. As a _____, Thomas Becket had fresh eyes and was able to recognize King Henry's attempts to seize control over the church.
4. The Battle of Britain served as a major test of the _____ coalition government.
5. That Jefferson was chosen to write the Declaration of Independence at such a young age clearly showed the promise of his _____ public career.
6. A life of _____ does little to prepare one for emergencies.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. impetuous | _____ | a. at an early stage |
| 8. nascent | _____ | b. idleness |
| 9. neophyte | _____ | c. rash; showing little forethought |
| 10. fledgling | _____ | d. a newcomer |
| 11. indolence | _____ | e. showing early promise of potential |
| 12. incipient | _____ | f. untested and new |

WEEK 8



DAY 2

Youth

NEW WORDS

ingenuous

in - jen - ū - əs

dabbler

dab - lər

quixotic

kwik - sot - ic

artless

ärt - ləs

utopian

ū - tōp - ē - ən

juvenile

jū - ven - ɪl

Notable Roots:

gen = create; art = device, trick; topos = place

DOOLEY'S MISSION

Aboard the refugee ship, Dooley's destiny took shape. His initial *ingenuous* outlook was quickly dispelled by the level of disease, ignorance, and fear that afflicted the passengers. He discerned that compared with the

communists, Americans had been *dabblers* in the propaganda battle: the assumption that American ideals would naturally prevail with the Vietnamese he saw to be hopelessly *quixotic* given the steady drumbeat of Anti-American rhetoric on the ground. Looking to do his part, Dooley chose *artless* but tangible action over *utopian* sentiment as the best way to win over the Vietnamese. Thus, he pitched in to build shelters in Haiphong and to comfort the residents in the besieged* city. For his services, Dooley received the U.S. Navy's Legion of Merit. He told the story of his transformation from *juvenile* idealist to seasoned activist in *Deliver Us from Evil*, a bestseller that alerted America to the plight of the Vietnamese and what Dooley saw as the sinister intentions of Communism.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The Prince was known to be a _____ in his official duties, preferring to spend his time in luxury.
2. His _____ behavior betrayed the fact that favoritism, and not merit, had led to the young executive's elevation.
3. The abbot's _____ manner of speaking concealed a shrewd nature.
4. _____ communities arise periodically but fail when their ideas of human perfectibility ring hollow.
5. Her _____ nature convinced the jury that her answers were truthful.
6. While the Hague Conferences to end war were admirable efforts, they ultimately proved _____ endeavors after the outbreak of World War I.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. ingenuous | _____ | a. lacking trickery |
| 8. dabbler | _____ | b. immature |
| 9. quixotic | _____ | c. based on an ideal of perfectibility |
| 10. artless | _____ | d. innocent; authentic |
| 11. utopian | _____ | e. a disinterested amateur |
| 12. juvenile | _____ | f. overly idealistic |

WEEK 8



DAY 3

Youth

NEW WORDS

jejune
zhā - zhūn

scion
sī - on

fatuous
fa - chū - əs

puerile
pwer - īl

dilatory
dil - ə - tōr - ē

imprudent
im - prū - dənt

Notable Roots:

june = young; puer = boy; dil = delay;
prude = caution

STYMIED* BY PERSONAL SICKNESS

After an extensive lecture tour in 1956, Dr. Dooley, the once *jejune* activist and now *scion* of anticommunism, returned to Laos to set up a mobile

medical unit. Because the Geneva Agreement barred the entrance of military personnel to the country, he resigned from the Navy and went to work as a civilian. That story is told in *The Edge of Tomorrow*. The next year, despite a growing illness, the ubiquitous Dooley turned up in the remote village of Muong Sing, attempting to thwart* his traditional enemies —disease, dirt, ignorance, and starvation. He still maintained the increasingly *fatuous* hope of halting the spread of Communism. More optimist than *puerile* dreamer, he failed to recognize the deteriorating situation in the region. But his trained medical eye soon told him that the pain in his chest and back was a harbinger* of a malignant cancer. Recognizing that a *dilatory* attitude toward his condition be *imprudent*, he sought treatment.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Churchill was a renowned soldier, writer, and _____ of a noble family.
2. Max's attempts to impress his older cousins only made him look _____.
3. The _____ effort to halt the forest fire was woefully inadequate.
4. The critic, while noting the young actor's potential, found his performance to be both _____ and over the top.
5. It would be _____ to question your supervisor in front of the whole team.
6. With the expression, "Let them eat cake," Marie Antoinette revealed her _____ and shallow attitude toward her French subjects.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 7. jejune | _____ | a. boyish |
| 8. scion | _____ | b. unserious |
| 9. fatuous | _____ | c. late; unhurried |
| 10. puerile | _____ | d. young; inexperienced |
| 11. dilatory | _____ | e. unwise |
| 12. imprudent | _____ | f. son; rising star |

WEEK 8



DAY 4

Youth

NEW WORDS

tyro

tī - rō

infantile

in - fən - tīl

pretentious

prē - ten - shəs

mawkish

mōw - kish

sophomoric

sof - mōr - ik

maudlin

mōwd - lin

Notable Roots:

infant = child; soph = wise; mor = fool

BAD IS BAD

Ever since *tyro* pop sensation Ellipsis broke upon the music scene, critics and fans alike have noted his proclivity for flamboyant dress and *infantile* behavior. His “...” clothing line is noted for the heavy use of fringe and

rhinestones, and a court recently denied his petition to change his name to the punctuation mark. Ellipsis's career began with the debut album *Profound*, which music guru Jai Delacroix described as “the kind of *pretentious* tripe middle schoolers write in notebooks.” Certainly, tracks like “Let My Love Be Your Lily Pad,” laden with *mawkish* sentimentality aren’t exactly Shakespearean. Yet the catchiness of Ellipsis’s songs is undeniable, and they have only grown in popularity with increased air play. He also has a certain *sophomoric* charisma, as can be seen in the video for “Gondola Girl,” which depicts the singer on a boat in Venice serenading the object of his affection with a ukulele. Despite the *maudlin* lyrics (“you stole a piazza my heart (!)”) the lovesick star wins over his girl with mischievous smiles and silly stunts (like falling into the canal after his attempt to do a jig on a gondola goes wrong).

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Capote struck an intense, yet casual pose for the portrait on the jacket of his first novel that many considered _____, if not obscene.
2. My mother can become _____ when reminiscing about the past.
3. Hacking the Harvard home page on a dare was a _____ thing to do.
4. When thwarted,* many dictators are prone to _____ protests, even tantrums.
5. I prefer my own words to the _____ clichés of most greeting cards.
6. Hannibal and Alexander the Great showed that some military _____ are still great strategists.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. tyro | _____ | a. attempting to appear significant |
| 8. infantile | _____ | b. excessively sentimental |
| 9. pretentious | _____ | c. sentimental in a sickly way |
| 10. mawkish | _____ | d. exhibiting talent but immaturity |
| 11. sophomoric | _____ | e. babyish |
| 12. maudlin | _____ | f. a newcomer |

WEEK 8



DAY 5

Youth

GROUP REVIEW

Shortly before his death, Dr. Dooley was selected by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce as one of America's ten most outstanding young men. There may be no connection between success of that type and an expanded vocabulary—but one never knows.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. For exact synonyms, either answer is correct.

REVIEW WORDS

1. artless
2. dabbler
3. dilatory
4. fatuous
5. fledgling
6. impetuous
7. imprudent
8. incipient
9. indolent
10. infantile
11. ingenuous
12. jejune

DEFINITIONS

- a. a disinterested amateur
- b. immature
- c. innocent; authentic
- d. exhibiting talent but immaturity
- e. unserious
- f. untested and new
- g. babyish
- h. a newcomer (1)
- i. young; inexperienced
- j. attempting to appear significant
- k. son; rising star
- l. based on an ideal of perfectibility

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 13. juvenile | m. overly idealistic |
| _____ | 14. maudlin | n. idleness |
| _____ | 15. mawkish | o. excessively sentimental |
| _____ | 16. nascent | p. rash; showing little forethought |
| _____ | 17. neophyte | q. showing early promise of potential |
| _____ | 18. pretentious | r. sentimental in a sickly way |
| _____ | 19. puerile | s. boyish |
| _____ | 20. quixotic | t. at an early stage |
| _____ | 21. scion | u. a newcomer (2) |
| _____ | 22. sophomoric | v. lacking trickery |
| _____ | 23. tyro | w. unwise |
| _____ | 24. utopian | x. late; unhurried |

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. Dickens's contemporary critics bemoaned (*mawkish*, *maudlin*) characters like the afflicted Tiny Tim and the orphan Oliver Twist.
2. Calls for bipartisanship seem increasingly (*puerile*, *quixotic*).
3. The (*dilatory*, *fledgling*) FBI built its public profile hunting famed bank robbers.
4. The great Rivera ended the (*incipient*, *ingenuous*) rally with two strikeouts.
5. The champ's (*indolent*, *fatuous*) lifestyle sapped his strength.
6. Octavian exploited his status as (*tyro*, *scion*) of Julius Caesar's family.
7. A busy woman, Dr. Patil's (*artless*, *imprudent*) manner of speaking allows her to use an economy of words.
8. The future of Huxley's *Brave New World* seems at first to be a (*utopian*, *nascent*) paradise.
9. The (*impetuous*, *pretentious*) troops cleared Missionary Ridge without orders.
10. The (*sophomoric*, *nascent*) attitude of the tech billionaire angered the senators.
11. At first rather (*infantile*, *jejune*), the intern soon adapted to corporate culture.

Parts of Speech

Directions: Choose the noun, verb, or adjective that answers each of the questions and write the corresponding letter in the appropriate answer space.

- a. affluent
- b. artless
- c. avarice
- d. bereft
- e. burgeon
- f. covet
- g. debacle
- h. duplicity
- i. incisive
- j. liquidation
- k. munificent
- l. puerile
- m. stipulate
- n. viable
- o. voracious

1. Which noun describes a disaster?

2. Which verb means to want what isn't yours?

3. Which adjective describes a boyish attitude?

4. Which adjective means you're rather rich?

5. If a firm branches out into other fields, which verb describes its growth?

6. Which adjective means you've been deprived of what you need?

7. If you had to name a specific condition of agreement, which verb would be appropriate?

8. What noun denotes dishonest dealing?

9. A good substitute for *greed* would be which noun?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 10.** Which adjective describes an *insatiable* appetite?
- 11.** What noun best describes the sale of one's assets?
- 12.** What adjective would fit the act of speaking and acting without guile?
- 13.** Which adjective describes that which is feasible?
- 14.** One who is very generous might best be described by which adjective?

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week. Change parts of speech if needed.

Clues

3rd Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

Aftermath of an Earthquake

The Egyptian earthquake in October 1992 killed 600 residents of Cairo and hospitalized thousands of others. _____ initial rescue efforts meant that many were expected to die as a result of their injuries. Especially hard hit were the people who inhabited the city's slums, who had to seek shelter in those government buildings, schools, and factories that remained standing.

Religious Muslim groups formed _____ relief organizations to provide aid to the survivors in the form of food, water, blankets, and tents to house the more than 300 families made homeless by the disaster. Believers took the opportunity to spread the message that the earthquake was a harbinger* of worse things to come and that an _____ population of _____ sinners must follow God's laws if they expected to appease heaven.

Throughout history, following volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, tidal waves, and other calamities that periodically bedevil mankind, religious leaders have used such occurrences to bring _____ back to their faith.

Since many Egyptians had expressed unhappiness about their government prior to the earthquake, there was a good chance for religious Muslim groups to win new converts by showing that the answer to recovery was not through man's efforts, but through God's.

WEEK 9



DAY 1

Age

NEW WORDS

eminent

em - ə - nənt

inveterate

in - vet - er - ət

seasoned

sēz - ənd

perennial

pə - ren - əl - əl

inured

in - urd

curmudgeon

kur - muj - ən

Notable Roots:

vet = experienced; ennial = year; cur = dog

JUST SPELL THE NAME CORRECTLY

P. T. Barnum, the *eminent* circus impresario, was once confronted by a woman who showed him a scurrilous* manuscript about himself and said that unless he paid her, she would have the book printed. Barnum, an

inveterate showman, rejected the extortion* attempt. “Say what you please,” he replied, “but make sure that you mention me in some way. Then come to me, and I will estimate the value of your services as a publicity agent.” The *seasoned* Barnum obviously felt that adverse criticism was an asset for one who *perennially* seeks fame. *Inured* against insult, he believed a man who seeks the limelight should not care what is written about him but should be concerned only when they stop writing about him. Barnum’s philosophy suggests that we might do well to review the plethora of publicity given to bigoted *curmudgeons*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Hitler was a(n) _____ liar who Chamberlain never should have trusted.
2. The _____ promotor brought headline acts to communities across the country.
3. DiCaprio was a _____ favorite for Best Actor, but it took several attempts to win the Oscar.
4. Harris’s work as a prosecutor had _____ her against the abuse of politics.
5. Every neighborhood has one _____ who views everyone with suspicion.
6. A truly _____ baseball manager knows when to make a change and when to do nothing.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. eminent | _____ | a. skillful through experience |
| 8. inveterate | _____ | b. highly regarded |
| 9. seasoned | _____ | c. a disagreeable person |
| 10. perennial | _____ | d. hardened through use |
| 11. inured | _____ | e. habitual |
| 12. curmudgeon | _____ | f. continually recurring |

WEEK 9



DAY 2

Age

NEW WORDS

erudite

er - ū - dīt

urbane

ur - bān

revere

rē - vēr

enfeebled

in - fē - bēld

prosaic

prō - zā - ik

sage

sāj

Notable Roots:

rud = rough; urban = city; feeble = weak

THE RISE OF THE ECHO CHAMBER

The advent of the Internet seemed to represent an era of greater truth with the power to disseminate information now at the fingertips of average people. Gone are the days when *erudite* journalists clustered in major cities

shaped the narratives of the news cycle. The air of superiority of such distant and *urbane* sophists, after all, had long alienated many in rural areas. Consequently, the formerly *revered* edifice of mainstream media quickly became *enfeebled* by the proliferation of websites offering news in real time. However, unlike the *prosaic* neutrality of established media outlets, the contributors to these sites view events through one political perspective. The *sage* elders of the past, like Walter Cronkite, have given way to angry and frequently bigoted pundits who spurn impartiality. Lacking access to alternative points of view, twenty-first-century Americans have increasingly gathered into like-minded tribes.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The _____ Voltaire had refined his philosophies in the salons of Paris.
2. Though _____ by old age, Thomas Jefferson helped design the layout of the University of Virginia.
3. Some scholars spend their lives in books, becoming _____ though not wise.
4. A common moral precept is to _____ one's parents.
5. _____ advice is most often heeded by those who ask for it.
6. A consummate adventurer, Theodore Roosevelt could not endure the _____ existence of a quiet retirement.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. erudite | _____ | a. commonplace; ordinary |
| 8. urbane | _____ | b. deeply respect; admire |
| 9. revere | _____ | c. wise |
| 10. enfeebled | _____ | d. learned; well-read |
| 11. prosaic | _____ | e. sophisticated; suave |
| 12. sage | _____ | f. weakened |

WEEK 9



DAY 3

Age

NEW WORDS

venerable

ven - èr - ə - bul

patriarch

pā - trē - ärk

unaffected

un - ə - fek - təd

decrepit

dē - krep - it

trite

trīt

archaic

ärk - ā - ik

Notable Roots:

ven = love, respect; patri = father; arch = ancient

CRAZY UNCLES

The crazy uncle is a *venerable* trope of American comedy. Part *patriarch* and part curmudgeon,* he is a deliberate throwback to bygone days that are imagined to have been simpler and more innocent. His manner of speech

and dress are invariably *unaffected* as he has nothing but contempt for newfangled ways. He reserves particular scorn for urbane,* well-educated, and politically correct younger men who serve as both his foil and nemesis. The pairing of a *decrepit* crazy uncle with a condescending idealist has often made for pure comedy gold. The sparring between Archie Bunker and his liberal son-in-law “Meathead” is perhaps the most famous example. Of course, the dark side of *trite* situation comedy is that the crazy uncle, by virtue of his craziness, has the fool’s ability to openly speak his mind without fear or shame. The Archie Bunkers of this world, both real and imagined, revel in this indulgence, spouting off *archaic*, often bigoted opinions. The costars roll their eyes, the audience laughs, and racism is quietly perpetuated.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Through a child’s eyes, I did not see how Grandpa’s charming cabin was actually rather _____ from years of neglect.
2. Great politicians seem folksy in an _____ way, a skill few can master.
3. A _____ movie is one where the entire plot is discernible from the trailer.
4. Vito, the _____ of the Corleone family, commands both fear and admiration.
5. There’s a huge difference between adherence to the text of the Constitution and a slavish devotion to centuries-old and frequently_____ common law.
6. The athletic director, recognizing the fans’ devotion to the _____ old coach, kept him on long past the point when he could be truly effective.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. venerable | _____ | a. natural; authentic |
| 8. patriarch | _____ | b. overly done; unoriginal |
| 9. unaffected | _____ | c. respected and admired |
| 10. decrepit | _____ | d. ancient; old-fashioned |
| 11. trite | _____ | e. broken-down; decayed |
| 12. archaic | _____ | f. male elder |

WEEK 9



DAY 4

Age

NEW WORDS

doddering

dod - èr - ing

pedestrian (adj.)

ped - es - trē - en

immutable

im - mūt - ə - bul

stagnant

stag - nent

recondite

rek - un - dīt

passé

pas - à

Notable Roots:

ped = foot; mut = change; stag = stand

THE BAD OLD DAYS

There's nothing new about curmudgeons* bemoaning the loss of public virtue. Whether a *doddering* bigot or a kindly grandmother, it's natural for the elderly to miss the period of their lives when their bodies were strong,

beautiful, and blessedly free of infirmity. Such a *pedestrian* explanation does not fully explain human nostalgia, however. Our minds have a way of editing memory so that our fleeting successes become *immutable* triumphs. Meanwhile, the *stagnant* swaths of time that make up much of everyday life are forgotten because they are simply not memorable, and our failures are little more than *recondite* footnotes because remembering them causes pain. The same distortion occurs when we recall the world in which we grew up. While the music and fashion of the 1950s may be *passé*, that decade is often recalled as an American golden age. What is often forgotten, however, is that while America may have been a superpower, it could not halt the spread of Communism. Fear of nuclear war saw American schoolchildren hiding under their desks and their parents building bomb shelters. Thousands of intellectuals, suspected of communist sympathies, saw their careers cut short. Meanwhile, horrors like the mass murder of the Clutter family (memorialized by Capote's *In Cold Blood*) made for lurid* front-page news.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Bill Belichick's knowledge of _____ football rules has enabled his team to play the game in novel ways.
2. Eliminating sources of _____ water helps prevent the spread of mosquitoes.
3. His _____ manner did not save the former Nazi from trial for his crimes.
4. Nothing is more damaging to a social media company than becoming _____.
5. For the paparazzi, no celebrity errand is too _____ to not merit a photograph.
6. While they may appear to be _____, the stars do eventually fade out or explode.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. doddering | _____ | a. unchanging |
| 8. pedestrian | _____ | b. out of date |
| 9. immutable | _____ | c. sluggish; at a standstill |
| 10. stagnant | _____ | d. obscure; not well known |
| 11. recondite | _____ | e. mundane; commonplace |
| 12. passé | _____ | f. unsteady; feeble |

WEEK 9



DAY 5

Age

GROUP REVIEW

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. eminent
- _____ 2. inveterate
- _____ 3. seasoned
- _____ 4. perennial
- _____ 5. inured
- _____ 6. curmudgeon
- _____ 7. erudite
- _____ 8. urbane
- _____ 9. revere
- _____ 10. enfeebled
- _____ 11. prosaic
- _____ 12. sage
- _____ 13. venerable
- _____ 14. patriarch
- _____ 15. unaffected
- _____ 16. decrepit
- _____ 17. trite
- _____ 18. archaic

DEFINITIONS

- a. sluggish; at a standstill
- b. obscure; not well known
- c. wise
- d. highly regarded
- e. ancient; old-fashioned
- f. male elder
- g. commonplace, ordinary
- h. unchanging
- i. recurring
- j. sophisticated; suave
- k. habitual
- l. mundane; commonplace
- m. skillful through experience
- n. overly done; unoriginal
- o. learned; well-read
- p. unsteady; feeble
- q. weakened
- r. natural; authentic

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ | 19. doddering | s. hardened through use |
| _____ | 20. pedestrian | t. respected and admired |
| _____ | 21. immutable | u. a disagreeable person |
| _____ | 22. stagnant | v. broken-down; decayed |
| _____ | 23. recondite | w. deeply respect; admire |
| _____ | 24. passé | x. out of date |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

2nd Day

The Twentieth Century's Deadliest Disease

Most years influenza is a _____ nuisance, causing widespread illness and loss of productivity but something we are used to. Despite this perception, influenza has been and remains a serious disease, killing 24,000–50,000 people in the United States alone. Victims are typically the very old, the very young, or the immunocompromised. Pandemics occur every 30–50 years when a new strain of the disease jumps from animals (usually pigs or birds) into the human population. During such years, the death toll is higher, but experience has still _____ us against panic.

The worst influenza outbreak on record occurred in 1918 during the last year of World War I. It is believed to have originated within an army camp in Kansas and circled throughout the world, aided by the movement of soldiers. Strict press censorship, however, kept the epidemic out of the newspapers until it flared up in neutral Spain. For this reason, the 1918 flu has come to be known to history as the Spanish flu.

The Spanish flu was unusually virulent compared with the strains we endure on a _____ basis. Rather than striking in a single wave, it struck in four successive waves that circled the globe from 1918 to 1919. The second wave, which commenced just as flu season is traditionally winding down, was by far the worst. Estimates are that 30–60 million people died worldwide as a result, including 650,000 Americans.

One clue as to why this particular flu was so deadly can be seen in the pattern of mortality. The Spanish flu killed the old, the young, and the _____, as would be expected. However, some of the most severe cases occurred among adults between 20 and 40 years of age. Death rates among this population were some of the highest. It is believed that in the strong and healthy, the virus triggered an overreaction of the immune system that had never encountered a similar germ before. Those who were more _____, but not actually in ill health, tended to fare better.

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. Cornelius Vanderbilt, the family (*patriarch, curmudgeon*), made a fortune in land speculation.
2. A (*seasoned, decrepit*) quarterback runs less in order to preserve his health.
3. An orator who flaunts knowledge might seem (*trite, erudite*) but comes across as tiresome.
4. While Prohibition was repealed, the amendments that make up the Bill of Rights are regarded as (*stagnant, immutable*).
5. The Red Sox championship drought was actually exacerbated by their status as (*perennial, prosaic*) contenders for the pennant.
6. Lord Henry's (*doddering, urbane*) manner rubs off on the impressionable Dorian Gray.
7. Sincere words of comfort are better than (*trite, sage*) aphorisms every time.
8. Nixon gradually morphed from a pariah to a (*venerable, pedestrian*) elder statesman.
9. The rules of papal conclave are as mysterious as they are (*eminent, archaic*).
10. By the end of his presidency, FDR had become (*passé, enfeebled*) and emaciated.

WEEK 10



DAY 1

Horror

NEW WORDS

insidious

in - sid - ē - us

heinous

hā - nus

pernicious

per - nish - us

repugnant

re - pug - nənt

recoil

ri - kōil

grotesque

grō - tesk

Notable Roots:

sid/sed = sit;

hein/hain = hate;

nic/nec = kill;

pug = fight

JERRY HART'S SIXTH SENSE

An *insidious* feeling had made Jerry Hart miserable all day long. It was difficult to explain, but the similar sensations in the past had been accurate—something *heinous* was about to occur. Just as some people can predict the onset of inclement weather because of a *pernicious* aching in their bones, so could Jerry detect incipient* disaster. He sat at his desk, trying to peruse a company report, but his efforts were ineffectual. The *repugnant* gnawing at his insides, the tinge of uneasiness, the premonition of calamity that besieged* him would not desist. When the phone rang, he *recoiled* with fear—it was his wife and she was hysterical. Something *grotesque* had happened: their son had been bitten by a mad dog!

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Although Belle initially _____ from the Beast, she comes to recognize his kind nature.
2. Comments sections are often rife with _____ statements.
3. Picasso's portraits are often _____ and breathtaking at the same time.
4. Many believe the death penalty is warranted for the most _____ criminals.
5. Iago's words over the first few acts have an _____ effect on Othello's psyche.
6. Slavery had a _____ influence on the growth of the fledgling* United States.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. insidious | _____ | a. to pull back; to flinch |
| 8. heinous | _____ | b. secretly causing harm |
| 9. pernicious | _____ | c. ugly, sometimes in an amusing way |
| 10. repugnant | _____ | d. distasteful |
| 11. recoil | _____ | e. having a slow, destructive effect |
| 12. grotesque | _____ | f. extremely wicked |

WEEK 10



DAY 2

Horror

NEW WORDS

appalled

ə - pawld

aversion

ə - ver - zhun

mortified

mör - tif - īd

abhorrent

ab - hör - int

malevolent

mə - lev - ə - lent

trepidation

trep - i - dā - shun

Notable Roots:

pal = pale, shroud;

vers = turn; mort = death; hor = horror; mal = bad

CRISIS!

Jerry Hart got the pertinent facts from his wife; *appalled*, he dashed out of the office on his way home. Normally a polite, unassuming man with a deep

aversion to rudeness of any kind, he jostled people in the hallway, implored the elevator operator to hurry, and with flagrant disregard for a *mortified* elderly gentleman, jumped into the cab he had hailed. The 20-minute taxi ride seemed interminable, and all the while *abhorrent* thoughts occurred to Jerry. Visions of a *malevolent* hound with foaming jaws obsessed him. A crowd of people had gathered in front of his house so that in a state of utmost *trepidation*, Jerry had to force his way through them. Little Bobby was on his bed, surrounded by a doctor, a police officer, Jerry's doleful wife, his two daughters, and a half-dozen wan neighbors.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The _____ speech drew widespread condemnation.
2. A sly smile hid the general's _____ nature.
3. Jeanie's mother was _____ at having to pick her up at the police station.
4. The delegates were _____ by the king's proclamation of rebellion.
5. All _____ vanished once the race began.
6. My _____ to cheesecake often raises eyebrows at parties.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. appalled | _____ | a. outraged; deeply embarrassed |
| 8. aversion | _____ | b. evil |
| 9. mortified | _____ | c. fearful anticipation |
| 10. abhorrent | _____ | d. shocked |
| 11. malevolent | _____ | e. deep dislike |
| 12. trepidation | _____ | f. disgusting; hateful |

WEEK 10



DAY 3

Horror

NEW WORDS

unctuous

ûŋk - chū - əs

antipathy

an - tip - ə - thē

odious

ō - dē - əs

repulse

rē - puls

anathema

ən - eth - ə - mə

acrimonious

ac - rə - mōn - ē - əs

Notable Roots:

unct = oily; path = feeling; pul/pel = push; acri = bitter

A TIME FOR DECISION

The doctor explained the situation calmly but avoiding any *unctuous* attempt to sound overly optimistic. They didn't know whether the dog had rabies but had been unable to find him so far. The doctor had a strong

antipathy for taking unnecessary risks and advised that Bobby undergo the admittedly *odious* vaccination daily for two weeks. Mrs. Hart concurred; she said that a neighbor who had seen the dog had been *repulsed* by its appearance. She claimed that it had been foaming at the mouth, barking, and growling constantly. But the policeman interjected that there hadn't been a case of a mad dog in the county in over 20 years and advocated that they do nothing for at least another day. Dramatic action was *anathema* to Jerry Hart's even-keeled nature, and he was inclined to agree. It was far from an *acrimonious* discussion, but given the stakes Mr. and Mrs. Hart had to think about their next step.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The _____ manner of the sports agent repelled prospective clients.
2. When compromise becomes politically _____ to the electorate, gridlock results.
3. Debate in Congress was never more _____ than in the days prior to Civil War.
4. The _____ Hitler and Stalin felt for one another made their pact shocking.
5. The Minute Men _____ numerous Redcoat attacks at the Battle of Bunker Hill.
6. Laying off workers is the most _____ task of a manager.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. unctuous | _____ | a. very unpleasant |
| 8. antipathy | _____ | b. bitter |
| 9. odious | _____ | c. something one bitterly opposes |
| 10. repulse | _____ | d. flattering in an off-putting way |
| 11. anathema | _____ | e. to repel |
| 12. acrimonious | _____ | f. hatred |

WEEK 10



DAY 4

Horror

NEW WORDS

loathe
lōTH

revile
rē - vīl

loath
lōth

internecine
in - ter - nes - ēn

antithesis
an - tith - ə - sis

noisome
nōi - sūm

Notable Roots:

vile = repulsive;
inter = between;
nec = kill; thesis = idea

THE PERTINENT FACTS ABOUT RABIES

“Give me some of the basic information about the disease, Doc,” said Jerry, glancing toward the figure of his son. The doctor, who *loathed* this part of his job, took a breath: “Well, it was once one of the most *reviled* of all diseases. It was called ‘hydrophobia,’ meaning fear of water, because one of the symptoms is an inability to swallow liquids. It is caused when the virus from the saliva of an infected animal gets into a bite wound. The virus travels along the nerves to the spine and brain.” “What are the symptoms?” asked Mrs. Hart. “Pain, numbness, difficulty swallowing, headaches, muscle spasms, and convulsions.” “And what is the treatment for rabies?” Jerry asked. “Two shots in the abdomen every day for two weeks.” Mrs. Hart, like any mother, was *loath* to subject her son to such gruesome regiment. Sensing her *internecine* emotions, the doctor added, “While it is the *antithesis* of the bedside manner I prefer, I feel it my duty to say that once symptoms appear, death is almost inevitable. Before vaccination, people who contracted rabies were chained up before going mad and left to die a *noisome*, agonizing death.” “I think we should go ahead with the injections,” the distraught Mrs. Hart said. “I’ve heard enough.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. _____ to admit defeat, the Cougars fought on though effectively beaten.
2. After Carthage fell, only _____ class struggle weakened Ancient Rome.
3. The ointment, while _____, does help greatly with rashes.
4. Aaron Burr, who rarely discussed political theory, was the _____ of the other Founding Fathers.
5. Because Tybalt _____ him, Romeo had little chance to avoid a fight.
6. The fan who interfered with the team’s win was so _____ that he moved away within a year.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. loathe | _____ | a. destructive internal struggle |
| 8. revile | _____ | b. harmful; foul smelling |
| 9. loath | _____ | c. to despise |
| 10. internecine | _____ | d. reluctant |

11. antithesis _____

e. to repudiate; to insult

12. noisome _____

f. opposite belief

WEEK 10



DAY 5

Horror

GROUP REVIEW

At the end of this week's study, you will have covered 240 words. In addition, you will have seen many of those words used in subsequent lessons. If you have been operating at only 75% efficiency, you have, nevertheless, added substantially to your arsenal of words.

Here's a thought: wouldn't it be wonderful if through genuine attention to the daily dosage you could move up to 80%—or even 90%? Start by matching the 24 words with their meanings.

Matching

Directions: Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space. Did somebody say 100%?

REVIEW WORDS

1. abhorrent
2. acrimonious
3. anathema
4. antipathy
5. antithesis
6. appalled
7. aversion
8. grotesque
9. heinous

DEFINITIONS

- a. very unpleasant
- b. opposite belief
- c. deep dislike
- d. bitter
- e. harmful; foul smelling
- f. fearful anticipation
- g. to repel
- h. destructive internal struggle
- i. evil

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ | 10. insidious | j. to despise |
| _____ | 11. internecine | k. hatred |
| _____ | 12. loath | l. something one bitterly opposes |
| _____ | 13. loathe | m. secretly causing harm |
| _____ | 14. malevolent | n. to repudiate |
| _____ | 15. mortified | o. ugly, sometimes in an amusing way |
| _____ | 16. noisome | p. reluctant |
| _____ | 17. odious | q. having a slow, destructive effect |
| _____ | 18. pernicious | r. distasteful |
| _____ | 19. recoil | s. extremely wicked |
| _____ | 20. repugnant | t. shocked |
| _____ | 21. repulse | u. to pull back; to flinch |
| _____ | 22. revile | v. disgusting; hateful |
| _____ | 23. trepidation | w. outraged; deeply embarrassed |
| _____ | 24. unctuous | x. flattering in an off-putting way |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

The Potato That Strangled Idaho

People who are _____ at the sight of blood or _____ in horror from most forms of violence would do well to avoid some of the movies now being shown at their local cinemas.

Producers have learned that films that scare the patrons out of their seats, ironically, put millions of fans into those seats, keeping them shivering in _____ at the terrifying spectacles that flash across the screen.

Of course, each movie carries with it a rating that indicates its suitability for certain age groups, either because of its subject matter, language, presentation, or level of violence. Pictures with a “G” rating are approved for all audiences, while, at the other end of the scale, those that are given an “NC-17” rating are for adults only with no children allowed under any circumstance. Getting an “R” rating indicates that the movie is restricted (no one under 18 can be admitted without an adult), but some Hollywood moguls consider the “R” to be the magnet that ensures box office success. And we can be sure that as long as shock films ring up a merry tune on the cash registers, producers will show no _____ to making them.

A director who specializes in making gory films involving monsters, vampires, and brutal serial killers boasted in a college lecture that his work was in good taste. One student who disagreed was provoked and retorted that, in his opinion, the diet of “shock-schlock” movies was the very _____ of good taste, worse even than pictures that contained vulgar language and nudity. “At least they’re honest,” he declared.

First and 10

Directions: Match each word with the group from weeks 1–10 to which it belongs. There are two words for each group.

GROUP

1. Dishonesty _____
2. Failure _____
3. Wealth _____
4. Success _____
5. Youth _____
6. Age _____
7. Wisdom _____
8. Folly _____
9. Poverty _____
10. Horror _____

REVIEW WORDS

- a. indigent
- b. artifice
- c. impish
- d. ingenuous
- e. plaudits
- f. capitulate
- g. surfeit
- h. odious
- i. subterfuge
- j. urbane
- k. dilatory
- l. bereft
- m. nadir
- n. loathe
- o. cupidity
- p. probity
- q. inured
- r. astute
- s. mawkish
- t. sanguine

WEEK 11



DAY 1

Drama

NEW WORDS

enthralling
in - thräl - ing

vivid
viv - id

embellish
əm - bel - ish

hyperbole
hī - pèr - bō - lē

florid
flôr - id

adorn
ə - dôrn

Notable Roots:

thrall = slave; viv = life; hyper = to a great deal; flor = flower

THE SEARCH FOR THE DOG (CONTINUED)

Meanwhile, the Harts had notified the local radio stations to broadcast an appeal for the dog's owner to come forward. The general public was *enthralled*, and the station was soon inundated with phone calls, but all

leads were fruitless.* The only eyewitness to the event was Bobby. Naturally, the attack made a *vivid* impression. More from fear than any desire to *embellish*, the boy's story veered into *hyperbole*. In the most *florid* language a six-year-old can muster, he described a gray beast that was taller than him with foam dripping from razor-sharp fangs. All the police could glean from this was that the dog was gray and *adorned* with a metal collar. Despite the lack of tangible evidence, however, the police remained sanguine.*

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The use of _____ for emphasis is one of the most common rhetorical strategies of persuasion.
2. Every street in Munich was _____ with garlands of hops for Oktoberfest.
3. The secret of Van Gogh's _____ paintings was the great master's use of complementary colors in pairs.
4. Marc Antony's _____ funeral oration turned the masses against Caesar's assassins.
5. Lawyers and judges do not take kindly to witnesses who _____ their stories.
6. Hemingway's prose is famously lacking in _____ description.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. enthralling | _____ | a. to decorate |
| 8. vivid | _____ | b. to add detail; to exaggerate |
| 9. embellish | _____ | c. complex and full of detail |
| 10. hyperbole | _____ | d. fascinating; demanding attention |
| 11. florid | _____ | e. lifelike; vibrant |
| 12. adorn | _____ | f. extreme statements, not meant literally |

WEEK 11



DAY 2

Drama

NEW WORDS

archetype

ärk - ə - tīp

pall

päl

histrionic

his - trē - on - ik

panopoly

pan - ə - plē

excruciating

eks - krūsh - ē - āt - ing

deliverance

də - liv - ēr - əns

Notable Roots:

arch = structure; pan = all; cruc = pain

NO RELIEF

The normally phlegmatic Jerry Hart had become the *archetype* of the grieving father. Twenty-four hours had passed under the *pall* of a horrific disease. This would be enough to drive most parents to *histrionics*, but Jerry

was determined to see his son receive the vaccine. At the suggestion of some friends, he organized a *panoply* of friends and neighbors to fan out around the supermarket. They knocked on every door, inspected every dog, and came back empty-handed. Although the Harts were sick with worry (they had to be coerced into going to sleep), little Bobby seemed to be in great spirits. The *excruciating* vigil continued without *deliverance*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. It's amazing how _____ a hangnail can be.
2. The _____ of warships at Queen Victoria's royal review in 1897 was stunning.
3. Lear's Fool has become the _____ of the character who can say truth to power.
4. Though the forest fires were far away, a _____ of smoke hung over town.
5. The _____ behavior of a demagogue's acolytes should not be mistaken for popular support.
6. The paratroopers asserted that they didn't need _____ by ground forces.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. archetype | _____ | a. overly dramatic |
| 8. pall | _____ | b. an impressive assembly |
| 9. histrionic | _____ | c. causing great pain |
| 10. panoply | _____ | d. a dark cloud |
| 11. excruciating | _____ | e. relief |
| 12. deliverance | _____ | f. a stereotypical example |

WEEK 11



DAY 3

Drama

NEW WORDS

climactic

clī - mak - tik

rhetoric

ret - ör - ik

flamboyant

flam - bōi - ənt

entrancing

in - trans - ing

pageantry

paj - en - trē

grandiloquent

gran - dil - ō - kwint

Notable Roots:

rhetor = speaker;

flam = flame, shine; grand = great;

loq = speech

THE POLICE FIND THE DOG

Forty hours of police work and the publicity brought the Hart's tragedy to a *climactic* end. Their *rhetoric* had garnered widespread response. By meticulously checking the registrations of every red station wagon in the neighborhood and then cross-checking dog licenses, the police narrowed the search to four owners. After a few calls, the owner was located. She brought her muzzled German shepherd to the Hart domicile. With a *flamboyant* squeal, Bobby identified the dog, and the animal was taken to a veterinarian to have the necessary tests performed. The owner, Mrs. McGraw, at first defended her dog's behavior. *Entranced*, she listened as the police warned her of the severity of the incident. Without further *pageantry*, she admitted that the dog had a sporadic mean streak. In *grandiloquent* terms, she scoffed at the idea of rabies. Jerry Hart noticed for the first time in two days that his uneasy feeling had departed.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The passion of some fascists can have an _____ effect on angry citizens.
2. Career criminals tend to avoid _____ displays of wealth.
3. Pickett's Charge was the _____ moment of the Battle of Gettysburg.
4. The guest speaker's _____ introduction actually embarrassed her.
5. The _____ of a royal wedding is a breathtaking spectacle.
6. Whether the new president's actions will match his _____ remains to be seen.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. climactic | _____ | a. elaborate manner of speaking |
| 8. rhetoric | _____ | b. ostentatious display |
| 9. flamboyant | _____ | c. mesmerizing |
| 10. entrancing | _____ | d. final; conclusive |
| 11. pageantry | _____ | e. showy |
| 12. grandiloquent | _____ | f. speech |

WEEK 11



DAY 4

Drama

NEW WORDS

resolution

rez - ō - lūsh - ən

salient

sāl - ē - int

sanctimonious

sank - tə - mōn - ē - əs

extenuating

eks - ten - ū - āt - ing

rousing

rou - zing

denouement

dā - nū - mən

Notable Roots:

solu = solve; sanct = sacred; mon = warning; ten = stretch

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

The Harts were greatly relieved by the *resolution* to this crisis, learning that the conjecture about the dog was not true. Because of the *salient* fact that the German shepherd was not rabid, the necessity for the painful treatment

was obviated. The police gave the dog's owner a summons for allowing the animal to go unmuzzled. Her *sanctimonious* attitude certainly did not endear her to the authorities, but her eventual cooperation proved to be an *extenuating* circumstance that ensured her penalty was not worse. Little Bobby was treated to a *rousing* compensation for his ordeal: an ice cream sundae and a movie. Following the happy *denouement*, the neighbors searched for other lurid* happenings, and Jerry Hart went back to his office. "What kind of dog was that?" his secretary asked. "Oh, his bark was worse than his bite," quipped Jerry.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After his _____ keynote speech in 2004, Barack Obama's stature increased.
2. The detectives found few _____ clues at the crime scene.
3. The _____ of the international crisis by arbitration was a win for peace.
4. The judge determined that no _____ facts can excuse murder.
5. Pundits that adopt a _____ manner often attract more viewers.
6. Authors often include an epilogue to their novels to provide a satisfactory _____ for their characters.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. resolution | _____ | a. offsetting; excusing |
| 8. salient | _____ | b. final settlement |
| 9. sanctimonious | _____ | c. acting morally superior |
| 10. extenuating | _____ | d. obvious |
| 11. rousing | _____ | e. inspiring |
| 12. denouement | _____ | f. completion |

WEEK 11



DAY 5

Drama

GROUP REVIEW

Many teachers have jested about their students who confused *rabies* with *rabbis*, Jewish clergymen. We know that those who get the message of this book, true vocabulary mastery, will make few such errors.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. adorn
- _____ 2. archetype
- _____ 3. climactic
- _____ 4. deliverance
- _____ 5. denouement
- _____ 6. embellish
- _____ 7. entralling
- _____ 8. entrancing
- _____ 9. excruciating
- _____ 10. extenuating
- _____ 11. flamboyant
- _____ 12. florid
- _____ 13. grandiloquent
- _____ 14. histrionic

DEFINITIONS

- a. extreme statements, not meant literally
- b. offsetting; excusing
- c. completion
- d. speech
- e. causing great pain
- f. obvious
- g. elaborate manner of speaking
- h. a stereotypical example
- i. complex and full of detail
- j. inspiring
- k. to decorate
- l. acting morally superior
- m. fascinating; demanding attention
- n. lifelike; vibrant

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. hyperbole | o. mesmerizing |
| _____ | 16. pageantry | p. a dark cloud |
| _____ | 17. pall | q. ostentatious display |
| _____ | 18. panoply | r. an impressive assembly |
| _____ | 19. resolution | s. showy |
| _____ | 20. rhetoric | t. to add detail; to exaggerate |
| _____ | 21. rousing | u. final settlement |
| _____ | 22. salient | v. relief |
| _____ | 23. sanctimonious | w. final; conclusive |
| _____ | 24. vivid | x. overly dramatic |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

Sophomoric Scribes

At some point in their education, all young writers go through a period when they first learn to use challenging language but have not yet learned restraint and good taste. The poetry of teen and young adult writers is often filled with _____ descriptions and melodramatic musings about life and love. Essays on the indignities of everyday life become _____ diatribes about the unfairness of it all. More reasoned arguments are rife with _____, the extreme nature of which often undercuts the point being made.

The _____ nature of youthful prose should be no discouragement from self-expression, however. Like a budding chef, a young writer must experiment with verbal spices and sauces to learn what combinations pair well and best represent their creativity. Above all, the hallmark of mature writing is the sparse use of compelling language to have an _____ effect when flaunting the occasional verbal gem.

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. A (*panoply, pageantry*) of limousines made up the president's motorcade.
2. A second-degree burn tends to cause one (*extenuating, excruciating*) pain.
3. Delirious with fever, the traveler saw (*vivid, florid*) hallucinations.
4. Contempt for one's spouse is the most (*climactic, salient*) sign of a doomed marriage.
5. The prize-winning photo captured the hostages' elation at their (*deliverance, resolution*).
6. The general's (*histrionic, rousing*) rant did little to inspire his men.
7. The performer's use of (*flamboyant, sanctimonious*) costumes increased her fame.
8. The Treaty of Westphalia proved a durable (*pall, denouement*) to the Thirty Years' War.
9. The crown is (*adorned, embellished*) with over 500 precious gemstones.
10. Walter Cronkite remains the (*rhetoric, archetype*) of the honest reporter.

Exploring Roots

Directions: Remember that word roots provide you with a second key to remembering vocabulary. This knowledge also helps pick the lock of new words that share the same roots as those you know.

Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word with the same root.

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|---|
| _____ | 1. sacred | a. There's more to <i>patriotism</i> than flag-waving. |
| _____ | 2. speech | b. <i>Philosophy</i> is a demanding and precise art. |
| _____ | 3. slave | c. The <i>ingenuity</i> of his design earned the inventor notice. |
| _____ | 4. father | d. Celebrities are much too <i>aggrandized</i> these days. |

- _____ **5.** wise
- _____ **6.** create
- _____ **7.** great
- _____ **8.** turn
- e.** The tribunes of the Roman Senate were considered *sacrosanct* and immune from violence.
- f.** A photovoltaic cell *converts* sunlight into electricity.
- g.** Too much coffee makes me *loquacious*!
- h.** Involuntary *servitude* is only legal as punishment.

WEEK 12



DAY 1

Skilled

NEW WORDS

aptitude

apt - ə - tūd

savvy

sav - ē

utilitarian

ū - til - ə - ter - ē - ən

apt

apt

versatile

vér - sə - təl

chimerical

chī - mer - ik - əl

Notable Roots:

apt = fitted; sav = wise; util = use, tool;

vers = turn

OFF BROADWAY

When Monte Ziltch told his boss, Mr. Foy, that, despite his *aptitude* for the work, he was quitting as an accountant to become an actor, the man was

convulsed with laughter. After Mr. Foy realized that Monte was serious, the normally *savvy* manager launched into a diatribe on the importance of responsibility in the younger generation. Monte confessed that he had chosen his profession for its *utilitarian* reputation and that he had been developing ulcers as an accountant. *Aptly* enough, an opportunity to get into show business had arisen, requiring Monte to make an immediate decision. Monte said he considered himself a *versatile* individual and had always harbored a secret ambition to try his hand in the performing arts. Mr. Foy stormed out of the office, muttering incoherently about the *chimerical* nature of millennials.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. _____ investors see economic downturns as an opportunity to buy.
2. Children are known for _____ observations that adults are too polite to make.
3. The _____ musician Trent Reznor plays several different instruments.
4. Joel is talented but possesses a _____ nature, refusing to commit to any vocation.
5. Ana found that her _____ with multiple languages was one of her greatest assets.
6. _____ but dependable cars like the Civic and Outback have loyal followings.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. aptitude | _____ | a. idealistic; flaky |
| 8. savvy | _____ | b. flexible; multitalented |
| 9. utilitarian | _____ | c. useful |
| 10. apt | _____ | d. shrewd; wise |
| 11. versatile | _____ | e. ability |
| 12. chimerical | _____ | f. appropriate; well chosen |

WEEK 12



DAY 2

Skilled

NEW WORDS

impresario

im - pres - är - ē - ó

obliging

ō - blī - jing

agile

aj - əl

adept

ə - dept

acumen

ak - yū - mən

proficient

prō - fish - ənt

Notable Roots:

oblig = commitment; dept = attain; ac = sharp; fic = make/do

AN ALL-AROUND MAN

The need for a decision came about when a local theater *impresario* invited an *obliging* Monte to join his prestigious summer stock company. His position as “apprentice” would require him to be *agile*. He would have to

take tickets; paint scenery; prepare placards; assist with lighting, costumes, and props; and carry an occasional spear in a walk-on role. Since the company would stage five major plays during the summer, there was a chance that if Monte proved *adept* in the execution of his duties, he might actually get a part before too many weeks had elapsed. In addition, he would increase his acting *acumen* by attending the drama classes that were an integral part of the summer theater. The remuneration* would be nominal, but at last Monte Ziltch would be able fulfill his life-long ambition to become a *proficient* actor.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Despite great speed, an Olympic sprinter is often less _____ than a soccer player.
2. An _____ prosecutor, Kamala Harris was well prepared for her debates.
3. Celebrities who are _____ toward fans are often the most popular.
4. P. T. Barnum came to define the modern circus _____.
5. My father's culinary _____ always surprised my friends.
6. Most switch hitters are more _____ from one side of the plate.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. impresario | _____ | a. able to move or adapt easily |
| 8. obliging | _____ | b. ability; knowledge |
| 9. agile | _____ | c. accomplished |
| 10. adept | _____ | d. helpful; kind |
| 11. acumen | _____ | e. organizer of entertainment |
| 12. proficient | _____ | f. skillful |

WEEK 12



DAY 3

Skilled

NEW WORDS

precocious

prē - kōsh - əs

lithe

līTH

dexterity

deks - ter - i - tē

emulate

em - ū - lāt

aficionado

ə - fish - ə - nod - ə

apposite

ap - pō - sit

Notable Roots:

cog = aware; pre = before; dext = skillful; ap = fitting

FROM LEDGERS TO SCRIPTS

During the first weeks of the summer, Monte Ziltch didn't have time to wonder if he had made a mistake typical of *precocious* youth. He had become a *lithe* stagehand, performing a thousand and one odd jobs around

the theater. First there was the opening production of *A Chorus Line*, then two weeks of *The Fantasticks*, followed by *The Diary of Anne Frank*, which did excellent business. All through those weeks, Monte painted, carried, nailed, collected, and ran with *dexterity*. He observed his fellow players, *emulating* their techniques. He had expunged all traces of debits and credits from his mind and had become an *aficionado* of the theater. His impromptu career change was proving an *apposite* adjustment to his circumstances.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Touch typing with speed and _____ is a function of practice.
2. The _____ physique of the lead dancer belied her strength.
3. An _____ is more than expert: such a person shows true passion for a pursuit.
4. One habit of those who become successful is to _____ those who have made it.
5. Be it a war or moon landing, Cronkite's words were _____ to every occasion.
6. Veteran teachers often struggle with their most _____ students.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. precocious | _____ | a. skillfulness |
| 8. lithe | _____ | b. advanced for one's age |
| 9. dexterity | _____ | c. appropriate to a situation |
| 10. emulate | _____ | d. flexible; graceful |
| 11. aficionado | _____ | e. to copy; to surpass |
| 12. apposite | _____ | f. an enthusiastic fan or expert |

WEEK 12



DAY 4

Skilled

NEW WORDS

protean
prō - tē - ən

aplomb
ə - pləm

maverick
mav - ēr - ik

adroit
ə - drōit

connoisseur
con - ə - sur

arbiter
är - bit - ər

Notable Roots:

plum = balance;

droit = right; arbit = judge, witness

IRONY FOR MERRYWEATHER

Monte found himself a more *protean* individual than he ever expected and so, when at last, his chance to perform came, he handled it with *aplomb*. He

had played the timorous Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. Now there was an open audition to cast the final show of the season. It was to be a postmodern comedy written by a *maverick* playwright and given a summer tryout prior to a Broadway opening. Monte, who by now had adopted the stage name of Monte Merryweather, read for the producers, hoping to get the part of the hero's fractious landlord. Though he *adroably* delivered his performance, the competition was too tough—but the director, a *connoisseur* of budding talent, assigned Monte to a less ostentatious part. It seems that fate, the *arbiter* of all outcomes, has a sense of humor and so for the first two weeks in September, the stage-struck accountant had a two-minute, two-line part. What was his role? The hero's accountant!

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Paul Ryan possessed remarkable _____ for such a young speaker.
2. Metternich was the most _____ diplomat of the early nineteenth century.
3. A wine _____ knows the best brands and vintages for every occasion.
4. Scott Weiland was known as much for his _____ appearance as his vocal skill.
5. Scientific _____ trust their data more than time-honored theories.
6. A Supreme Court justice is an _____ of the Constitution's "true" meaning.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. protean | _____ | a. judge; decision maker |
| 8. aplomb | _____ | b. graceful |
| 9. maverick | _____ | c. changeable |
| 10. adroit | _____ | d. independent person |
| 11. connoisseur | _____ | e. grace; poise |
| 12. arbiter | _____ | f. expert |

WEEK 12



DAY 5

Skilled

GROUP REVIEW

How many of the new words have now become a part of your working vocabulary? At first, their use may be conscious, even studied. However, the squeaks will soon disappear. Try a few this weekend.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. acumen
- _____ 2. adept
- _____ 3. adroit
- _____ 4. aficionado
- _____ 5. agile
- _____ 6. aplomb
- _____ 7. apposite
- _____ 8. apt
- _____ 9. aptitude
- _____ 10. arbiter
- _____ 11. chimerical
- _____ 12. connoisseur
- _____ 13. dexterity
- _____ 14. emulate

DEFINITIONS

- a. independent person
- b. advanced for one's age
- c. judge; decision maker
- d. organizer of entertainment
- e. flexible; multitalented
- f. expert
- g. skillfulness
- h. idealistic; flaky
- i. appropriate to a situation
- j. shrewd; wise
- k. to copy; to surpass
- l. able to move or adapt easily
- m. accomplished
- n. skillful

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|
| _____ | 15. impresario | o. graceful |
| _____ | 16. lithe | p. grace; poise |
| _____ | 17. maverick | q. ability; knowledge |
| _____ | 18. obliging | r. changeable |
| _____ | 19. precocious | s. appropriate; well chosen |
| _____ | 20. proficient | t. helpful; kind |
| _____ | 21. protean | u. ability |
| _____ | 22. savvy | v. flexible; graceful |
| _____ | 23. utilitarian | w. useful |
| _____ | 24. versatile | x. an enthusiastic fan or expert |

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. A naturally (*savvy, precocious*) child, I tended to repeat facts learned in books.
2. In tennis, tall, big servers tend to lose to more (*apt, lithe*) shot makers.
3. John McCain was famously called a (*maverick, impresario*) for his willingness to vote against his own party.
4. A long-running debate has raged over whether Michelangelo was (*chimerical, utilitarian*) or simply a versatile* artisan with prodigious energy.
5. My brother was promoted to a (*prestigious, flamboyant*) job in his company.
6. Major Andre, knowing he was caught, met his end with (*acumen, aplomb*).
7. AC/DC has proven to be a (*protean, obliging*) musical act, employing an ever-changing lineup over four decades.
8. The most (*agile, versatile*) runner on the team is typically the tailback.
9. A corrupt leader prefers a crony on the bench to an impartial (*arbiter, aficionado*) of law.
10. Barbara, known for her (*adroit, apt*) speaking, was chosen to give the eulogy.
11. The blackjack dealer's (*aptitude, dexterity*) was so great his hands were a blur.

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

The Big Three

Men's tennis was once a wide-open sport where any number of players could attain a higher level of _____ for a fortnight and win a Grand Slam title. Of course, there have been past eras marked by rivalries, such as the 1990s, when the composed and _____ Pete Sampras, known for his booming serve, went head-to-head with the _____ returner, Andre Agassi. In the past, however, other players still had their opportunities.

The early twenty-first century has seen unparalleled dominance by a trio of players. First came the _____ young Swiss, Roger Federer, who won his first Grand Slam at Wimbledon in 2003 at the age of 21. He would win the next four as well as his first five U.S. Open titles. During these years, he held the #1 ranking for a record 237 weeks.

Rafael Nadal grew up on the sun-washed island of Mallorca in Spain. Where Federer was a _____ player known for his intelligent play and vast repertoire of shots, Nadal was blessed with size, speed, and the determination to run down any ball. Nadal won the French Open in 2005, when he was 19. He quickly attained fame for his _____ on clay courts, winning an unprecedented nine French Opens in his first ten appearances. While Nadal amassed a lopsided record against Federer on clay, the Swiss prevailed when the two met on grass and hard courts. That changed in 2008, when, in what many deem the greatest match ever played, Nadal finally outlasted Federer for the Wimbledon crown (in his third attempt).

Something of a _____ in a normally staid sport, Novak Djokovic was known for his hilarious impressions of other players and on-court displays of emotion. Despite his _____

personality, the Serb possessed laser-like ground strokes and a superb backhand. In 2011, Djokovic took over tennis. He won his first 41 matches en route to a 70–6 record, three Grand Slam titles, and the most prize money of any season in history. After that year, the Big Three maintained a stranglehold on the sport. During the 2010s, they collectively won 33 of 40 Grand Slam titles and held the #1 ranking for all but 41 weeks.

WEEK 13



DAY 1

Cause and Effect

NEW WORDS

induce
in - dūs

incite
in - sīt

reactionary
rē - ak - shən - er - ē

tantamount
tant - ə - mount

preclude
prē - klūd

forthwith
fôrth - with

Notable Roots:

duc = lead; cit = move; clude = close off

A VISIT TO THE PRESIDENT

In the winter of 1941, Enrico Fermi and a number of other distinguished scientists lent their voices to an effort to *induce* President Franklin Roosevelt to authorize an all-out effort in atomic energy research. The scientists had been *incited* by incontrovertible evidence of surreptitious German experiments. The Italian-born Fermi was the ideal man to lead the atomic research. Already in 1938, he had won the Nobel Prize for work with radioactive elements and neutron bombardment. Fermi had found a haven from Fascist *reactionaries*, and he knew that if the Germans were the first to develop an atomic bomb, it would be *tantamount* to world dominance for Hitler. Fermi's intent was to *preclude* such a calamity. The international race for atomic supremacy began *forthwith*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Today's loss _____ any chance at a playoff berth.
2. Revolution and reform nearly always spark _____ movements.
3. The Prince declared that Romeo is banished _____.
4. While free speech is protected, _____ a riot is not.
5. Not receiving a response to a job application is _____ to rejection.
6. By 42 weeks of pregnancy, most obstetricians will _____ labor.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. induce | _____ | a. to avoid or make unnecessary |
| 8. incite | _____ | b. equivalent to |
| 9. reactionary | _____ | c. to persuade; to bring about |
| 10. tantamount | _____ | d. immediately |
| 11. preclude | _____ | e. to encourage; to stir up |
| 12. forthwith | _____ | f. opposed to new ideas or reform |

WEEK 13



DAY 2

Cause and Effect

NEW WORDS

eventuate

i - ven - chū - āt

premise

pre - mis

catalyst

cat - ə - list

perpetuate

pér - pech - ū - āt

culmination

cul - min - ā - shən

precursor

prē - ker - ser

Notable Roots:

event = occur; pre = before; miss = message; cata = change; pet = go; cur = run

THE ULTIMATE WEAPON TAKES SHAPE

Enrico Fermi designed a device that could *eventuate* in a fission reaction. It consisted of chunks of uranium that emitted neutrons between layers of graphite that slowed them down. Holes were left for long cadmium safety rods. The basic *premise* of the device was simple: withdrawing the control rods acted as a *catalyst* for the production of neutrons that could split uranium atoms. When the rods were withdrawn to a critical point, then the neutrons would be produced so fast that they could not be absorbed. In that manner, a *self-perpetuating* “chain reaction” would result. In a nuclear weapon, the *culmination* of this process would be a cataclysmic explosion. Fermi’s device could also be the *precursor* of a new power generation system. Slowly, the first atomic pile began to grow in a subterranean room at Columbia University.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The fall of Petersburg proved the _____ of Grant’s eastern campaign.
2. The _____ of a one-ring scam is that the unsuspecting will return missed calls.
3. Diligent preparation often _____ fortuitous outcomes.
4. Abolitionism proved a _____ for an organized women’s suffrage movement.
5. The telegraph was the humble _____ of modern telecommunications.
6. Social media companies must work to stop misinformation from _____ online.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. eventuate | _____ | a. an agent that spurs a change or reaction |
| 8. premise | _____ | b. to keep something going |
| 9. catalyst | _____ | c. a forerunner |
| 10. perpetuate | _____ | d. climax; highest point |
| 11. culmination | _____ | e. to result in |
| 12. precursor | _____ | f. principle upon which an idea is based |

WEEK 13



DAY 3

Cause and Effect

NEW WORDS

consummation

con - sū - mā - shən

foment

fō - ment

contingency

cən - tin - jən - sē

engender

ən - jen - dēr

inadvertent

in - ad - vēr - tēnt

analogous

ən - al - ə - gəs

Notable Roots:

con = together; sum = total; gen = create; ad = toward; vert = turn;
log = words

THE SQUASH COURT EXPERIMENT

As the pile neared completion, Fermi moved the project to an abandoned squash court at the University of Chicago. The possibility that the Germans were close to *consummating* their own project *fomented* considerable anxiety—there was no *contingency* plan for losing the race. At last, six weeks after the project had been *engendered*, critical mass was achieved. Three brave assistants ascended the pile, ready with liquid cadmium if anything *inadvertently* went wrong. Almost fifty scientists and incredulous observers mounted a balcony to watch. One physicist remained on the floor to extract the final cadmium control rod. Unbearable tension permeated the atmosphere; one physicist described the experiment as *analogous* to “tickling a dragon’s tail.” Fermi completed his calculations, took a deep breath, and then gave the signal.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Failure in business often results from the _____ managers fail to see.
2. The actor was discovered _____ when she accompanied a friend to an audition.
3. For _____ rebellion, the Founding Fathers faced execution.
4. Honest mistakes by baseball players like Buckner and Snodgrass have frequently _____ enduring animosity from unreasonable fans.
5. Governor DeWitt Clinton pouring water from Lake Erie into New York Harbor marked the _____ of the Erie Canal project.
6. The competition of nature can be viewed as _____ to that of the marketplace.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. consummation _____ | a. to bring about |
| 8. foment _____ | b. logically similar |
| 9. contingency _____ | c. unintentional |
| 10. engender _____ | d. to stir up a negative reaction |
| 11. inadvertent _____ | e. unpredictable result or situation |
| 12. analogous _____ | f. completion; joining |

WEEK 13



DAY 4 Cause and Effect

NEW WORDS

extrapolate

ek - strap - ə - lāt

obviate

ob - vē - āt

precipitate (v.)

prē - sip - i - tāt

antecedent

an - tə - sēd - ənt

substrate

sub - strāt

promulgate

prom - ul - gāt

Notable Roots:

via = way; ante = before; cede = yield; sub = under; strat = layer

THE ITALIAN NAVIGATOR LANDS

It worked! Enrico Fermi's calculations *extrapolated* perfectly into reality as the team had successfully brought about a chain reaction. After 28 minutes, Fermi gave the signal to replace the control rod. The significance of the moment *obviated* any explanation and *precipitated* a tremendous cheer from the normally reserved scientists. Some of the men, however, remarked soberly that the breakthrough would prove an *antecedent* to much darker discoveries; Fermi's work would be the *substrate* upon which nuclear weapons research would build. For this reason, the achievement could not be widely *promulgated* within the scientific community. On December 2, 1942, the news of Fermi's achievement was relayed in a cryptic telephone message to Washington:

“The Italian Navigator has reached the New World.”

“And how did he find the natives?”

“Very friendly.”

The Atomic Age was inchoate—but truly here!

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Beware of _____ grand theories from small samples of data.
2. Cratons are the hard, ancient _____ underlying the continents.
3. The results of today's games have _____ any tie-breaking matches.
4. The day's riots _____ a dramatic change in the attitudes of the lawmakers.
5. The Articles of Confederation are the _____ of the U.S. Constitution.
6. Hitler widely _____ his intention to seize German lands lost by treaty.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. extrapolate | _____ | a. underlying layer |
| 8. obviate | _____ | b. to announce; to declare |
| 9. precipitate | _____ | c. something that comes before |
| 10. antecedent | _____ | d. remove the need for something |
| 11. substrate | _____ | e. extend a principle in a new way |
| 12. promulgate | _____ | f. to cause or accelerate |

WEEK 13



DAY 5

Cause and Effect

GROUP REVIEW

No matter what the theme, no matter what the source, we can expect that important concepts will require a mature vocabulary. This week's topic, scientific and biographical in nature, serves as a vehicle for teaching you 24 worthwhile words. You now have the chance to see whether you remember their definitions. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. analogous

2. antecedent

3. catalyst

4. consummation

5. contingency

6. culmination

7. engender

8. eventuate

9. extrapolate

10. foment

11. forthwith

12. inadvertent

13. incite

14. induce

15. obviate

DEFINITIONS

a. to result in

b. to cause or accelerate

c. unintentional

d. remove the need for something

e. underlying layer

f. a forerunner

g. to bring about

h. immediately

i. climax; highest point

j. an agent that spurs a change or reaction

k. to avoid or make unnecessary

l. completion; joining

m. to encourage; to stir up

n. to stir up a negative reaction

o. to announce; to declare

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|
| _____ | 16. perpetuate | p. opposed to new ideas or reform |
| _____ | 17. precipitate | q. something that comes before |
| _____ | 18. preclude | r. logically similar |
| _____ | 19. precursor | s. to persuade; to bring about |
| _____ | 20. premise | t. to keep something going |
| _____ | 21. promulgate | u. equivalent |
| _____ | 22. reactionary | v. extend a principle in a new way |
| _____ | 23. substrate | w. principle upon which an idea is based |
| _____ | 24. tantamount | x. unpredictable result or situation |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

4th Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

Drug Smugglers Beware

The urgent message came to Officer Matt Jagusak: “Drug search tomorrow—bring pig.”

Jagusak, with the Union County, New Jersey, Sheriff’s Department Search and Rescue Unit, had _____ his superiors to put Ferris E. Lucas, a super sniffer, to work. Lucas is a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig with a fantastic olfactory sense that is one million times greater than a human’s and could be the weapon that _____ the breaking up of the drug trade.

A trainer who had worked with Lucas’s _____, sniffer dogs, offered the pig to Union City, suggesting that its greater intelligence and superior skill would make Lucas a critical fighter against illegal narcotics. _____ by this revelation, Jagusak has worked feverishly training Lucas. He has already taught his 55-pound porker-detective how to find cocaine, hashish, and marijuana. While some more _____ law enforcement officials were hesitant at first, they quickly became believers when they saw the Sherlock Holmes of the sty locate underground drug scents that had eluded trained dogs. Thus, the department resolved to put Lucas to work.

“I don’t care if it’s a dog, a pig, or an elephant,” Jagusak’s boss said. “If it benefits the department and our community, we’ll try it.”

Exploring Roots

Consider a word you learned this week: *obviate*. The prefix *ob* is a Latin preposition that basically means in front of. The root, *via*, is an extremely common one that typically refers to a means or possibility. A *viable* solution has a way forward. Getting to work *via* the subway means using that conveyance. To the Romans, however, *via* was their word for road. The *Via Appia* and *Via Flaminia* referred to roads into the city, named for the city gate through which they passed. Put these parts together and you have a reference to an object in the road ahead of you. Thus, to *obviate* means, in a literal sense, to remove an obstruction from your path.

Directions: Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word with the same root.

- | | | |
|-------|----------|---|
| _____ | 1. head | a. Economic development creates social <i>stratification</i> . |
| _____ | 2. yield | b. The physicist was so <i>maladroit</i> that he tripped on the rug. |
| _____ | 3. run | c. The quiet girl turned out to be a chess <i>savant</i> . |
| _____ | 4. aware | d. The Gauls <i>capitulated</i> after a long Roman siege. |
| _____ | 5. wise | e. Our <i>cognitive</i> biases can never be eliminated if we remain unaware of them. |
| _____ | 6. layer | f. A loser <i>conceding</i> defeat is an important political norm. |
| _____ | 7. right | g. The <i>convertible</i> sports car attracted police attention. |
| _____ | 8. turn | h. The transcontinental railroad was built by two teams working <i>concurrently</i> from opposite directions. |

WEEK 14



DAY 1

Courage

NEW WORDS

indomitable

in - dom - it - ə - bəl

intrepid

in - tre - pid

imperious

im - pēr - ē - əs

intransigence

in - tran - sij - əns

affront

ə - frūnt

poise

pōiz

Notable Roots:

domi = lord; trep = fear; trans = cross; signa = seal, agreement

SUNDAY MORNING AT PEARL HARBOR

At breakfast time on Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, Dorie Miller was serving coffee aboard the seemingly *indomitable* battleship West Virginia. Dorie was African American, and the highest job to which an *intrepid*

African-American sailor could aspire to in the U.S. Navy at the time was that of messman. While Dorie was technically a member of an *imperious* fighting fleet, he was not expected to fight. Due to the *intransigence* of racism in American culture at the time, most Army and Navy officers inveighed against African Americans as fighting men. While he took such overt prejudice as an *affront*, Dorie Miller apparently accepted being relegated to the role of a mess hall servant and did his job with *poise*. Now, as he poured the coffee, Dorie was wondering why the airplanes above were making so much noise on a peaceful Sunday morning.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. The Montagues and Capulets are tragically punished for their _____.
2. Harding's _____ gaze belied his timid and retiring nature.
3. The _____ little terrier stood its ground against the larger hound.
4. The Franco-Prussian war started over an exaggerated diplomatic _____.
5. A group of _____ Rangers scaled the Normandy cliffs under German fire.
6. Hemingway described heroism as _____ in the face of death and loss.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| 7. indomitable | _____ | a. offensive act |
| 8. intrepid | _____ | b. stubbornness; refusal to back down |
| 9. imperious | _____ | c. daring; enterprising |
| 10. intransigence | _____ | d. unable to be intimidated or defeated |
| 11. affront | _____ | e. calm and dignified manner |
| 12. poise | _____ | f. arrogant; fierce |

WEEK 14



DAY 2

Courage

NEW WORDS

stalwart

stäl - wərt

formidable

fôr - mid - ə - bəl

brazen

brā - zin

effrontery

ə - frûnt - ə - rē

temerity

tə - mer - it - ē

undaunted

un - dôn - təd

Notable Roots:

fort = strong; front = face; daunt = intimidate

THE INFAMOUS ATTACK

The coffee cups suddenly went spinning as an explosion knocked Dorie Miller flat on his back. Jumping up from his supine position, the *stalwart* messman from Waco, Texas, headed for the deck. Everywhere that Dorie

looked, he saw smoke and once-*formidable* warships lying on their sides. Overhead, dozens of Japanese dive bombers controlled the skies without a U.S. plane to repulse* their *brazen* attack. There was no time to decry the *effrontery* of the surprise attack as the Japanese pilots had the *temerity* to make pass after pass, strafing the survivors. Without hesitating, Dorie joined a team that was feeding ammunition to a machine gunner. Unfortunately, the torpedo planes were *undaunted* by this ineffectual attempt to protect their battleship.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. The President's aide castigated the blackmailer for his _____.
2. A great hockey team needs _____ defenders to protect its ace scorers.
3. Dr. Shih recognized at once the challenge the _____ new virus posed.
4. Boss Tweed attracted condemnation not because he was corrupt but because he was so _____ in his dealings.
5. A great fighter pilot needs intuition and quick reflexes, not _____.
6. Nadia Comaneci was completely _____ by pressure, earning the first perfect scores in the history of Olympic gymnastics.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. stalwart | _____ | a. bold |
| 8. formidable | _____ | b. carelessness |
| 9. brazen | _____ | c. durable; powerfully built |
| 10. effrontery | _____ | d. unfazed by adversity |
| 11. temerity | _____ | e. insolence; disrespect |
| 12. undaunted | _____ | f. impressively powerful or tough |

WEEK 14



DAY 3

Courage

NEW WORDS

obdurate

ob - dur - it

audacity

ô - das - i - tē

stolid

stol - lid

braggadocio

brag - ə - dōs - ē - ō

brash

brash

recalcitrant

rē - cals - ə - trənt

Notable Roots:

dur = hard; brag = boast; calc = heel, kick

THE HEROISM OF DORIE MILLER

Men all around Miller were succumbing to the *obdurate* spray of Japanese bullets. Showing incredible *audacity*, Miller dragged his captain to safety and turned back to see that the machine-gunner had been killed. The *stolid*

messman took the big gun and trained it on the incoming bombers. Within the space of ten minutes, he was credited with destroying four bombers while dodging the bullets of their fighter escorts. After demonstrating their *braggadocio* and striking a *brash* but effective blow, the Japanese flew back to their carrier fleet. Amidst the dead bodies and the ruined fleet were the heroes such as Dorie Miller. The Navy had doubted and tried to discourage him, but he hadn't listened. Now Dorie's *recalcitrance* served as a potent example for a nation thrust into the largest conflict in human history.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. The grim, _____ face of Joe Torre betrayed neither hope nor despair.
2. After Hannibal's crushing victories, anyone but the _____ Romans would have sued for peace.
3. Some _____ is always expected at the beginning of any football game.
4. The _____ young congresswoman was determined to show her district's contempt for Washington deal-making.
5. Napoleon's speed and _____ allowed the French to choose the battlefield.
6. Whole neighborhoods could not be saved from the _____ flow of lava.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. obdurate | _____ | a. boldness; decisiveness |
| 8. audacity | _____ | b. unwilling to change |
| 9. stolid | _____ | c. display of courage or arrogance |
| 10. braggadocio | _____ | d. defiant; uncooperative |
| 11. brash | _____ | e. not showing emotion |
| 12. recalcitrant | _____ | f. assertive; irreverent |

WEEK 14



DAY 4

Courage

NEW WORDS

stentorian

sten - tō - rē - ən

haughty

hō - tē

bravado

brə - vod - ə

pluck

plûk

gravitas

grō - vē - tōs

intractable

in - trak - tə - bəl

Notable Roots:

haut = high; brava = brave, brag; grav = serious; tract = control

“FOR DISTINGUISHED DEVOTION TO DUTY”

Some months later, Dorie Miller was serving on an aircraft carrier when Admiral Chester Nimitz, the commander of the Pacific Fleet, came aboard

to preside over a special awards ceremony. In *stentorian* tones, the admiral presented Miller with the prestigious* Navy Cross, commending him for his singular act of valor and “disregard for his own personal safety.” Prior to the battle, many of Miller’s shipmates, who had treated him with a *haughty* sense of superiority, were also notable for their displays of *bravado*. While some of these same sailors abandoned ship in terror during the attack, Miller had displayed true *pluck* while maintaining an inspiring degree of *gravitas* under fire. Miller’s example helped to shatter the previously *intractable* bias against African Americans in the armed forces. Although he could have accepted a sinecure* at a U.S. naval base, Dorie remained in the combat zone and was killed in action in December 1943.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the proper blanks.

1. Washington’s _____ was so great that he was addressed as “his excellency.”
2. A team of expensive all-stars will often lose to a cheaper team with more _____.
3. A judge with a _____ voice can command a courtroom.
4. In retrospect, given his quick knockout, the challenger’s _____ was laughable.
5. While it may resemble a horse, the zebra is quite _____.
6. The new manager’s _____ manner quickly alienated his entire staff.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. stentorian | _____ | a. dignity |
| 8. haughty | _____ | b. great courage |
| 9. bravado | _____ | c. acting superior |
| 10. pluck | _____ | d. cannot be managed |
| 11. gravitas | _____ | e. showy appearance of courage |
| 12. intractable | _____ | f. having a loud voice |

WEEK 14 **DAY 5** **Courage**

GROUP REVIEW

Many people agree that a lawyer should be skillful with words. A trial lawyer, it goes without saying, must have an extensive vocabulary in order to help him or her present a case.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. affront
- _____ 2. audacity
- _____ 3. braggadocio
- _____ 4. brash
- _____ 5. bravado
- _____ 6. brazen
- _____ 7. effrontery
- _____ 8. formidable
- _____ 9. gravitas
- _____ 10. haughty
- _____ 11. imperious
- _____ 12. indomitable
- _____ 13. intractable
- _____ 14. intransigence

DEFINITIONS

- a. unwilling to change
- b. acting superior
- c. defiant; uncooperative
- d. having a loud voice
- e. great courage
- f. bold
- g. daring; enterprising
- h. arrogant; fierce
- i. boldness; decisiveness
- j. insolence; disrespect
- k. unable to be intimidated or defeated
- l. dignity
- m. display of courage or arrogance
- n. unfazed by adversity

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. intrepid | o. cannot be managed |
| _____ | 16. obdurate | p. showy appearance of courage |
| _____ | 17. pluck | q. carelessness |
| _____ | 18. poise | r. offensive act |
| _____ | 19. recalcitrant | s. stubbornness; refusal to back down |
| _____ | 20. stalwart | t. not showing emotion |
| _____ | 21. stentorian | u. durable; powerfully built |
| _____ | 22. stolid | v. impressively powerful or tough |
| _____ | 23. temerity | w. assertive; irreverent |
| _____ | 24. undaunted | x. calm and dignified manner |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice

Teen Talk Barbie, the best-selling \$50 model, has gone a step too far in the opinion of the American Association of University Women. Representatives of that group consider it an _____ that one of her four preprogrammed phrases is “Math class is tough.”

For years, the university professors, as well as members of feminist organizations, have inveighed against the stereotype that portrays girls as weak math and science students. “Because that brainwashing message is conveyed to girls at an early age, they come to accept what we consider to be a _____ lie,” said Dr. Ellen Kaner, a Dallas chemist. “We are just beginning to make progress in our campaign to recruit women with the requisite talent and _____ for challenging, well-paying careers in math and science,” she added, “and were shocked to learn that a toy company has had the _____ to spread such harmful nonsense.”

Facing such _____ opposition, the executives of the company that manufactures Teen Talk Barbie had to set matters right. They admitted that the phrase in question, one of 270 selected by computer chips, was a mistake. In a press release, their president said, “We didn’t fully consider the potentially negative implications of this phrase. Not only will we remove it immediately but will exchange the offending doll for a new one.”

We wonder how Ken feels about the matter.

Too Much of a Good Thing?

Directions: As the saying goes, most things are only good in moderation. Taken to excess, virtue becomes vice and the creative, destructive. In the sentences below, the two words are similar but differ by degree. Underline the appropriate choice.

1. The (*pluck, temerity*) of a champion racehorse cannot be taught.
2. A (*tyro, prodigy*), the new company owner rode the firm into the ground.
3. The 1919 wheat harvest proved a (*bounty, glut*) that led to a crash in prices.
4. The family (*curmudgeon, patriarch*) is the guest of honor at holiday gatherings.
5. The (*intrepid, brash*) George Creel headed the Committee on Public Information at the age of 41 and succeeded at garnering support for the war effort.
6. The Intolerable Acts (*antedated, fomented*) rebellion in the colonies.
7. Marnie is such a (*grandiloquent, rousing*) speaker that it's hard to listen to her without rolling one's eyes.
8. Hamlet's flaw is that he is too (*cognizant, circumspect*) to avenge his father before arousing the suspicion of his murderous uncle.
9. By means of his (*guile, duplicity*), Oedipus is able to defeat the Sphinx.
10. Shakespeare depicts the young Henry V as a (*miscreant, dilettante*) who drinks and keeps low company before reaching his full potential.

WEEK 15



DAY 1

Crime

NEW WORDS

unconscionable

un - kon - shən - ə - bəl

perpetrator

pér - pe - trā - tər

alleged

ə - lej - id

egregious

ə - grē - jəs

accomplice

ə - kom - plis

culpable

kûl - pə - bəl

Notable Roots:

patra = father; leg = law; greg = flock;

culpa = blame, guilt

DANNY ESCOBEDO GOES TO JAIL

In 1960, a young Chicagoan, Danny Escobedo, was given a 20-year jail sentence for an *unconscionable* crime. Danny had confessed to *perpetrating*

the murder of his brother-in-law after the police had refused to allow him to see his lawyer. Actually, Danny, the *alleged* killer, was tricked into blaming a friend for the *egregious* crime, thereby establishing himself as an *accomplice*. Despite the fact that Danny later recanted his confession, he was found *culpable* and jailed. Danny had been profiled as a hoodlum, and nobody raised an eyebrow over the hapless felon's troubles.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Gavrilo Princip, the killer of Archduke Ferdinand, worked with several _____.
2. The most _____ crimes capture the most publicity.
3. The _____ thief was never convicted due to lack of evidence.
4. A person with no morals is easily capable of the _____.
5. To be _____ in a conspiracy to commit a crime, one need only have foreknowledge of the deed and aid it by one overt act.
6. The _____ of the 1920 Wall Street Bombing was never identified.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings. Two of the words are very close in meaning.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 7. unconscionable _____ | a. deserving blame |
| 8. perpetrator _____ | b. accused of being |
| 9. alleged _____ | c. associate in crime |
| 10. egregious _____ | d. without decency |
| 11. accomplice _____ | e. outrageously bad |
| 12. culpable _____ | f. one who performs a crime |

WEEK 15



DAY 2

Crime

NEW WORDS

abrogate

a - brō - gāt

blatant

blā - tənt

expurgate

eks - pēr - gāt

infraction

in - frak - shun

rampant

ram - pənt

jeopardize

jep - ēr - dīz

Notable Roots:

rog/reg = law; purg = cleanse; fract = break; ramp = climb

ESCOBEDO'S LAWYER APPEALS

Barry Kroll, a Chicago lawyer, took an interest in Danny Escobedo's case. Kroll felt that his client's rights under the Constitution had been *abrogated*. Since Escobedo had *blatantly* been denied access to an attorney, Kroll

asked the courts to *expurgate* him forthwith.* He proposed that lawyers be present when the police question someone suspected of an *infraction*, but the Illinois courts rejected that on the grounds that it would result in *rampant* interference with all questioning by legal authorities. If such a law were upheld, the police felt that it would *jeopardize* their ability to conduct criminal investigations.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The police cannot prevent every _____, so they must prioritize serious crimes.
2. The _____ violence of Chicago during Prohibition is still the subject of movies.
3. Accepting gifts can _____ a college athlete's eligibility to play sports.
4. Many treaties made between Native Americans and the United States during the nineteenth century were later _____ at the latter's convenience.
5. The advent of DNA evidence _____ many who were wrongfully convicted.
6. Fascists often tell _____ lies as a demonstration of their power.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. abrogate | _____ | a. done openly |
| 8. blatant | _____ | b. a violation of rules or law |
| 9. expurgate | _____ | c. to imperil |
| 10. infraction | _____ | d. exonerate |
| 11. rampant | _____ | e. to revoke; treat as nonexistent |
| 12. jeopardize | _____ | f. widespread |

WEEK 15



DAY 3

Crime

NEW WORDS

indict

in - dīt

reprimand

rep - rə - mand

taint

tānt

empirical

em - pēr - ik - əl

admonish

ad - mon - ish

heresy

her - ə - sē

Notable Roots:

dic = say; mand = order, summon; mon = warn

A HISTORIC SUPREME COURT RULING

Lawyer Kroll persevered in his defense of Danny Escobedo. The case was argued before the Supreme Court, and in 1964, in a landmark decision, the Court reversed Danny's conviction. Legal aid, said the judges, must be

instantly available to a suspect before *indictment*. “A system of law enforcement that comes to depend on the confession,” one justice *reprimanded*, “will, in the long run, become *tainted* and less reliable than one that depends on *empirical* evidence independently secured through skillful investigation.” A justice *admonished* against what many considered to be legal *heresy*: “I think the rule is ill-conceived and that it seriously fetters perfectly legitimate methods of criminal enforcement.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The judge _____ the first-time offenders and let them off without punishment.
2. Given the strife caused by competing theologies, the medieval church had no tolerance for _____.
3. The shipment of _____ milk led to hundreds of cases of food poisoning.
4. The doctor firmly _____ the ulcer patient against taking aspirin.
5. Despite its popularity among fiscal conservatives, _____ data for the benefits of supply side economics has proven elusive.
6. After her alibi was shown to be fabricated,* the widow was _____ for murder.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. indict | _____ | a. to scold |
| 8. reprimand | _____ | b. based on experience |
| 9. taint | _____ | c. to scold; to warn |
| 10. empirical | _____ | d. ideas contrary to accepted beliefs |
| 11. admonish | _____ | e. to make impure |
| 12. heresy | _____ | f. to formally accuse |

WEEK 15



DAY 4

Crime

NEW WORDS

redress

rē - dres

flagrant

flā - grənt

nepotism

nep - ə - tizm

culprit

kul - prət

unrepentant

un - rē - pen - tənt

castigate

kas - tə - gāt

Notable Roots:

dress = correct, prepare; flagra = burning;

nepos = nephew;

culp = blame

THE EFFECTS OF THE ESCOBEDO DECISION

After Danny Escobedo's release from prison, hundreds of inmates brought lawsuits to *redress* their alleged* rights violations. Each case was heard on its merits and many who had been convicted of *flagrant* offenses were freed. After getting out, Danny led a nomadic existence, relying on *nepotism* to gain employment without qualifications. The police maintained he was a *culprit* in numerous crimes. Danny was *unrepentant*, *castigating* the justice system for harassment. Although the Escobedo case was controversial, most agree that it inspired better law enforcement procedures and increased scientific crime detection.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Dictatorships often are marked by rampant* _____ enriching the leader's family.
2. The First Amendment includes the right to petition for a _____ of grievances.
3. After a raid revealed _____ health code violations, the restaurant was shuttered.
4. The intern was _____ so harshly that he soon quit.
5. The governor vowed that the _____ of the attack would be brought to justice.
6. By his demeanor, it was clear to the jury that the killer was completely_____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|
| 7. redress | _____ | a. corrupt favoritism, usually toward family |
| 8. flagrant | _____ | b. guilty person |
| 9. nepotism | _____ | c. remedy or compensation |
| 10. culprit | _____ | d. scold harshly |
| 11. unrepentant | _____ | e. obvious |
| 12. castigate | _____ | f. without remorse |

WEEK 15



DAY 5

Crime

GROUP REVIEW

Police who have resorted to wire-tapping have been able to get evidence that was useful in gaining convictions. In a sense, everyone who listens to you is wire-tapping your conversation. Are the “detectives” impressed with the extent of your vocabulary? By the end of this week, you will have gained a greater familiarity with 300 words and 60 idioms—enough to educate a conscientious wire-tapper.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. abrogate

2. accomplice

3. admonish

4. alleged

5. blatant

6. castigate

7. culpable

8. culprit

9. egregious

10. empirical

11. expurgate

DEFINITIONS

- a. to scold; to warn

- b. remedy or compensation

- c. done openly

- d. to formally accuse

- e. to revoke; treat as nonexistent

- f. without decency

- g. corrupt favoritism, usually toward family

- h. to make impure

- i. a violation of rules or law

- j. scold harshly

- k. widespread

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--|
| _____ | 12. flagrant | l. without remorse |
| _____ | 13. heresy | m. accused of being |
| _____ | 14. indict | n. obvious |
| _____ | 15. infraction | o. to imperil |
| _____ | 16. jeopardize | p. guilty person |
| _____ | 17. nepotism | q. deserving blame |
| _____ | 18. perpetrator | r. associate in crime |
| _____ | 19. rampant | s. to scold |
| _____ | 20. redress | t. based on experience |
| _____ | 21. reprimand | u. exonerate |
| _____ | 22. taint | v. ideas contrary to accepted beliefs |
| _____ | 23. unconscionable | w. one who performs a crime |
| _____ | 24. unrepentant | x. outrageous |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

4th Day

1st Day

1st Day

Questionable Advertisements

The Nostalgia Factory, a Boston art gallery, staged an exhibit of _____ outrageous advertisements. For example, one of the fast-food chains ran a TV commercial that showed school cafeteria workers in hairnets, making that experience less tasty than a visit to Roy Rogers. Another ad, which was _____ by psychiatrists and groups such as the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, suggested to readers that if they had paid \$100 for a dress shirt, they were fit candidates for a straitjacket. Similar sensitivity had restricted ad writers from using terms such as “nuts” or “crazy.”

Why such protests and where do they come from? Who is asking companies to _____ contracts with those agencies that are complicit in creating messages that perpetuate* such _____ stereotypes? Parents who took exception to the Burger King spot that announced, “Sometimes You Gotta Break the Rules,” said no to it because it gave the wrong message to their children. And when a potato chip ad featured a “bandito,” angry Mexican Americans used some choice words to _____ the ad maker for such a stereotype.

The conclusion to be reached is that segments of the population have become increasingly vocal about insensitive ads, demanding that corporations _____ their complaints by never again commissioning advertisements that are clearly provocative and harmful to good human relationships. The advertising agencies that are _____ in these offenses should also reform their conduct. Any _____ and habitual offenders could find themselves facing boycotts of their products and services.

WEEK 16



DAY 1

Work

NEW WORDS

industrious

in - dus - trē - əs

resourceful

rē - zōrs - ful

automaton

ō - tom - ə - ton

persevere

pēr - sə - vēr

punctilious

punk - til - ē - əs

vigilant

vij - əl - ənt

Notable Roots:

struer = build;

auto = self; mato = think; severe = serious; punct = point

MEET THE BEES

One of the most interesting inhabitants of our world is the bee, an *industrious* insect that is indigenous to all parts of the globe except the polar

regions. The honeybee is a *resourceful* insect whose habitat is a colony that he shares with as many as 80,000 bees. Although the individual bees are essentially *automatons* that live for only a few days, their colony can *persevere* for several years. A cursory study of the activities of these insects reveals a *punctiliousness* and a social structure that is truly amazing. For example, bees in a particular hive have a distinct odor; therefore, when an intruder seeks access, *vigilant* guard bees can identify him quickly and repulse* his invasion.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Gandhi taught Indians to _____ in their fight without using force.
2. The _____ Lakota derived dozens of uses for the buffalo they hunted.
3. With better pay and benefits, workers tend to be more _____.
4. Early industrialists wanted workers to be _____, performing repetitive mundane tasks.
5. The foreman was _____ in his quest to root out unionizing among workers.
6. From cooperative factory work came the need to be _____ about time.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. industrious | _____ | a. strict regarding details |
| 8. resourceful | _____ | b. hardworking |
| 9. automaton | _____ | c. to struggle through adversity |
| 10. persevere | _____ | d. skillful at finding solutions |
| 11. punctilious | _____ | e. carefully watchful |
| 12. vigilant | _____ | f. machine or person that follows instructions without thinking |

WEEK 16



DAY 2

Work

NEW WORDS

unflagging

un - flag - ing

attentive

ə - ten - tiv

unstinting

un - stin - ting

thrifty

thrif - tē

meticulous

mə - tik - yū - ləs

prompt

prom - pt

Notable Roots:

flag = tire; tent = keep/hold; stint/stunt = limit

QUEENS, WORKERS, DRONES

Each colony of honeybees consists of three classes: a) the queen who is an *unflagging* layer of eggs, b) the *attentive* worker, and c) the sedentary drone whose only function is to mate with a young queen. The queen lays the eggs

that hatch into thousands of female workers; some queens live as long as five years and can *unstintingly* lay up to one million eggs. The *thrifty* worker *meticulously* builds and maintains the nest and frugally collects and stores the honey. The lazy drone, or male honeybee, does not work and has no sting. When the drone is no longer needed, the workers *promptly* let him starve to death. It's a cruel, cruel world!

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The team owner was _____ in his praise of the new coach.
2. Survivors of the Great Depression formed a lifetime habit of being _____.
3. _____ service is prized in the restaurant industry.
4. The _____ building inspector noticed small cracks in the building's foundation.
5. As the ferocity of the 1900 hurricane became apparent, the _____ telegraph operator stayed at his post and saved lives by stopping rail service into Galveston.
6. Spouses who are _____ to each other's needs tend to stay together.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. unflagging | _____ | a. keeping a close eye on something |
| 8. attentive | _____ | b. fast and reliable |
| 9. unstinting | _____ | c. careful about spending and waste |
| 10. meticulous | _____ | d. generous |
| 11. thrifty | _____ | e. tireless |
| 12. prompt | _____ | f. particular about details |

WEEK 16



DAY 3

Work

NEW WORDS

assiduous

ə - si - jū - əs

arduous

âr - jū - əs

scrupulous

skrū - pyū - ləs

forage

fôr - əj

indefatigable

in - də - fat - əg - bəl

chary

châr - ē

Notable Roots:

sid/sed = sit; ardor = passion; scruple = principle; fatig = tired

SPOTLIGHT ON THE WORKER

Let us examine the activities of the *assiduous* workers in greater detail. After the workers have completed the *arduous* task of constructing a hive of waterproof honeycomb (made from beeswax), the queen begins to lay eggs

in the first cells. While some workers *scrupulously* tend the hive, others *forage* for nectar and pollen. Once provisioned, they fly back to the hive and then dance around the honeycomb, their movements indicating the direction of the flowers. Meanwhile, other workers have been cleaning cells, caring for the young, and guarding the precious cache of nectar. Another *indefatigable* cohort is entrusted with heating or cooling the hive. Dedicated to the welfare of the entire insect community, all of these workers are not *chary* about working hard.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Prior to the invention of agriculture, humans _____ for much of their food.
2. _____ in his own dealings, Andrew Mellon was one of the few honest brokers in the Harding Administration.
3. Following the Mormon Trail from Nebraska to Utah was an _____ journey.
4. Unlike the other Founding Fathers, Burr worked _____ for his own interests.
5. Nuclear deterrence made the U.S. and U.S.S.R. _____ about the prospect of war.
6. The _____ Fiorello LaGuardia expanded New York's infrastructure and fought both corruption and organized crime during three terms as mayor.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. assiduous | _____ | a. tireless |
| 8. arduous | _____ | b. wary; averse to risks |
| 9. scrupulous | _____ | c. to gather resources |
| 10. forage | _____ | d. hardworking |
| 11. indefatigable | _____ | e. difficult |
| 12. chary | _____ | f. careful about details; ethical |

WEEK 16



DAY 4

Work

NEW WORDS

laborious

lə - bôr - ē - əs

fastidious

fa - stid - ē - əs

aspire

ə - spīr

resolve (v.)

rē - zâlv

solicit

sə - lis - it

tenacious

tən - ə - shəs

Notable Roots:

labor = work; spir = breathe; sol = lone;
ten = keep, hold

THE SAGA OF THE QUEEN BEE

Although the *laborious* lives of the workers are remarkable, the queen bee is really the main story. Workers *fastidiously* choose a few larvae to be

aspiring queens, feeding them royal jelly, a substance rich in proteins and vitamins. While the queen is changing from a larva to a pupa, a team of workers builds a special cell for her. Soon the young queen hatches, eats the prepared honey, and grows strong, *resolved* to reign. After she kills any rivals who challenge her, she flies from the hive *soliciting* the drones that can fly highest to mate with her. Then the process of egg laying begins. When her progeny saturate the hive, *tenacious* scouts are dispatched to find a new location, and the bees swarm after their leader to begin the amazing cycle again.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences; remember, different tenses may be required.

1. It's unwise to _____ advice from people of unknown character.
2. General MacArthur famously _____ to retake the Philippines.
3. During the Renaissance, talented _____ artists were apprenticed to great masters.
4. Many investigators take crime personally and are _____ in their efforts to bring down perpetrators* who believe they are above the law.
5. It can come off as vanity to be overly _____ about one's appearance.
6. Coaling a warship was one of the most _____ tasks a sailor would perform.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. laborious | _____ | a. stubborn; unwilling to let go |
| 8. fastidious | _____ | b. settle on a course of action |
| 9. aspire | _____ | c. requiring considerable hard work |
| 10. resolve | _____ | d. to aim for a high position |
| 11. solicit | _____ | e. detail oriented; particular |
| 12. tenacious | _____ | f. to ask for something from someone |

WEEK 16 **DAY 5** **Work**

GROUP REVIEW

Even if you are as busy as the proverbial bee, you can always manage the 15 to 20 minutes that are required for these daily vocabulary sessions.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. arduous
- _____ 2. aspire
- _____ 3. assiduous
- _____ 4. attentive
- _____ 5. automaton
- _____ 6. chary
- _____ 7. fastidious
- _____ 8. forage
- _____ 9. thrifty
- _____ 10. indefatigable
- _____ 11. industrious
- _____ 12. laborious
- _____ 13. meticulous
- _____ 14. persevere

DEFINITIONS

- a. particular about details
- b. wary; averse to risks
- c. strict regarding details
- d. hardworking (1)
- e. fast and reliable
- f. skillful at finding solutions
- g. carefully watchful
- h. settle on a course of action
- i. tireless (1)
- j. careful about spending and waste
- k. difficult
- l. to aim for a high position
- m. to struggle through adversity
- n. to ask for something from someone

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. prompt | o. hardworking (2) |
| _____ | 16. punctilious | p. requiring considerable hard work |
| _____ | 17. resolve | q. keeping a close eye on something |
| _____ | 18. resourceful | r. careful about details; ethical |
| _____ | 19. scrupulous | s. to gather resources |
| _____ | 20. solicit | t. generous |
| _____ | 21. tenacious | u. tireless (2) |
| _____ | 22. unflagging | v. stubborn; unwilling to let go |
| _____ | 23. unstinting | w. detail oriented; particular |
| _____ | 24. vigilant | x. machine or person that follows instructions without thinking |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

4th Day

4th Day

3rd Day

1st Day

Cheating a Cheater

“Our neighborhood was so tough,” the comedian joked, “that two guys held up a bank and were mugged as they ran to their getaway car.” Later that evening, as Roy and Timmy were discussing the comic’s routine, Roy was reminded of a true (he said) story that went like this:

Mr. D, the gang kingpin in our community, loved money. He was notoriously _____, however, preferring to keep his wealth rather than spend it. Mr. D’s trove was concealed in a wall safe behind a painting in his office. He was also _____ about counting it by hand himself. The \$50 and \$100 bills made his hands dirty as he counted them, but Mr. D didn’t mind. The filth of the lucre did not disturb him at all.

One Friday evening, Roy continued, an _____ young thief looking to make a name for himself had the temerity* to try to steal the ill-gotten gains. Having bought the combination from a less-than-_____ relative who had installed Mr. D’s safe, he stuffed his loot into a laundry bag and was halfway out the door when he spied a \$10 bill on the floor. His cupidity* made him go back for that small change, and in that moment, Mr. D arrived on the scene.

The quick-thinking thief _____ and rather than giving himself away blurted out, “I’ll have the shirts back on Friday.” Hoisting the laundry bag over his shoulder, he was out the door before the confused mobster could figure out what had happened.

Timmy, who had listened patiently, said, “I don’t believe a word of that story because it would take a guy with a great deal of *starch* to pull it off!”

Exploring Roots

It's no coincidence that the root word in *attentive* comes from the Latin verb *teneo*, which means to keep or grasp. After all, students are asked to *pay* attention, and teachers struggle to *keep* the attention of their students.

Advertisements (prefix ad = to; root vert = turn) seek to *turn* your attention to their messaging.

Directions: Match the root definition with the sentence containing an italicized word with the same root.

- | | | |
|-------|------------|---|
| _____ | 1. circle | a. It's harder than you might think to write clear <i>instructions</i> . |
| _____ | 2. keep | b. Nadal <i>punctuated</i> the magnitude of his win by falling to the ground. |
| _____ | 3. sit | c. Diane's client failed to grasp the <i>severity</i> of the charges. |
| _____ | 4. build | d. Smugglers seek to <i>circumvent</i> the duties and tariffs normally assessed on certain goods. |
| _____ | 5. serious | e. Excessive <i>solitude</i> is often considered psychologically unhealthy. |
| _____ | 6. point | f. Golf, as a <i>spectator</i> sport, can be an acquired taste. |
| _____ | 7. lone | g. The best employers have high <i>retention</i> rates for workers. |
| _____ | 8. vision | h. The doctor gave the hysterical patient a strong <i>sedative</i> . |

WEEK 17



DAY 1

Persuasion

NEW WORDS

alleviate

ə - lēv - ē - ăt

ameliorate

ə - mel - ē - ôr - ăt

credentials

krə - densh - əls

ingratiate

in - grā - shē - ăt

cajole

kə - jōl

accommodate

ə - kom - ə - dăt

Notable Roots:

lev = lift; mel = better; cred = belief; grat = favor; com = together

A PLAN TO FOOL THE NAZIS

In war, misinformation is an important tool to *alleviate* enemy scrutiny of secret operations. One of the truly remarkable stories of World War II concerns a ruse that helped *ameliorate* Allied losses during the most

dangerous operation of the war. The simple and ingenious subterfuge, which British officers concocted,* is the subject of Ewen Montagu's classic, *The Man Who Never Was*. In short, the idea was to plant false documents and *credentials* concerning the Allied invasion of Europe upon a dead officer, then have his body recovered by agents who, looking to *ingratiate* themselves with the Nazis, would transmit the lie to Germany. By observing German behavior, the British would then know if the Nazis were *cajoled* into *accommodating* their plan to divert German troops away from the beaches of Normandy.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Which _____ a voter can use has become a matter of bitter political debate.
2. Most standardized test makers now _____ test takers with special needs.
3. A sluice way helps _____ pressure on a dam.
4. Lennox knew how to _____ his parents into heeding his wishes.
5. The chairman would not tolerate subordinates who tried to _____ themselves through flattery.
6. Nixon's declarations failed to _____ indignation caused by Watergate.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|
| 7. alleviate | _____ | a. documents that establish one's identity |
| 8. ameliorate | _____ | b. to gently or subtly persuade |
| 9. credentials | _____ | c. to comply with another's wishes |
| 10. ingratiate | _____ | d. to improve a bad situation |
| 11. cajole | _____ | e. to gain favor |
| 12. accommodate | _____ | f. to lessen the impact of something |

WEEK 17



DAY 2

Persuasion

NEW WORDS

entreaty

ən - trē - tē

wheedle

wē - dēl

propitiate

prō - pish - ē - āt

allay

ə - lā

assuage

ə - swāj

inconsolable

in - cən - sōl - ə - bəl

Notable Roots:

treat = plead; consol = comfort, advise

“MAJOR MARTIN” GOES TO WAR

After repeated *entreaties*, Commander Montagu and his colleagues *wheeded* official approval for their dangerous escapade from their superiors. First, they needed a body that looked as though it had recently

been killed in an airplane disaster. Then, a detailed history of the man had to be invented that would be so impeccable that the enemy would be *propitiated*. Documents, love letters, personal effects, keys, and photographs were needed to *allay* suspicions. Commander Montagu's fears that the ruse would fail were only *assuaged* once every detail had been considered. Failure would mean more sad telegrams to *inconsolable* parents. As a result, in the late spring of 1942, "Major Martin" was prepared to do his part for his country.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The widow's grief was somewhat _____ knowing her husband died a hero.
2. Ancient peoples often made blood sacrifices to _____ their gods.
3. The tyrant was _____ when his orders were disobeyed for any reason.
4. The doctor's cold, clinical manner did little to _____ his patients' fears.
5. Greta Thunberg has made _____ to world leaders regarding climate change.
6. The kitten was quickly adept at _____ extra food from her owner.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--|
| 7. entreaty | _____ | a. to appease |
| 8. wheedle | _____ | b. unable to be comforted |
| 9. propitiate | _____ | c. a plea |
| 10. allay | _____ | d. to lessen pain or grief |
| 11. assuage | _____ | e. to obtain by flattery or persuasion |
| 12. inconsolable | _____ | f. to calm fears, worries, or doubts |

WEEK 17



DAY 3

Persuasion

NEW WORDS

petitioner

pə - tish - ən - ər

placate

plā - kāt

condolence

kən - dōl - əns

quell

kwel

blandishment

blan - dish - mənt

importune

im - pōr - tūn

Notable Roots:

plac = please; dol = sadness; port = gate/door

THE PLOT THICKENS

A submarine slipped “Major Martin” into the Atlantic waters off the coast of Huelva, Spain. Attached to the courier’s coat was a briefcase that contained the components of the hoax. Fascist Spain was technically neutral

but had been a *petitioner* for German aid during the recent civil war. Thus, the Spanish were inclined to *placate* the Nazis. Shortly thereafter, the Spanish Embassy notified the British, with their *condolences*, that the body had been recovered. But Commander Montagu learned that the important documents had already been scrutinized and later resealed to *quell* British suspicions. With the usual diplomatic *blandishments*, the Spanish *importuned* the German High Command to evaluate the find. Now, the true test of the months of assiduous* planning would come—would the Germans swallow the bait?

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The warlord had learned to disregard the _____ of those seeking favor.
2. Lloyd George chose to _____ labor unrest during World War I by giving in.
3. The old friends reconnected when Dr. Lambeau offered his _____ to Dr. McGwire after his wife's death.
4. The _____ stood before the Queen with his head bowed low.
5. The reporter repeatedly _____ the mayor for an exclusive interview.
6. Despite their modest declamations, fascist ambitions are never _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. petitioner | _____ | a. words of comfort |
| 8. placate | _____ | b. to quiet disorder or rebellion |
| 9. condolence | _____ | c. one making a formal request |
| 10. quell | _____ | d. to badger someone |
| 11. blandishment | _____ | e. to satisfy |
| 12. importune | _____ | f. flattery |

WEEK 17



DAY 4

Persuasion

NEW WORDS

insatiable

in - sāsh - ə - bəl

pacify

pas - ə - fī

deflect

dē - flekt

mollify

mol - ə - fī

implore

im - plōr

coerce

kō - ērs

Notable Roots:

satis = enough; pac = peace; flec = bend;
plor = cry out

A PUZZLE FOR HIS MAJESTY

All evidence confirmed that the German High Command, *insatiable* for intelligence into Allied movements, was *pacified* by the ruse. Their defense

troops were *deflected* from the true invasion sites to inconsequential areas. Subsequently, when the actual attack took place, Allied losses were *mollified*. The Allied deception campaign was so successful that even after the attack had begun, German commanders had to *implore* their superiors for help. Only after the false attack failed to materialize was the high command *coerced* by events into reinforcing the Normandy sector. After the war, Commander Montagu received a medal from the king of England. At the presentation ceremony, the king politely inquired where the young officer had earned his citation. “At the Admiralty,” Montagu replied.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Union officers _____ their men to fight, but the Bull Run defeat was total.
2. The genuine respect shown by the victorious Devils helped _____ the frustration the Ducks felt after their Cinderella run came to an end.
3. “What about” arguments are a classic strategy to _____ attention from an accusation without refuting it.
4. The defense lawyer had the case dropped after proving the confession had been _____.
5. The obstreperous mob’s appetite for violence proved to be _____.
6. Pizza and a movie were enough to _____ the disappointed children.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 7. insatiable | _____ | a. to calm; to satisfy |
| 8. pacify | _____ | b. to beg someone |
| 9. deflect | _____ | c. to force compliance by threat |
| 10. mollify | _____ | d. cannot be satisfied |
| 11. implore | _____ | e. to calm; to decrease the severity of something |
| 12. coerce | _____ | f. to redirect something from its path or purpose |

WEEK 17



DAY 5

Persuasion

GROUP REVIEW

Major Martin, if he had lived, would have used the word *bonnet* to refer to the hood of his auto, and he might have referred to a truck as a *lorry*. As you can see, there are differences between American and British English. But Major Martin, undoubtedly, would have known all the words below—do you?

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. accommodate
- _____ 2. allay
- _____ 3. alleviate
- _____ 4. ameliorate
- _____ 5. assuage
- _____ 6. blandishment
- _____ 7. cajole
- _____ 8. coerce
- _____ 9. condolence
- _____ 10. credentials
- _____ 11. deflect
- _____ 12. entreaty

DEFINITIONS

- a. unable to be comforted
- b. flattery
- c. documents that establish one's identity
- d. to lessen the impact of something
- e. to comply with another's wishes
- f. to beg someone
- g. to gain favor
- h. to gently or subtly persuade
- i. to satisfy
- j. to calm; to satisfy
- k. to appease
- l. to improve a bad situation

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 13. implore | m. a plea |
| _____ | 14. importune | n. cannot be satisfied |
| _____ | 15. inconsolable | o. to obtain by flattery or persuasion |
| _____ | 16. ingratiate | p. to calm fears, worries, or doubts |
| _____ | 17. insatiable | q. to redirect something from its path or purpose |
| _____ | 18. mollify | r. words of comfort |
| _____ | 19. pacify | s. to quiet disorder or rebellion |
| _____ | 20. petitioner | t. one making a formal request |
| _____ | 21. placate | u. to badger someone |
| _____ | 22. propitiate | v. to force compliance by threat |
| _____ | 23. quell | w. to calm; to decrease the severity of something |
| _____ | 24. wheedle | x. to lessen pain or grief |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in a probe of Social Security disability payments, focused on Jack Benson, a Seattle panhandler. Mr. Benson had claimed that whatever money he collects on the street can be compared to the funds raised by legitimate charities, and, therefore, his request for a federal tax deduction should be _____. Government officials disagree. It is their contention that, since Benson's income is unearned, it should be subtracted from his disability payments.

Mr. Benson may not be highly regarded as a street beggar, but that didn't stop him from appearing as a _____ in the Federal District Court in Oregon to assert that his _____ for cash are an art form, thereby making him eligible for most of the \$472 a month that he had been receiving. Not so, declared the government, quoting from a 1990 ruling that found that "money received through begging is better classified as 'gifts' rather than as 'wages' or 'net earnings from self-employment.'"

Mr. Benson's lawyer will not be _____ by such a judgment and has not given up. She countered that, if Jack merely sat on a street corner with his hand out, the government had a good case. However, in her words, "Jack Benson is a professional who has elevated begging to a respectable level because of his skill in actively _____ contributions from passersby."

It may take all of Benson's talent as a salesman to get the government to put some money in his collection basket.

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The truant's parents were not (*quelled, placated*) by his obviously false excuses.
2. In a friendly, casual way the salesman (*cajoled, importuned*) his clients.
3. The diplomat's (*entreaties, credentials*) had been stolen.
4. Raising interest rates will help (*coerce, alleviate*) deflation.
5. Mark's manners and good nature (*assuaged, ingratiated*) him with his colleagues.
6. Let this promise in front of witnesses (*allay, deflect*) your fears.
7. The novel (*wheedles, implores*) its readers to take a stand against injustice.
8. The Romans could be (*ameliorated, propitiated*) by gifts paid in gold.
9. The Serbs (*mollified, accommodated*) all but one Austrian demand.
10. The (*inconsolable, insatiable*) Austrians declared war anyway.

WEEK 18



DAY 1

Expression

NEW WORDS

evoke

ē - vōk

impart

im - pārt

demonstrative

də - mon - strə - tiv

hail

hāl

gesticulate

jes - tik - yū - lāt

lexicon

leks - ə - kon

Notable Roots:

voc = voice, call; greg = together; mon = show, warn; lex = word, law

TEACHING CHIMPANZEES TO TALK

Two resourceful* psychologists at the University of Nevada have made splendid progress *evoking* complex communication from chimpanzees using human language. Following a number of abortive* attempts to *impart*

French, German, or English vocabulary to the gregarious primates, the researchers persevered* until they hit upon the American Sign Language system. This has proven a perfect fit for the physically *demonstrative* animals, whose movements naturally include *hailing* each other in greeting. The researchers have had to modify the language somewhat in order to accommodate* the animals' *gesticulations*. With a *lexicon* of innate movements and learned ones, some chimps now have an extensive vocabulary.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The swimmer _____ wildly to get the lifeguard's attention.
2. A _____ umpire enhances the drama of a baseball game.
3. Failure is not in the _____ of the ebullient CEO.
4. Rush hour is the worst time to _____ a cab in New York.
5. The former POW's story _____ sadness and anger in the audience.
6. Parents _____ all the wisdom they can to their children.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|--|
| 7. evoke | _____ | a. visually expressive |
| 8. impart | _____ | b. list of words |
| 9. hail | _____ | c. to elicit |
| 10. demonstrative | _____ | d. to express oneself through movement |
| 11. gesticulate | _____ | e. bestow; offer up |
| 12. lexicon | _____ | f. to signal; to salute |

WEEK 18



DAY 2

Expression

NEW WORDS

veneer

və - nir

emotive

ē - mōt - iv

countenance (n.)

koun - tə - nəns

vivacious

vī - vāsh - əs

evince

ē - vins

grimace

grim - əs

Notable Roots:

mot = move; contin = contain, control; viv = life; vinc = conquer

CHIMPANZEES ARE SMART

Washoe the chimpanzee has more than a *veneer* of intelligence; she can signal her desire to eat, go in or out, be covered, or brush her teeth. In addition, she can make signs for *emotive* expressions like “I’m sorry” and “I

hurt.” Humans convey information through *countenance* and gesture, after all. This *vivacious* animal can *evince* her desire for more dessert by putting her fingers together (“more”), and then placing her index and second fingers on top of her tongue (“sweet”). With hardly a *grimace*, she has mastered her daily assignments.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Iago never outwardly _____ his hatred for Othello.
2. The _____ young bride captivated all of the wedding guests.
3. Using _____ language to frame a policy debate can strongly influence voters.
4. Gilded jewelry has a thin _____ of gold that soon chips away.
5. The dentist could tell by the patient’s _____ that he needed more Novocaine.
6. Throughout the trial, Eichmann wore an impassive _____ despite the horrors that were related by witnesses and on film.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. veneer | _____ | a. expressing strong feelings |
| 8. emotive | _____ | b. facial expression |
| 9. vivacious | _____ | c. pained expression |
| 10. evince | _____ | d. thin covering |
| 11. countenance | _____ | e. to make a feeling known |
| 12. grimace | _____ | f. lively |

WEEK 18



DAY 3

Expression

NEW WORDS

tableau

tab - lō

avid

av - id

wince

wins

diminutive

də - min - yū - tiv

innate

in - āt

mien

mēn

Notable Roots:

table = flat, setting; min = small;

nate = birth

EASY TO TRAIN

The chimpanzees are deemed by scientists to be the closest to humans in terms of the *tableau* of abilities they possess. Several years ago, two

married researchers *avidly* embarked on an interesting project: they reared and trained a chimp in almost the same manner as they would have raised a child. While some might *wince* at the idea of living with an animal in such a manner, the *diminutive* baby chimp did beautifully, convincing the couple of the *innate* ability of the chimpanzee. Is it really such a surprise? Coming face to face with any great ape, the interplay of emotion and reasoning visible in its *mien* is so analogous to the workings of our own minds.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. The chief of staff _____ at his boss's verbal gaffe.
2. Eddie seems to have an _____ sense of direction: he's never lost.
3. Babies can scrutinize the _____ of a stranger for threat or security.
4. Raphael's *School of Athens* is a famous _____ of ancient philosophers.
5. The _____ Statue of Liberty in Paris was a model for the real one.
6. An _____ expert of a sport is better described as an aficionado.*

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. tableau | _____ | a. to flinch slightly |
| 8. avid | _____ | b. arising naturally |
| 9. wince | _____ | c. collection; assembly |
| 10. diminutive | _____ | d. enthusiastic |
| 11. innate | _____ | e. revealing facial expression |
| 12. mien | _____ | f. very small |

WEEK 18



DAY 4

Expression

NEW WORDS

demeanor

də - mēn - ər

nondescript

non - də - skript

physiognomy

fiz - ē - og - nō - mē

facade

fə - sod

penchant

pen - chənt

chagrin

shə - grin

Notable Roots:

mean = face, bearing; script = writing;

gno = knowledge

MORE FACTS ABOUT CHIMPS

Chimpanzees are known for expressing themselves with other individuals in their troop by means of sounds, motion, and *demeanor*. While some

vocalizations have obvious meaning, others are more *nondescript*. Like humans, however, the chimp has an expressive *physiognomy*. Socially chimps live in small groups with a dominance hierarchy usually dominated by males. To avoid violence, male chimps prefer to assume a fearsome *façade* to get rivals to back down. Chimps have a *penchant* for forming alliances, which can improve their social standing, often to the *chagrin* of stronger but less “popular” males.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Many nineteenth-century Midwestern buildings have impressive _____.
2. To my manager’s _____, I have decided to accept the job offer.
3. Dora has a _____ for lateness so save her a place at dinner.
4. The Secret Service agent quickly noted the _____ of the menacing heckler.
5. Cato the Elder’s cantankerous disposition is clear in the grim, well-lined _____ of his famous plaster bust.
6. A _____ appearance is an asset for a covert operative.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. demeanor | _____ | a. lacking notable characteristics |
| 8. nondescript | _____ | b. bearing or behavior |
| 9. physiognomy | _____ | c. distress |
| 10. façade | _____ | d. preference; tendency |
| 11. penchant | _____ | e. outer face or shell |
| 12. chagrin | _____ | f. revealing facial expression or appearance |

WEEK 18 **DAY 5** **Expression**

GROUP REVIEW

While it is true that scientists have had remarkable success in teaching chimpanzees to communicate, we can be certain that even super-monkeys would have difficulty with any of the words below. However, higher animals who apply themselves can master all of them.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

1. avid
2. chagrin
3. countenance
4. demeanor
5. demonstrative
6. diminutive
7. emotive
8. evince
9. evoke
10. facade
11. gesticulate
12. grimace
13. hail

DEFINITIONS

- a. visually expressive
- b. arising naturally
- c. to elicit
- d. outer face or shell
- e. pained expression
- f. revealing facial expression
- g. facial expression
- h. lacking notable characteristics
- i. thin covering
- j. bestow; offer up
- k. collection; assembly
- l. distress
- m. expressing strong feelings

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 14. impart | n. to signal; to salute |
| _____ | 15. innate | o. to express oneself through movement |
| _____ | 16. lexicon | p. enthusiastic |
| _____ | 17. mien | q. to make a feeling known |
| _____ | 18. nondescript | r. lively |
| _____ | 19. penchant | s. to flinch slightly |
| _____ | 20. physiognomy | t. revealing facial expression or appearance |
| _____ | 21. tableau | u. bearing or behavior |
| _____ | 22. veneer | v. preference; tendency |
| _____ | 23. vivacious | w. list of words |
| _____ | 24. wince | x. very small |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story.

Clues

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

4th Day

Life Imitating Art

Picture the most awkward portraits of yourself as a teenager. What stands out is the self-consciousness and lack of naturalism. Makes you _____ just thinking about it, right? Pictures of small children are not typically so awkward. Naturally _____ and emotional, children are a whirlwind of mercurial sincerity. That is, unless you force them to sit down, look at the camera and smile. Then you get the same _____ leer of the adolescent.

The salient* feature of a bad portrait is the disconnect between the mouth and eyes that occurs when trying to mimic the facial expressions that come naturally with strong emotions. You get a _____ like a robot's poor imitation of natural human gestures. Method actors know the secret to authentic posing—experience the feeling that corresponds to the _____ you want to display. If you want a real smile, then like Peter Pan, think a happy thought.

Facial expressions are one of the most powerful ways for humans to convey emotional content. Babies can read a whole _____ of facial cues within days of birth and spend much of their time scrutinizing the emotional weather crossing the faces of their caregivers. This partly explains why so many children are afraid of clowns—simply by applying their makeup carelessly, clowns can unintentionally give off _____ cues that convey fear or danger.

Adults _____ perceive qualities like confidence, honesty, and empathy (or their opposites) from cues like eye contact, facial tension, as well as mouth and eye shape. In fact, it was commonly believed until quite recently that the _____ of a person could not help but betray a person's true character. Only a monster, it was held, like Shakespeare's Iago or Richard III, is capable of a perfectly fabricated _____.

WEEK 19



DAY 1

Power

NEW WORDS

omnipotent

om - nip - ə - tənt

infallible

in - fal - ə - bəl

despot

des - pət

tyranny

tēr - ə - nē

legion (adj.)

lē - jən

coup

kū

Notable Roots:

omni = all; poten = power; fall = fail;

leg = law

TROUBLE IN RURITANIA

King Andre of Ruritania had come to consider himself, like God, to be *omnipotent* and *infallible*. To the chagrin* of his people, he had become

something of a *despot* as a result. After ten years of his *tyranny*, the treasury was bankrupt, unemployment was rampant,* domestic strife was mounting, and the number of the king's opponents was *legion*. Following a bloodless *coup*, his nephew, Prince Schubert, took command of the poor nation.

Sample Sentences: Based upon your understanding of the new words, place them in the spaces provided.

1. Paradoxically, _____ is often practiced by weak, insecure regimes.
2. Fans of celebrity culture are _____, a fact that has more to do with the power of electronic media than anything else.
3. In nations where the military is politicized, _____ are all too common.
4. Considered _____ by his acolytes, the cult leader's orders were not questioned.
5. Despite his association with Voltaire, Frederick the Great was still a _____.
6. By forcing Henry II to do public penance for Becket's murder, the Pope was asserting that the church alone was _____ and even kings have to obey.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. omnipotent | _____ | a. heavy-handed autocratic rule |
| 8. infallible | _____ | b. undemocratic takeover of government |
| 9. despot | _____ | c. all-powerful |
| 10. tyranny | _____ | d. great in number |
| 11. legion | _____ | e. incapable of error |
| 12. coup | _____ | f. absolute ruler |

WEEK 19



DAY 2

Power

NEW WORDS

august

ô - gust

prerogative

prə - rog - ə - tiv

abjure

ab - jur

officious

ə - fish - əs

disinterested

dis - in - trəs - təd

paramount

par - ə - mount

Notable Roots:

rog = ask; ab = away; jure = swear; offic = duty; para = by;
mount = above

PRINCE SCHUBERT IN ACTION

Forgoing an *august* coronation, which was his *prerogative*, Prince Schubert's first move was to *abjure* persecution of political opposition. To

that end, he invited home all Ruritanian expatriates. Those who had been jailed on false charges were exonerated by special tribunals. The young leader then announced that he would reform the *officious* bureaucracy. In place of King Andre's cronies, the prince installed industrious,* *disinterested* ministers. In all things, his *paramount* concern was helping the country move forward. Things began to look up temporarily for the citizens who perceived in Prince Schubert sincerity, idealism, and honesty.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. A judge cannot be so _____ about the letter of the law that she lacks good sense.
2. A _____ witness of good character can give the most compelling testimony.
3. Fenway Park and Wrigley Field are two of the most _____ ballparks.
4. The aspiring* senator was forced to _____ his mentor after the scandal broke.
5. As company president, it is my _____ to choose our new logo.
6. Of the Manhattan Project's many priorities, secrecy was _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| 7. august | _____ | a. to formally renounce |
| 8. prerogative | _____ | b. uninvolved personally or financially |
| 9. abjure | _____ | c. highest |
| 10. officious | _____ | d. grand; deserving respect |
| 11. disinterested | _____ | e. one's right or privilege |
| 12. paramount | _____ | f. overly concerned with protocol |

WEEK 19



DAY 3

Power

NEW WORDS

abstruse

ab - strūs

puissant

pwē - sont

impregnable

im - preg - nə - bəl

potentate

pō - tən - tāt

subjugate

sub - jə - gāt

miscarry

mis - ca - rē

Notable Roots:

pren = take; poten = power; jug = join

REFORM MOVEMENT

Ruritania's financial situation was fraught with peril. Though Prince Schubert had installed an able finance minister, the bulwark of *abstruse* rules barring unilateral action and the *puissant* jurists who upheld them

seemed an *impregnable* barrier to meaningful reform. At the local level, many of the most corrupt officials were *potentates* unto themselves, refusing all cooperation. To stave off financial collapse, the government needed the will to *subjugate* these unelected bosses who wanted reform to *miscarry* at all costs.

Sample Sentences: Prove that you are not a flash in the pan by using the new words correctly in the following sentences.

1. The walls of Constantinople proved _____ for a thousand years.
2. The _____ of the ancient near east were revered as deities.
3. In due course, the Romans _____ the Latins, Etruscans, and Samnites.
4. Napoleon's reconquest of Europe in 1815 _____ before it began.
5. The _____ nobles of England increasingly gained power over the crown.
6. The "fair catch kick," which allows an unobstructed field goal attempt immediately after receiving a punt, is among the most _____ plays in football.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. abstruse | _____ | a. unable to be taken by force |
| 8. puissant | _____ | b. to fail during development |
| 9. impregnable | _____ | c. to conquer or subdue |
| 10. potentate | _____ | d. powerful |
| 11. subjugate | _____ | e. obscure |
| 12. miscarry | _____ | f. ruler |

WEEK 19



DAY 4

Power

NEW WORDS

peremptory
pér - emp - tə - rē

imperative
im - per - ə - tiv

foil
fōi - əl

effigy
ef - ə - jē

regal
rē - gəl

abdicate
ab - də - kāt

Notable Roots:

imper = command; regis = king; dic = state/command

DISAPPOINTMENT AND DEDICATION

When Prince Schubert asked for additional restrictive measures, the people began to balk.* Preferring cooperation to *peremptory* decrees, the young reformer took to the airwaves to explain why higher taxes and food

rationing were *imperative*. Nevertheless, a resistance movement bent on stymying the reform began to coalesce. Moreover, though they had once burned him in *effigy*, the people began to feel nostalgia for the *regal* King Andre. They admitted that corruption had been rife under Andre, but at least “everybody got his slice of the pie.” Although Prince Schubert was tempted to *abdicate*, he determined that he would help the people in spite of themselves.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Though often reviled, compromise is _____ for a republic to function.
2. King Edward VIII famously _____ after less than a year on the throne.
3. Jay Gatsby’s _____ bearing belies his humble origins.
4. To commemorate the thwarting* of the Gunpowder Plot each November 5th, Britons burn _____ of captured conspirator Guy Fawkes.
5. President Lincoln replaced McClellan after the Union general continued to stall despite Lincoln’s _____ order to attack the Confederacy.
6. Thomas Jefferson’s agenda was repeatedly _____ by the Supreme Court.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 7. peremptory | _____ | a. to ruin plans |
| 8. imperative | _____ | b. having a noble or royal demeanor |
| 9. foil | _____ | c. final; allowing no refusal |
| 10. effigy | _____ | d. to give up an office or duty |
| 11. regal | _____ | e. mandatory |
| 12. abdicate | _____ | f. a model of a person made for destruction |

WEEK 19



DAY 5

Power

GROUP REVIEW

Ruritania is a mythical kingdom, impossible to find on a map or a dictionary. The words that you are about to review, however, are all legitimate, acceptable dictionary words.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abdicate
- _____ 2. abjure
- _____ 3. abstruse
- _____ 4. august
- _____ 5. coup
- _____ 6. despot
- _____ 7. disinterested
- _____ 8. effigy
- _____ 9. foil
- _____ 10. imperative
- _____ 11. impregnable
- _____ 12. infallible
- _____ 13. legion
- _____ 14. miscarry

DEFINITIONS

- a. overly concerned with details and protocol
- b. heavy-handed autocratic rule
- c. uninvolved personally or financially
- d. all-powerful
- e. final; allowing no refusal
- f. incapable of error
- g. absolute ruler
- h. undemocratic takeover of government
- i. to conquer or subdue
- j. to formally renounce
- k. to fail during development
- l. highest
- m. grand; deserving respect
- n. mandatory

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. officious | o. obscure |
| _____ | 16. omnipotent | p. great in number |
| _____ | 17. paramount | q. a model of a person made for destruction |
| _____ | 18. peremptory | r. unable to be taken by force |
| _____ | 19. potentate | s. having a noble or royal demeanor |
| _____ | 20. prerogative | t. one's right or privilege |
| _____ | 21. puissant | u. powerful |
| _____ | 22. regal | v. to give up an office or duty |
| _____ | 23. subjugate | w. to prevent or obstruct |
| _____ | 24. tyranny | x. ruler |

Wordsearch

Direction: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

4th Day

3rd Day

1st Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

Hail to the Queen

Elizabeth II wasn't born to rule. When she was born in 1926, her father was second in line to succeed King George V. Her uncle, Edward, was the heir apparent. What no one could predict is that Edward would _____ in order to marry an American divorcee.

In an instant, Elizabeth's father became King George VI and the ten-year-old princess was heir to the throne. King George led his nation with _____ tact and fortitude through some of the darkest years in modern history. When Britain declared war on Germany in 1939, King George heroically mastered his stutter to reassure his people via radio address that their island fortress was

_____ and that the nation would resist Nazi _____, no matter the cost. Princess Elizabeth did her bit, joining the Auxiliary Territorial Service and training to be a truck driver and mechanic to aid the war effort. On the day Germany surrendered, Princess Elizabeth and her sister, Princess Margaret, slipped out to mingle with the rejoicing Londoners, whose numbers were

After the war, Princess Elizabeth married and became a mother. She also took on more royal _____ and responsibilities, filling in for her ailing father at public events throughout the Empire. Then, during a visit to Kenya in February 1952, she received word that her father had died. She was now Queen Elizabeth II.

Elizabeth I reigned during an age when Shakespeare was writing his greatest plays. The Elizabethan era saw the defeat of the Spanish Armada and the voyages of Sir Francis Drake. For the people of 1952, the possibility of a second Elizabethan age was understandably exciting, although it would not be easy to live up to the legacy of her _____ ancestor. Then came a sign: three days before Elizabeth's coronation, Sir Edmund Hillary conquered the summit of the world's _____ peak, Mount Everest.

Elizabeth II has presided over an era of cooperation, not conquest. Instead of ruling over _____ peoples, Britain leads a voluntary commonwealth. As _____, she is the symbol of that commonwealth. Her portrait graces coins from Jamaica to New Zealand. In 2015, Elizabeth II became the longest-reigning monarch in British history. While her reign may not have produced Shakespeare, it did give us the Beatles!

WEEK 20



DAY 1

Insults

NEW WORDS

vilify
vil - ə - fī

defamatory
də - fam - ə - tōr - ē

polemic
pə - lem - ik

denigrate
den - ə- grāt

stigmatize
stig - mə - tīz

opprobrium
ə - prō - brē - um

Notable Roots:

vil = ugly, dishonorable; fam = fame; stigma = mark or stain

LA CUCARACHA—THE COCKROACH

The poor cockroach has been called the “most *vilified* creature on the face of the earth.” Nobody loves him—except, perhaps, another cockroach. Fiction, nonfiction, and poetry are replete with *defamatory* references to

these ubiquitous bugs. Public health officials in published *polemics* are quick to *denigrate* the insects as carriers of viruses that cause yellow fever and polio. Recent studies show that an allergy to roaches may contribute significantly to asthma. Little wonder, therefore, that the pesky cockroach has been so *stigmatized* and is the target of universal *opprobrium*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Written _____ remarks without evidence can be grounds for a libel suit.
2. While _____ expose problems, they offer few solutions.
3. A public figure who apologizes for a mistake should not be _____ for life.
4. Cannabis use was largely _____ during the 1930s due to its association with countercultural elements in society.
5. Fascism has earned the _____ heaped on it by historians.
6. Alfred Dreyfus, who was falsely convicted of espionage by the French army, was _____ by the press and people even after his exoneration.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. vilify | _____ | a. written or spoken attack |
| 8. defamatory | _____ | b. to put someone down |
| 9. polemic | _____ | c. to cast in a negative light |
| 10. denigrate | _____ | d. disgrace |
| 11. stigmatize | _____ | e. criticize or condemn |
| 12. opprobrium | _____ | f. harmful toward one's reputation |

WEEK 20



DAY 2

Insults

NEW WORDS

besmirch

bē - smérch

excoriate

eks - kôr - ē - āt

umbrage

um - brəj

calumny

kal - um - nē

deride

də - rīd

condescend

kon - də - send

Notable Roots:

core = heart, center; umbra = shadow;

rid/ris = laugh

WAITER, PLEASE TAKE THIS BOWL OF SOUP BACK

Cockroaches have *besmirched* reputations for a number of reasons. Doctors understandably *excoriate* cockroaches because of the health risks they pose. Those that live with them, however, take *umbrage* with their smell. Upon entering a cellar that is redolent with their aroma, you are not likely to forget the odor. The most intense *calumny* you can level at a place of lodging for its lack of cleanliness is to *deride* it as a “roach motel.” Roaches will also *descend* to feed on literally anything: wallpaper, upholstery, nylon stockings, and beer.

Sample Sentences: The words above fit into the blanks below.

1. Voters are tired of leaders who _____ to them.
2. _____ is a fancy word for character assassination.
3. After Lily Bart’s name is _____ by a prominent woman in New York society, she becomes a social outcast.
4. The _____ felt by supporters of both parties is quite intense.
5. Those who _____ the young, ambitious Nixon became his lifelong enemies.
6. Peter Stuyvesant was _____ by his employers for attempting to exclude Jews from New Amsterdam.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. besmirch | _____ | a. false insulting remarks |
| 8. excoriate | _____ | b. offence |
| 9. umbrage | _____ | c. to mock |
| 10. calumny | _____ | d. to act superior |
| 11. deride | _____ | e. attack someone’s character |
| 12. condescend | _____ | f. harshly criticize |

WEEK 20



DAY 3

Insults

NEW WORDS

belittle

bē - lit - əl

risible

rīz - ə - bəl

retort

rē - tōrt

scoff

skōf

quip

kwip

disdain

dis - dān

Notable Roots:

rid/ris = laugh; tort = turn; dain = acknowledge

THE ROACH LIVES ON

Although we *belittle* them, cockroaches are remarkable survivors. They are the oldest extant winged insects, dating back 350 million years. In comparison, our 100,000-year existence is *risible*. In response to human

roach-bashing, one writer has *retorted*, “The miraculous survival of the roach is explained by its inherent adaptability.” They *scoff* at the dangers of weather, natural disasters, and war. They reside comfortably in caves in South America, in transcontinental airplanes, on mountain tops, in Park Avenue edifices, and in television sets. In fact, many a cynic has *quipped* that cockroaches would be the only thing left after a nuclear war. It’s only natural that such an ancient creature is indifferent to our *disdain*.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Before Einstein, many scientists _____ at the idea of the atom.
2. Mencken was always ready with a quick _____ to any jibe.
3. The general public considered the Edsel’s design _____.
4. The French aristocracy’s _____ for the Third Estate helped provoke revolution.
5. It is not socially acceptable to _____ those who are physically different.
6. Gandhi famously _____ that Western Civilization is a “nice idea.”

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. belittle | _____ | a. to make a witty remark |
| 8. risible | _____ | b. to dismiss scornfully |
| 9. retort | _____ | c. to make fun of someone |
| 10. scoff | _____ | d. reply to an insult |
| 11. quip | _____ | e. contempt or distaste |
| 12. disdain | _____ | f. ridiculous |

WEEK 20



DAY 4

Insults

NEW WORDS

disparage

dis - par - əj

repulsive

rē - pul - siv

repudiate

rē - pyū - dē - āt

contemptuous

kon - temp - shū - əs

deprecate

dep- rə - kāt

caustic

kōs - tik

Notable Roots:

par = equal; puls = push; prec = ask

TONGUE IN CHEEK?

An array of products exist that purportedly exterminate roaches. They are often marketed with commercials that *disparage* the insects as *repulsive* and helpless before the might of man-made poisons. Scientists have *repudiated*

such claims by pointing out that whenever a new insecticide debuts, it only provides temporary relief. Hardy roaches always survive and breed offspring resistant to the new insecticide. *Contemptuous* of the roach as we may be, any long-term solution seems unlikely. Some sentimental souls even *deprecate* such attempts. A writer *caustically* suggested a crash program of aid for the cockroach, calling him “a victim of his slum environment.”

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. To occasionally _____ oneself can be a charming attribute.
2. If Woodrow Wilson had not been so _____ of compromise, he might have persuaded enough Republicans to ratify the Treaty of Versailles.
3. General Lanrezac helped the French avoid encirclement in 1914, but his _____ manner led to his dismissal.
4. Scrooge eventually _____ the merciless predatory lending that made him rich.
5. Dorian Gray’s portrait is as _____ as his character is corrupt.
6. The Brooklyn Dodgers, long _____ as “Bums,” beat the Yankees in 1955.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings. Three choices are close enough in meaning to be considered interchangeable.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. disparage | _____ | a. disgusting |
| 8. repulsive | _____ | b. regarded as worthless |
| 9. repudiate | _____ | c. corrosive; sarcastic |
| 10. contemptuous | _____ | d. to reject |
| 11. deprecate | _____ | e. to disapprove of; to put down |
| 12. caustic | _____ | f. to regard scornfully |

WEEK 20



DAY 5

Insults

GROUP REVIEW

There are many choice epithets for cockroaches, and over the centuries man has been most resourceful* in concocting* adjectives to describe the insects. Whether you are going to rant or rave about the roach, it helps to have a rich vocabulary.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. belittle
- _____ 2. besmirch
- _____ 3. calumny
- _____ 4. caustic
- _____ 5. condescend
- _____ 6. contemptuous
- _____ 7. defamatory
- _____ 8. denigrate
- _____ 9. deprecate
- _____ 10. deride
- _____ 11. disdain
- _____ 12. disparage
- _____ 13. excoriate

DEFINITIONS

- a. harmful toward one's reputation
- b. to dismiss scornfully
- c. to put someone down
- d. to cast in a negative light
- e. to make fun of someone
- f. criticize or condemn
- g. to attack someone's character
- h. harshly criticize
- i. disgrace
- j. reply to an insult
- k. disgusting
- l. ridiculous
- m. to reject

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ | 14. opprobrium | n. corrosive; sarcastic |
| _____ | 15. polemic | o. to regard scornfully |
| _____ | 16. quip | p. false insulting remarks |
| _____ | 17. repudiate | q. offence |
| _____ | 18. repulsive | r. contempt or distaste |
| _____ | 19. retort | s. to act superior |
| _____ | 20. risible | t. to disapprove of; to put down |
| _____ | 21. scoff | u. to make a witty remark |
| _____ | 22. stigmatize | v. regarded as worthless |
| _____ | 23. umbrage | w. written or spoken attack |
| _____ | 24. vilify | x. to mock |

Hapless Headlines

Directions: Restore meaning to the headlines below by inserting the word that the careless typesetter omitted. Instances when multiple choices are possible are indicated by the number of possibilities.

- a. belittle
 - b. besmirch
 - c. calumny
 - d. caustic
 - e. condescend
 - f. contemptuous
 - g. defamatory
 - h. denigrate
 - i. deprecate
 - j. deride
 - k. disdain
 - l. disparage
 - m. excoriate
 - n. opprobrium
 - o. polemic
 - p. quip
 - q. repudiate
 - r. repulsive
 - s. retort
 - t. risible
 - u. scoff
 - v. stigmatize
 - w. umbrage
 - x. vilify
1. CEO Shows _____ for Subpoena

- 2.** Manager Takes _____ with Pitcher's Comments
- 3.** Senate _____ by Overriding President's Veto
- 4.** Alma Mater _____ (3) Heisman Winner in Wake of Scandal
- 5.** Owner _____ at Strikers' Demands
- 6.** _____ Leveled Against Author Proven False
- 7.** Actress _____ (7) Former Husband
- 8.** New Film _____ (5) for Lack of Originality
- 9.** Conditions in Slums Described as “_____” by First Lady
- 10.** Cheating Sprinter Faces Universal _____

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

Chlorine Compounds on Trial

Chances are that the water supply where you live is disinfected by chlorine, one of the elements on the periodic table. Yet, _____ complaints about chlorine continue, _____ it as a health and environmental risk.

Greenpeace, the environmental activist group, has published numerous _____ alleging that chlorinated organic compounds are toxic. The Environmental Protection Agency is reexamining the health hazards that are prevalent when materials containing chlorine are processed at high temperatures. And, worldwide, nations are banning chlorine compounds that destroy the earth's protective ozone layer. It seems harsh to _____ one of nature's basic elements.

When we enter a pool that is redolent with the aroma of chlorine, we don't associate it with the much _____ element now being blamed for tumors, reproductive problems, arrested development, destruction of wildlife, and sundry other ills that plague our planet. Without chlorination, public pools would still be sources of water-borne diseases like polio. The use of chlorine gas as a weapon during World War I deserves the _____ of all mankind—as do all poison gases. Before _____ the reputation of a faultless element of nature, however, we should recall the far greater ravages of disease that chlorinated antiseptics help keep at bay.

When elements bond together, their natures change. It would be utterly _____ to fault water for containing hydrogen, a known explosive. Chlorine makes up 50% of table salt, better known as sodium chloride. Shall we _____ the salt of the earth? Instead, let us avoid sweeping judgements and take _____ only with specific compounds that cause harm.

WEEK 21



DAY 1

Indefinite

NEW WORDS

nuance

nū - əns

imperceptible

im - pér - sept - ə - bəl

conjecture

kon - jek - chér

delude

də - lūd

latent

lāt - ənt

dubious

dū - bē - əs

Notable Roots:

percept = sense; ject = throw; lud = play;
dubit = doubt

LOCKED IN AN IVORY TOWER

Prince Siddhartha Gautama was the scion* of a family of warrior kings in northern India. There was little philosophical *nuance* to his education; he

was being indoctrinated for the time when he would assume his father's throne. The cruel realities of the world were *imperceptible* to the young prince. He could only *conjecture* about life outside his father's walls. Despite the army of servants who catered to his every whim and *deluded* him with fulsome* praise, a *latent* spiritual hunger left him *dubious* about the life he was living. It wasn't until the prince was 30 that he took the first step toward becoming the Buddha, one of the world's greatest spiritual leaders.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences. (Which two words are almost synonymous?)

1. One common practice of totalitarian states is _____ the masses with propaganda.
2. While the need for evidence is crucial, scientists should not be afraid of _____.
3. A cool object that is warmer than its surroundings has _____ heat.
4. Impressionists studied the _____ of light and shadow playing upon a subject.
5. The _____ prospect of ending poverty was dispelled by the Great Depression.
6. Even at supersonic speeds, the effects of time dilation are practically _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. nuance | _____ | a. to mislead |
| 8. imperceptible | _____ | b. hidden |
| 9. conjecture | _____ | c. skeptical |
| 10. delude | _____ | d. subtle detail; subtlety |
| 11. latent | _____ | e. a guess or hypothesis |
| 12. dubious | _____ | f. undetectable |

WEEK 21



DAY 2

Indefinite

NEW WORDS

dormant

dôr - mənt

disabused

dis - ə - byūzd

inscrutable

in - scrū - tə - bəl

reticent

ret - ə - sənt

opaque

ō - pāk

euphemism

yū - fem - izm

Notable Roots:

dor = sleep; scru = search; taci/teci = silent; eu = good; pheme = speech

SIDDHARTHA'S EYES ARE OPENED

One day, Siddhartha expressed his *dormant* desire to ride out among his people. He was profoundly *disabused* by the misery, destitution, and disease with which his people were afflicted. *Inscrutable* in his designs, he retired

to his room to ponder over what he had seen. Lost in contemplation, he remained *reticent* for several days until the nature of his existence was no longer *opaque* to him. To Siddhartha, it would be a *euphemism* to say that his life had been privileged. He felt it had been sinfully decadent, and he was determined to make amends.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. As cataracts form, the lenses of the eye become _____ to light.
2. A great poker player maintains an _____ face at all time.
3. “Corporate restructuring” is just a _____ for mass layoffs.
4. Many once _____ volcanoes have caused the worst destruction.
5. Family members of cult victims find it difficult to _____ their loved ones.
6. On his deathbed, the gangster, Arnold Rothstein, remained _____ about the identity of the rival who fatally shot him.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. dormant | _____ | a. immune to understanding |
| 8. disabused | _____ | b. not transparent |
| 9. inscrutable | _____ | c. inactive |
| 10. reticent | _____ | d. a kind phrase that conceals darker truth |
| 11. opaque | _____ | e. to convince someone a belief is false |
| 12. euphemism | _____ | f. quiet |

WEEK 21



DAY 3

Indefinite

NEW WORDS

ostensible

os - tens - ə - bəl

discreet

dis - krēt

esoteric

es - ə - ter - ik

circuitous

sér - kyū - it - əs

furtive

fér - tiv

nebulous

neb- yū - ləs

Notable Roots:

ten = hold, maintain; crete = grow; circu = circle; nebul = cloud

THE ENLIGHTENED ONE

Siddhartha's *ostensible* plan was simple. First, he would exchange his sumptuous* garments for a more *discreet* monk's robe. Then, he would cleanse himself of his previous life by becoming an ascetic. Finally, he

would study *esoteric* Hindu wisdom in order to be prepared to help his suffering people. After six years of *circuitous* wandering and attracting only a handful of disciples, Siddhartha came to a huge tree near the Indian city of Gaya. For seven weeks, he sat *furtively* beneath its branches, seeking an answer for his personal torment. Finally, it is said, he underwent a metamorphosis, piercing the *nebulous* veil of common understanding to become the Enlightened One—the Buddha.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. A _____ glance gave the would-be assassin away.
2. Red dwarf stars, while large, are also _____ in appearance.
3. A public figure can always benefit from the counsel of a _____ publicist.
4. The state trooper's _____ reason for the traffic stop was a taillight violation.
5. Football has a highly _____ language that only former players really understand.
6. Newton's writing was so dense and _____ that it required Edmund Halley to translate and publicize the brilliant ideas captured in the *Principia*.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. ostensible | _____ | a. winding and indirect |
| 8. discreet | _____ | b. official or overt, often concealing another intent |
| 9. esoteric | _____ | c. hazy; undefined |
| 10. circuitous | _____ | d. careful; showing tact |
| 11. furtive | _____ | e. hidden |
| 12. nebulous | _____ | f. obscure; technical |

WEEK 21



DAY 4

Indefinite

NEW WORDS

impenetrable

im - pen - ə - trə - bəl

surreptitious

sér - rep - tish - əs

ambiguous

am - big - yū - əs

clandestine

klan - des - tin

specious

spē - shəs

reputed

rē - pyū - təd

Notable Roots:

sur = on, under;

rap = seize; ambi = two; specie = real

LOVE OVER HATRED, GOODNESS OVER EVIL

Buddha rejected the *impenetrable* knowledge and *surreptitious* mysteries favored by many religious cults of the time. His vision was not *ambiguous* or open only to a *clandestine* elect. He outlined three paths that men might travel. The first two—worldly pleasure and self-torment—each had their allure but were of *specious* spiritual value. Only through a middle path between these extremes could man achieve peace and salvation. One had to repudiate* materialism, keep self-control, reject selfish drives, and nurture goodness. Through good deeds and pure thoughts, man may reach nirvana.* Interestingly enough, the man who was *reputed* to object to traditional religious worship was to become idolized by millions throughout the world.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. In battle, an _____ plan is a recipe for disaster.
2. The _____ activities of Cold War intelligence agencies were fascinating.
3. Although he was often called a “butcher,” General Grant was _____ to hate the sight of blood.
4. The job ad, which only spoke of great perks, seemed highly _____.
5. _____ hazing rituals, now exposed, are widely banned.
6. The monks were troves of _____ knowledge, but they lacked worldly experience.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. impenetrable | _____ | a. hidden to avoid penalty |
| 8. surreptitious | _____ | b. believed to be |
| 9. ambiguous | _____ | c. obscure; not well known |
| 10. clandestine | _____ | d. of questionable authenticity |
| 11. specious | _____ | e. secretive |
| 12. reputed | _____ | f. unclear |

WEEK 21



DAY 5

Indefinite

GROUP REVIEW

For the past 20 weeks, each of these review exercises has contained a bit of propaganda to point out the need for you to expand your vocabulary. This week is no exception.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. ambiguous
- _____ 2. circuitous
- _____ 3. clandestine
- _____ 4. conjecture
- _____ 5. delude
- _____ 6. disabuse
- _____ 7. discreet
- _____ 8. dormant
- _____ 9. dubious
- _____ 10. esoteric
- _____ 11. euphemism
- _____ 12. furtive
- _____ 13. impenetrable
- _____ 14. imperceptible

DEFINITIONS

- a. a kind phrase that conceals darker truth
- b. official, often concealing another intent
- c. subtle detail; subtlety
- d. careful; showing tact
- e. undetectable
- f. skeptical
- g. immune to understanding
- h. a guess or hypothesis
- i. inactive
- j. of questionable authenticity
- k. obscure; not well known
- l. quiet
- m. hidden to avoid penalty
- n. to convince someone a belief is false

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 15. inscrutable | o. secretive |
| _____ | 16. latent | p. winding and indirect |
| _____ | 17. nebulous | q. believed to be |
| _____ | 18. nuance | r. hazy; undefined |
| _____ | 19. opaque | s. unclear |
| _____ | 20. ostensible | t. hidden (1) |
| _____ | 21. reputed | u. obscure; technical |
| _____ | 22. reticent | v. not transparent |
| _____ | 23. specious | w. hidden (2) |
| _____ | 24. surreptitious | x. to mislead |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

1st Day

History's Most Extraordinary Person?

In a celebrated essay about Joan of Arc, Mark Twain wrote movingly of her brief moment in the spotlight, which left an indelible mark on world history. To say that Joan was inexperienced would be a _____: at age 16 she was illiterate, had never strayed from her sleepy little village, and knew nothing of military combat. But at age 17, she promised to the _____ Dauphin to restore him to his throne. Sensing some _____ quality of fate at work, the deposed French heir named Joan his commander in chief.

Hatred against the usurping* English was hardly _____. Only the most _____ English nobles could fail to see that the French were not conquered, and with the charismatic King Henry V dead, the barely _____ spirit of rebellion was ready to burst forth. Joan proved to be the catalyst.* She attracted many followers and seemed to grasp _____ of warfare that escaped seasoned commanders. Through her surprising and brilliant victories, she helped rouse the _____ patriotism of once-demoralized countrymen.

Unfortunately, Joan was brought low by treachery at the French court and captured by the enemy. Although she could neither read nor write, Joan showed a mastery of the _____ aspects of French law when she defended herself at a court trial. She was also _____ to have the ability

to forecast future events with remarkable accuracy, correctly predicting her own martyrdom. Mark Twain understood how geniuses such as Napoleon and Edison could develop, but could not begin to _____ how this humble peasant girl could display the qualities of a mature statesman, a learned jurist, and a military wizard. He concluded: "she is easily and by far the most extraordinary person the human race has ever produced."

WEEK 22



DAY 1

Sloth

NEW WORDS

apathy
ap - ə - thē

drudgery
druj - ə - rē

aloof
ə - lūf

lethargic
le - thär - jik

timorous
tim - ər - əs

cynical
sin - ik - əl

Notable Roots:

path = feeling;
lethe = forgetfulness; timor = fear

HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT

A common screed that seems to garner attention on digital media holds that smart phone usage is to blame for increasing levels of social *apathy*. The

general formula goes like this: while work has long been *drudgery*, human beings are uplifted by connecting with strangers on their journeys through public space. We have become increasingly *aloof* now that we can hide behind screens. The socially *lethargic* never have to raise their eyes or ask the time with their *timorous* voices. Call me *cynical*, but I think it's hilarious reading these polemics* on my phone.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Acting superior and _____ at parties is usually a sign of insecurity.
2. Only a _____ person would order a veggie burger with bacon.
3. The _____ of the masses is the greatest barrier to meaningful reform.
4. Mary felt so _____ that she didn't leave her couch all day.
5. Most soldiers during the Great War preferred the danger of combat to the _____ of digging fortifications.
6. A _____ attitude precludes the creativity needed to solve tough problems.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. apathy | _____ | a. lacking energy |
| 8. drudgery | _____ | b. skeptical of human nature |
| 9. aloof | _____ | c. fearful |
| 10. lethargic | _____ | d. lack of concern; indifference |
| 11. timorous | _____ | e. unapproachable |
| 12. cynical | _____ | f. tedious work |

WEEK 22



DAY 2

Sloth

NEW WORDS

stupor

stū - pər

lassitude

las - ə - tūd

lax

laks

unkempt

un - kempt

inhibition

in - hə - bish - ən

sedentary

sed - ən - ter - ē

Notable Roots:

stup = dull/numb;

las/lax = late; sed = sit

DOWN IN A HOLE

Depression is often mischaracterized as an extremity of sadness. Anguish is a healthy response to tragedies like losing a spouse or a terminal diagnosis,

however. The depressed tend to experience *stupor*, not sadness, their daily existence is plagued by unrelenting *lassitude*. Once-fulfilling activities are sapped of their pleasure. Sufferers can become *lax* about dressing and hygiene, giving them an *unkempt* appearance, regardless of their past habits. This *inhibition* ultimately worsens to the point that anything but a *sedentary* lifestyle seems impossible.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. An _____ job applicant typically lacks a sense of professionalism.
2. The morphine given to the patient brought about a merciful _____.
3. A _____ lifestyle can lead to dangerous blood clotting.
4. The children of _____ parents often crave structure.
5. After recovering from a stroke, Mr. Chang acquired a certain _____.
6. Some people's _____ runs so deep that dancing seems alien and terrifying.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. stupor | _____ | a. weariness |
| 8. lassitude | _____ | b. internal restraint on action or expression |
| 9. lax | _____ | c. characterized by immobility |
| 10. unkempt | _____ | d. loosely regulated |
| 11. inhibition | _____ | e. a state of numbness or insensibility |
| 12. sedentary | _____ | f. messy; uncared for |

WEEK 22



DAY 3

Sloth

NEW WORDS

taut

tôt

banal

bə - nal

tremulous

trem - yū - ləs

imperturbable

im - pér - tèrb - ə - bəl

phlegmatic

fleg - mat - ik

indifferent

in - dif - ə - rənt

Notable Roots:

treme = shake; turbu = unrest; phlegm = illness; differ = oppose

CATCH-22

Neurotransmitters act on our mood and energy levels. While pleasurable goals, like eating, are self-rewarding, others—like winning, learning, and social bonding—are not. To reinforce behaviors that help us achieve such

goals the brain releases dopamine, which causes feelings of arousal—like the *taut* focus of a cat hunting prey. Without dopamine, life can feel unbearably *banal*, but constant arousal leaves one *tremulous*. Contentment is a feeling of *imperturbable* security that comes from having one’s needs met—like a purring cat on your lap. Serotonin promotes feelings of contentment in response to productive activities like exercise, sleep, and eating. Depression correlates with low neurotransmitter levels, creating a positive-feedback loop. This leaves sufferers feeling *phlegmatic* and *indifferent* to activities that normally stimulate them.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Wealthy children can find a life free from economic anxiety _____ and dull.
2. Only in dangerous situations do some otherwise _____ people feel truly alive.
3. As Ortiz awaited Rivera’s pitch, the atmosphere was _____ with excitement.
4. The witness described the robbery with a _____ voice.
5. Some people are utterly _____ to the suffering of others.
6. Dr. Torres felt herself completely _____ during surgery.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 7. taut | _____ | a. obvious and dull |
| 8. banal | _____ | b. lacking energy |
| 9. tremulous | _____ | c. uncaring |
| 10. imperturbable | _____ | d. tense; poised |
| 11. phlegmatic | _____ | e. filled with fear |
| 12. indifferent | _____ | f. calm and confident |

WEEK 22



DAY 4

Sloth

NEW WORDS

fretful

fret - fəl

squeamish

skwē - mish

languid

lang - wid

lackluster

lak - lust - ər

blasé

blä - zā

stunt (v.)

stunt

Notable Roots:

fret = worry; luster = shine; stunt = short

CHEMICAL INTERVENTION

The belief that luminaries like Jean-Michel Basquiat or Annie Leibowitz came out of the womb making great art is enough to make *fretful* aspiring* artists so *squeamish* that they drop their brushes and run at the first setback.

Great artists only become that way by honing their craft exhaustively. Someone with a bit of creative flair but a *languid* disposition will naturally have a *lackluster* career. Avoiding a *blasé* attitude and laboring at a profession diligently is essential. So is the intestinal fortitude to not allow setback and failure to *stunt* one's development.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Many hall-of-fame caliber athletes have had _____ playoff performances.
2. At tree line, conifers have the _____ appearance of shrubs.
3. A _____ doctor has no future working with sick or injured patients.
4. The _____ Field Marshal von Moltke failed to make the adjustments that could have saved the German army's campaign in 1914.
5. It sounds sophomoric* and artificial to be so _____ at such a young age.
6. My aunt is so _____ that she must be sedated before flying.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. fretful | _____ | a. bored; jaded |
| 8. squeamish | _____ | b. dull; unimpressive |
| 9. languid | _____ | c. lacking energy; listless |
| 10. lackluster | _____ | d. to impede; to inhibit |
| 11. blasé | _____ | e. worrisome |
| 12. stunt | _____ | f. easily affected by unpleasantness |

WEEK 22



DAY 5

Sloth

GROUP REVIEW

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. aloof
- _____ 2. apathy
- _____ 3. banal
- _____ 4. blasé
- _____ 5. cynical
- _____ 6. drudgery
- _____ 7. fretful
- _____ 8. imperturbable
- _____ 9. indifferent
- _____**10.** inhibition
- _____**11.** lackluster
- _____**12.** languid
- _____**13.** lassitude
- _____**14.** lax
- _____**15.** lethargic
- _____**16.** phlegmatic
- _____**17.** sedentary
- _____**18.** squeamish

DEFINITIONS

- a. internal restraint on action or expression
- b. lacking energy (1)
- c. worrisome
- d. unapproachable
- e. easily affected by unpleasantness
- f. messy; uncared for
- g. obvious and dull
- h. lacking energy (2)
- i. a state of numbness or insensibility
- j. fearful
- k. lack of concern; indifference
- l. uncaring
- m. dull; unimpressive
- n. tense; poised
- o. weariness
- p. filled with fear
- q. characterized by immobility
- r. loosely regulated

- _____ **19.** stunt
- _____ **20.** stupor
- _____ **21.** taut
- _____ **22.** timorous
- _____ **23.** tremulous
- _____ **24.** unkempt
- _____ **s.** bored; jaded
- _____ **t.** lacking energy; listless
- _____ **u.** calm and confident
- _____ **v.** to impede; to inhibit
- _____ **w.** skeptical of human nature
- _____ **x.** tedious work

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

4th Day

1st Day

Hair Today . . .

Most citizens are _____ to the fact that a hair salon can charge \$60 for a woman's shampoo and haircut but only \$20 for the same services for a man. Not so to one city's Department of Human Rights, which claimed that such a disparity is discriminatory. Commissioner Sophia Rodriguez has targeted gender-based pricing as a violation of city law.

Salon owners argue that many men are typically _____ in their hair care routine, preferring a stylish but somewhat _____ look. Female clientele, they further explain, usually do not have the same _____; as such, it takes much longer to cut a woman's hair and requires the use of additional products. But a spokesperson for the Department of Consumer Affairs said that beauty parlor owners have adopted a dishonest and _____ attitude toward their customers: that an injustice once normalized can become _____ enough to escape scrutiny.

"I know that women are fighting for equality," said one _____ owner of a chain of unisex hair salons, "but this threatens our livelihood. We cut a man's hair in no time, but we have to get more money from our female customers because their styling and cutting takes so much longer."

Many officials privately believe that in a city so beset by problems, enforcement of such an ordinance will be _____ at best. The police are likely to consider responding to salon discrimination claims pure _____ at the bottom of their list of priorities. A simpler solution, they argue, would be for stylists to charge by the minute instead of by the service.

WEEK 23



DAY 1

Uncertainty

NEW WORDS

arbitrary

är - bə - tre - rē

vicissitudes

vɪ - sis - i - tūdz

interim

in - tər - əm

agitate

aj - ə - tāt

ferment (n.)

fér - ment

desultory

des - ult - ə - rē

Notable Roots:

arbiter = judge;

inter = between;

agi = drive forward; ferv = boil; sali = jump

FROM A TO Z

Ellis Sloane, a science teacher at a large metropolitan high school, thought it curious that his two biology classes were so disparate in their performance. In most schools, classes are alphabetically *arbitrary*, with names running the gamut from Adams to Zilch. This happens largely because of *vicissitudes* of group dynamics: in the *interim* between school years, teachers discuss combinations that *agitate* poor behavior and split them up to prevent undue *ferment*. Sloane's classes, however, had simply been split up by name. Biology 121 had the A–M students and Biology 128 had N–Z. Sloane noticed other differences: while their reading scores and IQs were roughly analogous, Biology 128 was replete with *desultory* students, while Biology 121, in the main, was not. He had unwittingly stumbled upon a sociological principle.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. After noticing its _____ drifting, mariners found the *Mary Celeste* abandoned.
2. The Boston Massacre occurred because the _____ of a mob became unstable.
3. Remember, to those living at the time, the 1920s was not an _____ between World Wars but a postwar period.
4. The _____ of the president's mood could be wildly unpredictable.
5. Frederick Douglass _____ as hard for equality as he had done for abolitionism.
6. The name *tank* was an _____ epithet to keep its development a military secret.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. arbitrary | _____ | a. aimless |
| 8. vicissitudes | _____ | b. anger; discontent |
| 9. interim | _____ | c. to stir up |
| 10. agitate | _____ | d. sudden changes |
| 11. ferment | _____ | e. based on random choice |
| 12. desultory | _____ | f. time in between events |

WEEK 23



DAY 2

Uncertainty

NEW WORDS

tenuous

ten - yū - əs

capricious

kə - prē - shəs

inert

in - ērt

vacillate

vas - ə - lāt

whimsical

wim - zik - əl

derelict

der - ə - likt

Notable Roots:

ten = hold, maintain; cap = head; art = skill; relic = keep

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

At first Mr. Sloane regarded the conjecture* that last name correlated with academic performance as *tenuous*, at best. He realized that the *capricious* assortment of students in his two classes might have produced a greater

concentration of temperamentally *inert* or *vacillating* students in Biology 128 by chance. Then he discovered the work of Dr. Trevor Weston of the British Medical Association. Dr. Weston found that people whose names began with letters ranging from S–Z lived an average of 12 years less than the rest of the population and more frequently suffered from stress-related maladies. *Whimsical* or not, “alphabetical predestiny” was no laughing matter and Sloane felt he would be *derelict* in his role as an educator to ignore it further.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences. Two are interchangeable.

1. The noble gases, which bond with nothing, are chemically _____.
2. The moments that bring couples together often have a _____ quality.
3. A court martial decided the fate of the _____ soldier who slept on guard duty.
4. An intelligent commander who _____ can be defeated by a decisive foe.
5. The truce was so _____ that neither army demobilized.
6. To be truly great, an artist must embrace the _____ side of her creativity.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings. Two are interchangeable.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. tenuous | _____ | a. to waver in one's views |
| 8. capricious | _____ | b. weak or fragile |
| 9. inert | _____ | c. abandoned; negligent |
| 10. vacillate | _____ | d. spontaneous; carefree |
| 11. whimsical | _____ | e. lacking will or energy |
| 12. derelict | _____ | f. unpredictable |

WEEK 23



DAY 3

Uncertainty

NEW WORDS

malleable

mal - ē - ə - bəl

mercurial

mēr - kyur - ē - əl

volatile

vol - ə - tīl or

vol - ə - təl

amnesty

am - nes - tē

jettison

jet - ə - sən

extemporize

eks - temp - ôr - īz

Notable Roots:

malleus = hammer; mercury = fast;

vol = flight; amnes = forget; temp = time

THE PERILS OF THE ALPHABET

Dr. Weston is convinced that teachers are responsible. Since teachers often seat their pupils in alphabetical order, the S to Z child is usually the last to receive his test marks, the last to give a presentation—frustrated because what she had to say has already been said. School age children are highly *malleable* in their personality and self-esteem. Constant waiting causes many in this group to become *mercurial*, even *volatile* in temperament. Others consider themselves inferior to those at the top of the alphabet. Of course, the good doctor suggests *amnesty* for our educators. Teachers work very hard, and their mistake has been an honest one. It is, instead, the tyranny of the alphabetical system that must be *jettisoned*. Teachers need to *extemporize* when seating and calling upon students.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Woodes Rogers ended piracy in the Bahamas with _____, not war.
2. Marzipan is _____ enough to form candies of any shape.
3. The failing conglomerate _____ unsuccessful divisions to save money.
4. Freestyle hip-hop requires creativity and the ability to _____ rhymes on the fly.
5. Many nitrates are highly _____ compounds that require great care.
6. Gaston, while a great chef, is far too _____ for the business of running a restaurant to hold his interest.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------|
| 7. malleable | _____ | a. quickly changing |
| 8. mercurial | _____ | b. able to be molded |
| 9. volatile | _____ | c. to improvise |
| 10. amnesty | _____ | d. unstable |
| 11. jettison | _____ | e. a pardon |
| 12. extemporize | _____ | f. to abandon |

WEEK 23



DAY 4

Uncertainty

NEW WORDS

metamorphosis

me - tə - mōrf - ə - sis

provisional

prō - vizh - ən - əl

fluctuate

fluk - shū - ət

transient

tranz - ē - ənt

ephemeral

ef - em - ēr - əl

evanescent

ev - ən - es - ent

Notable Roots:

meta = between; morph = shape; pro = forward; vis = see; flux = flow

IN THE NATURE OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Mr. Sloane underwent a *metamorphosis*. He began with a *provisional* system of reversing the seating in his classes. The grades of students in

Biology 128 stopped *fluctuating* within a month. Worried this might be a *transient* development, he felt vindicated after a semester, so he badgered the school administration to bring about such changes throughout the building. He addressed the concern that the new system simply shifted the burden to different students. Sloane argued that reverse seating was an *ephemeral* but necessary measure to neutralize the catastrophic effects of years of the traditional policy. The adoption of non-alphabetic seating in elementary school would make reverse seating an *evanescent* step on the way to uniformly well-adjusted students.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Weather _____, while climate has more stable patterns.
2. Jefferson cautioned against revolution for _____ reasons.
3. The _____ instant of “daylight” when lightning strikes at night is thrilling.
4. Both parts of *Henry IV* really deal with Prince Hal’s _____ from hard-drinking ruffian to the future king, Henry V.
5. The era of the battleship was far more _____ than any admiral predicted; brand new in 1914, battleships were mere targets for submarines and carrier planes by 1941.
6. The _____ Kerensky government was overthrown by Bolsheviks within months.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. metamorphosis _____ | a. to rise and fall unpredictably |
| 8. provisional _____ | b. quickly forgotten |
| 9. fluctuate _____ | c. impermanent |
| 10. transient _____ | d. very brief |
| 11. ephemeral _____ | e. temporary |
| 12. evanescent _____ | f. a significant change in form |

WEEK 23



DAY 5

Uncertainty

GROUP REVIEW

You may not know the alphabet from *aardvark* to *zymurgy*, but you can certainly cope with *agitate* to *whimsical*.

Matching

Directions: Match the 24 words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. agitate
- _____ 2. amnesty
- _____ 3. arbitrary
- _____ 4. capricious
- _____ 5. derelict
- _____ 6. desultory
- _____ 7. ephemeral
- _____ 8. evanescent
- _____ 9. extemporize
- _____ 10. ferment
- _____ 11. fluctuate
- _____ 12. inert
- _____ 13. interim
- _____ 14. jettison

DEFINITIONS

- a. lacking will or energy
- b. to improvise
- c. abandoned; negligent
- d. to rise and fall unpredictably
- e. able to be molded
- f. impermanent
- g. anger; discontent
- h. quickly changing
- i. sudden changes
- j. a significant change in form
- k. time in between events
- l. unstable
- m. quickly forgotten
- n. to abandon

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ | 15. malleable | o. unpredictable |
| _____ | 16. mercurial | p. very brief |
| _____ | 17. metamorphosis | q. to waver in one's views |
| _____ | 18. provisional | r. based on random choice |
| _____ | 19. tenuous | s. aimless |
| _____ | 20. transient | t. spontaneous; carefree |
| _____ | 21. vacillate | u. temporary |
| _____ | 22. vicissitudes | v. weak or fragile |
| _____ | 23. volatile | w. to stir up |
| _____ | 24. whimsical | x. a pardon |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th day

3rd day

4th day

1st day

2nd day

Microsociety: An Antidote for School Boredom

Money, taxes, employment, legislation—these are topics that we associate with the adult world. George Richmond, Yale graduate and Manhattan educator, felt that elementary students could also be interested in such issues. He experimented in his own classes with the *Microsociety*, in which basic instruction still takes place but is reinforced by practical experience. Students operate businesses, draft a constitution, pass laws, seek redress within their own judicial system, buy, and so on. Leaders must contend with _____ public opinion or risk being _____ by the group as a whole.

Richmond’s book on the *Microsociety* came to the attention of the school board in Lowell, Massachusetts, and their members decided to give it a try in 1981. Implemented on a _____ basis, the results were quite remarkable: students exceeded the norm in reading and math, eighth graders passed college level exams, school attendance went up to 96%, and the dropout rate took a nosedive in Lowell.

In *Microsociety* classes, mornings cover the traditional curriculum. In the afternoon, the students apply what they learned in activities that involve auditing, banking, manufacturing, and commerce. Such learning is not acquired on a disjointed, _____ basis, but rather integrated into a cumulative effort to create a working community.

Other school systems have since adopted George Richmond’s innovative ideas. “*Microsociety*,” said a Yonkers, New York, principal, “gets kids to role-play life! They enter adulthood with more than a _____ grasp on how to cope with the wider world.”

Synonym Shout-Out

Any effective educator, talented teacher, or perspicacious* pedagogue* will tell you there's more than one way to say almost anything. Synonyms give variety to language and keep it from being so terribly boring!

Directions: Here are ten sets of near or close synonyms from weeks 18–23. Match each word with the answer, or answers, that are synonymous. The number of answers is indicated.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----|------------------|
| 1. tremulous | _____ | (2) | a. deride |
| 2. clandestine | _____ | | b. transient |
| 3. whimsical | _____ | (2) | c. august |
| 4. disparage | _____ | (3) | d. surreptitious |
| 5. lethargic | _____ | (3) | e. phlegmatic |
| 6. regal | _____ | | f. deprecate |
| 7. ephemeral | _____ | (2) | g. capricious |
| 8. physiognomy | _____ | (4) | h. mien |
| 9. nebulous | _____ | | i. timorous |
| 10. abstruse | _____ | | j. impenetrable |
| | | | k. languid |
| | | | l. mercurial |
| | | | m. veneer |
| | | | n. demeanor |
| | | | o. evanescent |
| | | | p. countenance |
| | | | q. ambiguous |
| | | | r. denigrate |
| | | | s. sedentary |
| | | | t. squeamish |

WEEK 24



DAY 1

Belief

NEW WORDS

pantheon

pan - thē - on

venerate

ven - ə - rāt

adherent

ad - hēr - ənt

proselyte

pros - ə - līt

deify

dē - ə - fī

devout

də - vout

Notable Roots:

pan = all; theo = god; vener = love; here = stick; dei = god

ROMAN RELIGIOSITY

The ancient Romans believed in a *pantheon* of major gods and minor deities. They *venerated* pre-Roman deities of Italian origin such as Dis Pater and Bona Dea and Gods adapted from the Greeks, such as Jupiter,

Venus, and Mars (counterparts of Zeus, Aphrodite, and Ares). Over time, the Romans added deities whose *adherents* they conquered. Sometimes mystery cults from faraway lands would find new *proselytes* in Rome, such as the cult of Sol Invictus, the unconquered sun. As the Republic gave way to the Empire, the emperors themselves were also *deified*, notably Julius and Augustus Caesar. The “divine Augustus” and even his wife, Livia Augusta, had their own temples and *devout* followers.

Sample Sentences: Now use your new words in the following sentences.

1. _____ of the Quaker religion forsake violence and abstain from wars.
2. Monument Park at Yankee Stadium represents a _____ of some of the greatest baseball players in the history of the game.
3. The truly _____ tend to prefer private prayer to ostentatious displays of piety.
4. The artist known as Cat Stevens became a _____ of Islam after nearly drowning.
5. Many cultures _____ their elders and deceased ancestors.
6. It is unhealthy for society to _____ celebrities, many of whom lack modesty, virtue, and talent.

Definitions: If you have studied the reading selection and the sample sentences, now try your hand at matching your new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 7. pantheon | _____ | a. someone converted to a belief |
| 8. venerate | _____ | b. to treat someone as a god |
| 9. adherent | _____ | c. to worship; to respect |
| 10. proselyte | _____ | d. deeply committed to a faith |
| 11. deify | _____ | e. a follower |
| 12. devout | _____ | f. a collection of gods or highly respected figures |

WEEK 24



DAY 2

Belief

NEW WORDS

stoic

stō - ik

dogmatic

dôg - mat - ik

sacrosanct

sak - rō - senkt

taboo (n.)

ta - bū

zealous

zel - əs

dupe

dūp

Notable Roots:

sacre = holy; sanct = holy; zeal = ardor

RITES, RITUALS, AND SACRIFICES

Unlike the Greeks, whose religion was deeply influenced by the philosophies of thinkers like the *stoics* and Socratics, the Romans were more *dogmatic*, concerned with ritual and mystery. The *sacrosanct* Vestal

Virgins—even touching one was a *taboo*—kept alight the sacred flame that the Romans believed ensured their security. The doors to the temple of Janus were opened when war was declared and closed with the return of peace. The *zealous* Romans also sacrificed animals, whose blood was intended as payment for answered prayers. A whole class of charlatans *duped* believers of their gold by overcharging for the performance of these rites.

Sample Sentences: Has the context in which your new words appear given you clues to their meaning? Try now to use them in these sample sentences.

1. Converts are often noted as more _____ than those born into a religious group.
2. Before the 22nd Amendment, a third term as president was merely a _____.
3. Because they can be easily _____, children can't legally sign contracts.
4. A professional athlete is expected to be a _____ in the face of losing.
5. To Muslims, the city of Mecca is considered _____ in its entirety.
6. A _____ belief in democracy can lull citizens into passivity in its defense.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. stoic | _____ | a. full of enthusiasm |
| 8. dogmatic | _____ | b. to trick |
| 9. sacrosanct | _____ | c. one who doesn't show emotion |
| 10. taboo | _____ | d. regarding beliefs as not open to question |
| 11. zealous | _____ | e. custom forbidding a particular practice |
| 12. dupe | _____ | f. of utmost sanctity or importance |

WEEK 24



DAY 3

Belief

NEW WORDS

ardent

âr - dênt

schism

skiz - əm

staunch

stôncb

idolatry

ī - dol - ə - trē

ascetic

ə - se - tik

hedonism

hē - dən - izm

Notable Roots:

ard = burning;

idol = image of a deity

MONOTHEISTIC COMPETITION

Rome's tendency to adopt aspects of new faiths they found appealing while exporting the worship of their own gods encouraged *ardent* believers of

other faiths to feel invested in the Roman Empire. Rome's relationship with Judaism, however, proved an irreconcilable *schism*. *Staunch* monotheists, the Jews would not adopt Roman deities and rejected as *idolatry* the presence of statues of the emperors in Jewish temples. The Jews were also accustomed to a much more *ascetic* lifestyle and proclaimed against Roman cultural practices they saw as *hedonistic*.

Sample Sentences: Keep up the good work by using your new words in the following sentences.

1. The _____ of 1054 split the Catholic and Orthodox branches of Christianity.
2. Because _____ former Dodgers and Giants fans could not embrace the Yankees, the Mets were created.
3. Some adopt an _____ lifestyle for spiritual reasons, others for health purposes.
4. Medieval Islamic art made use of geometric patterns because many clerics considered the depiction of living figures to be _____.
5. While disciples of Apollo prized reason, acolytes of Dionysus celebrated _____.
6. Many _____ believers adopt a monastic life of prayer and service.

Definitions: Match your new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. ardent | _____ | a. the worship of objects, usually images of a deity |
| 8. schism | _____ | b. characterized by avoidance of comfort or pleasure |
| 9. staunch | _____ | c. a philosophy or lifestyle devoted to pleasure |
| 10. idolatry | _____ | d. passionately committed |
| 11. ascetic | _____ | e. a rift caused by a disagreement on principles |
| 12. hedonism | _____ | f. dedicated |

WEEK 24



DAY 4

Belief

NEW WORDS

canon

kan - ən

recant

rē - kant

credo

krēdo

agnostic

ag - nos - tik

martyr

mâr - tər

fervor

fèr - vər

Notable Roots:

cant = sing, chant;

cred = belief; gno = know; ferv = boil

FROM MARTYRS TO MASTERS

During Rome's rise, it was *canon* that the republican system was divine and eternal. By the third century, although few had openly *recanted* this *credo*,

none believed it. The emperor had usurped* the powers of the Senate. Slavery had ruined the plebes. It's not surprising, then, that average Romans became *agnostic* toward the old religion and receptive to Christianity's promises of salvation. Attempts to stamp out the new faith only created *martyrs* that strengthened Christian *fervor*. The deathbed conversion of Constantine the Great signaled the end for the old ways.

Sample Sentences: Use these new words in the following sentences.

1. Despite quantum theory's often bizarre findings, few physicists are still quantum _____.
2. Secessionist _____ after Lincoln's election was strongest in South Carolina.
3. Punting on fourth and long is a rarely questioned precept of football _____.
4. Galileo, faced with death, _____ heliocentrism.
5. Thomas More became a _____ after refusing to acknowledge Henry VIII's supremacy over religious affairs in England.
6. Facebook has come under fire for its _____: "Move fast and break things."

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. canon | _____ | a. deep commitment |
| 8. recant | _____ | b. someone who is killed for a belief |
| 9. credo | _____ | c. belief that the truth of a disputed matter is unknowable; skeptic |
| 10. agnostic | _____ | d. to publicly withdraw a statement of belief |
| 11. martyr | _____ | e. a belief; a statement of belief |
| 12. fervor | _____ | f. a generally accepted set of principles, rules, or facts |

WEEK 24



DAY 5

Belief

GROUP REVIEW

It's time to strengthen your word knowledge again. You've noticed, of course, that the matching definitions are not always the definitions you may have been familiar with. This is the way language works. It is impossible to provide a one-word synonym or simple definition for a word that you will always be able to substitute for it. Therefore, in our weekly review we hope not only to check your learning, but also to teach you closely related meanings.

Matching

Directions: Match the best possible definition with the word you studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. adherent
- _____ 2. agnostic
- _____ 3. ardent
- _____ 4. ascetic
- _____ 5. canon
- _____ 6. credo
- _____ 7. deify
- _____ 8. devout
- _____ 9. dogmatic

DEFINITIONS

- a. a collection of gods or highly respected figures
- b. of utmost sanctity or importance
- c. passionately committed
- d. to treat someone as a god
- e. dedicated
- f. deeply committed to a faith
- g. a follower
- h. someone who is killed for a belief
- i. characterized by avoidance of comfort or pleasure

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
| _____ | 10. dupe | j. a rift caused by a disagreement on principles |
| _____ | 11. fervor | k. to publicly withdraw a statement of belief |
| _____ | 12. hedonism | l. full of enthusiasm |
| _____ | 13. idolatry | m. deep commitment |
| _____ | 14. martyr | n. one who doesn't show emotion |
| _____ | 15. pantheon | o. a belief; a statement of belief |
| _____ | 16. proselyte | p. custom forbidding a particular practice |
| _____ | 17. recant | q. a generally accepted set of principles, rules, or facts |
| _____ | 18. sacrosanct | r. a philosophy or lifestyle devoted to pleasure |
| _____ | 19. schism | s. to trick |
| _____ | 20. staunch | t. regarding beliefs as not open to question |
| _____ | 21. stoic | u. someone converted to a belief |
| _____ | 22. taboo | v. believer that the truth of a disputed matter is unknowable; skeptic |
| _____ | 23. venerate | w. to worship; to respect |
| _____ | 24. zealous | x. the worship of objects, usually images of a deity |

Adjective Leaders and Noun Followers

Directions: Write the letter corresponding to the vocabulary word in the space provided for the noun that it is most likely to precede.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| _____ | 1. monk | a. sacrosanct |
| _____ | 2. guest | b. arbitrary |
| _____ | 3. walk | c. aloof |
| _____ | 4. clay | d. staunch |
| _____ | 5. cloud | e. lax |
| _____ | 6. decision | f. clandestine |
| _____ | 7. pilgrim | g. desultory |
| _____ | 8. window | h. inert |
| _____ | 9. tree | i. stunted |
| _____ | 10. advocate | j. devout |
| | | k. evanescent |
| | | l. nebulous |
| | | m. malleable |
| | | n. ascetic |
| | | o. opaque |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

Mapmakers at Work

We are all caught up in the events that change history and the shape of the countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Each time a country changes its name or its borders, there are some people who have their work cut out for them. They are the mapmakers—the cartographers. These skilled artists are not _____ into believing that this year's borders will remain fixed. Has there ever been a _____ border?

Looking through an atlas of just a few years back, we realize that political _____, brought on by _____ diplomats, have a tendency to change the world that we're used to. The mapmaker must be a _____, unmoved by developments that constantly render his work obsolete.

Countless trees have become _____ for the cause of maintaining current paper maps. For this reason, mapmakers have been eager _____ of the use of digital technology in mapmaking. Digital maps are no more permanent than the printed variety, but at least they can be updated quickly without wasting paper!

WEEK 25



DAY 1

Conflict

NEW WORDS

insurgent

in - sér - jənt

obliterate

ə - blit - ər - ət

havoc

hav - ək

raze

rāz

conflagration

kon - flə - grā - shən

deluge

del - yūj

Notable Roots:

ob = against; lit = letters; flagra = fire; delu/dilu = flood

THE EXPLOSION OF KRAKATOA

There are few natural events that are so *insurgent* to the notion of human control as the eruption of a volcano. These titans of nature have the capacity to *obliterate* our artificial worlds. Perhaps the greatest volcanic event of

modern times took place in 1883 when the volcanic island of Krakatoa in Indonesia unleashed *havoc*. Whole villages were *razed* in the *conflagration* caused by the blast, and an enormous tidal wave covered the nearby coasts of Java and Sumatra in a *deluge*. The explosion, which could be heard in Australia, is considered the loudest sound unleashed on Earth's surface in human history.

Sample Sentences: Relying on the contextual clues in the paragraph above, use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Heavy winds whipped the fire into a _____ and hampered suppression efforts.
2. The _____ that followed the fall of an ancient city rivaled battlefield carnage.
3. Water's great weight explains the destructive capacity of a _____.
4. Many Iraqi soldiers joined the _____ movement after the fall of the regime.
5. Although the fire of 1666 _____ London, it also marked the end of the Bubonic plague in that city.
6. World War I _____ whole forests, leaving only scattered tree trunks behind.

Definition: Now take the final step in learning the new words.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. insurgent | _____ | a. chaos; destruction |
| 8. obliterate | _____ | b. a massive fire |
| 9. havoc | _____ | c. to wipe out utterly |
| 10. raze | _____ | d. a large flood |
| 11. conflagration | _____ | e. rebellious |
| 12. deluge | _____ | f. to leave nothing standing |

WEEK 25



DAY 2

Conflict

NEW WORDS

rift
rɪft

eradicate
ē - rad - ə - kāt

strife
strīf

nullify
nul - ə - fī

gauntlet
gōnt - lət

fractious
frak - shəs

Notable Roots:

riv = rip; radix = root; null = nothing;
fract = break

THE END OF INNOCENCE

Read the literature of the 1890s, and you will be painfully aware of a significant *rift* between the worldview of that time and our own. The fin-de-

siècle self-assuredness that marks works by H. G. Wells, Oscar Wilde, and even Bram Stoker has been *eradicated*. Few living at the end of the nineteenth century believed that *strife* had been *nullified*, but there was a tacit belief that the march of human progress had permanently gained the upper hand against the forces of chaos. The *gauntlet* of the twentieth century would quickly disabuse* people of such notions. In one *fractious* century, people learned that the wonders of our imaginations could become the stuff of nightmares.

Sample Sentences: Complete the sentences by filling in the blanks.

1. The *Mercury 7* astronauts were put through a _____ of difficult tests.
2. The _____ atmosphere in Paris grew lethal when war came in 1792.
3. It's natural for children of divorce to wish away the _____ between parents.
4. Smallpox was the first human scourge _____ by vaccination.
5. During the 1830s, some Southern states asserted the right to _____ federal laws.
6. Henry VI, a weak and languid* monarch, presided over decades of _____ before he was finally deposed.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. rift | _____ | a. a series of challenges |
| 8. eradicate | _____ | b. to cancel out |
| 9. strife | _____ | c. unruly; rebellious |
| 10. nullify | _____ | d. to completely remove |
| 11. gauntlet | _____ | e. unrest; anger |
| 12. fractious | _____ | f. physical gap; estrangement |

WEEK 25



DAY 3

Conflict

NEW WORDS

fetter

fet - ər

impede

im - pēd

skirmish

skēr - mish

wrest

rest

fray (n.)

frā

inclement

in - klem - ənt

Notable Roots:

pede = foot; clemen = forgiveness

SANS CULOTTES

When Louis XIV proclaimed, “I am the state,” he summed up the relationship between monarch and commoner that had existed in much of the world since the fall of Rome. Within a matter of decades, however,

philosophers like Locke, Rousseau, and Voltaire had the temerity* to suggest that government exists to safeguard the people's rights and yet the commoners were instead *fettered* by a feudal system that *impeded* the progress and prosperity of society. The opening *skirmish* came in America, where the unruly colonists *wrested* control over their affairs. France entered the *fray* in 1789 when representatives of the Third Estate declared that the common folk were the state now. Unlike in America, however, the statesmen did not have the final say. The lowest French classes, called "sans culottes" because they did not wear the knee-breeches of the rich, were in an *inclement* mood and would not be placated* with a few legal reforms.

Sample Sentences: Here's your opportunity to use your new words.

1. Scrooge asked Jacob Marley why he was _____ by heavy chains.
2. Romeo is banished after the _____ that claims the lives of Mercutio and Tybalt.
3. Heavy fines are assessed on those who _____ traffic by "blocking the box."
4. _____ between police and protestors flared up all night.
5. The referees postponed the game due to _____ weather.
6. I don't know how I _____ the remote control from my big brother.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings. Remember, words may have many synonyms.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. fetter | _____ | a. a small clash with few casualties |
| 8. impede | _____ | b. a fight |
| 9. skirmish | _____ | c. to physically burden or restrain |
| 10. wrest | _____ | d. merciless; immoderate |
| 11. fray | _____ | e. to block or inhibit the progress of something |
| 12. inclement | _____ | f. to seize |

WEEK 25



DAY 4

Conflict

NEW WORDS

deter

dē - tər

fracas

frak - əs

dissent (n.)

dis - ent

deleterious

dil - ə - tēr - ē - əs

detriment

de - trē - mēnt

exacerbate

əg - zas - ər - bāt

Notable Roots:

ter = turn; sens = feel, think; delete = destroy; acer = sharp, bitter

PANDORA'S BOX

In 1792, the monarchies of Europe, seeking to *deter* revolt in their own lands, marched on France to end the *fracas*. The invaders publicly vowed to restore Louis XVI to his full powers and to crush all further revolutionary

dissent. This manifesto had a far more *deleterious* effect than any royalist could have imagined. To the immediate *detriment* of their cause, the defiant French imprisoned the king and abolished the monarchy. More importantly, the people, from merchants to peasant farmers, rose up en masse to fight. Within months, a motley army of raw recruits and career soldiers halted the invasion. In the immediate aftermath, the political situation in Europe was greatly *exacerbated*. In the long term, by swamping the professional armies of their enemies, which fought only for gold, the French showed the world the raw power of nationalism for the first time. To this day, we live with the consequences of 1792.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Selfish, individual performers can be a _____ to the chemistry of any team.
2. The strain of the war greatly _____ Roosevelt's heart condition.
3. A talented writer need not be _____ by the lack of a university education.
4. A scandal is highly _____ to the public image of any company.
5. A midnight _____ on the streets below won't even wake most city dwellers.
6. When Supreme Court justices oppose the will of the majority, they are free to explain their _____ in an essay published alongside the group decision.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. deter | _____ | a. a loud disturbance |
| 8. fracas | _____ | b. general disagreement |
| 9. dissent | _____ | c. to worsen |
| 10. deleterious | _____ | d. to discourage |
| 11. detriment | _____ | e. harmful |
| 12. exacerbate | _____ | f. that which causes damage |

WEEK 25



DAY 5

Conflict

GROUP REVIEW

Week by week, your word power is being built. It's like putting money in the bank. Remember, in English there may be many synonyms and related meanings for each word. Knowing one synonym is good, but you will reap greater benefits from knowing several.

Directions: Match the words for this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. conflagration
- _____ 2. deleterious
- _____ 3. deluge
- _____ 4. deter
- _____ 5. detriment
- _____ 6. dissent
- _____ 7. eradicate
- _____ 8. exacerbate
- _____ 9. fetter
- _____ 10. fracas
- _____ 11. fractious
- _____ 12. fray
- _____ 13. gauntlet
- _____ 14. havoc
- _____ 15. impede
- _____ 16. inclement

DEFINITIONS

- a. to wipe out utterly
- b. a fight
- c. chaos; destruction
- d. to cancel out
- e. that which causes damage
- f. a large flood
- g. a small clash with few casualties
- h. general disagreement
- i. rebellious
- j. to discourage
- k. merciless; immoderate
- l. to leave nothing standing
- m. a loud disturbance
- n. harmful
- o. to worsen
- p. to physically burden or restrain

- _____ **17.** insurgent
_____ **18.** nullify
_____ **19.** obliterate
_____ **20.** raze
_____ **21.** rift
_____ **22.** skirmish
_____ **23.** strife
_____ **24.** wrest
- _____ **q.** unrest; anger
_____ **r.** to block or inhibit the progress of something
_____ **s.** physical gap; estrangement
_____ **t.** to completely remove
_____ **u.** a massive fire
_____ **v.** unruly; rebellious
_____ **w.** to seize
_____ **x.** a series of challenges

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

1st Day

1st Day

The Engine with No Off Switch

The military victories of Napoleon Bonaparte were fueled by nationalism. Republican France had raised huge armies and reformed society to support the war effort. The enemy kingdoms were too inflexible to make such sweeping changes. Their generals were similarly _____ by this rigidity. Because the republican ethos allowed men of talent to rise, Napoleon was surrounded by gifted subordinates. Allied generals, meanwhile, were _____ with incompetent officers, often aristocrats who owed their positions to nepotism.*

For two decades, Napoleon's legions caused _____ wherever they went. The Grand Armée defeated one coalition of enemies after another. His conquests put an end to both the Republic of Venice and the Holy Roman Empire. He consolidated dozens of German and Italian states, providing the impetus for unification movements in both lands.

Bonaparte's downfall was inevitable, however, because the forces that the Revolution unleashed could not be turned off. France had acquired a taste for plundering, so the emperor sought fresh conquests until he overreached, nearly losing his army in 1812 to the _____ Russian winter. After that defeat, his enemies pounced, crushing the French at Leipzig in 1813 and Waterloo in 1815.

Despite Bonaparte's failures, the worldwide growth of nationalist movements inspired by France, could not be stopped. The rest of the nineteenth century was marked by revolutionary _____ as republicans, Marxists, and anarchists sought to _____ power from Europe's autocrats. The repression of reactionary governments only _____ nationalist fervor* by creating martyrs.* Multinational states such as the Austrian and Ottoman Empires, moreover, were nearly torn apart by the _____ ambitions of the various ethnic groups. The _____ between the various nationalities made coherent government impossible.

Unsurprisingly, the _____ that engulfed the world in 1914 began because of nationalist violence. A group of Serbian patriots seeking to liberate Bosnia assassinated the heir to the Austrian Empire. The murder of one nobleman triggered a series of alliances that had to be honored because public opinion demanded it. The soldiers of each nation were eager for the _____, not knowing the horror that was to come. Even after two, then three, then four years that saw whole cities _____ and a generation of young men _____, nationalistic fervor* would still not allow either side to sue for a compromise of peace. After all, such sacrifices could not have been in vain.

WEEK 26



DAY 1

Writing

NEW WORDS

epistle

ə - pis - əl

succinct

suh - sinkt

missive

mis - iv

vestige

ves - tij

attest

ə - test

eulogy

yū - lōj - ē

Notable Roots:

miss = message;

test = witness; eu = good; logos = words

THE FIRST CELEBRITY IN HISTORY

A 5,000-year-old tablet found in Iraq bears the inscription “29,086 measures barley 37 months *Kushim*.” This prosaic record is an *epistle* from the first

person to conquer oblivion: Kushim is the first person—ever—whose name we know. As much as the works of Shakespeare, this *succinct missive* underscores the awesome power of writing. Humans have left behind *vestiges* of our existence for perhaps 100,000 years. Vibrant cave paintings of charging beasts made 17,000 years ago *attest* to our creativity. The flowers and shell necklaces unearthed in prehistoric graves are enduring *eulogies* that demonstrate one of our most profound human values. Our prehistoric ancestors were clearly like us, but not until Kushim’s tablet did they learn to speak to us directly.

Sample Sentences: Based upon your understanding of the new words as discovered from the context, place them in the spaces provided.

1. The line outside the door _____ to the quality of the diner’s breakfast options.
2. The cost per additional word made telegrams a _____ form of communication.
3. The _____ of St. Paul, named for their recipients, comprise a substantial portion of the New Testament.
4. Ted Kennedy’s quavering voice gave his _____ for RFK incredible poignance.
5. _____ of the last ice age can be found in boulders strewn throughout the north.
6. Many celebrities have ruined their careers with ill-considered _____ on Twitter.

Definitions: Matching words and definitions will prove you’ve learned them.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|--|
| 7. epistle | _____ | a. to bear witness |
| 8. succinct | _____ | b. a formal letter |
| 9. missive | _____ | c. a tribute, often for someone who has died |
| 10. vestige | _____ | d. to the point |
| 11. attest | _____ | e. a short, often informal communication |
| 12. eulogy | _____ | f. a remnant |

WEEK 26



DAY 2

Writing

NEW WORDS

reverberate

rē - vēr - bēr - āt

anecdote

an - ək - dōt

memoir

mem - wār

prolix

prol - iks

discourse

dis - kōrs

libel

lī - bēl

Notable Roots:

verb = word; mem = remember; lex = words; course = run, current

COLLECTIVE MEMORY

Before writing, knowledge *reverberated* through generations orally. There are important differences between oral and written histories. Given the limitations of memory, oral histories recount great events rather than

personal *anecdotes* or *memoirs*. Similarly, a simple but dramatic style of storytelling distinguishes oral history from *prolix* academic writing. Despite these differences, oral history is crucial to historiography. Native Americans, for example, provide an oral record of the waves of diseases and migrating herds of horses that were outriders of European arrival in the New World. This knowledge was passed down so reliably that twentieth-century researchers were able to construct a historical counter-narrative to the prevailing *discourse* of the time, which either ignored Native Americans or *libeled* them.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Isaac Newton's writing was so _____ and abstruse* that it took the charm of Edmund Halley to promote the brilliance of Newton's work.
2. Royalties from Grant's _____, written while he was dying, supported his widow.
3. Oscar Wilde's suit for _____ proved disastrous when proof of his private conduct was revealed in court.
4. Political _____ used to only deal with the public character of politicians.
5. Winston Churchill was famous for humorous _____ from his storied career.
6. The courage of the Spartans at Thermopylae has _____ for millennia.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. reverberate | _____ | a. public debate or discussion |
| 8. anecdote | _____ | b. wordy and convoluted |
| 9. memoir | _____ | c. false written attack on one's character |
| 10. prolix | _____ | d. to echo through time |
| 11. discourse | _____ | e. an account based on experience |
| 12. libel | _____ | f. a personal story of a minor event |

WEEK 26



DAY 3

Writing

NEW WORDS

encomium

ən - kōm - ē - um

treatise

trēt - is

manifesto

man - ə - fest - ō

glyph

glif

decipher

dē - sī - fēr

scribe

skrīb

Notable Roots:

treat = deal; manu = hand; fest = attack, disturb; cipher = code; scribe = write

FROM BUSINESS TO BILL OF RIGHTS

That Kushim's famed tablet dealt with accounting matters was not coincidental. Though writing would give rise to countless *encomiums* on the

beauty of nature, *treatises* on religion, or *manifestos* on human rights, the first order of business was business. Thus, the first *glyphs* represented numbers. Then followed pictographs; images of birds, women, or wheat that were meant literally. The pivotal breakthrough would be the usage of symbols to represent sounds, like pictures of a honeybee and a safe expressing the command “Be Safe!” The French linguist who *deciphered* Egyptian hieroglyphics was only able to do so by recognizing that the Egyptian *scribes* had used symbols this way.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Linear A, a script that was written in either direction, has never been _____.
2. Native Americans of the Southwest left ornate _____ on rocks.
3. The _____ was a position of importance in mostly illiterate societies.
4. Rudolph Hess’s saccharin _____ about Hitler demonstrated worshipful devotion.
5. Karl Marx wrote perhaps the most controversial and notorious _____ in history.
6. Mahan’s _____ on the role of sea power influenced most European admiralties.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. encomium | _____ | a. a writer or keeper of records |
| 8. treatise | _____ | b. a carved symbol |
| 9. manifesto | _____ | c. to interpret symbols or a code |
| 10. glyph | _____ | d. a formal essay on a topic |
| 11. decipher | _____ | e. an expression of political beliefs or goals |
| 12. scribe | _____ | f. an expression of praise |

WEEK 26



DAY 4

Writing

NEW WORDS

expository

eks - poz - ə - tōr - ē

relegate

rel - ə - gāt

citation

sī - tā - shən

accolade

ak - ə - lād

epithet

ep - ə - thet

preamble

prē - am - bəl

Notable Roots:

pose = show; legat = envoy; cite = mention, quote; pre = before

A NATION OF LAWS

The *expository* nature of the Declaration of Independence mirrors the values of a world reevaluating the roles of sovereign and people. Jefferson expressed the idea that government exists to protect human rights; should it

neglect this duty, it ought to be *relegated* to oblivion. What follows is a *citation* of the offenses of George III and the pronouncement of American independence on that basis. Though Jefferson deserves his *accolades* and the *epithet* “The Sage of Monticello,” the miracle of America’s founding lies in its establishment according to clear principles expressed in writing in the Declaration and in the *preamble* of the Constitution.

Sample Sentences: A slow and thorough study is needed today.

1. Diego found that writing proper _____ took longer than writing the paper itself.
2. The _____ after Lincoln’s death contrasted the polemics* he suffered in life.
3. Babe Ruth’s _____ came from his cherubic appearance at the time of his debut.
4. Jill could tell from the stilted _____ of the letter that she was being laid off.
5. Woodward’s _____ works have revealed the flaws of many presidencies.
6. After abdicating, Edward VIII was _____ to an entirely ceremonial role.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 7. expository | _____ | a. quote or reference |
| 8. relegate | _____ | b. nickname |
| 9. citation | _____ | c. examining critically |
| 10. accolade | _____ | d. opening statements |
| 11. epithet | _____ | e. to demote |
| 12. preamble | _____ | f. statement of praise |

WEEK 26 **DAY 5** **Writing**

GROUP REVIEW

If you've ever watched or played baseball, you know how important a base hit is to each batter. Before the game, players spend as much time as possible taking their batting practice. During the game, the batter concentrates on every pitch. In the same way, each day you are getting in your "batting practice," and the weekly review is your chance to build up your "batting average." Collect new words with the same concentration that baseball players collect base hits.

Matching

Directions: Match the terms to their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

1. accolade

2. anecdote

3. attest

4. citation

5. decipher

6. discourse

7. encomium

8. epistle

9. epithet

10. eulogy

11. expository

DEFINITIONS

- a. a personal story of a minor event

- b. a tribute, often for someone who has died

- c. a carved symbol

- d. wordy and convoluted

- e. a quote or reference

- f. to echo through time

- g. an account based on experience

- h. a writer or keeper of records

- i. a formal essay on a topic

- j. a false written attack on one's character

- k. an expression of political beliefs or goals

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|
| _____ | 12. glyph | l. a nickname |
| _____ | 13. libel | m. a short, often informal communication |
| _____ | 14. manifesto | n. to interpret symbols or a code |
| _____ | 15. memoir | o. to demote |
| _____ | 16. missive | p. a formal letter |
| _____ | 17. preamble | q. examining critically |
| _____ | 18. prolix | r. to the point |
| _____ | 19. relegate | s. a statement of praise |
| _____ | 20. reverberate | t. a remnant |
| _____ | 21. scribe | u. a public debate or discussion |
| _____ | 22. succinct | v. an opening statement |
| _____ | 23. treatise | w. to bear witness |
| _____ | 24. vestige | x. an expression of praise |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

4th Day

2nd Day

1st Day

4th Day

The Wild West

History _____ that, in a showdown in 1881, a notorious outlaw, Billy the Kid, was killed. The _____ version, which is now public knowledge, is that Sheriff Pat Garrett cornered the Kid at Fort Sumner, New Mexico, and shot him. Garrett's published _____, a financial flop, though an important contemporary account, has it that Billy stumbled into a darkened room where the sheriff was questioning a witness. With no time for _____, both men grabbed for their guns, and Garrett was quicker.

William Bonney earned his _____ "Kid" by killing as many as ten men by the age of 21. He was a participant in a New Mexico range war and then, fleeing official _____ for crimes committed during the war, he became an outlaw. While history lists his death as having occurred in 1881, a common conspiracy theory has it that the Kid escaped and lived for many years in Texas.

Just before his death in 1950, an old rancher named Brushy Bill Roberts claimed to be Billy the Kid, seeking to correct _____ that sullied his reputation and to claim a pardon he felt was promised him by the former governor of New Mexico. It is true that more than one _____ passed between Bonney and the governor before 1881, which raised the possibility of a pardon in exchange for Bonney's testimony regarding the ranch war. To settle Roberts's claim, a computer was brought in to compare Roberts's face to a photo of the Kid. The computer found major structural differences between the two faces, which _____ the controversy to the realm of debunked fraud.

Roots Roundup

Directions: Each word below is followed by the definition for another word that contains the same root. For example, if the word is *vacuous* (devoid of thought or intellect) and the clue is *a region of space empty of matter*, the answer would be *vacuum*.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-------|
| 1. treatise | <i>a medical procedure to address a condition</i> | _____ |
| 2. discourse | <i>compensation or remedy for injury or injustice</i> | _____ |
| 3. attest | <i>verbal evidence given under oath</i> | _____ |
| 4. scribe | <i>an order for medicine given by a doctor</i> | _____ |
| 5. missive | <i>to send out a payment</i> | _____ |
| 6. reverberate | <i>excessively wordy</i> | _____ |
| 7. glyph | <i>Egyptian pictographic symbols</i> | _____ |
| 8. citation | <i>to publicly give a speech</i> | _____ |

WEEK 27



DAY 1

Beauty

NEW WORDS

alluring

ə - lur - ing

entice

in - tīs

resplendent

rē - splen - dēnt

idyllic

ī - dēl - ik

infatuated

in - fach - ū - āt - əd

incandescent

in - kan - des - ənt

Notable Roots:

lure = bait;

splendid = shining;

fatu = fool; cand = candle, shining

A MUSICAL WORLD

In the nineteenth century, every leading nation produced its share of great composers. There was an *alluring* array of national schools and musical styles to *entice* the once obscure musician to come into his own. At the beginning of the century, music lovers turned to *resplendent* Vienna, a city that still echoed with Mozart's *idyllic* melodies. However, many composers became *infatuated* with Paris, which excelled in operatic music. As the century progressed, Germany took center stage during the *incandescent* career of Ludwig van Beethoven.

Sample Sentences: Take command of the new words in these sentences.

1. Central Park presents the illusion of an _____ countryside in the heart of the city.
2. If metal is heated enough it becomes _____, giving off shades of red light.
3. Friar Laurence suspects that Romeo is merely _____ with Rosaline.
4. There's something _____ about the life of a writer.
5. The Empire State Building is a _____ beacon at night.
6. Software companies offer generous compensation to _____ talent from rivals.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. alluring | _____ | a. to tempt |
| 8. entice | _____ | b. radiating light |
| 9. resplendent | _____ | c. attractive |
| 10. idyllic | _____ | d. temporarily fascinated by someone |
| 11. infatuated | _____ | e. picturesque |
| 12. incandescent | _____ | f. colorful or luxurious |

WEEK 27



DAY 2

Beauty

NEW WORDS

dapper
dap - èr

raiment
rā - mēnt

betrothed
bē - trō - THd

dulcet
dul - sēt

tantalize
tan - tə - līz

reverie
rev - ə - rē

Notable Roots:

array = assembly, appearance; dulce = sweet; reve = dream

A GIANT COMPOSER

Beethoven, like Mozart, started out as a child prodigy.* Later, as a successful concert pianist, he became the talk of Europe. His *dapper* appearance, outfitted in the finest *raiment* but with disheveled hair, seemed

the embodiment of genius. He tutored the children of many wealthy patrons and was nearly *betrothed* to an Italian noblewoman. Despite superficial similarities, however, Beethoven was no Mozart: he had an abusive father, was unlucky in love, and was secretly becoming deaf at a young age. Beethoven's brooding personality was reflected in his work, which shunned the *dulcet* melodies of Mozart's day. *Tantalized* by grand visions of music filled with the drama and passion of real life, he crafted symphonies that broke over audiences like thunderstorms. Those who preferred Mozart's light, airy *reveries* didn't like it, but for a new generation Beethoven represented the rebelliousness of the Romantic period.

Sample Sentences: Place the new words in these sentences.

1. The _____ of the ultra-wealthy proclaims their elevated status.
2. Megan had not expected her prom date to look so _____ in a tuxedo.
3. Blanche DuBois's voice is meant to have the _____ quality of a Southern belle.
4. Henry VIII's brother, Arthur, was initially _____ to Catherine of Aragon but died before they could be married.
5. The train ride through the snowy forests of Romania was a winter _____.
6. Before Buckner's error, the 1986 Red Sox had been _____ by victory.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 7. dapper | _____ | a. sweet sounding; soothing |
| 8. raiment | _____ | b. to tease with something out of reach |
| 9. betrothed | _____ | c. a daydream |
| 10. dulcet | _____ | d. clothing |
| 11. tantalize | _____ | e. neat and handsome in appearance |
| 12. reverie | _____ | f. engaged or promised in marriage |

WEEK 27



DAY 3

Beauty

NEW WORDS

gaudy
gô - dē

aesthetic
əs - thet - ik

luminous
lūm - in - əs

comely
kum - lē

amorous
am - ər - əs

ethereal
ē - thē - rē - əl

Notable Roots:

lumin = light; amor = love; ether = vapor

A TROUBLESOME LEGACY

German composer Richard Wagner is remembered for his operas, which had a dramatic, even *gaudy* quality. He placed great emphasis on visual *aesthetics*; in works like *Tristan and Isolde*, he sought to create an

immersive experience through the use of *luminous* set designs and *comely* costumes. Wagner lived a chaotic life, marked by *amorous* affairs and bankruptcy. In death, he became an icon for German nationalists; Hitler was obsessed with Wagner's work for its *ethereal*, Romantic quality and use of elements drawn from Germanic mythology. It is unfair to hold this against the composer, however: Wagner died before Hitler was even born and, as they did with Nietzsche, the Nazis interpreted his works in subjective ways that freely ignored elements that did not agree with their ideology.

Sample Sentences: Complete the following sentences with the new words.

1. The dapper* Kennedy and his _____ young wife were a handsome pair.
2. Repelled by _____ displays of wealth, Charles V lived like a peasant.
3. Unrequited _____ desires have inspired many a sonnet and ode.
4. The Lighthouse of Alexandria was so _____ it could be seen 30 miles away.
5. The Brutalist _____ of communist architecture remains polarizing.
6. Dreams are never in HD but have an _____ quality.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. gaudy | _____ | a. glowing |
| 8. aesthetic | _____ | b. otherworldly |
| 9. luminous | _____ | c. relating to desire |
| 10. comely | _____ | d. related to the subject of beauty |
| 11. amorous | _____ | e. pleasing to the eye |
| 12. ethereal | _____ | f. ostentatious and ugly |

WEEK 27



DAY 4

Beauty

NEW WORDS

sublime

sə - blīm

limpid

lim - pid

pellucid

pel - ū - sid

mellifluous

mel - if - lū - əs

diaphanous

dī - af - ən - əs

translucent

tranz - lū - sənt

Notable Roots:

sub = under; lim = limit; limp = fluid; lux = light; mel = honey;
flu = flow

THE IMPRESSIONIST

Claude Debussy grew up in a France that found her position at the center of Europe usurped* by the rise of Germany. As a composer, although he

respected Wagner's operas as *sublime* visions, he felt their *limpid* aura of mysticism belonged to a past age. Debussy's music eschewed sentimentality in favor of "symphonic sketches," depicting nature's *pellucid* qualities through the use of *mellifluous* harmonies. He explored the *diaphanous* qualities of spring and nighttime, suggesting light and motion with sound the way Impressionists would do with oil paint. Listening to his most famous work, *La Mer* (the sea), one practically undulates on *translucent* waves of sound.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Swing makes use of _____ chord progressions and rapid tempo for dancing.
2. The _____ quality of Edith Wharton's writing evokes the rarefied atmosphere of Gilded Age high society.
3. Unlike opaque oil colors, watercolors are _____ and can be applied in layers.
4. The air was so _____ that day that we could see 50 miles in every direction.
5. Venetian glass, like a fine jewel, is both _____ and colorful.
6. The sheen and lightness of silk give it a _____ quality.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|
| 7. sublime | _____ | a. pleasantly flowing |
| 8. limpid | _____ | b. light, delicate, and semi-transparent |
| 9. pellucid | _____ | c. transparent to light but not images |
| 10. mellifluous | _____ | d. completely transparent |
| 11. diaphanous | _____ | e. of exceptional quality |
| 12. translucent | _____ | f. shining and reflective |

WEEK 27



DAY 5

Beauty

GROUP REVIEW

Another week to build your vocabulary. Words stand for concepts. The more concepts you can recognize, the better able you are to deal with complexity and abstraction.

Matching

Directions: Match the words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. aesthetic
- _____ 2. alluring
- _____ 3. amorous
- _____ 4. betrothed
- _____ 5. comely
- _____ 6. dapper
- _____ 7. diaphanous
- _____ 8. dulcet
- _____ 9. entice
- _____ 10. ethereal
- _____ 11. gaudy
- _____ 12. idyllic
- _____ 13. incandescent
- _____ 14. infatuated

DEFINITIONS

- a. otherworldly
- b. picturesque
- c. to tease with something out of reach
- d. glowing
- e. ostentatious and ugly
- f. temporarily fascinated by someone
- g. transparent to light but not images
- h. colorful or luxurious
- i. radiating light
- j. clothing
- k. shining and reflective
- l. attractive
- m. to tempt
- n. completely transparent

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|
| _____ | 15. limpid | o. engaged or promised in marriage |
| _____ | 16. luminous | p. of exceptional quality |
| _____ | 17. mellifluous | q. pleasing to the eye |
| _____ | 18. pellucid | r. relating to desire |
| _____ | 19. raiment | s. a daydream |
| _____ | 20. resplendent | t. pleasantly flowing |
| _____ | 21. reverie | u. neat and handsome in appearance |
| _____ | 22. sublime | v. related to the subject of beauty |
| _____ | 23. tantalize | w. light, delicate, and semi-transparent |
| _____ | 24. translucent | x. sweet sounding; soothing |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

4th Day

Cooking on Sunshine

Like most children of the '80s, I watched *Mr. Wizard's World* growing up. One episode, in particular, presented an idea so _____ that it stuck with me into adulthood. In the episode, Mr. Wizard, looking _____ in his blue cardigan, cooks an entire breakfast using nothing but sunshine. Arrayed in his backyard are a series of solar cookers, _____ with morning sunlight glinting off of their shiny surfaces. The sausages he cooks in simple solar funnels. The eggs he poaches inside a box cooker. The bread he toasts ever so carefully using a parabolic mirror to focus light rays onto a single _____ point.

As a science geek who also loves to cook, I found the idea so _____ that one day, as a young adult, I found a panel cooker on the Internet and within a week I was the proud owner of one. It was flimsy, but when it cooked a banana bread on my balcony in under an hour, I was ecstatic. It was to be no mere _____: in my middle age, I still solar cook in my back yard at least twice a week, albeit with a far superior box cooker, which can heat up to 410°F on a day with truly _____ skies.

A solar oven makes use of a basic physical principle: light can pass through glass, but heat cannot. A solar oven simply maximizes the potential of this principle. The interior is darkened to absorb the most light, reflectors increase the _____ shining through the glass, and a layer of insulation around the box prevents heat loss. Simple though the design may be, the experience of serving guests a chicken dinner perfectly cooked in daylight is simply _____.

WEEK 28



DAY 1

Geography

NEW WORDS

sedate

sə - dāt

bucolic

byū - kol - ik

domicile

dōm - ə - sīl

juxtapose

juks - tə - pōz

citadel

sit - ə - del

asylum

ə - sī - lum

Notable Roots:

sed = sit; domus = home

THE ELDER REPUBLIC

At first, Holland seems a *sedate* and simple land—a *bucolic* setting of churning windmills and flat, handsome farmland familiar from Rembrandt's paintings. Amsterdam, riven by canals and packed with narrow,

meticulously groomed *domiciles* is perfectly *juxtaposed* with the countryside, however. The city became a *citadel* of commerce after the Netherlands achieved independence from Spain. In 1594, the Dutch and refugees from Spanish Belgium, who had taken *asylum* in the newly independent republic, pooled their investments to form the first corporation on Earth, the Dutch East India Company. The fleet of merchant ships their wealth purchased launched a century-long Golden Age.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in the sentences.

1. The concrete _____ of Belgium were crushed by German artillery.
2. Every _____ requires a mixture of private spaces and common areas.
3. Despite the modernity of New York City, the _____ character of the Hudson Valley has been well preserved.
4. Had Martin Luther not gained _____, he would have been burned as a heretic.
5. The decay of Detroit is oddly _____ with the prosperity of Windsor, Ontario.
6. Compared with the works of the Venetians, Dutch and Flemish paintings are _____, even gloomy.

Definitions: Match your new words to their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. sedate | _____ | a. a fortress |
| 8. bucolic | _____ | b. calm; serious |
| 9. domicile | _____ | c. a sanctuary |
| 10. juxtapose | _____ | d. positioned side by side |
| 11. citadel | _____ | e. reminiscent of idyllic* countryside |
| 12. asylum | _____ | f. a home or household |

WEEK 28



DAY 2

Geography

NEW WORDS

archipelago

är - kə - pel - ə - gō

remote

rē - mōt

terminus

tér - min - əs

locale

lō - kal

ensconced

ə - skon - səd

niche

nich

Notable Roots:

archi = chief;

pelagic = abyss;

termin = end;

locus = place

THE NIFTY FIFTIETH

The Hawaiian *archipelago* was created by a volcanic hotspot in the central Pacific. It is one of the most *remote* inhabited locations on Earth. As the easternmost *terminus* of Polynesian expansion, Hawaii came to be populated slowly over the last 1,500 years—long after other inhabited *locales*. Similarly, a much smaller number of plant and animal species have become *ensconced* on the islands compared with other South Pacific island chains like Indonesia. Those species that have successfully made the long journey over water have evolved to exploit the unique *niches* of this island paradise.

Sample Sentences: Place the new words in these sentences.

1. Lake George was a popular vacation _____ in the time before long distance commercial flights.
2. The Vatican, _____ behind high walls in Rome, is the smallest nation.
3. Istanbul was the eastern _____ of the Orient Express.
4. A thin _____ of islands separates the Caribbean Sea from the Atlantic Ocean.
5. While orbiting the far side of the moon, Michael Collins became the most _____ human being in history.
6. Colorado's _____ as a mountain, plains, and desert state is unique.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. archipelago | _____ | a. a setting |
| 8. remote | _____ | b. a limit or final station |
| 9. terminus | _____ | c. an advantageous position |
| 10. locale | _____ | d. protected by a fortification |
| 11. ensconced | _____ | e. a chain of islands |
| 12. niche | _____ | f. far away; disconnected |

WEEK 28



DAY 3

Geography

NEW WORDS

enclave

on - klāv

meridian

mə - rid - ē - ən

hinterland

hin - tēr - land

milieu

mil - yø

expatriate

eks - pā - trē - ət

ambience

om - bē - ons

Notable Roots:

clav = key; meridi = noon; patria = country; ambi = around

THE CENTER OF THE WORLD

Singapore has always been a trading *enclave*: the city acts as a line of *meridian* astride the corridor of water that links the Indian and Pacific oceans and straddles the shipping lanes between Africa, Asia, and Australia.

Lacking an agricultural *hinterland*, the city has always made its living from the sea. It is the natural *milieu* for commercial traders to meet, and, though one of the world's most expensive cities, home to a large *expatriate* community. City planners, harnessing the wealth that streams through the city, have created an urban environment noted for its cutting-edge green architecture and futuristic *ambience*.

Sample Sentences: Pay attention to the fine differences in meaning.

1. The _____ of Alexandria is rich farmland irrigated by the Nile.
2. Monaco is a tax-free _____ surrounded by the French Riviera.
3. Unlike the equator, the location of 0° longitude is an arbitrary line of _____.
4. Budapest's thermal baths, set in columned palaces, have a sublime* _____.
5. Marie Curie found her _____ in the laboratories and classrooms of Paris.
6. Life as an _____ shows that societies operating by different rules function just fine.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. enclave | _____ | a. land surrounding and supporting a city |
| 8. meridian | _____ | b. a natural setting |
| 9. hinterland | _____ | c. prevailing atmosphere |
| 10. milieu | _____ | d. one who lives in another country |
| 11. expatriate | _____ | e. a community surrounded by foreign land |
| 12. ambience | _____ | f. a dividing line on Earth's surface |

WEEK 28



DAY 4

Geography

NEW WORDS

propinquity
prō - pin - kwi - tē

bastion
bas - chən

berth
bérth

rustic
rus - tik

ebb (n. & v.)
eb

extremity
eks - trem - i - tē

Notable Roots:

rus/rur = country;
trem = layer

SAILING TO BYZANTIUM

Istanbul is the world's only intercontinental city, and, given its *propinquity* to the east-west trade routes, it has always attracted people. In the fourth

century, the Romans saw in the Greek town then known as Byzantium a natural fortress, surrounded by water on three sides. They made it their capital, adding high walls and *bastions* to safeguard its landward approaches. The *berths* of the Golden Horn welcomed ships from the Black Sea and the Aegean, while goods from the *rustic* interior of Anatolia filled its markets. When Byzantine fortunes *ebbed*, the Ottoman Turks raised the city from the *extremity* of defeat to be their capital. Today, the Blue Mosque and the Hagia Sophia stand side by side looking down on the oil tankers that ply the glittering waters of the Bosphorus.

Sample Sentences: Fill in the blank spaces with the new words.

1. My great-grandfather spent most his savings on a _____ aboard a steamer to America.
2. The _____ of New Netherland to New England guaranteed conflict.
3. As Ottoman military power _____, European fascination with Turkey grew.
4. Victims in the last _____ of hypothermia will often strip off their clothes.
5. After artillery became part of warfare, fortresses were built with angled _____ to deflect cannonballs.
6. Vermont's _____ charm has a powerful and timeless quality.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. propinquity | _____ | a. to decline |
| 8. bastion | _____ | b. rural in character |
| 9. berth | _____ | c. proximity |
| 10. rustic | _____ | d. the outer limit of something |
| 11. ebb | _____ | e. a projecting fortification |
| 12. extremity | _____ | f. a designated place for a ship or bed |

WEEK 28



DAY 5

Geography

GROUP REVIEW

You have been learning how to use many new words by seeing them in a natural situation. Each day's story is the setting in which you meet the new words. The weekly review enables you to isolate the word and its many meanings. In this way, you can reinforce your understanding and word power. At this point, you have learned almost 600 words. Keep up the good work.

Matching

Directions: Match the weekly words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. ambience
- _____ 2. archipelago
- _____ 3. asylum
- _____ 4. bastion
- _____ 5. berth
- _____ 6. bucolic
- _____ 7. citadel
- _____ 8. domicile
- _____ 9. ebb
- _____ 10. enclave
- _____ 11. ensconced
- _____ 12. expatriate

DEFINITIONS

- a. one who lives in another country
- b. a limit or final station
- c. reminiscent of idyllic* countryside
- d. the outer limit of something
- e. calm; serious
- f. a setting
- g. a designated place for a ship or bed
- h. an advantageous position
- i. prevailing atmosphere
- j. a chain of islands
- k. to decline
- l. positioned side by side

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 13. extremity | m. a projecting fortification |
| _____ | 14. hinterland | n. a fortress |
| _____ | 15. juxtapose | o. protected by a fortification |
| _____ | 16. locale | p. sanctuary |
| _____ | 17. meridian | q. a community surrounded by foreign land |
| _____ | 18. milieu | r. a dividing line on Earth's surface |
| _____ | 19. niche | s. rural in character |
| _____ | 20. propinquity | t. far away; disconnected |
| _____ | 21. remote | u. land surrounding and supporting a city |
| _____ | 22. rustic | v. a natural setting |
| _____ | 23. sedate | w. a home or household |
| _____ | 24. terminus | x. proximity |

Doing Double Duty

Directions: Each of the ten words below can be used as more than one part of speech. For each word, look up the alternative definition and compose a sentence using the word both ways.

1. ebb (noun and verb)
2. discourse (noun and verb)
3. sublime (adjective and verb)
4. rift (noun and verb)
5. fetter (noun and verb)
6. sedate (adjective and verb)
7. scribe (noun and verb)
8. fray (noun and verb)
9. niche (noun and adjective)
10. expatriate (noun and verb)

Wordsearch

Directions: Fill in each blank in the story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

4th Day

The Edges of the World

Hawaii is the only U.S. state located in the tropics. Ka Lae, the southern tip of Hawaii is, therefore, the southernmost point in the United States. Alaska is the site of the northernmost _____, Point Barrow, which lies north of the Arctic Circle, less than 1,300 miles from the North Pole. The _____ of this cape is mainly characterized by tundra that spends a few months of each year in 24-hour darkness.

Alaska is also the site of the westernmost and easternmost point. Both lie in the Aleutian _____, which extends across the North Pacific. Now, you might think the island farthest from the mainland, Attu, would be the westernmost point. This last _____ of the United States is home to an air base and faced Japanese attack during World War II. Technically, though, Attu is not the western _____ of the Aleutians.

The explanation for this paradox lies in the subjectivity of east and west on a circular globe. Zero degrees longitude, a line running from the North Pole through Europe and Africa to the South Pole, divides the Eastern and Western Hemispheres *on one side*. The other seam of the globe is the 180th _____, which passes largely unnoticed through _____ stretches of ocean. This imaginary line demarcates *west from east*.

Since the Aleutians intersect this line, if you follow the chain far enough, you'll find yourself in the easternmost reaches of the Eastern Hemisphere. Thus, the westernmost point of the United States is found on the last Aleutian east of 180° longitude, Amatignak Island. Neatly _____ with the westernmost _____ is its eastern counterpart, Semisopochnoi Island. The _____ of these islands is incredible: Semisopochnoi lies only 71 miles northwest of Amatignak.

WEEK 29



DAY 1

Speed

NEW WORDS

elusive

ē - lū - siv

scurry

skur - ē

acute

ə - kyūt

frenetic

frə - net - ik

deploy

də - plōi

frenzy

fren - zē

Notable Roots:

lud = to fool; cut = sharp; ploy = to play; fren = fever

A SPORT FOR EVERYONE

Of the many highly popular sports in the United States, football must be rated at or near the top. This sport allows the *elusive* athlete to *scurry* behind the blocks of burly teammates. The skills and strengths of many are

welded together so that one team may work as a unit to gain mastery over its opponent. An *acute* football fan enjoys following *frenetic* action covering many parts of the playing field at the same time. Offenses *deploy* plays practiced to perfection, while the defense swarms in a *frenzy* of effort to make one last stop.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. While predators feeding on a school of fish appear to be in a state of _____, cornering the school requires cooperation.
2. The suffragettes expertly _____ provocative tactics of civil disobedience.
3. A kitten will chase anything that _____ along the floor.
4. The _____ tension of the pitcher's duel mounted with each scoreless inning.
5. While the Americans won most pitched battles, Vietnamese forces were so _____ that winning battles seldom translated to strategic gain.
6. Beat poetry seems to share the _____ quality of the era's jazz.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. elusive | _____ | a. to put into action |
| 8. scurry | _____ | b. feverish; energetic |
| 9. acute | _____ | c. state of wild behavior |
| 10. frenetic | _____ | d. hard to catch |
| 11. deploy | _____ | e. severe; significant |
| 12. frenzy | _____ | f. to move rapidly with quick steps |

WEEK 29



DAY 2

Speed

NEW WORDS

advent

ad - vent

spontaneous

spon - tān - ē - əs

propagate

prop - ə - gāt

celerity

sə - ler - ə - tē

unabated

un - ə - bāt - əd

romp (n.)

romp

Notable Roots:

ven = come; spon = self; celer = swift;

bate = batter

12TH MAN

The *advent* of the domed stadium has given renewed importance to the home field fans. *Spontaneous* cheers from the stands often *propagate*,

encouraging the crowd to cheer louder. This gives the player on the field a boost of strength and *celerity*. When the opposing team has the ball, *unabated* cheering plays an even more important role: an offensive squad backed up on their own end of the field has difficulty hearing the play. False start penalties and broken plays are a frequent result. As a home game turns into a *romp*, the noise only becomes more relentless.

Sample Sentences: Complete the sentences with the new words.

1. Serena Williams surpassed her older sister, then conquered all of women's tennis in a _____.
2. Although far ahead, Secretariat's _____ kept increasing through the finish.
3. The _____ of free agency has seen player salaries spike in most sports.
4. Without government intervention, the Great Depression continued _____.
5. A great actor's _____ flourishes can make a scene unforgettable.
6. Social media companies face pressure to stop the _____ of disinformation.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. advent | _____ | a. first appearance |
| 8. spontaneous | _____ | b. an easy win |
| 9. propagate | _____ | c. without let up |
| 10. celerity | _____ | d. self-generated |
| 11. unabated | _____ | e. to spread; to multiply |
| 12. romp | _____ | f. speed |

WEEK 29



DAY 3

Speed

NEW WORDS

expedient

eks - pēd - ē - ənt

disseminate

dis - em - ən - āt

alacrity

ə - lak - rə - tē

peregrination

per - ə - grin - ə - shən

cursory

kēr - sə - rē

febrile

fē - brīl

Notable Roots:

ped = foot; semin = seeds; per = away;

agro = field; cur = run

FOOTBALL ON YOUR PHONE

Given life's demands, few find it *expedient* to be season-ticket holders of our favorite teams. Fortunately, the digital age has allowed the sport to be

disseminated throughout the ether on television, radio, and Internet. Those who follow their teams' *alacrity* no longer have to miss a game. Business travelers can follow their team during their *peregrinations*. On any given Sunday, a *cursory* glance at the bowed heads on the bus reveals the continued popularity of football in an era of *febrile* activity.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in the sentences.

1. There is little _____ in Congress for the prospect of raising taxes.
2. A _____ physical examination runs the risk of missing latent* disorders.
3. Popular web browsers can track the _____ of rumors through popular searches.
4. The _____ of an albatross can cover thousands of miles.
5. While _____, routine antibiotic injections in livestock have bred superbugs.
6. Given the circulation of his newspaper, Marat was able to instigate violence through his _____ ravings.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. expedient | _____ | a. routine; with little care |
| 8. disseminate | _____ | b. enthusiasm |
| 9. alacrity | _____ | c. fast; convenient |
| 10. peregrination | _____ | d. nervous or anxious |
| 11. cursory | _____ | e. to circulate widely |
| 12. febrile | _____ | f. wandering |

WEEK 29



DAY 4

Speed

NEW WORDS

spate
spāt

imminent
im - ə - nənt

escalation
es - kə - lā - shən

flurry
flēr - ē

expedite
eks - pə - dīt

perfunctory
pér - funk - tōr - ē

Notable Roots:

scale = climb; per = by; funct = function

THE G.O.A.T. DEBATE

Tom Brady's career began with a *spate* of Super Bowl wins: three in his first four years. Although more seemed *imminent*, the next decade saw an *escalation* of the greatest quarterback debate. While Brady continued to

trail Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw (who won four championships apiece), Peyton Manning and Drew Brees won their first titles. In 2008 and 2012, meanwhile, Brady was stymied* in title bids by the New York Giants. The frustrations of these years galvanized Brady's resolve. A more patient and intuitive passer, Brady won another *flurry* of championships. A trade to Tampa Bay then *expedited* his new team's title hopes as Brady won his seventh ring. Now discussion of the greatest quarterback is merely *perfunctory*.

Sample Sentences: Complete these sentences with the new words.

1. After his SAT scores were published, a _____ of colleges recruited Omar.
2. Carmen's _____ interview responses did not impress anyone.
3. Angelique paid to _____ her passport application after an opening for her dream job in London became available.
4. John Brown's raid marked a dramatic _____ in the slavery crisis.
5. A _____ of base hits turned the tight game into a romp.*
6. When the tornado siren sounds, disaster is _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| 7. spate | _____ | a. sudden burst of activity |
| 8. imminent | _____ | b. with little thought or effort |
| 9. escalation | _____ | c. a series of similar events in quick succession |
| 10. flurry | _____ | d. about to occur |
| 11. expedite | _____ | e. an increase in intensity |
| 12. perfunctory | _____ | f. to speed up |

WEEK 29 **DAY 5** **Speed**

GROUP REVIEW

Sporadic study tends to disrupt the learning process. Commit to a regular study regimen!

Matching

Directions: Match the terms you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ **1.** acute
- _____ **2.** advent
- _____ **3.** alacrity
- _____ **4.** celerity
- _____ **5.** cursory
- _____ **6.** deploy
- _____ **7.** disseminate
- _____ **8.** elusive
- _____ **9.** escalation
- _____ **10.** expedient
- _____ **11.** expedite
- _____ **12.** febrile
- _____ **13.** flurry
- _____ **14.** frenetic
- _____ **15.** frenzy

DEFINITIONS

- a.** severe; significant
- b.** to spread; to multiply
- c.** an increase in intensity
- d.** wandering
- e.** state of wild behavior
- f.** hard to catch
- g.** enthusiasm
- h.** first appearance
- i.** to circulate widely
- j.** routine; with little care
- k.** self-generated
- l.** about to occur
- m.** speed
- n.** to speed up
- o.** to put into action

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | 16. imminent | p. with little thought or effort |
| _____ | 17. peregrination | q. without let up |
| _____ | 18. perfunctory | r. an easy win |
| _____ | 19. propagate | s. sudden burst of activity |
| _____ | 20. romp | t. fast; convenient |
| _____ | 21. scurry | u. nervous or anxious |
| _____ | 22. spate | v. feverish; energetic |
| _____ | 23. spontaneous | w. a series of similar events in quick succession |
| _____ | 24. unabated | x. to move rapidly with quick steps |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

Each Citizen's Obligation

The United States has an _____ problem with administering fair elections. Sometimes the problem is voter apathy—turnout during off-year elections often falls below 50%. Some say the _____ of political campaigning each election cycle leaves concerned citizens feeling numb. The disillusioned may feel that voting has become a _____ ritual that makes no difference in their lives. Sadly, this may be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

A _____ review of the current political landscape reveals the consequences of low turnout. First, some candidates are able to win elections in gerrymandered districts in a _____, often without being properly vetted. Moreover, since corporate donors rarely allow an opportunity to increase their influence _____ by, the average citizen's views are not represented.

Decades of _____ civic rot have led to the _____ of politicians that no longer respect the people's verdict. When citizens vote en masse, some in power look for ways to cull opposition

voters. It begins with a _____ of fraud claims, which are often _____ by political hacks and _____ through social media. Every voting _____ is then curtailed, and voter rolls are purged with great _____. The result is, unsurprisingly, low turnout in future elections.

WEEK 30



DAY 1

Happiness

NEW WORDS

amenable

ə - men - ə - bəl

raucous

rō - kəs

reciprocal

rē - sip - rə - kəl

extol

eks - tōl

effusive

ə - fyū - siv

lampoon

lam - pūn

Notable Roots:

men = lead, threaten; fus = flow

IN DAYS GONE BY

The man who best described the now extinct life aboard a steamer on the Mississippi River is Mark Twain. Having actually worked aboard the river boats, his writing captures both the *amenable* and *raucous* events of those

days. In his book about life on the Mississippi, Twain recalls the times when men showed *reciprocal* courtesy. One chapter *extols* the races conducted between the swiftest of the boats. When a race was set, politics and the weather were forgotten, and people talked *effusively* of the coming contest. The two steamers “stripped” and got ready; every encumbrance that might slow the passage was removed. Captains went to extremes to lighten their boats. Twain *lampoons* one captain who scraped the paint from the statue that hung between the chimneys of his steamer.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Hollywood studios used to loan out contracted actors through _____ agreement.
2. Only a megalomaniac enjoys the _____ praise of sycophants.
3. Boss Tweed is most famous from the Nast cartoons that _____ him.
4. The prosecutor is _____ to pleas from cooperative defendants.
5. _____ block parties are a form of communal urban celebration.
6. Even the Romans _____ the skill and daring of the Carthaginian general, Hannibal.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. amenable | _____ | a. to ridicule |
| 8. raucous | _____ | b. freely flowing |
| 9. reciprocal | _____ | c. to list virtues or achievements |
| 10. extol | _____ | d. agreeable |
| 11. effusive | _____ | e. boisterous |
| 12. lampoon | _____ | f. mutually beneficial |

WEEK 30



DAY 2

Happiness

NEW WORDS

levity

lev - ə - tē

nonchalance

non - shə - lons

droll

drōl

jocose

jō - kōs

facetious

fə - sē - shəs

winsome

win - sum

Notable Roots:

lev = light; joc/jov = humor; win = desire

THE JOHN J. ROE

Mark Twain's boat was so slow no other steamer would condescend to race with it. With the utmost *levity*, Twain comments that his boat moved with such *nonchalance*, they used to forget in which year they left port. Twain

recounts *droll* anecdotes of ferryboats waiting in consternation for the *John J. Roe* to pass. Mark Twain wrote in a *jocose* manner about the races his steamer had with islands and rafts. Throughout the book, he continues to *facetiously* malign the riverboat, but it's clear he found life on the river a *winsome* experience.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Lord Henry's _____ is a sign of his cynicism.
2. To speak in a _____ manner in the face of death is known as "gallows humor."
3. Jake was too oblivious to notice the _____ smile that indicated Mary's interest.
4. Parisian salons were known for the _____ of the conversation.
5. The _____ pilot said the flight plan would take the passengers to Mars.
6. Calvin Coolidge would occasionally break his famous reticence to offer up _____ remarks.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 7. levity | _____ | a. amusing in a witty or dry way |
| 8. nonchalance | _____ | b. attractive |
| 9. droll | _____ | c. sarcastic regarding serious matters |
| 10. jocose | _____ | d. humor; lightness |
| 11. facetious | _____ | e. casualness |
| 12. winsome | _____ | f. humorous |

WEEK 30



DAY 3

Happiness

NEW WORDS

exalted

eg - zôl - td

jubilant

ju - bil - nt

beneficent

be - nif - is - nt

insouciant

in - su - shnt

impunity

im - pyu - nit - 

iconoclast

 - kon -  - klast

Notable Roots:

alt = high; jubil = shout; bene = good; puni = punish; clast = destroy

THE RIVERBOAT PILOT

The riverboat pilot was a man *exalted* above all. Mark Twain was once *jubilant* to have attained that high position. Starting out as apprentice under the *beneficence* of a master pilot, he maintained dreams of the time he

would become “the only unfettered and entirely independent human being that lived in the earth.” Kings, parliaments, and newspaper editors, Twain comments, are hampered and restricted. The *insouciant* river pilot issued commands with the *impunity* of an absolute monarch. The pilot’s skill at avoiding the reefs and sand bars that imperiled a ship made him something of an *iconoclast* with independent authority on the bridge of older, higher ranking captains.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Diplomats in foreign lands enjoy a measure of _____ from local laws.
2. Former presidents typically enjoy the _____ status of elder statesmen.
3. Marshall McLuhan was the _____ who first theorized that media forms were more influential than the messages they carry.
4. _____ Parisians celebrated the end of four years of Nazi occupation.
5. Marie Antoinette’s _____ attitude toward their poverty alienated the French.
6. Many of New York’s museums were the gift of wealthy, _____ private donors.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. exalted | _____ | a. carefree |
| 8. jubilant | _____ | b. one who transcends traditional beliefs |
| 9. beneficent | _____ | c. rejoicing |
| 10. insouciant | _____ | d. immunity from punishment |
| 11. impunity | _____ | e. high in importance |
| 12. iconoclast | _____ | f. kind; generous |

WEEK 30



DAY 4

Happiness

NEW WORDS

venal

vēn - əl

philanthropic

fil - ən - throp - ik

libertine

lib - ēr - tēn

bohemian

bō - hēm - ē - ən

facile

fas - əl

profligate

prof - lig - ət

Notable Roots:

ven = love; phil = love; anthro = human;

facile = easy; flag = strike, swing

THE DOUBLE CROSS

The Mississippi is a boundary between many states; thus, the riverboat, always in motion astride legal jurisdictions, had a certain *venal* atmosphere.

While the *philanthropic* and philosophical might book passage, so too did droves of *libertines*. Gamblers, con men, criminals, and those seeking a more *bohemian* lifestyle than nineteenth-century America typically had to offer would often crowd the bar and card tables of a steamship. Many incidents retold by Twain involve cheats fleecing wealthy marks who had only a *facile* understanding of card play. In one case, a particularly *profligate* cardsharp attempted to swindle a gullible-seeming farmer only to lose his shirt when the would-be dupe proved a superior hustler—one who had secretly paid off all of the other players at the table!

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Greenwich Village is often associated with a _____ lifestyle.
2. Rather than freedom, an absence of moral restraint denotes a _____.
3. Late in life, Andrew Carnegie devoted his millions to _____ work.
4. The police in some countries are so _____ that they explicitly pull over tourists to extort* bribes.
5. Alaska has claimed the lives of many with only a _____ grasp of survival skills.
6. Emma Bovary becomes so _____ in her lifestyle that she ruins her family.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 7. venal | _____ | a. having a superficial understanding |
| 8. philanthropic | _____ | b. wasteful; immoral |
| 9. libertine | _____ | c. corrupt |
| 10. bohemian | _____ | d. one who acts without regard for morality |
| 11. facile | _____ | e. associated with an artistic lifestyle |
| 12. profligate | _____ | f. generous toward humanity |

WEEK 30



DAY 5

Happiness

GROUP REVIEW

Because you are learning these new words in context, they will stay with you. It is the natural method for seeing new words. Your ability to master words as they appear in normal situations should carry over to learning many other words as you read.

Matching

Directions: Match the weekly words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. amenable
- _____ 2. reciprocal
- _____ 3. beneficent
- _____ 4. bohemian
- _____ 5. droll
- _____ 6. effusive
- _____ 7. exalted
- _____ 8. extol
- _____ 9. facetious
- _____ 10. facile
- _____ 11. iconoclast
- _____ 12. impunity
- _____ 13. insouciant
- _____ 14. jocose

DEFINITIONS

- a. humorous
- b. boisterous
- c. kind; generous
- d. casualness
- e. to list virtues or achievements
- f. corrupt
- g. carefree
- h. amusing in a witty or dry way
- i. one who acts without regard for morality
- j. sarcastic regarding serious matters
- k. generous toward humanity
- l. wasteful; immoral
- m. immunity from punishment
- n. associated with an artistic lifestyle

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. jubilant | o. rejoicing |
| _____ | 16. lampoon | p. attractive |
| _____ | 17. levity | q. freely flowing |
| _____ | 18. libertine | r. one who transcends traditional beliefs |
| _____ | 19. nonchalance | s. agreeable |
| _____ | 20. philanthropic | t. humor; lightness |
| _____ | 21. profligate | u. mutually beneficial |
| _____ | 22. raucous | v. having a superficial understanding |
| _____ | 23. venal | w. to ridicule |
| _____ | 24. winsome | x. high in importance |

WEEK 30



DAY 6

Happiness

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

The White City

After the Paris Exposition of 1889 had concluded, visitors to its pavilions _____ its marvels, particularly the Eiffel Tower, the first man-made edifice to top 1,000 feet. The Paris fair was _____ as a spectacle not to be equaled within a lifetime. Only an upstart nation like the United States would dare attempt to outdo the _____ wonders of the world's cultural capital a scant four years later.

Chicago embodied American _____ in the face of challenges. In 1871, much of the city was consumed by fire, but under determined leadership, it had been rebuilt in under 20 years. In the process, Chicago architects began designing light, steel-framed buildings to “float” on top of the city’s notoriously spongy soil. Thus, with typical _____, Chicago had invented the skyscraper. It’s not surprising, then, that in 1890 _____ and civic-minded city fathers campaigned for the city to host the World’s Columbian Exposition, a world’s fair to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’s voyages. When Chicago was chosen over New York, the city was _____.

Fair President, Daniel Burnham, however, immediately recognized that to outstrip Paris, the fair would have to be a national effort. By nature, an _____ man, Burnham went to work charming the nation’s greatest builders into joining the effort. Frederick Law Olmstead, the _____ landscape architect who had created New York’s Central Park, was given the task of transforming Jackson Park, a forbidding patch of marsh on the lakeshore into a _____, cultivated setting. The heart of the fair would be the Court of Honor, an artificial harbor overlooked by a statue of the goddess of the American Republic. Surrounding the court were the principal exhibition buildings. These neoclassical structures, set in a landscape of lawns, canals, and bridges, made for an image of astonishing beauty.

The grandeur of Jackson Park was offset by the _____ atmosphere of the Midway Plaisance, a section devoted to entertainment. For the more _____ fair goer, there were plenty of concessions offering “liquid refreshment.” The most _____ praise for any exhibition, however, was reserved for an engineering marvel. Chicago’s answer to the Eiffel Tower was the brainchild of George Ferris. His wheel was 264 feet tall with a capacity of 2,000 passengers. In a time before aviation, riders could look out over the whole park and marvel at the possibilities of an exciting age.

WEEK 31



DAY 1

Conformity

NEW WORDS

respite

res - pət

intrinsic

in - trin - zic

steeped

stēpt

homogeneous

hō - mō - jēn - ē - əs or

hə - moj - ən - əs

repertoire

rep - ēr - twär

indigenous

in - dij - ən - əs

Notable Roots:

sic/sec = nature;

homo = same;

gen = created

CHOOSE YOUR SOURCE

Today, there is no *respite* from propaganda. It is not in spite of, but because of, our democratic beliefs that pressure groups are an *intrinsic* feature of our republic. *Steeped* in a culture of personal choice, Americans are not a *homogeneous* mass of humanity. Propaganda is, therefore, an important tool in the *repertoire* of those who wish to influence the course our country takes. It is such an *indigenous* feature of our public discourse that the average person faces both credible and deceptive propaganda efforts continuously without realizing it. While propaganda has the ostensible purpose of informing the public, the most fervid propagandists use methods that must be examined by the thoughtful citizen.

Sample Sentences: Use care. Some words have more than one meaning.

1. Thermal and electric conductivity are _____ properties of metals.
2. Regime change theory assumes populations are _____ in their values and beliefs.
3. Naval warfare was not part of the _____ of Spartan military strengths.
4. Seasoned fighters will use a knockdown as a brief _____ to regain energy.
5. The _____ Maori constitute about one-sixth of New Zealand's population.
6. The Marine Corps is a fighting organization _____ in tradition.

Definitions: Study the fine differences. Be sure you know how to use these words.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. respite | _____ | a. immersed in |
| 8. intrinsic | _____ | b. uniform in composition |
| 9. steeped | _____ | c. native population |
| 10. homogeneous | _____ | d. an array of skills |
| 11. repertoire | _____ | e. a pause or rest |
| 12. indigenous | _____ | f. essential to something |

WEEK 31



DAY 2

Conformity

NEW WORDS

facet

fas - ət

mundane

mun - dān

tranquil

trenk - wil

cant

kant

propensity

prō - pen - sət - ē

indoctrinate

in - dok- trin - āt

Notable Roots:

face = face; mond = world; cant = sing;

doctrine = formal belief

A FREE SOCIETY

The right to propagate* ideas and try to win converts is an essential *facet* of a free society. We do not look upon an idea different from ours as an

anomaly that should be avoided. Nor do we permit only *mundane* or *tranquil* beliefs and forbid those we believe are spurious *cants*. In a country of competing pressures, there is a *propensity* to feel overwhelmed by a multitude of viewpoints. Some of these are merely seeking to share information, while others aim to *indoctrinate* the fatuous.*

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Many with the loudest _____ about morality are hiding their own misdeeds.
2. Some _____ of a spouse's personality take years to uncover.
3. For the immature, the _____ is more stressful than the dramatic.
4. Miley Cyrus has a _____ to stick out her tongue in pictures.
5. The _____ sea made it hard for the *Titanic*'s lookout to see the iceberg.
6. Advertising uses the power to _____ for commercial purposes.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. facet | _____ | a. an often hypocritical rant |
| 8. mundane | _____ | b. instill a set of beliefs |
| 9. tranquil | _____ | c. aspect |
| 10. cant | _____ | d. natural tendency |
| 11. propensity | _____ | e. peaceful |
| 12. indoctrinate | _____ | f. ordinary; commonplace |

WEEK 31



DAY 3

Conformity

NEW WORDS

rudimentary

rūd - ə - ment - ə - rē

abode

ə - bōd

inevitable

in - ev - it - ə - bəl

nominal

nom - ə - nəl

clique

klik

tenable

ten - ə - bəl

Notable Roots:

rudi = initial training; nom = name;

ten = grasp

WHO LISTENS?

The most *rudimentary* forms of propaganda directly tell us who or what to support. Messages are piped right into one's *abode* through television and

radio. As such messages become more common, they also become more insistent in order to compete. An *inevitable* result of increased levels of propaganda is that the individual may form an aversion to all attempts to influence her. A more insidious form of propaganda comes from sources that are *nominally* labeled news programs. Yellow journalism has the effect of forming entrenched *cliques* of like-minded people. In this way, extreme ideas can become *tenable* when repeated by one's friends and family.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. For most of his reign, Henry VI was merely a _____ ruler.
2. The sea, according to Greek mythology, is Poseidon's _____.
3. A _____ baseball principle is to run with a full count and two outs.
4. After the loss of its fleet, Carthage's position on Sicily was no longer _____.
5. In *Lord of the Flies*, _____ of boys degenerate into warring parties.
6. Birth becomes _____ once a pregnant woman's water breaks.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. rudimentary | _____ | a. can be maintained |
| 8. abode | _____ | b. a close-knit group of people |
| 9. inevitable | _____ | c. home |
| 10. nominal | _____ | d. in name only |
| 11. clique | _____ | e. basic |
| 12. tenable | _____ | f. unavoidable |

WEEK 31



DAY 4

Conformity

NEW WORDS

extant

eks - tant

inanimate

in - an - ə - mət

edifice

ed - ə - fəs

incumbent (adj.)

in - kum - bənt

menial

mēn - ē - əl

compatible

kəm - pat - ə - bəl

Notable Roots:

anima = alive; fic/fac = make/do; cum = lying down; path = feel

THE PEOPLE DECIDE

In any *extant* authoritarian regime, the role of propaganda is dramatically different. Some dictatorships will allow *inanimate* opposition parties to exist only to be trounced in fraudulent elections and have their talking

points discredited by the state-run media. Totalitarian governments won't even allow that much. The *edifice* of government has one voice—that of the *incumbent* leader. Dissenters in such lands are subject to arrest, execution, or long sentences of *menial* labor in work camps. The free expression of ideas is not *compatible* with such a system of state control because allowing any public criticism can precipitate* rebellion. Many historians believe that the Soviet policy of tolerance toward criticism that followed the Chernobyl nuclear disaster presaged the dissolution of the Soviet Union itself.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The Romanian Parliament Building is one of the most costly _____ ever built.
2. Most _____ presidents do manage to win reelection.
3. Gandhi felt that sharing _____ tasks at the ashram helped foster solidarity.
4. An emotionally _____ couple tends to stay together more often.
5. Anger at _____ objects is a sign that a person struggles with frustration.
6. Only about 1% of all species that have ever lived are _____ right now.

Definitions: Always be cognizant* of the fact that words are used in the paragraphs and sentences with only one meaning. They often have many others. Look up the word *incumbent* for a good example.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. extant | _____ | a. capable of coexistence |
| 8. inanimate | _____ | b. describes work that is unskilled |
| 9. edifice | _____ | c. not living |
| 10. incumbent | _____ | d. a man-made structure |
| 11. menial | _____ | e. still in existence |
| 12. compatible | _____ | f. currently in power |

WEEK 31



DAY 5

Conformity

GROUP REVIEW

Always keep in mind that the context of a word determines its meaning. Used as a noun, a word has a different meaning than when it is used as an adjective or a verb. First, master the words as they appear in the daily stories. Next, work on other meanings.

Matching

Directions: Match the words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abode
- _____ 2. cant
- _____ 3. clique
- _____ 4. compatible
- _____ 5. edifice
- _____ 6. extant
- _____ 7. facet
- _____ 8. homogeneous
- _____ 9. inanimate
- _____ 10. incumbent
- _____ 11. indigenous
- _____ 12. indoctrinate
- _____ 13. inevitable
- _____ 14. intrinsic

DEFINITIONS

- a. basic
- b. an array of skills
- c. ordinary; commonplace
- d. can be maintained
- e. essential to something
- f. describes work that is unskilled
- g. a pause or rest
- h. capable of coexistence
- i. still in existence
- j. home
- k. aspect
- l. peaceful
- m. unavoidable
- n. not living

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. menial | o. instill a set of beliefs |
| _____ | 16. mundane | p. in name only |
| _____ | 17. nominal | q. natural tendency |
| _____ | 18. propensity | r. a close-knit group of people |
| _____ | 19. repertoire | s. a man-made structure |
| _____ | 20. respite | t. native population |
| _____ | 21. rudimentary | u. currently in power |
| _____ | 22. steeped | v. immersed in |
| _____ | 23. tenable | w. uniform in composition |
| _____ | 24. tranquil | x. an often hypocritical rant |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

Toss Me a Life Line

Humans have a natural _____ for worrying about fate. It is thus _____ that people throughout history have been fascinated by those who say they can predict the future. Fortune tellers, with their _____ of theatrics, continue to attract gullible customers. Horoscopes are examined daily to see if the stars have something to reveal about _____ matters.

Palm readers believe that a long “lifeline” on the hand means the customer will enjoy longevity. While this hardly appears to be a _____ way to predict long life, a study done in England measured lifelines of 100 corpses, and their findings were _____ with the claim: the length of life matched the length of the line.

However, scientists argue that this apparent connection is due to a _____ case of reverse causality. They say the lifeline of older people is longer only because the hand becomes more wrinkled with age. Length of the line is a consequence of length of life, not the reverse.

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. A hunting alligator can uncannily resemble an (*incumbent, inanimate*) floating log.
2. There are many antiquated but (*extant, intrinsic*) laws like bans on kissing in public.
3. Henry Tudor's claim to the throne through distant ancestors was barely (*tenable, compatible*).
4. The houses are so (*homogeneous, indigenous*) that residents sometimes mistake their neighbors' homes for their own.
5. Joe Torre's (*menial, tranquil*) demeanor never betrayed the pressures he faced as manager.
6. LeBron James, a superstar forward, has fewer (*cliques, respites*) than his teammates.
7. Sailors crossing the equator enter the traditional (*abode, edifice*) of King Neptune.
8. Talking about (*nominal, mundane*) daily details is a surprisingly necessary relationship skill.
9. Living abroad, one is (*steeped, indoctrinated*) in a foreign culture.
10. Polonius's famous (*facet, cant*) about public virtue to Laertes belies his scheming nature.

WEEK 32



DAY 1

Size

NEW WORDS

aggregate (v.)

ag - grə - gāt

prodigious

prō - di - jəs

pith

pith

cavalcade

kav - əl - kād

din

din

cache

kash

Notable Roots:

greg = together;

prodigy = omen, wonder; caval = mounted horse

ANYONE FOR GOOGLE?

Servers store and search engines *aggregate* an increasingly *prodigious* volume of information. Experts try to help novices separate the *pith* of ideas

from the *cavalcade* of trivial details, but society is overwhelmed by a *din* of information. Machines can scan thousands of words in nanoseconds to help expedite* any research. As a result, elementary students know how to extract *caches* of information that would have taken their grandparents an eternity to produce. This wealth of facts, should not, however, be confused with any increase in human wisdom.

Sample Sentences: Insert your new words below.

1. Even from the other end of a phone, the _____ of Manhattan is unmistakable.
2. Amundsen left supply _____ along his route to the South Pole for the return trip.
3. Louis XIV _____ the French nobility in Versailles to keep an eye on them.
4. The smiling _____ of Olympic teams belies the fierce competition to come.
5. Lincoln's speeches, though brief, struck the _____ of a matter resoundingly.
6. Alexander Hamilton's _____ capacity for work impressed even his foes.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. aggregate | _____ | a. a hidden collection of useful items |
| 8. prodigious | _____ | b. a considerable racket |
| 9. pith | _____ | c. impressive; considerable |
| 10. cavalcade | _____ | d. the heart of something |
| 11. din | _____ | e. gather together |
| 12. cache | _____ | f. a procession |

WEEK 32



DAY 2

Size

NEW WORDS

monolithic

mon - ô - lith - ik

cumbersome

kum - bér - sum

voluminous

və - lūm - in - əs

colossal

kə - los - əl

augment

ôg - ment

comprehensive

kom - prē - hen - siv

Notable Roots:

mono = one; lith = stone; cumber = obstacle; volume = expanse; hens = grasp

EVERYONE IS TALKING

Can anyone under the age of 40 remember a time when the *monolithic* landline telephone was the only method of voice communication over long

distances? What a bizarre concept this must seem for today's youth. It has become a *cumbersome* form of personal contact. The instrument for the modern communicator is the smartphone, which has usurped* the wired model. The cell phone user can have *voluminous* conversations almost anywhere without running up a *colossal* bill. *Augmenting* the virtuosity of the smartphone, text messaging has become an increasingly popular way to send succinct messages without the commitment of a call. Competing wireless carriers offer *comprehensive* data plans for web browsing and app usage.

Did you spot usurp as a reintroduced word? Without looking back at the New Words, do you recall its meaning?

Sample Sentences: Insert your new words below.

1. Henry Frick's Manhattan home is now a museum with a _____ art collection.
2. Prior to the Reformation, European Christianity was a _____ force.
3. Muhammad Ali's comedic taunting actually _____ his boxing skills.
4. The Broncos _____ defeat in Super Bowl XXIV was the worst in history.
5. Nineteenth-century photography was so _____ that no action could be captured.
6. The _____ Hercules bomber only flew once and barely got airborne.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. monolithic | _____ | a. thorough; complete |
| 8. cumbersome | _____ | b. to increase or expand |
| 9. voluminous | _____ | c. large and uniform |
| 10. colossal | _____ | d. awkward; unwieldy |
| 11. augment | _____ | e. giant-sized |
| 12. comprehensive | _____ | f. full and extensive |

WEEK 32



DAY 3

Size

NEW WORDS

gargantuan

gär - gan - chū - ən

grandeur

grand - jér

ostentatious

os - ten - tā - shəs

mammoth

mam - əth

commodious

kə - mōd - ē - əs

amalgamate

ə - mal - gə - māt

Notable Roots:

grand = large, great; ostent = display;

modus = manner

THE FUTURE IS HERE

The invention of the printing press represented a *gargantuan* leap in the proliferation of the written word. Before that, texts were copied by hand.

Although possessing a certain *grandeur*, with *ostentatious* calligraphy and illustration, such manuscripts took years to make. Despite the tedious process of typesetting each page in a *mammoth* frame, printing allowed the creation of hundreds of identical pages at a time. The *commodious* typewriter, first mechanical and then electronic, marked the advent* of personal printing capacity. Although an improvement over handwriting, typewriting did not allow for easy revision or correction of mistakes. The personal computer and home printer have finally *amalgamated* the advances in printing that have occurred since the Gutenberg Bible.

Sample Sentences: Complete the sentences with the new words.

1. The *Titanic*'s first-class cabins were both _____ and luxurious.
2. Tourists who make an _____ display of wealth are often robbed.
3. As mounted attacks were suicidal, WWI cavalry units were _____ with infantry.
4. Completing *Atlas Shrugged* was a _____ task that took Rand decades.
5. The _____ Laurentide Ice Sheet was two miles thick and covered all of Canada.
6. The _____ of the Spit Head naval review of 1897 during Queen Victoria's 60th jubilee symbolized the apex of British power.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------|
| 7. gargantuan | _____ | a. showy |
| 8. grandeur | _____ | b. to fuse together |
| 9. ostentatious | _____ | c. impressively large |
| 10. mammoth | _____ | d. bulky, roomy |
| 11. commodious | _____ | e. impressive splendor |
| 12. amalgamate | _____ | f. gigantic |

WEEK 32



DAY 4

Size

NEW WORDS

cumulative

kūm - yū - lə - tiv

swank

swenk

aggrandize

ə - gran - dīz

engrossed

ən - grōsd

bulwark

bul - wärk

subsume

sub - sūm

Notable Roots:

cumul = heap;

grand = large, great; gross = large; sume = take, obtain

IT'S HAPPENING NOW

The *cumulative* pace of telecommunications technology development proceeds at such a regular pace that new breakthroughs are a mundane

occurrence. Don't underestimate the power of *swank*, however: advertising has the effect of *aggrandizing* every new technological marvel. Fans of the most popular smartphone find themselves *engrossed* by the latest rumors of the next model. And yet the *bulwark* never holds; the newest gadget is always *subsumed* by a flood of new features, and the FOMO effect drives customers to pick up the newest toy.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Dylan was so _____ in the novel that he missed the bus.
2. Wall Street is named for a _____ built by the Dutch to protect New Amsterdam.
3. The Flamingo was the first _____ casino built in Las Vegas.
4. The revolution in Paris was quickly _____ into a nationwide movement.
5. Ethics forbid using one's office to _____ one's private interests.
6. The general succumbed to the _____ effects of his many wounds.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--|
| 7. cumulative | _____ | a. increase the power of something |
| 8. swank | _____ | b. absorbed |
| 9. aggrandize | _____ | c. include or absorb in something else |
| 10. engrossed | _____ | d. a defensive barrier |
| 11. bulwark | _____ | e. overall |
| 12. subsume | _____ | f. fancy and luxurious |

WEEK 32



DAY 5

Size

GROUP REVIEW

When you can analyze a sentence and determine from the context the meaning of a previously unknown word, you are functioning at the best level. These words will become a permanent part of your ever-growing vocabulary.

Matching

Directions: Match the words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. aggrandize
- _____ 2. aggregate
- _____ 3. amalgamate
- _____ 4. augment
- _____ 5. bulwark
- _____ 6. cache
- _____ 7. cavalcade
- _____ 8. colossal
- _____ 9. commodious
- _____ 10. comprehensive
- _____ 11. cumbersome
- _____ 12. cumulative
- _____ 13. din
- _____ 14. engrossed

DEFINITIONS

- a. the heart of something
- b. a procession
- c. impressive splendor
- d. large and uniform
- e. include or absorb in something else
- f. giant-sized
- g. fancy and luxurious
- h. a considerable racket
- i. thorough; complete
- j. bulky, roomy
- k. a hidden collection of useful items
- l. impressively large
- m. impressive; considerable
- n. absorbed

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|---|
| _____ | 15. gargantuan | o. gather together |
| _____ | 16. grandeur | p. a defensive barrier |
| _____ | 17. mammoth | q. to fuse together |
| _____ | 18. monolithic | r. increase the power of something |
| _____ | 19. ostentatious | s. full and extensive |
| _____ | 20. pith | t. gigantic |
| _____ | 21. prodigious | u. overall |
| _____ | 22. subsume | v. awkward; unwieldy |
| _____ | 23. swank | w. to increase or expand |
| _____ | 24. voluminous | x. showy |

Antonyms Attract

Directions: Here are 15 words taken from the last four weeks of study. Select and underline the correct antonym for each.

1. beneficent (*malevolent, impudent*)
2. cursory (*thorough, swift*)
3. swank (*sumptuous, measly*)
4. tenable (*feasible, indefensible*)
5. scurry (*plod, ponder*)
6. mundane (*menial, extraordinary*)
7. aggregate (*hoard, scatter*)
8. mammoth (*bestial, diminutive*)
9. effusive (*taciturn, saturnine*)
10. frenetic (*phlegmatic, diabolical*)
11. prodigal (*generous, frugal*)
12. winsome (*hapless, boorish*)
13. augment (*diminish, verify*)
14. alacrity (*reluctance, ambition*)
15. homogeneous (*motley, bland*)

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

4th Day

A Formidable Opponent

One of the most interesting tests of a computer's ability to "think" occurred in 1992. The world's chess champion, a man of _____ mental ability in this game, was challenged to compete against the most powerful computer programmed to play chess. The question was: could a _____ machine usurp* a human's place as the best chess player in the world?

The match took place before hundreds of chess enthusiasts and was recorded on film. While the computer lacked the champion's experience and emotional capacity, it worked with such a _____ memory that it could search ahead for many thousands of choices, well beyond what any human could envision. In fact, the computer had already defeated a _____ of chess masters in preparation for the contest.

The world was _____ in the drama of the man vs. machine contest. The result temporarily vindicated human self-esteem: the champion won fairly easily. However, there was almost total agreement that it was only a matter of time before we had an electronic chess champion, one incapable of making a blunder. By the late 1990s, computers were regularly defeating humans in chess world championship matches.

WEEK 33



DAY

1 Scarcity/Weakness

NEW WORDS

paltry
päl - trē

wane
wān

negligible
neg - lij - ə - bəl

remiss
rē - mis

vitiate
vish - ē - āt

spurious
spyur - ē - əs

Notable Roots:

neg = not; leg = select; vice = fault

AT A LOSS

With the *paltry* sum of \$10 in his pockets, Robert Lacy worried about his *waning* fortunes. No matter how frugal he was, his *negligible* funds would run out before the next day. Never *remiss* in his responsibilities, he owed \$5 in debts to friends. Hunger would *vitiate* him to the point where he could not continue his search for Evelyn. There was always the *spurious* hope that a stranger would help him with money, but that still wouldn't help him find her.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Jefferson argues that a government _____ in its duties should be changed.
2. Tyson's punching power was _____ by age and inactivity.
3. Megan earned _____ wages working for a nonprofit organization.
4. It is wise to delete all _____ emails that appear to be from financial institutions.
5. At slow speeds, wind resistance usually has a _____ effect.
6. After failing a second time to sack Vienna, Ottoman power began to _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. paltry | _____ | a. to weaken or spoil |
| 8. wane | _____ | b. small enough to be ignored |
| 9. negligible | _____ | c. very small |
| 10. remiss | _____ | d. illegitimate |
| 11. vitiate | _____ | e. to decline |
| 12. spurious | _____ | f. derelict in one's duties |

WEEK 33



DAY

2 Scarcity/Weakness

NEW WORDS

innocuous

ən - ok - yū - əs

fatalistic

fā - təl - is - tik

sporadic

spôr - ad - ik

hypothetical

hī - pō - thet - ik - əl

susceptible

sə - sep - tə - bəl

curtail

kur - tāl

Notable Roots:

spora = scatter;

hypo = under;

thesis = condition

MAKING PLANS

Robert had arrived in New York a week earlier. He had begun by asking *innocuous* questions of Evelyn's former landlord. The landlord was *fatalistic*, and all Robert had been able to glean from the *sporadic* replies was that Evelyn had moved to a residence that catered to single women. Robert was in a hopeless situation; in this immense city, his quarry could, *hypothetically*, be hiding in one of dozens of such places. If he searched randomly, he would be *susceptible* to wasting time. He needed to *curtail* such a haphazard strategy and form a plan.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in these sentences.

1. Countries that lack natural defenses are more _____ to invasion.
2. Opportunistic infections are caused by germs that are normally _____.
3. _____ examples do little to support a term paper.
4. The artillery bombardment was too _____ to do any real damage.
5. New penalties have been proposed to help _____ excessive celebration.
6. The CEO was _____ about the prospects of the proposed plan.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. innocuous | _____ | a. occurring irregularly |
| 8. fatalistic | _____ | b. based on a hypothesis |
| 9. sporadic | _____ | c. harmless |
| 10. hypothetical | _____ | d. to stop; to cut short |
| 11. susceptible | _____ | e. doubtful; pessimistic |
| 12. curtail | _____ | f. vulnerable |

WEEK 33



DAY

3 Scarcity/Weakness

NEW WORDS

intangible

in - tan - jə - bəl

desist

dē - sist

attenuate

ə - ten - yū - āt

jilt

jilt

ersatz

èr - zatz

enervate

en - èr - vāt

Notable Roots:

tang = touch;

sist = stop; ten = grasp, stretch

A NEWSPAPER AD

Robert held out an *intangible* hope: Evelyn knew she was being sought, so he decided to *desist* in fruitless searching and place an ad in the leading morning newspaper. He would offer a careful, *attenuated* plea for her return. The ad read, “Evelyn. Come out of hiding. I do not reproach you for *jilting* me. I expect no *ersatz* confession. Please contact. Robert.” When Robert went to the paper the next morning, there was a letter for him, and with *enervated* fingers he tore it open. It contained one sentence: “If you really care about me, you will find me by midnight, Friday. Evelyn.”

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. As the shortages worsened, _____ products like salt and sugar substitutes proliferated.
2. Miss Havisham became embittered after she was _____ by her fiancé.
3. Sound walls can _____ the noise produced by major highways.
4. Montana, _____ by his bout with the flu, wasn’t sharp in the playoff loss.
5. Cody’s father sent him to his room when he didn’t _____ playing with his food.
6. Momentum is one of the most powerful, yet _____, factors in sports.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. intangible | _____ | a. to abandon |
| 8. desist | _____ | b. to weaken |
| 9. attenuate | _____ | c. fake; imitation |
| 10. jilt | _____ | d. to stop doing something |
| 11. ersatz | _____ | e. to lessen the effect of |
| 12. enervate | _____ | f. difficult to perceive; abstract |

WEEK 33



DAY

4 Scarcity/Weakness

NEW WORDS

cessation

sə - sā - shən

eschew

əs - chū

supine

sū - pīn

encumbrance

ən - kum - brəns

regress

rē - gres

vapid

vap - id

Notable Roots:

cease = stop; cumulu = heap; gress = go

AT THE BALLET

Seeking a *cessation* of their estrangement, Robert thought hard. Evelyn *eschewed* predictability: she had a propensity* for folk music and rock and, at the same time, was an avid* fan of classical ballet. At one time, she had been a fledgling* ballet dancer until a car accident left her *supine* for months. With the *encumbrance* of a leg brace, Evelyn *regressed* as a dancer. Robert headed for a theater where a venerable* ballet company was performing. Only three more days remained before the deadline set by Evelyn. And so, although he considered ballet to be *vapid* entertainment, he joined the throng in the lobby hoping to see her.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The _____ of their kit slowed the progress of the infantry.
2. Dementia is evident when a patient _____ in simple tasks.
3. Donald Trump often _____ formal speeches, preferring to improvise.
4. The _____ victim was found face-down in an overgrown field.
5. The superb cast could not overcome the _____ dialogue they were given.
6. An armistice simply entails a _____ of hostilities—not lasting peace.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. cessation | _____ | a. lacking in interest |
| 8. eschew | _____ | b. burden |
| 9. supine | _____ | c. to decline in ability or maturity |
| 10. encumbrance | _____ | d. lying down |
| 11. regress | _____ | e. a full stop |
| 12. vapid | _____ | f. to avoid |

WEEK 33 DAY

5 Scarcity/Weakness

GROUP REVIEW

While each day's story has six new words, there are many others that are repeated from previous weeks. Repetition will help guarantee that these words will be firmly fixed as part of your ever-expanding vocabulary.

Matching

Directions: Match this week's words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. attenuate
- _____ 2. cessation
- _____ 3. curtail
- _____ 4. desist
- _____ 5. encumbrance
- _____ 6. enervate
- _____ 7. ersatz
- _____ 8. eschew
- _____ 9. fatalistic
- _____ 10. hypothetical
- _____ 11. innocuous
- _____ 12. intangible
- _____ 13. jilt

DEFINITIONS

- a. to stop doing something
- b. to decline
- c. vulnerable
- d. to weaken
- e. very small
- f. to avoid
- g. lacking in interest
- h. derelict in one's duties
- i. to abandon
- j. illegitimate
- k. based on a hypothesis
- l. fake; imitation
- m. lying down

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|---|
| _____ | 14. negligible | n. to weaken or spoil |
| _____ | 15. paltry | o. occurring irregularly |
| _____ | 16. regress | p. to lessen the effect of |
| _____ | 17. remiss | q. a full stop |
| _____ | 18. sporadic | r. to stop; to cut short |
| _____ | 19. spurious | s. burden |
| _____ | 20. supine | t. doubtful; pessimistic |
| _____ | 21. susceptible | u. to decline in ability or maturity |
| _____ | 22. vapid | v. harmless |
| _____ | 23. vitiate | w. small enough to be ignored |
| _____ | 24. wane | x. difficult to perceive; abstract |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

Good Enough to Eat?

There seems to be universal agreement that exposure to the ultraviolet light from the sun is deleterious* to one's health. Also, except for tobacco industry spokesmen, there is no dispute about the damage done to us from cigarette smoke. What is shocking is the fact that almost everything we once regarded as either beneficial or harmless soon gets challenged by scientists. We are urged to _____ foods that have high fat content. There go butter and cheese. Even milk has now been added to the list of foods that we must _____.

Whatever diet we are on, we must eventually become _____ about its nutritional value. We are left, ultimately, with the depressing thought that, sooner or later, almost everything we eat or drink may be found to _____ human health.

Given that there are many obstacles to maintaining good health, would it be wise to embrace every new laboratory report? Let's not _____ old, proven, sensible food habits. Also, there is always the possibility that ice cream sundaes will be found to cure baldness and that chocolate chip cookies will eliminate our cholesterol problems.

May I Borrow That Expression?

English is constantly absorbing expressions from foreign languages and neologisms from culture. Take the German expression *zeitgeist*: the root *zeit* means time, and *geist* means spirit. The expression was adopted as a pithy way of referring to the ethos of a historical era.

Directions: Below are 20 words that have been adopted. Match each with its meaning and back story.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. ersatz
- _____ 2. aficionado
- _____ 3. supine
- _____ 4. nuance
- _____ 5. clique
- _____ 6. grandeur
- _____ 7. cache
- _____ 8. cognizance
- _____ 9. credo
- _____ 10. stoic
- _____ 11. tantalize
- _____ 12. reverie
- _____ 13. bastion
- _____ 14. milieu
- _____ 15. sacrosanct
- _____ 16. pantheon
- _____ 17. coup

ORIGINS

- a. the verb *I believe* in Latin
- b. the Roman temple dedicated to all gods
- c. the French expression for *easy*
- d. formed from the French verb *to hide*
- e. Latin word formed from two religious root words
- f. a Sanskrit word roughly referring to escape from life's suffering
- g. French verb *to cut*; also refers to illegal seizures of power
- h. a Spanish term referring to a devoted expert of a pursuit
- i. name of a rancher who lost cattle by not branding them
- j. the German word for *replacement*
- k. French term for a fortified tower
- l. from the Greek figure *Tantalus*, doomed to stand in water he cannot drink
- m. means *middle place* in French
- n. French noun meaning *greatness*
- o. Greek philosophers who did not show emotions
- p. from Latin verb *to know* by way of French word for *awareness*
- q. French expression for a subtle distinction

- _____ **18.** maverick
_____ **19.** nirvana
_____ **20.** facile
- r.** a noun formed from the French word for *dream*
s. the Latin word that refers to lying down
t. in French it refers to a door closing (on a secret meeting)

WEEK 34



DAY 1

Sadness

NEW WORDS

bristle

bris - əl

somber

som - bēr

disgruntled

dis - grun - təld

doleful

dōl - fəl

ineffectual

in - əf - ek - shū - əl

qualms

kwâlmz

Notable Roots:

sombre = shade; dole = sad; fac = make/do

ANOTHER PLAN

Robert *bristled* as he waited in the lobby for almost an hour after the performance had begun. His *somber* appearance stood out as he attracted several stares. *Disgruntled*, he quit the site of his vigil. He had to face the

doleful truth that he was making no tangible progress. Tomorrow he would telephone several apartment buildings. It was an *ineffectual* way of going about his search, but it was all that he could think of at the moment. He had no *qualms* about interrogating desk clerks, and perhaps he might uncover a pertinent clue to Evelyn's whereabouts.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. *Music for the Funeral of Queen Mary* is one of the most _____ pieces ever written.
2. Before the mutiny, Captain Anderson was oblivious to the _____ state of his crew.
3. Many voters _____ at the offensive rhetoric of some politicians.
4. While brilliant, Dr. Trask was an _____ disciplinarian with a chaotic class.
5. No one knows why minor chords have a more _____ sound.
6. During Prohibition, few had any _____ about drinking illegal liquor.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. bristle | _____ | a. not producing a desired effect |
| 8. somber | _____ | b. full of sadness |
| 9. disgruntled | _____ | c. react with anger |
| 10. doleful | _____ | d. sober or serious |
| 11. ineffectual | _____ | e. misgivings |
| 12. qualms | _____ | f. visibly disappointed |

WEEK 34



DAY 2

Sadness

NEW WORDS

fraught
frôt

foreboding
fôr - bôd - ing

neurotic
nə - rot - ik

forlorn
fôr - lôrn

sullen
sul - ən

disheveled
də - shev - əld

Notable Roots:

bode = signal, message; neuro = nerve; lorn = lost; chevel = hair

A HOPE DASHED

The next day, Wednesday, saw Robert become more *fraught*. He would fluctuate between high hopes of finding Evelyn and *foreboding*. The phone calls had elicited almost nothing. A *neurotic* wreck, Robert had rushed to

one residence when the clerk described a girl who might just be Evelyn. Robert waited in the lobby on a drab and *forlorn*-looking sofa. He watched from a discreet* distance as she came down the stairs. One look at her *sullen* face and *disheveled* hair and Robert knew it was not his impeccable Evelyn.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. It's long been said that the intelligent are less happy and more _____.
2. The two teens could not hide their _____ appearance from their parents.
3. Rounding Cape Horn has always been _____ with danger.
4. Few in Vienna paid much mind to the _____ young Hitler.
5. Longstreet's sense of _____ could not stop the doomed Pickett's Charge.
6. The _____ kitten in the rain evoked pity in Mr. Shen, who took it in.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. fraught | _____ | a. seemingly doomed |
| 8. foreboding | _____ | b. carelessly groomed |
| 9. neurotic | _____ | c. grumpy or moody |
| 10. forlorn | _____ | d. imperiled |
| 11. sullen | _____ | e. unusually sensitive or anxious |
| 12. disheveled | _____ | f. dejected; unloved |

WEEK 34



DAY 3

Sadness

NEW WORDS

hapless

hap - ləs

lachrymose

lak - rə - mōs

deplorable

də - plōr - ə - bəl

inane

in - ān

ignominious

ig - nō - min - ē - əs

ennui

ən - wē

Notable Roots:

hap = luck; lagrima = cry; plore = cry, rain;

ig = ill; nomen = name

TO THE POLICE

Robert felt utterly *hapless*. Thursday was his penultimate day; he had followed up every lead to no avail. Now he felt *lachrymose* and was in

deplorable physical condition. In desperation, he turned to the police. They asked many questions and requested that he not leave anything out, although some of their queries seemed *inane*. When they inquired about his relationship to the missing girl, he replied with a grimace, “Fiancé.” It was an *ignominious* admission: the woman he loved had jilted* him in a fit of *ennui*. He bristled* when they suggested she might be hiding in a part of the city known for low characters, but he had to admit that searching everywhere else had proven fruitless.*

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Bettors wager on which player will earn the _____ distinction of last selection in the NFL Draft.
2. _____ is typically the complaint of intellectuals, artists, and wealthy heirs.
3. Serena Williams once defeated an opponent so _____ she failed to win a game.
4. After imbibing their share of rum, the old sailors sang _____ sea shanties.
5. The Sanitary Commission fought against _____ Civil War camp conditions.
6. Ron’s _____ chatter repelled many a would-be companion.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. hapless | _____ | a. disgraceful |
| 8. lachrymose | _____ | b. silly |
| 9. deplorable | _____ | c. listless boredom |
| 10. inane | _____ | d. in terrible condition |
| 11. ignominious | _____ | e. unlucky |
| 12. ennui | _____ | f. tearful |

WEEK 34



DAY 4

Sadness

NEW WORDS

macabre

mə - kob - rə

dregs

dregz

nonentity

non - en - tit - ē

interloper

in - tēr - lōp - ēr

bedraggled

bē - drag - əld

melancholy

mel - ən - kol - ē

Notable Roots:

inter = between; lope = leap; choler = rage

EVELYN DISCOVERED

Robert was hopeless: his mind veered toward *macabre* visions involving her grisly demise at the hands of the *dregs* of the urban populace. What if some *nonentity* with a gun or knife attacked her? He steadied himself; it

was now Friday. An impulse brought him to an unfamiliar, decrepit section of the city. Always fastidious* about proper dress and behavior, he felt like an *interloper*. A moment later, he saw her! Evelyn! She was *bedraggled*, sitting at a table in a coffee shop, surrounded by the most noisome* individuals he had ever seen. So this was her *milieu**! At that instant, Robert knew he had lost her. He walked away, a *melancholy* figure with his head down.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. In a small town, an _____ feels most out place.
2. President Garfield was shot by a _____ who demanded a diplomatic post.
3. The _____ acts of the real Vlad Dracula have redounded through the ages.
4. Depression is more than mere _____; it is a form of emotional paralysis.
5. The lawless Western Frontier attracted the _____ of Eastern society.
6. George Bailey surmises from Mr. Gower's _____ appearance that he has suffered a terrible blow.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. macabre | _____ | a. abiding sadness |
| 8. dregs | _____ | b. dirty and messy in appearance |
| 9. nonentity | _____ | c. an outsider or meddler |
| 10. interloper | _____ | d. the most worthless part of something |
| 11. bedraggled | _____ | e. related to death or horror |
| 12. melancholy | _____ | f. a person with no notable qualities |

WEEK 34



DAY 5

Sadness

GROUP REVIEW

Learning by context is the most natural and effective way. However, there is work and self-discipline, too. Keep at it!

Matching

Direction: Match the new words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. bedraggled
- _____ 2. bristle
- _____ 3. deplorable
- _____ 4. disgruntled
- _____ 5. disheveled
- _____ 6. doleful
- _____ 7. dregs
- _____ 8. ennui
- _____ 9. foreboding
- _____ 10. forlorn
- _____ 11. fraught
- _____ 12. hapless
- _____ 13. ignominious
- _____ 14. inane

DEFINITIONS

- a. in terrible condition
- b. sober or serious
- c. grumpy or moody
- d. visibly disappointed
- e. silly
- f. dirty and messy in appearance
- g. carelessly groomed
- h. listless boredom
- i. the most worthless part of something
- j. unusually sensitive or anxious
- k. abiding sadness
- l. a person with no notable qualities
- m. misgivings
- n. imperiled

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. ineffectual | o. an outsider or meddler |
| _____ | 16. interloper | p. not producing a desired effect |
| _____ | 17. lachrymose | q. disgraceful |
| _____ | 18. macabre | r. react with anger |
| _____ | 19. melancholy | s. seemingly doomed |
| _____ | 20. neurotic | t. unlucky |
| _____ | 21. nonentity | u. dejected; unloved |
| _____ | 22. qualms | v. related to death or horror |
| _____ | 23. somber | w. full of sadness |
| _____ | 24. sullen | x. tearful |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

1st Day

Women in the Ring

Boxing, as well as Ultimate Fighting and wrestling, has become a sport popular with men and women. Once viewed as a pursuit _____ with brutality, boxing has been transformed in gymnasiums across the country into the latest form of workout, weight reduction, and energy stimulator.

In the twenty-first century, women have proven themselves to be adept* soldiers, serving in military organizations the world over. Given that they have stood up to the rigors of combat, the suggestion that women should not expose themselves to the blows of boxing is _____ at best and _____ sexist at worst. Certainly, the women of the professional boxing circuit, like Ronda Rousey and Laila Ali, _____ at the notion that fighting is too dangerous for them.

The tennis world well remembers when the _____ Bobby Riggs met with _____ defeat at the hands of Billie Jean King. Women have made a name for themselves in other sports, like horse-racing and NASCAR, where Danica Patrick has proven herself no mere _____. Given these welcome advances in equality, society should have no _____ about tough and highly trained female pugilists entering the brass ring.

WEEK 35



DAY 1

Speech

NEW WORDS

pithy
pith - ē

parable
pa - rə - bəl

concise
kən - sīs

flabbergasted
flab - ər - gas - təd

skeptical
skep - tik - əl

paean
pē - ən

Notable Roots:

pith = core; con = together; cis = cut

A MODERN AESOP

The telling of a *pithy* story with an inherently important message is an art form. The *parable* may be found teaching a moral lesson in the Bible. Aesop is the undisputed master of the fable. This story form has revived

under the modern Aesop, James Thurber. His *concise* tales lampoon* the strange behavior of his fellow men. Thurber seems *flabbergasted* by the notions that permeate our society. He is most *skeptical* of sanctimonious* *paeans* and the inevitability of good triumphing over evil.

Sample Sentences: Note that some words do not have a one-word definition. Frequently, several words or an entire sentence is required.

1. George III was _____ when he learned Washington resigned his commission.
2. Gordon Gekko's _____ to greed reverberates* in business culture to this day.
3. The letter from Princeton was so _____ Tyler already knew it was a rejection.
4. The _____ of the Good Samaritan is one of the most famous of Jesus's teachings.
5. An investment banker's job requires being _____ of far-fetched business ideas.
6. Boss Murphy spoke in _____ epithets; his protege, Al Smith, gave speeches.

Definitions: Match 'em up!

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. pithy | _____ | a. long-winded praise |
| 8. parable | _____ | b. using an economy of words |
| 9. concise | _____ | c. astonished |
| 10. flabbergasted | _____ | d. expressive in few words |
| 11. skeptical | _____ | e. dubious |
| 12. paean | _____ | f. a fable |

WEEK 35



DAY 2

Speech

NEW WORDS

sophistry

sof - əs - trē

laconic

lə - kon - ik

demure

də - myur

aver

ə - ver

clamor

klam - ər

curt

kèrt

Notable Roots:

soph = wisdom; ver = truth; clamo = cry out

MODERNIZING A PARABLE*

Thurber punctures the *sophistry* accepted by everyone. In one tale, a tortoise beats a hare in a race. The *laconic* old tortoise hunted for a hare and soon found one. “Do you have the effrontery to challenge me?” asked the

hare *demurely*. “You are a nonentity,*” averred the tortoise. A course of 50 feet was set out. The other animals created a *clamor* with their excitement. At the sound of the gun, they were off. When the hare crossed the finish line, the flabbergasted* tortoise had gone approximately eight and three-quarter inches. The moral Thurber draws from this debacle is a *curt* one: a new broom may sweep clean, but never trust an old saw.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Brett’s sullen mood and _____ replies didn’t endear him to his hosts.
2. The _____ surrounding the president’s announcement was unfounded.
3. Roosevelt _____ he would not run for president again and instantly regretted it.
4. Card sharks know that when a novice seems _____, he has a good hand.
5. Wallach’s gritty “Tuco” earns the respect of the _____ “man with no name.”
6. No amount of _____ or clever phrases can save Little Finger from justice.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. sophistry | _____ | a. modest; unassuming |
| 8. laconic | _____ | b. to openly declare |
| 9. demure | _____ | c. the use of language to deceive or impress |
| 10. aver | _____ | d. not talkative |
| 11. clamor | _____ | e. short to the point of rudeness |
| 12. curt | _____ | f. uproar |

WEEK 35



DAY 3

Speech

NEW WORDS

verbatim

vér - bā - tim

dissemble

dis - em - bəl

loquacious

lō - kwā - shəs

utterance

ut - ēr - əns

garble

gär - bəl

explicate

eks - plik - āt

Notable Roots:

verb = word; semble = appearance; loq = talk; plik = fold

THINGS HAVE CHANGED

Thurber modernizes a story most children know *verbatim*. It begins in the forest with a *dissembling* wolf engaging in conversation with a little girl traveling to her grandmother's cottage. With alacrity,* this *loquacious*

youngster told the wolf the address to which she was going. The hungry wolf rushed to the house. When the girl arrived and entered, she saw a figure dressed like her grandmother. She quickly surmised* that it didn't look like her grandmother. The girl greeted her hairy "grandma"; from the wolf's *utterance* of reply and *garbled* speech, the girl became cognizant* of the wolf's deception. Thurber *explicates* his moral: it is not so easy to fool little girls nowadays.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. With his every _____, Iago sought to play on Othello's jealousy.
2. When the suspects' stories matched _____, Detective Diaz suspected collusion.
3. Messages over the first transatlantic cable came through hopelessly _____.
4. Incredibly, it took centuries for physicists to _____ why night is dark.
5. To Shakespeare, few villains are capable of _____ to the point that corruption will not show on their faces.
6. Propaganda posters warned that a single _____ soldier could doom the mission.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. verbatim | _____ | a. to hide one's thoughts or feelings |
| 8. dissemble | _____ | b. distort the sound of something |
| 9. loquacious | _____ | c. to explain in detail |
| 10. utterance | _____ | d. word for word |
| 11. garble | _____ | e. short spoken word or sound |
| 12. explicate | _____ | f. talkative |

WEEK 35



DAY 4

Speech

NEW WORDS

garrulous

gar - ə - ləs

verbose

vér - bōs

ineffable

in - ef - ə - bəl

divulge

dī - vulj

gaffe

gaf

terse

tērs

Notable Roots:

verb = word; di = apart; vulg = common

ANOTHER SURPRISE

Thurber's stories read like the tales of a *garrulous* storyteller without being *verbose*. At the same time, they hint at some *ineffable* truths. He tells of some builders who left a pane of glass standing upright at their work site. A

hapless* goldfinch then strikes the glass. He rushes back and *divulges* to his friends that the air had crystallized. The only bird who believes him is the swallow. The other birds deride* him for his *gaffe*. The goldfinch challenges them to follow the same path he had flown: only the swallow demurs. The large bird strikes the glass and is knocked into a stupor. Thurber *tersely* observes that he who hesitates is sometimes saved.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Throughout his career, President Biden has been prone to verbal _____.
2. Many call Edward Snowden a hero, others a traitor, for _____ classified information.
3. Music and visual arts are ways of communicating what is _____ in words.
4. The _____ Rickey Henderson was one of the most quotable athletes of his era.
5. It is perfectly normal to give _____ replies while concentrating.
6. Critics consider Roger Waters's later work with Pink Floyd too _____ for music.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| 7. garrulous | _____ | a. wordy |
| 8. verbose | _____ | b. employing few words |
| 9. ineffable | _____ | c. a mistake (often spoken) |
| 10. divulge | _____ | d. chatty |
| 11. gaffe | _____ | e. to reveal often sensitive information |
| 12. terse | _____ | f. cannot be expressed |

WEEK 35



DAY 5

Speech

GROUP REVIEW

To strengthen your word power, keep adding words from all the sources you use during the day. Textbooks, news articles, and the like should all give you the opportunity to augment* the work you're doing in this book. Guess the meaning of unknown words before looking them up.

Matching

Directions: Match the weekly words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ **1.** aver
- _____ **2.** clamor
- _____ **3.** concise
- _____ **4.** curt
- _____ **5.** demure
- _____ **6.** dissemble
- _____ **7.** divulge
- _____ **8.** explicate
- _____ **9.** flabbergasted
- _____ **10.** gaffe
- _____ **11.** garble
- _____ **12.** garrulous
- _____ **13.** ineffable
- _____ **14.** laconic

DEFINITIONS

- a.** talkative
- b.** astonished
- c.** using an economy of words
- d.** expressive in few words
- e.** to explain in detail
- f.** short spoken word or sound
- g.** a fable
- h.** chatty
- i.** cannot be expressed
- j.** a mistake (often spoken)
- k.** to reveal often sensitive information
- l.** not talkative
- m.** uproar
- n.** long-winded praise

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|---|
| _____ | 15. loquacious | o. wordy |
| _____ | 16. paean | p. to openly declare |
| _____ | 17. parable | q. modest; unassuming |
| _____ | 18. pithy | r. distort the sound of something |
| _____ | 19. skeptical | s. dubious |
| _____ | 20. sophistry | t. short to the point of rudeness |
| _____ | 21. terse | u. word for word |
| _____ | 22. utterance | v. employing few words |
| _____ | 23. verbatim | w. to hide one's thoughts or feelings |
| _____ | 24. verbose | x. the use of language to deceive or impress |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

4th Day

Latin Lives!

Everyone knows the _____ truism that Latin is a “dead language.” If so, exactly when and how did it die? _____ the answer to these questions is no mean feat. From the outset, let’s _____ a few facts. The language of the ancient Romans was spoken throughout much of Europe from the third century BCE when Rome completed the conquest of Italy to the fifth century CE when the Western Roman Empire was overthrown by those surly and _____ Goths. At Rome’s height, Latin was the *lingua franca* of its day: non-Romans used its _____ as a way to communicate with Romans and other foreigners in matters of business and diplomacy.

Some _____ philosopher might argue that Latin simply died of old age alongside the empire, but there are problems with this piece of _____. First, Latin remains the official language of the Catholic Church. Vatican City retains Latin as its official language, and the Pope’s encyclicals—_____ on spiritual matters—are written in Latin. Second, other ancient languages are still spoken today. China has existed for millennia, and the Chinese would be _____ if they heard Mandarin or Cantonese pronounced as “dead” simply because no one

speaks like the courtiers of Emperor Qin anymore. Other ancient languages have also managed to survive the fall of their parent cultures: Egyptian hieroglyphics were deciphered because a variant of ancient Egyptian is still spoken by the country's Coptic minority.

In truth, Latin's death has been greatly exaggerated. Try this: look up a video of someone speaking English as it sounded 1,000 years ago. That once-standard form of English has become so _____ by accumulated changes in spelling, grammar, and pronunciation that it is no more intelligible to the untrained American or British ear than Swahili or Aramaic. The language of the Romans has simply morphed into Romance languages like Spanish and Portuguese. So the next time you hear something as _____ as an Italian weather report or as _____ as a French discourse on fine wine, remember that the venerable language of Virgil and Cicero is alive and well!

WEEK 36



DAY 1

Bizarre

NEW WORDS

disconcerting

dis - kən - ser - ting

legerdemain

leg - èr - də - mān

disparate

dis - par - ət

incongruous

in - kən - grū - əs

enigmatic

en - ig - mat - ik

incoherent

in - kō - hēr - ənt

Notable Roots:

cert = agreement;

par = equal; gru = grow;

here = stick

A TALE FROM THE MOORS

One of the most powerful and *disconcerting* novels ever written is the only exhibition of the writing *legerdemain* of Emily Brontë. Emily came from a family with a *disparate* measure of talent: her sisters, Charlotte and Anne, also published literary classics. The setting of her novel, *Wuthering Heights*, is the windswept Yorkshire region. The narrator, Mr. Lockwood, is the tenant of Thrushcross Grange, a handsome estate neighboring the *incongruous* Wuthering Heights, the home of his *enigmatic* landlord, Heathcliff. During a visit to the dilapidated Heights, Lockwood encounters a brutish young man, a haughty young girl, and the sullen,* middle-aged Heathcliff. Forced by a blizzard to spend the night, Lockwood falls asleep in a small bedroom reading a diary from decades ago. Suddenly, he awakens to an *incoherent* vision of Catherine, the diary's author, begging entry at his window! He informs Heathcliff of this apparent nightmare, and the latter becomes greatly disturbed.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Richard Nixon, a flawed man of prodigious talent, was an _____ president.
2. Rodney's paper was so _____ its main thesis was hard to divine.
3. Humor was a powerful tool in Casey Stengel's managerial _____.
4. There is no more _____ image than that of violence on one's own streets.
5. The fraternal twins were so _____ in appearance as to seem unrelated.
6. Baseball struggles with woefully _____ payrolls among its teams.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7. <i>disconcerting</i> _____ | a. puzzling; mysterious |
| 8. <i>legerdemain</i> _____ | b. incomprehensible |
| 9. <i>disparate</i> _____ | c. not matching |
| 10. <i>incongruous</i> _____ | d. dexterity; collection of skills |
| 11. <i>enigmatic</i> _____ | e. uneven |
| 12. <i>incoherent</i> _____ | f. unsettling |

WEEK 36



DAY 2

Bizarre

NEW WORDS

anomalous

ə - nom - ə - ləs

cryptic

krip - tik

divergent

dī - vēr - jənt

tinge

ting

indiscriminate

in - də - skrim - ə - nət

contort

kən - tōrt

Notable Roots:

a = not; crypt = hidden; di = two; verg = turn; crimin = separate;
tort = twist

THE NEW ARRIVAL

Lockwood finds his experience so *anomalous* that he determines to find out the history of the two estates. He asks Nelly, his housekeeper, who grew up

at Wuthering Heights before becoming a servant herself. Her tale begins on the night 30 years earlier that Mr. Earnshaw returned from a trip with a scruffy, dark-haired boy he names Heathcliff. Without explaining the boy's *cryptic* origins, he declares that Heathcliff is to be raised alongside his own children. Heathcliff's relationships with the Earnshaw children are quite *divergent*. Catherine and Heathcliff, who are the same age, become inseparable. Hindley, however, Catherine's older brother, develops a jealousy *tinged* with hatred for his adoptive brother. Mr. Earnshaw's *indiscriminate* affection for Heathcliff only serves to further *contort* his firstborn son with rage.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. World War II bombers caused _____ damage to military and civilian targets.
2. Welsh's voice was _____ with disgust when he rebuked McCarthy's indecency.
3. Stonehenge's _____ origins remain mysterious to this day.
4. History reveals that bipartisanship is more _____ than habitual.
5. After the map dried out, its pages were still _____ and warped.
6. The _____ goals of the chairman and CEO led to the latter's dismissal.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. anomalous | _____ | a. branching in different directions |
| 8. cryptic | _____ | b. out of the ordinary |
| 9. divergent | _____ | c. to bend out of shape |
| 10. tinge | _____ | d. ambiguous |
| 11. indiscriminate | _____ | e. without special consideration |
| 12. contort | _____ | f. to color or corrupt |

WEEK 36



DAY 3

Bizarre

NEW WORDS

atypical

ā - tip - ik - əl

extrinsic

eks - trin - zik

heterogeneous

het - ər - ə - jēn - ə - əs

maladjusted

mal - ə - just - əd

dichotomy

dī - kot - ə - mē

baroque

bə - rōk

Notable Roots:

hetero = different;

gen = create; mal = bad

HINDLEY TAKES CHARGE

Heathcliff's life became easier when Hindley is sent off for a formal education. This proves to be an *atypical* respite,* however, and due to

extrinsic factors, it could not last. Mr. Earnshaw's sudden death makes Hindley master of Wuthering Heights. He returns, along with his young wife, and demotes Heathcliff to the role of servant. Though they are now *heterogeneous* in station, Catherine and Heathcliff remain close. One night, they sneak onto Thrushcross Grange, home of the Linton family, but are soon caught. Heathcliff, with his *disheveled** appearance and *maladjusted* temperament, is driven off. The Linton's bulldog catches Catherine, however, wounding her leg, and she is taken in to heal. While Catherine stays with the Lintons, she is struck by the *dichotomy* between the fine *baroque* style of their home and the plainness of Wuthering Heights. She is similarly charmed by their gentle manners. Edgar, the Linton's son, is, for his part, captivated by Catherine's beauty and spirited nature.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. While social creatures, it is _____ of cats to hunt in groups.
2. Some quip that a salad, not a melting pot, better symbolizes a country as _____ as the United States.
3. The _____ between the ideas of Locke and Rousseau still divides intellectuals.
4. Preference for _____ design was partly a reaction against Puritan simplicity.
5. Court protocols were relaxed in an attempt to help the _____ princess.
6. When examining Rome's fall, _____ factors should not be ignored.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. atypical | _____ | a. unable to properly cope |
| 8. extrinsic | _____ | b. characterized by ornate design |
| 9. heterogeneous | _____ | c. a sharp contrast |
| 10. maladjusted | _____ | d. unusual |
| 11. dichotomy | _____ | e. unessential |
| 12. baroque | _____ | f. mixed in composition |

WEEK 36



DAY 4

Bizarre

NEW WORDS

perverse

pér - vèrs

pungent

pun - jènt

discrepancy

dis - krep - ən - sē

dissolute

dis - ə - lüt

aberrant

ab - ər - ənt

degenerate

də - jen - ər - ət

Notable Roots:

vers = turn; crep = crack; err = mistake; gener = create

CULTURE CLASH

Upon Catherine's return to Wuthering Heights, the Earnshaws invite Edgar and Isabella Linton for dinner. Hindley uses the evening as part of his *perverse* plan to humiliate Heathcliff. Hindley bars him from partaking in

the *pungent* feast and joins in with Edgar in insulting him. To Catherine, who aspires to be more ladylike after her time with the Lintons, the *discrepancy* between Edgar and Heathcliff cannot be more stark. Soon after, Hindley's wife dies after giving birth; Hindley is crippled by grief and becomes increasingly *dissolute*. Despite Hindley's increasingly *aberrant* behavior, Edgar continues to court Catherine. One night, Catherine confides to Nelly that she has agreed to marry Edgar as she cannot marry Heathcliff in his *degenerate* state. Heathcliff overhears this and runs away—just before Catherine admits that her love for Heathcliff runs far deeper than her affection for Edgar.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Truffles are so _____ that too much can overpower any dish.
2. George III's _____ behavior eventually rendered him unfit to rule.
3. From a young age, Joy had a _____ interest in grisly murder stories.
4. The corrupt accountant could not explain the _____ in his clients' financials.
5. _____ organs like the tiny human tailbone are viewed as evidence of evolution.
6. Eleanor was the daughter of Theodore Roosevelt's _____ brother, Eliot, who died young from alcoholism.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. perverse | _____ | a. given to self-destructive living |
| 8. pungent | _____ | b. contrary to normal standards |
| 9. discrepancy | _____ | c. ill-formed; degraded |
| 10. dissolute | _____ | d. different from expectations |
| 11. aberrant | _____ | e. strong in flavor or aroma |
| 12. degenerate | _____ | f. a contradiction |

WEEK 36



DAY 5

Bizarre

GROUP REVIEW

Whether you read a classic novel or a modern one, the one thing they have in common is their use of a rather extensive vocabulary. Don't be handicapped in your reading—increase your vocabulary by constant study and review.

Matching

Directions: Match the words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. aberrant
- _____ 2. anomalous
- _____ 3. atypical
- _____ 4. baroque
- _____ 5. contort
- _____ 6. cryptic
- _____ 7. degenerate
- _____ 8. dichotomy
- _____ 9. disconcerting
- _____ 10. discrepancy
- _____ 11. disparate
- _____ 12. dissolute
- _____ 13. divergent
- _____ 14. enigmatic

DEFINITIONS

- a. unsettling
- b. strong in flavor or aroma
- c. dexterity; collection of skills
- d. unusual
- e. to color or corrupt
- f. incomprehensible
- g. unable to properly cope
- h. given to self-destructive living
- i. contrary to normal standards
- j. characterized by ornate design
- k. a contradiction
- l. ambiguous
- m. uneven
- n. out of the ordinary

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|---|
| _____ | 15. extrinsic | o. a sharp contrast |
| _____ | 16. heterogeneous | p. different from expectations |
| _____ | 17. incoherent | q. to bend out of shape |
| _____ | 18. incongruous | r. mixed in composition |
| _____ | 19. indiscriminate | s. branching in different directions |
| _____ | 20. legerdemain | t. without special consideration |
| _____ | 21. maladjusted | u. puzzling; mysterious |
| _____ | 22. perverse | v. unessential |
| _____ | 23. pungent | w. ill-formed; degraded |
| _____ | 24. tinge | x. not matching |

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. Maddie's appearance of sweetness was her way to (*dissemble*, *divulge*) her vindictiveness.
2. Many lovers of theater find reality television (*vapid*, *supine*) and uninspiring.
3. The queen looked out from her high (*milieu*, *bastion*) upon the siege to her capital.
4. Malik quickly found himself lost in the (*reverie*, *grandeur*) of Mardi Gras celebration.
5. Dolores's love of kittens is (*disconcerting*, *incongruous*) with her penchant* for cruelty.
6. So many setbacks made the wedding a highly (*inane*, *fraught*) affair.
7. Velma found her sources often became more (*laconic*, *loquacious*) after a few drinks.
8. The (*macabre*, *maudlin*) ending of *Reservoir Dogs* sees every major character die.
9. A(n) (*extrinsic*, *cryptic*) inscription on a tree is the only clue the Roanoke settlers left behind.
10. Ashton was so stricken by (*ennui*, *qualms*) that he no longer delighted in Paris.

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

The Antihero

As the plot of *Wuthering Heights* progresses, it's clear that Heathcliff is the protagonist. Heathcliff does possess some desirable attributes: he is strong, handsome, and successful; he is also cunning and determined. At the same time, his flaws form quite a _____ with these qualities. At a glance, he is surly in the extreme: Heathcliff's _____ behavior shocks Lockwood, a stranger. His attitude toward nearly every other character is _____ by malice.

Sometimes heroes who are wronged, like the Count of Monte Cristo, can be terrible in their quest for justice. Can this be said of Heathcliff? As the plot of *Wuthering Heights* unfolds, it becomes clear Heathcliff's vengeance has a _____ quality. He is cruel and so implacable that his revenge doesn't end even when his victims die. Moreover, Heathcliff is rather _____ in terms of whom he is willing to harm. In short, Heathcliff is no hero.

And yet we root for him! First, Heathcliff's undying love for Catherine Earnshaw humanizes him. Additionally, he is an underdog. Heathcliff's rise to wealth and power is _____ in a society obsessed with class and etiquette. His two rivals, the one a _____ wreck and the other a sickly snob, are not sympathetic characters. They only triumph over Heathcliff when he's young and poor. Once Heathcliff becomes a man with wealth, strength, and good looks, all _____ advantages Hindley and Edgar once possessed are gone. On a level playing field, Heathcliff, despite his _____ background, completely overmatches both men through cunning and force of personality.

WEEK 37



DAY 1

Anger

NEW WORDS

irascible

ə - ras - ə - bəl

vexation

veks - ə - shən

consternation

kon - stər - nā - shən

asperity

ə - sper - ə - tē

inexorable

in - eks - ôr - ə - bəl

badger

baj - ər

Notable Roots:

ire = anger; asper = rough; exort = move, motivate

HEATHCLIFF RETURNS

Heathcliff is away for three years. During his absence, Catherine and Edgar are married and living at Thrushcross Grange where Edgar is now master. Hindley's drinking and *irascible* behavior have worsened, while his son

Hareton is neglected. Heathcliff's return causes delight and *vexation*. He's somehow acquired a fortune and is now a social equal to the inhabitants of both households. Upon his first visit to Thrushcross Grange, Catherine is delighted to see him but feels *consternation* to learn that he's living at Wuthering Heights given the *asperity* of Hindley and Heathcliff's relationship. Edgar allows Heathcliff's visits but has misgivings. Isabella Linton, meanwhile, young and unmarried, is *inexorably* drawn to Heathcliff, who is confident and handsome. She *badgers* Catherine to allow her presence when Heathcliff visits.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. My parents' _____ with my grades led them to ground me.
2. The estranged brothers couldn't converse without _____ in their voices.
3. John Adams was so _____ that he even quarreled with Ben Franklin.
4. Doctors felt _____ at the discovery that Covid-19 could be spread by the asymptomatic.
5. Micah's cat would often _____ her for extra food at night.
6. Big box retailers have been in _____ decline for some time.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. irascible | _____ | a. annoyance |
| 8. vexation | _____ | b. harshness |
| 9. consternation | _____ | c. to pester |
| 10. asperity | _____ | d. worried astonishment |
| 11. inexorable | _____ | e. unstoppable; unavoidable |
| 12. badger | _____ | f. easily angered |

WEEK 37



DAY 2

Anger

NEW WORDS

belligerent

bel - lij - ər - ənt

reproach

rē - prō - ch

accost

ə - kōst

begrudge

bē - gruj

irate

ī - rāt

internecine

in - tēr - nes - ēn

Notable Roots:

belli = war; ire = anger; nec = kill

THE CLASH

Catherine tries to warn Isabella about Heathcliff's *belligerent* nature but is *reproached* as selfish by her sister-in-law for the attempt. Catherine retaliates by revealing Isabella's feelings to Heathcliff, who decides to use

Edgar's sister to exact revenge on his rival. After catching Heathcliff kissing Isabella, Catherine *accosts* him, knowing his feelings for Isabella are not genuine. Heathcliff replies that Catherine should not *begrudge* him the budding relationship since she chose Edgar over him. Nelly informs Edgar about this "argument" and, *irate*, he orders Heathcliff off his property. After a humiliating confrontation in which Catherine sides with Heathcliff, Edgar bars him from Thrushcross Grange. In short order, Edgar's peaceful household erupts in *internecine* fighting.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The Thirty Years' War was the most _____ religious conflict in Europe's history.
2. After a two hour delay, an _____ passenger demanded to be let off the airplane.
3. Politicians complain about being _____ in public for their policy positions.
4. In the 1930s, Germany's _____ attitude toward other nations was obvious.
5. Duelists would not often _____ one another certain courtesies before combat.
6. Some public figures deserve _____ for their misdeeds, not ostracism.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. belligerent | _____ | a. enraged |
| 8. reproach | _____ | b. to verbally attack |
| 9. accost | _____ | c. to deny someone something |
| 10. begrudge | _____ | d. warlike |
| 11. irate | _____ | e. destructive; deadly |
| 12. internecine | _____ | f. to scold |

WEEK 37



DAY 3

Anger

NEW WORDS

paroxysm

pə - roks - izm

diatribe

dī - ə - trīb

rail

rāl

inveigh

in - vā

nettle

net - əl

livid

liv - id

Notable Roots:

oxy = sharpen;

veher = carry on;

livid = bluish, pale

TRAGEDY STRIKES

Catherine's *paroxysm* of anger leads to a wasting sickness, which is complicated by the fact that she's pregnant. With Edgar distracted, Isabella elopes with Heathcliff whose coldness and cruelty toward her soon confirm Catherine's warnings. Regarding her a substitute for her brother, he subjects Isabella to verbal *diatribes* during which he *rails* against Edgar. Learning of Catherine's condition, Heathcliff compels Nelly to arrange a reunion with Catherine. After Edgar bursts in, however, Catherine collapses and dies that night shortly after giving birth. Standing vigil outside, a distraught Heathcliff *inveighs* at Catherine's spirit to haunt him. On the night of the funeral, Isabella *nettles* Heathcliff by mocking his grief. *Livid*, he attacks her. She flees to the seaside where she later gives birth to a son. Soon after, Hindley dies, having mortgaged Wuthering Heights to Heathcliff. This leaves Hareton a servant to his father's greatest enemy.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Cicero's many _____ against Mark Antony eventually led to his own execution.
2. Alexander the Great was so _____ by insulting remarks at his father's marriage to a new wife that he risked execution or banishment as retaliation.
3. Northerners were so _____ after Fort Sumter that many joined the Union army.
4. Many entitled actors have been reproached for their temperamental _____.
5. Carrie Nation is known for _____ at "demon rum" and trashing saloons.
6. Douglass _____ against the exclusion of African Americans from the army.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 7. paroxysm | _____ | a. to bother or unsettle |
| 8. diatribe | _____ | b. furious |
| 9. rail | _____ | c. to protest or complain about |
| 10. inveigh | _____ | d. a violent emotional response |
| 11. nettle | _____ | e. to denounce |
| 12. livid | _____ | f. an angry speech |

WEEK 37



DAY 4

Anger

NEW WORDS

pugnacious

pug - nā - shəs

invective

in - vek - tiv

rebuke (v.)

rē - byūk

vitriolic

vi - trē - ol - ik

vituperate

vī - tū - pēr - āt

pique (n.)

pēk

Notable Roots:

pugna = fight;

veher = to carry away; vitre = glass

THE FINAL REVENGE

Over the next decade, Edgar dotes on his daughter, Cathy, who is beautiful but less *pugnacious* than her mother. Isabella spoils her sickly son, Linton,

while Hareton becomes brutish and prone to the *invectives* he has learned from Heathcliff. After Isabella dies, Heathcliff seizes custody of his son. A few years later, Cathy encounters Heathcliff, who brings her to see Linton. Cathy, who does not know her uncle's true nature, *rebukes* Nelly for keeping Linton's whereabouts secret. Spurred on by Heathcliff, Linton sends love letters to his cousin and asks that they be allowed to see one another. Edgar, who is now dying of consumption, allows the relationship, hoping that Linton will take care of Cathy. Subjected to his father's *vitriolic* abuse, Linton presses Cathy to marry him. Linton, however, is also sick, so Heathcliff imprisons Cathy and forces their marriage. After she *vituperates* against him for this treachery, he strikes her in a fit of *pique*. In short order, first Edgar dies and then Linton, and, thus, Heathcliff inherits Thrushcross Grange. Cathy, like Hareton, is now at the mercy of her father's enemy.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Kayleigh _____ her husband for his neglect of their son.
2. _____ language is so common that most online debates are overly fraught.*
3. Ron's ears turn red every time he feels a spasm of _____.
4. Honey badgers are so _____ that they will attack lions.
5. Shrewd politicians know that _____ against the press won't change their stories.
6. Silas was fired after he accidentally sent an email full of _____ about the board.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. pugnacious | _____ | a. critical language |
| 8. invective | _____ | b. to reproach sternly |
| 9. rebuke | _____ | c. harshly critical |
| 10. vitriolic | _____ | d. combative |
| 11. vituperate | _____ | e. sudden anger |
| 12. pique | _____ | f. strongly blame or insult |

WEEK 37



DAY 5

Anger

GROUP REVIEW

Wuthering Heights is a novel that defies expectations given the genteel era in which it was written. It can be difficult to find words to describe characters that do despicable things and yet are sympathetic and compelling. The words from weeks 36 and 37 can help.

Matching

Directions: Match the words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. accost
- _____ 2. asperity
- _____ 3. badger
- _____ 4. begrudge
- _____ 5. belligerent
- _____ 6. consternation
- _____ 7. diatribe
- _____ 8. inexorable
- _____ 9. internecine
- _____ 10. invective
- _____ 11. inveigh
- _____ 12. irascible
- _____ 13. irate
- _____ 14. livid

DEFINITIONS

- a. to reproach sternly
- b. an angry speech
- c. harshly critical
- d. unstoppable; unavoidable
- e. strongly blame or insult
- f. warlike
- g. enraged
- h. easily angered
- i. to scold
- j. to bother or unsettle
- k. to verbally attack
- l. harshness
- m. annoyance
- n. destructive; deadly

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. nettle | o. worried astonishment |
| _____ | 16. paroxysm | p. to protest or complain about |
| _____ | 17. pique | q. to deny someone something |
| _____ | 18. pugnacious | r. combative |
| _____ | 19. rail | s. a violent emotional response |
| _____ | 20. rebuke | t. to pester |
| _____ | 21. reproach | u. to denounce |
| _____ | 22. vexation | v. sudden anger |
| _____ | 23. vitriolic | w. furious |
| _____ | 24. vituperate | x. critical language |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

4th Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

In This Life and the Next

With Heathcliff's revenge complete, Nelly's tale has come to end. In the final chapters, Lockwood leaves Thrushcross Grange, but when he sees Nelly again eight months later, she provides a surprising epilogue. Not long after Lockwood's departure, Heathcliff's behavior became increasingly peculiar. His _____ and _____ nature changed completely. He became unable to look at Cathy, _____ by her resemblance to her mother. He shunned all company and took to spending his nights on the moors, denying himself both food and rest. Not long after, he was found dead in Catherine's bedroom with a rapturous expression on his face, as though he had been overcome by a _____ of joy.

With his death, ownership of the two houses reverted to the last descendants of both families. Hareton was the only one who felt _____ at Heathcliff's death. He also sought to befriend his cousin. Cathy at first felt _____ by his efforts, but eventually loneliness compelled the girl to take on the project of civilizing him. Romance ensued, and the two became engaged. Nelly concludes that locals have claimed to see the spirits of Heathcliff and Catherine walking the moors.

Upon finishing *Wuthering Heights* many readers are left with the question, how could so singular a novel have been written in the early Victorian age, especially by so inexperienced an author? While it was her first novel, Emily Brontë was, first off, extremely well-read. She would have known the works of Romantic poets like William Blake and Lord Byron that explored subjective human experience and the natural world. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, a novel with a protagonist destroyed by his unnatural pursuits, is also an implicit _____ of Enlightenment values like faith in science and reason. Like Dr. Frankenstein, Heathcliff holds a _____ attitude toward basic standards of human conduct. He _____ the dead their peace, _____ in his vengeance against Hindley long after his death and calling on Catherine to haunt him.

To create Heathcliff, the author also drew upon personal experience. Emily's home on the moors, a place both beautiful and desolate, proved a perfect setting for Heathcliff, like a wild garden menaced by the _____ presence of a wolf. It also is generally believed that Emily's brother, Bramwell, who died young from alcoholism, was a model. Bramwell's descent into madness, marked by fits of _____ and unhinged _____, was an experience that haunted Emily and her sisters throughout their lives.

Ironically, *Wuthering Heights* is enhanced by the fact that it proved to be the author's only novel. Like many of her characters, consumption claimed Emily's life at a young age. *Wuthering Heights* has a singular, eerie quality *because* its author was dying. Rather than _____ against the unfairness of mortality, Emily saw wonder in her tenuous* existence. She described it as the dividing line between this world and the next becoming blurred. In *Wuthering Heights*, the supernatural is always suggested: we never know whether the ghosts that _____ the living are real or hallucinations.

WEEK 38



DAY 1

Law

NEW WORDS

inviolable

in - vī - ō - lə - bəl

secular

sek - yū - lär

mandate

man - dāt

proscribe

prō - skrīb

flout

flout

supersede

sū - pēr - sēd

Notable Roots:

viola = force; man = hand; scribe = write; super = over

SELF-EVIDENT TRUTHS

In the 1770s, John Adams described the new nation he envisioned as “a republic of laws, not men.” He envisioned a society first in which the rights of all were *inviolable* because they were not a gift from princes but from

God. Other thinkers defined the concept in *secular* terms: the preconditions necessary for the pursuit of happiness based on human nature itself. Jefferson's justification for independence was that government could not rightly *mandate* that which is destructive to these rights or *proscribe* that which safeguards them. In the case that king or parliament *flout* this compact, the right of rebellion *supersedes* allegiance to the crown. Thus, the people are free to choose a new system in which the law is made by and applies to all citizens.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. 1930s bank robbers were an FBI priority because they so publicly _____ the law.
2. Insider trading is _____ because otherwise private investors would be saddled with the consequences of company mistakes.
3. Federal law always _____ state law when the two conflict.
4. _____ marriages are often performed by local officials or judges.
5. Respecting embassies is the one _____ principle of diplomacy.
6. The judge _____ that Mr. Brown pay a fair amount of child support.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. inviolable | _____ | a. to take the place of |
| 8. secular | _____ | b. cannot be broken |
| 9. mandate | _____ | c. to openly violate |
| 10. proscribe | _____ | d. to order |
| 11. flout | _____ | e. unrelated to religion |
| 12. supersede | _____ | f. to prohibit |

WEEK 38



DAY 2

Law

NEW WORDS

doctrine

dok - trin

adjudicate

ə - jūd - ə - kāt

fiat

fē - ot

transgression

tranz - gresh - ən

sanction

senk - shən

abeyance

ə - bā - ins

Notable Roots:

doct = teacher; jud = judge; gress = pass; sanc = decree

SEPARATION OF POWERS

When the framers of the Constitution met in Philadelphia, it was uppermost in everyone's mind to create a government that was non-tyrannical. The framers held as *doctrine* the idea that there are three overarching functions

of government: making law, executing law, and *adjudicating* disputes. In autocracies, these powers were invested in a single individual who ruled by *fiat*. In such a system, there is no mechanism to stop the *transgressions* of a tyrant. The Virginia plan, presented by James Madison, addressed this shortcoming by creating three branches of government for each of the three functions. Each branch was given the power to *sanction* or put into *abeyance* any abuses of the other two.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The defendant was charged with over 80 distinct _____.
2. An _____ of the Olympic Games was held during both World Wars.
3. Heretics are defined as those who promote teachings contrary to religious _____.
4. King Joffrey never learned his _____ meant nothing without others to enforce it.
5. Many recalcitrant nations have withheld UN _____ for years.
6. The Pope helped _____ the territorial dispute between Spain and Portugal.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 7. doctrine | _____ | a. suspension |
| 8. adjudicate | _____ | b. a unilateral action |
| 9. fiat | _____ | c. a crime |
| 10. transgression | _____ | d. to assess a penalty; to approve |
| 11. sanction | _____ | e. a set of formal principles |
| 12. abeyance | _____ | f. to settle |

WEEK 38



DAY 3

Law

NEW WORDS

prohibition

prō - hib - ish - ən

emissary

em - ə - ser - ē

manifest

ma - nə - fest

accord

ə - kôrd

dictate

dik - tāt

protocol

prō - tō - kôl

Notable Roots:

hibit = hold, restrain; man = hand; fest = catch; cord = agree; dict = say

NEW JERSEY OBJECTS

New Jersey is the only state with a nationwide *prohibition* on motorists pumping their own gas. It, therefore, seems fitting that the principal objection to the Virginia plan was raised by an *emissary* from the Garden

State, William Paterson. Paterson argued that a congress composed of a single chamber of delegates elected by population would be *manifestly* unfair to small states. At the nation's founding, each state considered the national government a voluntary *accord* between sovereign countries. Paterson asserted that states like New Jersey would be unwilling to give up autonomy only to have populous states *dictate* national policy. The solution arrived at was to add a second house, the Senate, where each state would have equal voice. According to this new *protocol*, both houses would need to assent to any law.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Churchill wrote volumes of history by _____ text to typists.
2. Wars have begun over breeches of etiquette committed by _____.
3. Cheryl's qualifications were so _____ that her interview was a mere formality.
4. Roman _____ gave the people's tribunes veto power over Senate motions.
5. The _____ of gambling seems to be rolling back without debate.
6. Italy viewed its _____ with the Central Powers to be defensive only.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. prohibition | _____ | a. obvious |
| 8. emissary | _____ | b. rules or accepted procedures |
| 9. manifest | _____ | c. agreement or treaty |
| 10. accord | _____ | d. ban |
| 11. dictate | _____ | e. to command; to speak out loud |
| 12. protocol | _____ | f. a representative |

WEEK 38



DAY 4

Law

NEW WORDS

requisite

rek - wiz - ət

criterion

crī - tēr - ē - on

precedent

pres - ə - dent

propriety

prō - prī - ə - tē

decorum

də - kōr - um

abstain

ab - stān

Notable Roots:

quire = seek; ced = go, yield; decor = grace

IMPLIED POWERS

The Constitutional Convention was called because our first national government lacked the *requisite* power to be effective. Thus, one *criterion* for a new compact was fashioning a system with authority to meet all

crises. After ratification, Federalists like Alexander Hamilton argued that government held all powers not forbidden to it. The implied powers argument can be seen in the doctrine* of Judicial Review, which has given Supreme Court *precedent* the force of law. Some question the *propriety* of this since the justices are not elected. Court fans assert that as seasoned* jurists with life tenure, the justices are truly impartial. Advocates point out the *decorum* of justices *abstaining* from cases they had once argued before joining the court.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Teachers socializing with students raises issues of academic _____.
2. Facing the Royal Navy offshore, New York _____ from the July 2nd vote.
3. Providing relevant evidence is a _____ for any effective argument.
4. Dora lacked the _____ calm an ER doctor needs to be effective.
5. Rick broke _____ by having his first drink with customers.
6. Breaches of _____ are actually common in the House of Commons.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. requisite | _____ | a. an action that sets a standard |
| 8. criterion | _____ | b. conforming to accepted norms |
| 9. precedent | _____ | c. a requirement |
| 10. propriety | _____ | d. etiquette |
| 11. decorum | _____ | e. to withdraw or not participate |
| 12. abstain | _____ | f. necessary |

WEEK 38 **DAY 5**

Law

GROUP REVIEW

No matter what the fashion in dress, the fashion in education is an extensive vocabulary. Keep up with the fashion; build your vocabulary wardrobe.

Matching

Directions: Match the words to their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abeyance
- _____ 2. abstain
- _____ 3. accord
- _____ 4. adjudicate
- _____ 5. criterion
- _____ 6. decorum
- _____ 7. dictate
- _____ 8. doctrine
- _____ 9. emissary
- _____ 10. fiat
- _____ 11. flout
- _____ 12. inviolable
- _____ 13. mandate
- _____ 14. manifest
- _____ 15. precedent

DEFINITIONS

- a. unrelated to religion
- b. ban
- c. etiquette
- d. obvious
- e. to withdraw or not participate
- f. to settle
- g. to take the place of
- h. a unilateral action
- i. to openly violate
- j. a set of formal principles
- k. an action that sets a standard
- l. necessary
- m. to command; to speak out loud
- n. to order
- o. to prohibit

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|---|
| _____ | 16. prohibition | p. rules or accepted procedures |
| _____ | 17. propriety | q. conforming to accepted norms |
| _____ | 18. proscribe | r. agreement or treaty |
| _____ | 19. protocol | s. a crime |
| _____ | 20. requisite | t. suspension |
| _____ | 21. sanction | u. to assess a penalty; to approve |
| _____ | 22. secular | v. cannot be broken |
| _____ | 23. supersede | w. a representative |
| _____ | 24. transgression | x. a requirement |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

The Power of Expertise

It's taught to school children that there are three branches of government, and yet many of the _____ that affect our lives are the work of what many consider a fourth branch. Most Americans agree this cohort of power is a _____ for maintaining a complex society. The controversy lies in its size, power, and accountability—or lack of it—to the electorate. Many a diatribe* has been written about independent federal regulatory agencies encroaching upon civil liberties and stifling economic growth.

The members of the House of Representatives are the federal officers most directly responsible to the people. Elected every two years to represent a specific congressional district from their home state, they must have the _____ of their neighbors to keep power. At the same time, a congresswoman is no more qualified to write a prescription, fly an airplane, or determine safe levels of chemicals in drinking water than any other layperson. All elected officials need experts to inform them about technical matters. An apt analogy can be found in war. The president has the ultimate power to _____ military objectives. At the same time, very few chief executives have ever been senior military commanders, and they rightly _____ from micromanaging the logistics of carrying out what they have _____.

The _____ between experts and government becomes more complicated in areas where technical expertise is essential to set _____ as well as carry it out. In such cases, the well-established _____ is to create an agency using executive authority. For example, the Food and Drug Administration, an agency whose creation led to the _____ of untried and potentially poisonous patent medicines, is empowered to approve medical treatments. The _____ of this is _____: patients cannot judge for themselves which medicines are safe.

Unfortunately, many private citizens have claimed that _____ from agencies they did not elect are _____ against their _____ rights. The courts have had to _____ disputes between the Bureau of Land Management and ranchers over the grazing of animals on federal lands. Industry leaders inveigh* against the impact of EPA regulations on their businesses. One reason for government is the clash of interests in society. Whose interests should _____ whose will never be an easy question.

WEEK 39



DAY 1

Strength

NEW WORDS

domineering

dom - ə - nēr - ing

reinforce

rē - in - fôrs

redoubtable

rē - dou - tə - bəl

impervious

im - per - vē - əs

flotilla

flō - til - ə

fortify

fôr - tə - fī

Notable Roots:

domin = master; redoubt = outpost; permea = slip through; fort = strong

OUR FINEST HOUR

An unforgettable saga of World War II has to do with the small French coastal town of Dunkirk. There, in 1940, thousands of British troops made a belated escape from the *domineering* German armed forces. They were

removed by naval vessels *reinforced* by a fleet of private boats, from huge yachts to decrepit fishing boats. Of their own volition, the *redoubtable* skippers came close to the shore, seemingly *impervious* to the German bombers overhead. When their vessels were loaded, they dashed back to England. Once unloaded, the *flotilla* returned to rescue more men. The actions of these private citizens, like Churchill's pugnacious* speeches, helped to *fortify* the spirits of the British nation during one of its darkest hours.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Cleopatra's _____ was destroyed by the Roman fleet at Actium.
2. Grant was _____: he might fail but would never panic.
3. Many cereals are artificially _____ with vitamins and minerals.
4. Children of _____ parents can become anxious or passive adults.
5. Teflon is the only material so _____ it can contain the strongest acids.
6. Concrete is much stronger when _____ with steel.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. domineering | _____ | a. overbearing |
| 8. reinforce | _____ | b. unable to be penetrated |
| 9. redoubtable | _____ | c. a fleet of ships |
| 10. impervious | _____ | d. to strengthen |
| 11. flotilla | _____ | e. to defend; to augment |
| 12. fortify | _____ | f. difficult to defeat |

WEEK 39



DAY 2

Strength

NEW WORDS

steadfast

sted - fast

dynamic

dī - nam - ik

virile

və - rīl

behemoth

bə - hē - məth

strapping

strap - ing

titanic

tī - tan - ik

Notable Roots:

dyna = power; vir = man; titan = giant

SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL

The key to any great action or adventure story is the villain. The Romans knew this: accounts of their most *steadfast* adversary, Hannibal, were written by the Romans themselves. One might rightly question the fairness

of a biography written by one's enemies, but Polybius and Tacitus went out of their way to describe what a *dynamic* commander Hannibal was, how *virile* his Carthaginian troops were, and what *behemoths* were his elephants. The reasoning for their praise is simple: the greatest glory for the *strapping* Roman heroes of old requires victory in the most *titanic* struggle against the deadliest enemy.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Compared with all other countries, Russia is a geographic _____.
2. Through his writings about hunting, fishing, and bullfighting, Hemingway cultivated a _____ public persona.
3. A _____ effort by dozens of scientists realized the Manhattan Project.
4. By harnessing the talents of ambitious rivals, Lincoln fashioned a _____ cabinet.
5. Theodore Roosevelt, while progressive, was a _____ and combative imperialist.
6. Compared with his sickly cousin, Hareton was a _____ young man.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. steadfast | _____ | a. strong and handsome |
| 8. dynamic | _____ | b. a giant or monster |
| 9. virile | _____ | c. unwavering |
| 10. behemoth | _____ | d. gigantic |
| 11. strapping | _____ | e. manly |
| 12. titanic | _____ | f. versatile and energetic |

WEEK 39



DAY 3

Strength

NEW WORDS

ruffian

ruf - ē - ən

hegemony

hə - jem - ə - nē

junta

hun - tə

hale

hāl

sinewy

sin - yū - ə

supremacy

sū - prem - ə - sē

Notable Roots:

sinew = muscle;

super = above

A FAMOUS MUTINY

One of the most repugnant* names in popular legend is that of William Bligh, the captain of the HMS *Bounty*. The 1789 mutiny that erupted aboard

that ship was the basis for a film in which Charles Laughton portrayed Bligh as an unmitigated *ruffian*. Anyone who challenged his *hegemony* was subjected to mental and physical torture. A *junta* formed among the crew with such an aversion* to Bligh's command that they plotted a takeover of the ship. Led by Fletcher Christian, a cohort of *hale* and *sinewy* sailors overthrew the captain's *supremacy*, setting him and 17 shipmates adrift in a lifeboat in the South Pacific. The ship continued on to the Pitcairn Islands where the crew remained to live with the islanders.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The ruling _____ is notorious for brutality and corruption.
2. British _____ had given way to American dominance by World War II.
3. The wolf is a slender but _____ creature that is both fast and strong.
4. In a fascist society, the worst _____ tend to rise to the top.
5. The _____ of modern humans over Neanderthals has come into question.
6. John Adams remained _____ and vital into his 80s.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. ruffian | _____ | a. power of one group over others |
| 8. hegemony | _____ | b. healthy and energetic |
| 9. junta | _____ | c. a thug or bully |
| 10. hale | _____ | d. superiority over others |
| 11. sinewy | _____ | e. an undemocratic regime |
| 12. supremacy | _____ | f. strong and wiry |

WEEK 39



DAY 4

Strength

NEW WORDS

brawny
brô - nē

vigorous
vig - ôr - əs

undergird
un - dér - gêrd

buttress (v.)
but - tres

invulnerable
in - vul - nér - ə - bəl

robust
rō - bust

Notable Roots:

vigor = life; gird = hold up; vulner = wound

THE LAST PLANTAGENET

The House of Plantagenet ruled England continuously until the deposition of Richard II in 1399. The War of the Roses followed, during which rival Plantagenet branches fought for the throne until 1471 when King Edward

IV, a *brawny* and *vigorous* ruler, won final victory. Edward's war and subsequent reign were *undergirded* by the support of his brother, Richard, the future King Richard III. Richard III is best remembered as a hunchbacked villain, largely thanks to Shakespeare's histories. While some facts *buttress* this assessment, the popular image is hardly *invulnerable*. Edward trusted Richard enough to name him protector of the realm until his own sons came of age. Richard immediately faced a *robust* threat from the queen's family, who sought power at the expense of Edward IV's blood relatives. Swift action stymied* the coup.* However, Richard went far beyond that, deposing his nephew and claiming the throne. The disappearance of the boy-king and his brother in the Tower was likely Richard's doing.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Earth's dense, liquid mantle _____ the crust of continents and the seafloor.
2. The hard-shelled ankylosaurus was practically _____ to attack.
3. Even _____ cleaning could not remove radioactivity from the ships contaminated in the Baker tests.
4. Despite a _____ colonial defense, the British ultimately captured Bunker Hill.
5. The _____ Jess Willard was pummeled by the small and lithe* Jack Dempsey.
6. Using external arches to _____ the outer walls allowed for taller cathedrals.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. brawny | _____ | a. to strengthen |
| 8. vigorous | _____ | b. powerful; sturdy |
| 9. undergird | _____ | c. strong and energetic |
| 10. buttress | _____ | d. large; muscular |
| 11. invulnerable | _____ | e. to support from below |
| 12. robust | _____ | f. cannot be harmed |

WEEK 39



DAY 5

Strength

GROUP REVIEW

Our British cousins have a vocabulary that differs from ours in many ways. Isn't it fortunate that we have to be responsible for the American version of this language only?

Directions: Match the weekly words to their definitions.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. behemoth
- _____ 2. brawny
- _____ 3. buttress
- _____ 4. domineering
- _____ 5. dynamic
- _____ 6. flotilla
- _____ 7. fortify
- _____ 8. hale
- _____ 9. hegemony
- _____ 10. impervious
- _____ 11. invulnerable
- _____ 12. junta
- _____ 13. redoubtable
- _____ 14. reinforce
- _____ 15. robust
- _____ 16. ruffian
- _____ 17. sinewy

DEFINITIONS

- a. powerful; sturdy
- b. to defend; to augment
- c. to strengthen
- d. power of one group over others
- e. unable to be penetrated
- f. healthy and energetic
- g. superiority over others
- h. strong and handsome
- i. cannot be harmed
- j. overbearing
- k. a fleet of ships
- l. strong and energetic
- m. versatile and energetic
- n. gigantic
- o. to strengthen
- p. difficult to defeat
- q. to support from below

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 18. steadfast | r. an undemocratic regime |
| 19. strapping | s. a giant or monster |
| 20. supremacy | t. manly |
| 21. titanic | u. strong and wiry |
| 22. undergird | v. large; muscular |
| 23. vigorous | w. a thug or bully |
| 24. virile | x. unwavering |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

3rd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

1st Day

3rd Day

Droughts and Curses

The NFL is known for parity among teams with a near constant turnover of the league's elite. Sharing revenue, playing fewer games, and having a high injury rate prevent any one team from maintaining lasting _____. Major League Baseball teams, on the other hand, can go decades—even lifetimes—without winning it all. When the World Series debuted in 1903, there were 16 total teams. It was not until 1980 that the last of these, the _____ but long-suffering Philadelphia Phillies, finally won its first title. Baseball has seen worse. From 1903 to 1920, the Boston Red Sox, Chicago White Sox, and Chicago Cubs were some of the sport's most _____ teams, with at least two rings apiece. None would win again during the twentieth century!

The Boston Red Sox were a _____ team during the 1910s, winning four titles. At decade's end, however, owner Harry Frazee sold off the contracts of his best players—including the _____ Babe Ruth—to finance musicals. Most of his stars were bought out by the New York Yankees, an American League team that had never been to a World Series. In 1923, however, the Yankees opened their own stadium and, _____ by former Red Sox, won their first title. In the subsequent decades, the Yankees would become a _____, winning 27 rings in 40 trips to the

Series. On the occasions Boston did break through, they lost, usually in tragic and unlikely ways. The _____ of the Yankees seemed _____ until, in 2004, the Red Sox did something unprecedented: coming back from down three games to none to beat New York en route to their first championship in 86 years.

The true capital of baseball misery, however, is Chicago. In 1906, the Cubs won 116 games and advanced to the World Series against the White Sox in the only all-Chicago series to date. Though heavy underdogs, the _____ White Sox pulled over the upset behind the pitching of “Big Ed” Walsh. The _____ Cubs, however, rebounded, winning in 1907 and 1908. The White Sox won a second title in 1917 and seemed poised to win a third in 1919, but gamblers bribed a number of players to “throw” the series. When these _____ were banned from the sport, it doomed the team to a generation of failure. The White Sox wouldn’t win again until 2005. The Cubs, meanwhile, endured a record 108-year drought that finally ended in 2016.

WEEK 40



DAY 1

Time

NEW WORDS

paradox

par - ə - dokṣ

interminable

in - t̄er - min - ə - bəl

elapse

ē - laps

regimen

rej - ə - men

truncate

trun - kāt

retrospect

ret - rō - spekt

Notable Roots:

termin = finish;

lapse = expire; retro = backward; spec = vision

TEMPUS FUGIT

In one of his most famous skits, comedian George Carlin commented on the central *paradox* of the way humans perceive time: although stretching

interminably into the past and future, time is nothing more than a collection of fleeting moments.

“Do you have the time?”

“When?”

“Just now.”

“I think you mean just then.”

Time also *elapses* in ways that are completely subjective. An arduous* *regimen* of tasks at the office seem to take years, but a week-long vacation feels *truncated* down to five minutes. Always, in *retrospect*, it all went by so quickly.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. If a certain amount of time _____ with the president ignoring a bill, it expires.
2. Some find a _____ that never varies to be comforting.
3. Cold Harbor was the only battle Grant regretted in _____.
4. Since no snow days were used, the school year was _____.
5. Many lottery winners bemoan the _____ of becoming miserable millionaires.
6. After an _____ delay, the flight was cleared for takeoff.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. paradox | _____ | a. never-ending |
| 8. interminable | _____ | b. to shorten |
| 9. elapse | _____ | c. an inherent contradiction |
| 10. regimen | _____ | d. a routine |
| 11. truncate | _____ | e. in hindsight |
| 12. retrospect | _____ | f. to pass; to expire |

WEEK 40



DAY 2

Time

NEW WORDS

annals

an - nəls

prelude

prā - lūd

defunct

dē - funk̄t

trove

trōv

antiquity

an - tik - wit - ē

obsolete

ob - sō - lēt

Notable Roots:

clud = avoid; func = work; antique = old

TIME BEFORE TIME

The *annals* of history go back no further than roughly 5,000 years because historiography requires the invention of writing. Prehistory, which may go back 100,000 years, is no mere *prelude* to the wars and king lists of the

Bronze Age, however. Do we know nothing of this *defunct* world? Of course not. A *trove* of physical evidence has survived detailing the lives of humans in remote *antiquity*: their diet, dress, art, and social habits. We have also been able to re-create *obsolete* technologies, which reveal the surprising level of innovation of which our ancestors were capable. In fact, when history “began,” people were already farming, trading, and drinking beer in complex cities ruled by kings.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. People alive during _____ held very different values and beliefs.
2. The thawing of Siberian permafrost has revealed _____ of ancient artifacts.
3. Because of their ingenuity and flaws, _____ mechanical devices are fascinating.
4. Violence over the status of slavery in Kansas was a _____ to wider conflict.
5. The products of many _____ manufacturers are still sold secondhand online.
6. “Luminiferous ether,” a proposed medium in which light waves propagate, has joined the _____ of discarded scientific theories.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. annals | _____ | a. ancient times |
| 8. prelude | _____ | b. no longer functioning |
| 9. defunct | _____ | c. out of date |
| 10. trove | _____ | d. archives |
| 11. antiquity | _____ | e. a hidden treasure |
| 12. obsolete | _____ | f. an opening move |

WEEK 40



DAY 3

Time

NEW WORDS

nostalgia

nō - stal - jə

pine (v.)

pīn

zeitgeist

zīt - gīst

reminisce

rem - ə - nəs

rue

rū

antiquated

an - ti - kwāt - əd

Notable Roots:

zeit = times; geist = spirit; antique = old

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Nostalgia is a well-known psychological phenomenon. *Pining* for the days of our ancestors when things were “simpler” has become a passion of history lovers. However, no amount of dress-up can bring back the *zeitgeist*

of a past era when notions like belief in unfettered progress or repugnant* racial theories were widely accepted. *Reminiscing* about lost youth is a favorite pastime of curmudgeons,* right up there with dominoes. Even when the days of one's youth were marked by deprivation, instead of having gratitude for present abundance, we *rue* the loss of thriftiness. Frustration with *antiquated* technologies is transformed into maudlin* affection for their quaintness.

Once more, your keen eye and memory were being tested. Did you recognize curmudgeon as being from an earlier lesson?

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The _____ of the medieval era held that death was always imminent.*
2. Rail transport only becomes _____ if we fail to invest in its improvement.
3. A judge must consider whether a convict _____ his action or getting caught.
4. For team owners, the economic attractiveness of Los Angeles outweighed _____ for the Dodgers' years in Brooklyn.
5. Romeo's _____ for Rosaline is quickly forgotten when he meets Juliet.
6. Animosity forgotten, elderly Union and Confederate veterans would _____ about their wartime experiences.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 7. nostalgia | _____ | a. the defining spirit of an era |
| 8. pine | _____ | b. to remember fondly |
| 9. zeitgeist | _____ | c. behind the times |
| 10. reminisce | _____ | d. to regret |
| 11. rue | _____ | e. sentimental attachment to the past |
| 12. antiquated | _____ | f. to long for |

WEEK 40



DAY 4

Time

NEW WORDS

belated

bē - lāt - əd

prognosticate

prog - nos - tik - āt

procrastinate

prō - kras - tin - āt

clairvoyant

klar - vōi - ənt

prescient

pre - shənt

auspice

ô - spis

Notable Roots:

gnostic = know;

pro = forward; cras = tomorrow; voir = see; scient = know

TOO LATE

The Galveston Hurricane of 1900 underscores the dangers of *belated* warnings. The U.S. Weather Bureau ignored *prognostications* from Cuban

meteorologists that a storm passing into the Gulf of Mexico would grow monstrous and strike the Texas coast. U.S. experts *procrastinated* until the day the storm arrived before issuing a warning for Galveston. This came about not due to *clairvoyance*, but because ships encountering the storm reported its uncommon ferocity. Unfortunately, few in the city were *prescient* enough to evacuate; some even considered fine weather that morning to be an *auspice*. The result of this lack of foresight was the largest death toll of any disaster in U.S. history when the storm surge inundated the entire island city.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. A few _____ leaders saw the Treaty of Versailles as a mere 20-year armistice.
2. An eagle with a serpent in its talons was considered a high _____ to the Greeks.
3. An adult realizes that to _____ is to cause more anxiety than it relieves.
4. Sansa's _____ thanks does little to thaw relations with the queen.
5. Con men research their marks, learning enough to appear truly _____.
6. As late as 1928, many economists continued to _____ an endless boom.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 7. belated | _____ | a. to postpone |
| 8. prognosticate | _____ | b. able to foresee future events supernaturally |
| 9. procrastinate | _____ | c. a sign of good fortune |
| 10. clairvoyant | _____ | d. to predict |
| 11. prescient | _____ | e. tardy |
| 12. auspice | _____ | f. able to predict based on present facts |

WEEK 40



DAY 5

Time

GROUP REVIEW

Chaos theory posits that in systems with many variables—like the weather—you can never know enough to offer accurate predictions beyond the immediate future. However, prediction improves with data—like the prediction that vocabulary knowledge grows with diligent studying!

Matching

Directions: Match the words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. annals
- _____ 2. antiquated
- _____ 3. antiquity
- _____ 4. auspice
- _____ 5. belated
- _____ 6. clairvoyant
- _____ 7. defunct
- _____ 8. elapse
- _____ 9. interminable
- _____ 10. nostalgia
- _____ 11. obsolete
- _____ 12. paradox
- _____ 13. pine
- _____ 14. prelude

DEFINITIONS

- a. a routine
- b. to regret
- c. tardy
- d. to pass; to expire
- e. to shorten
- f. to long for
- g. a sign of good fortune
- h. to postpone
- i. archives
- j. sentimental attachment to the past
- k. able to predict based on present facts
- l. behind the times
- m. no longer functioning
- n. ancient times

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. prescient | o. a hidden treasure |
| _____ | 16. procrastinate | p. out of date |
| _____ | 17. prognosticate | q. never-ending |
| _____ | 18. regimen | r. an inherent contradiction |
| _____ | 19. reminisce | s. to predict |
| _____ | 20. retrospect | t. to remember fondly |
| _____ | 21. rue | u. in hindsight |
| _____ | 22. trove | v. the defining spirit of an era |
| _____ | 23. truncate | w. an opening move |
| _____ | 24. zeitgeist | x. able to foresee future events supernaturally |

Hapless Headlines

Directions: Choose the best words to complete each of the newspaper headlines.

- a. aberrant
 - b. accost
 - c. belligerent
 - d. dissolution
 - e. elapse
 - f. emissary
 - g. extrinsic
 - h. flotilla
 - i. hegemony
 - j. incoherent
 - k. inexorable
 - l. invulnerable
 - m. junta
 - n. paradox
 - o. prelude
 - p. prohibition
 - q. protocol
 - r. rail
 - s. sanction
 - t. trove
1. Allied _____ Closes in on Iwo Jima
 2. Alcohol _____ a “Total Failure” Says Smith
 3. Rebels Target Headquarters of Ruling _____
 4. _____ of Spanish Gold Found in Caribbean
 5. CEO Considers Slide Toward Bankruptcy _____

- 6.** FAA Rules _____ Factors, Not Design, Cause of Crash
- 7.** Senator _____ by Critics at Restaurant
- 8.** Russian Mobilization a “_____ to War” Says Germany
- 9.** Budget Deadline _____ without Deal
- 10.** _____ Weather More Common as Climate Warms

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

Butterfly Effects

Time travel is a staple device of science fiction. One consistent feature of time travel plots is the _____ that arise when people travel back and interfere with causality. In many a film, a well-meaning protagonist, driven by _____ for the past or the desire to obviate* some _____ tragedy discovers just how complex and delicate a chain of events leads from past to present.

In some stories, the _____ of history are inadvertently altered, creating a new, often dystopian, present. In others, an unscrupulous, “_____” visitor from the future uses their foreknowledge for profit, becoming a tyrant by means of fraud. Sometimes a time traveler becomes stuck in another era, facing an _____ stay in a space-time entrepôt where the _____ makes it very uncomfortable for a voyager with modern sensibilities.

In the happier films, however, all works out well. The plucky hero _____ but successfully repairs the damage. Immersion in a _____ world grants the protagonist new respect for our predecessors. _____ for her own time, moreover, teaches appreciation of each moment.

WEEK 41



DAY 1

Health

NEW WORDS

imbibe

im - bīb

afflict

ə - flikt

spartan

spär - tən

ruddy

rud - ē

gaunt

gōnt

atrophy

a - trō - fē

Notable Roots:

bib = drink; rud = red; troph = grow

STANDING OUT FROM THE CROWD

Fungible products are those that are practically interchangeable. Many of the products we *imbibe* fall under this heading. Manufacturers are forever *afflicted* with the fear that a successful product will soon appear old and

spartan, so they come out with “new and improved” versions. Sometimes it is only a box or package that has been changed—perhaps a colorful photo of a succulent meal on a frozen dinner box. Some products peddle an image. For example, shaving cream makers project an image of their users as strapping* and *ruddy*, while those that use “the other brand” are *gaunt* bookworms with *atrophied* muscles.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Romeo _____ poison just before Juliet wakes up.
2. The cold air made Beverly’s cheeks so _____ the portrait was ruined.
3. Some talents may _____ from disuse but never really desert us.
4. Before receiving a transfusion, Nadia’s face had a _____ look.
5. The cheapest youth hostels have decidedly _____ accommodations.
6. Those in the tropics are often _____ by mosquito-borne diseases.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. imbibe | _____ | a. to trouble or cause pain |
| 8. afflict | _____ | b. bare; uncomfortable |
| 9. spartan | _____ | c. drink or consume |
| 10. ruddy | _____ | d. pale and sickly |
| 11. gaunt | _____ | e. weaken by disuse |
| 12. atrophy | _____ | f. red-faced |

WEEK 41



DAY 2

Health

NEW WORDS

malady

mal - ə - dē

palliate

pal - ē - āt

longevity

lon - jev - ə - tē

malignant

mə - lig - nənt

panacea

pan - ə - sē - ə

debilitate

dē - bil - ə - tāt

Notable Roots:

mal = bad; pall = shadow; pan = all

PHARMACEUTICAL HALLUCINATIONS

If you watch enough commercials by major drug-makers, it almost seems as if those suffering terrible *maladies* are being offered a life better than the one they had before getting sick. No matter whether the drug in question

palliates suffering from rheumatism or offers a few extra months of *longevity* to those suffering *malignant* tumors. The shop-worn visual clichés in drug commercials of running through fields of flowers or playing softball with grandkids promise a *panacea*—regardless of which drug is being peddled. The juxtaposition of a voiceover detailing potentially debilitating side effects underscores the inauthenticity of this style of advertising.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Quinine was a tragic _____, so effective at treating malaria that it opened up Africa to conquest.
2. Finding a medicine to _____ migraines can change the lives of sufferers.
3. Although _____ by abdominal cancer, Matisse created vibrant “cut-out” artworks.
4. Ty Cobb’s _____ personality may explain why his team failed to win a title.
5. Queen Elizabeth’s _____ has made her the icon of an age.
6. Genetic _____, though incurable, are now increasingly treatable.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. malady | _____ | a. to soothe without curing |
| 8. palliate | _____ | b. destructive; harmful |
| 9. longevity | _____ | c. a sickness |
| 10. malignant | _____ | d. to handicap |
| 11. panacea | _____ | e. length of life |
| 12. debilitate | _____ | f. a cure-all |

WEEK 41



DAY 3

Health

NEW WORDS

abstemious

ab - stēm - ē - əs

repose

rē - pōz

fettle

fet - əl

masticate

mas - tik - āt

virulent

vir - ə - lənt

laceration

las - ər - ā - shən

Notable Roots:

temer = daring; vir = man; lacer = sharp

“TRIED AND TRUE”

At one time, before the advent of radio, products were advertised on the merits of their “tried and true” qualities. Such advertising assumed pragmatic consumers, *abstemious* in consumption, *repose* dictated by the

cycle of night and day. They were usually in fine *fettle*, though *masticating* with poor teeth and subject to *virulent* pathogens. Manufacturers did not presume to tell such stolid* folk what they should want, but catered to what they needed: cereal grains for nourishment, wool for warmth, and gauze for *lacerations*. The inventory of the grocer was carefully limited to meet demand. Advertising reversed this relationship, enticing increased demand to meet the dizzying volume of goods supplied by an industrial economy.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The most _____ germs are those that are most novel to our systems.
2. War allows little _____ for soldiers who must remain vigilant.
3. Without antibiotics, every _____ is potentially fatal.
4. Clementine's horses were in such poor _____ that she rested them for days.
5. Cows are famous for their long, patient _____ of fibrous grasses.
6. Churchill, a drinker and smoker who lived to be 90, defied the maxim that only the _____ enjoy longevity.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. abstemious | _____ | a. to chew |
| 8. repose | _____ | b. a cut |
| 9. fettle | _____ | c. rest |
| 10. masticate | _____ | d. moderate in consumption |
| 11. virulent | _____ | e. condition or health |
| 12. laceration | _____ | f. powerful; deadly |

WEEK 41



DAY 4

Health

NEW WORDS

adverse

ad - vers

deficiency

də - fish - ən - sē

degrade

də - grād

gallant

gal - ənt

salubrious

sə - lūb - rē - əs

austere

ô - stēr

Notable Roots:

ad = away; vers = turn; fac/fic = make/do;
salu = health

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Supermarkets often carry their own products to compete with the national brands. These “house” brands are in an *adverse* position because they

cannot be advertised widely. Supermarkets overcome this *deficiency* by making these brands less expensive. Many people believe the aphorism “You get what you pay for,” and they purchase items on the premise* that the quality is *degraded* at lower price points. Are the *gallant* boasts of nationally advertised brands bogus? How can one bread company prove its product is more *salubrious* than another? As there is no incontrovertible evidence, the more expensive bread (or coffee, etc.) must compensate* by making inordinate claims to convince the *austere* consumer to switch.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The Mediterranean diet has been touted for its _____ effects.
2. Unlike the mud-covered infantry, WWI pilots were celebrated as _____ heroes.
3. Candidates employ strategists to handle _____ publicity.
4. Protestant churches of the seventeenth century were highly _____, a reaction to the baroque* character of Renaissance Catholic churches.
5. Recognizing his _____ as a leader, Tommy preferred to be a loner.
6. After a century under water, the *Titanic* has _____ to the point of dissolution.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. adverse | _____ | a. flaw; shortcoming |
| 8. deficiency | _____ | b. healthy |
| 9. degrade | _____ | c. unfavorable |
| 10. gallant | _____ | d. severe; plain |
| 11. salubrious | _____ | e. to break down; to humiliate |
| 12. austere | _____ | f. brave and daring |

WEEK 41



DAY 5

Health

GROUP REVIEW

You can be sure of a balanced language if you are well acquainted with all the products (words) available in your supermarket (vocabulary).

Matching

Directions: Match this week's words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abstemious
- _____ 2. adverse
- _____ 3. afflict
- _____ 4. atrophy
- _____ 5. austere
- _____ 6. debilitate
- _____ 7. deficiency
- _____ 8. degrade
- _____ 9. fettle
- _____ 10. gallant
- _____ 11. gaunt
- _____ 12. imbibe
- _____ 13. laceration
- _____ 14. longevity
- _____ 15. malady

DEFINITIONS

- a. rest
- b. to handicap
- c. a cut
- d. powerful; deadly
- e. destructive; harmful
- f. red-faced
- g. healthy
- h. unfavorable
- i. pale and sickly
- j. moderate in consumption
- k. brave and daring
- l. bare; uncomfortable
- m. to soothe without curing
- n. a sickness
- o. weaken by disuse

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ | 16. malignant | p. to break down; to humiliate |
| _____ | 17. masticate | q. to chew |
| _____ | 18. palliate | r. a cure-all |
| _____ | 19. panacea | s. drink or consume |
| _____ | 20. repose | t. condition or health |
| _____ | 21. ruddy | u. to trouble or cause pain |
| _____ | 22. salubrious | v. length of life |
| _____ | 23. spartan | w. severe; plain |
| _____ | 24. virulent | x. flaw; shortcoming |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

2nd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

3rd Day

1st Day

Age Discrimination

One of the most _____ forms of discrimination is that based upon age. We have become aware through publicity and education that bias and discrimination based upon race, color, creed, and gender are not to be accepted. Through laws passed by the Congress of the United States and by individual states, we agree that using these criteria for hiring, promoting, or firing in the workplace is a _____ and undemocratic excuse. Many lawsuits have supported this most basic right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” protected by our Constitution.

Why is it, then, that so few question the practice of preventing some from getting positions or promotions based on their _____? Advanced age leads to _____ conditions, such as the firing of such employees and their replacement with _____-cheeked younger applicants. Is there any evidence that the young are more _____ while older workers are inherently _____? Many workers over 60 are, in fact, in fine _____ with minds that have not _____ but remained active. Therefore, such discrimination is unwarranted.

WEEK 42



DAY 1

Information

NEW WORDS

discern

dis - èrn

convert (v.)

kən - vèrt

overt

ō - vèrt

ascertain

as - èr - tān

permeate

pér - mē - àt

delve

delv

Notable Roots:

vers = turn; ouvre = open; perme = pass through

YOU CAN'T HELP BUT WATCH

The consumer is in a quandary* *discerning* the best selection among the array of products. The advertisers must *convert* the consumer to their brand, and often they do it in the most crass and *overt* ways. Manufacturers have

ascertained that television is the most effective way to reach a mass audience; therefore, consumer messaging *permeates* television. Through their studies *delving* into the human psyche, advertisers are able to craft messages that are both persuasive and difficult to ignore.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. If banks _____ a prospective borrower might default, they don't offer a loan.
2. Republics persist as long as _____ unconstitutional acts are resisted.
3. Dissatisfaction _____ the team culture until the coach lost all control.
4. Humans have _____ the ocean deeper than the reaches of space.
5. A camouflaged warship is harder to _____ on the horizon.
6. A zealot is rarely someone who has been _____ to a faith by force.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 7. discern | _____ | a. open; obvious |
| 8. convert | _____ | b. perceive the difference |
| 9. overt | _____ | c. spread throughout |
| 10. ascertain | _____ | d. cause to change; win over |
| 11. permeate | _____ | e. to dive deeply |
| 12. delve | _____ | f. figure out |

WEEK 42



DAY 2

Information

NEW WORDS

elicit

ē - lis - it

candid

kan - did

epitome

ə - pit - ō - mē

cogent

kō - jənt

glib

glib

germane

jér - mān

Notable Roots:

licit = lure; cand = shine; tomo = cut

BUREAU OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

The power of advertising was discovered when the United States government set its collective mind to *eliciting* public support for the First World War. After the U.S. entered the fray* in the spring of 1917, President

Woodrow Wilson immediately realized he had an image problem: his 1916 reelection campaign had *candidly* boasted that he had kept the country out of war! To overcome, he named George Creel, a man who was the *epitome* of *cogent* and persuasive messaging, the Director of Public Information. Soon posters like the famous portrait of Uncle Sam with the *glib* slogan “I want you for the U.S. army!” were everywhere. Creel also conceived of the “Four Minute Men,” community leaders who would give four-minute speeches during movie intermissions about why the war was *germane* to American lives.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. In a time when people want authenticity, a _____ campaign slogan will fail.
2. In the 1960s, Steve McQueen, tough and flinty, was the _____ of cool.
3. Pundits quash scandal by bringing up misdeeds not _____ to the controversy.
4. To _____ meaningful class participation, avoid yes or no questions.
5. Suspects without counsel are advised not to be too _____ with detectives.
6. A sophist is an expert at presenting a _____ defense of an absurd position.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. elicit | _____ | a. clear and persuasive |
| 8. candid | _____ | b. articulate but insincere |
| 9. epitome | _____ | c. relevant |
| 10. cogent | _____ | d. open and honest |
| 11. glib | _____ | e. the ideal example |
| 12. germane | _____ | f. to encourage a response |

WEEK 42



DAY 3

Information

NEW WORDS

incontrovertible

in - kon - trə - vər - tə - bəl

construe

kən - strū

glean

glēn

denote

də - nōt

enunciate

ə - nuns - ē - āt

pertinent

pér - tə - nənt

Notable Roots:

contra = against; stru = build; nunc = announce

THE PROPAGANDA COUP

Creel's campaign was so effective at convincing the public that the rationale for the war was *incontrovertible* that the army was soon awash in volunteers. Unfortunately, with such passions aroused, many *construed* the

call to action as permission to badger* German-Americans. Later, when the draft was instituted, Creel created newsreels from which people *gleaned* the false notion that the “selective service” program *denoted* another form of volunteering. When more foodstuffs were needed for the army, Creel’s messaging never *enunciated* the word “rationing,” instead encouraging the home front to regard participation in “Meatless Mondays” and “Wheatless Wednesdays” as *pertinent* ways of fighting the war.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. It's not necessary to _____ every syllable clearly in a song.
2. Sherlock Holmes _____ far more data from a crime scene than the police.
3. Joan's skills turned out to be highly _____ to her success in the competition.
4. Conspiracists _____ nefarious* plots in chains of loosely connected events.
5. The number of stars _____ a general's rank.
6. Negatives can't be proven, thus denial of the supernatural is not technically _____.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 7. incontrovertible _____ | a. to indicate |
| 8. construe _____ | b. related; appropriate |
| 9. glean _____ | c. to announce; to speak clearly |
| 10. denote _____ | d. to perceive from limited information |
| 11. enunciate _____ | e. cannot be disproven |
| 12. pertinent _____ | f. gain information or understanding |

WEEK 42



DAY 4

Information

NEW WORDS

gist
jist

allude
ə - lūd

elucidate
ə - lūs - ə - dāt

delineate
də - lin - ē - āt

reinvigorate
rē - in - vig - ər - āt

derive
də - rīv

Notable Roots:

lud = play; lucid = clear, bright; line = draw lines; vigor = strength; rive = flow

PERFECTING THE MACHINE

After the successes of the BPI, the same methods were employed after the U.S. entered World War II. Everyone got the *gist* of why we were fighting

Japan—*alluding* to the name Pearl Harbor was sufficient to rouse passions. A pressing need was to *elucidate* the reasons for fighting Germany. Some of America’s best filmmakers, like Frank Capra and John Huston, created propaganda films *delineating* the horrors of the Nazi regime. Waging a worldwide conflict also meant *reinvigorating* an economy shuttered since the Depression for the production of armaments. The image of Rosie the Riveter is an enduring legacy of the propaganda effort on the home front. Posters, events, and short films on the need for rationing and investing in war bonds were also wildly successful. The success of the postwar economy was *derived* from the savings Americans—habitual consumers—accumulated by following the directives of wartime propaganda.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The time-out served to _____ the defense, which forced a game-saving fumble.
2. Mark Antony’s funeral oration _____ the reasoning behind Caesar’s actions so successfully that the Optimates who killed the dictator fled in terror.
3. The poems of T. S. Eliot _____ to so many classical references that they are best read with an encyclopedia at one’s side.
4. Preserving slavery was the true _____ of the Confederate cause.
5. Jefferson argues government power is _____ from the consent of the governed.
6. Daniel Burnham would _____ in words what Root’s blueprints could not.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 7. gist | _____ | a. to arise from |
| 8. allude | _____ | b. to express precisely |
| 9. elucidate | _____ | c. to give new life |
| 10. delineate | _____ | d. the substance of something |
| 11. reinvigorate | _____ | e. to make clear |
| 12. derive | _____ | f. to make reference to |

WEEK 42



DAY 5

Information

GROUP REVIEW

As you watch your next television commercial, try to imagine what questions were asked by the research people as they interviewed the possible consumers. Advertisers have to select their words carefully. You can select words only when you have large numbers at your command.

Matching

Directions: Match this week's words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ **1.** allude
- _____ **2.** ascertain
- _____ **3.** candid
- _____ **4.** cogent
- _____ **5.** construe
- _____ **6.** convert
- _____ **7.** delineate
- _____ **8.** delve
- _____ **9.** denote
- _____ **10.** derive
- _____ **11.** discern
- _____ **12.** elicit
- _____ **13.** elucidate
- _____ **14.** enunciate

DEFINITIONS

- a.** gain information or understanding
- b.** cause to change; win over
- c.** to make reference to
- d.** to announce; to speak clearly
- e.** articulate but insincere
- f.** relevant
- g.** perceive the difference
- h.** the substance of something
- i.** to make clear
- j.** to indicate
- k.** to perceive from limited information
- l.** to express precisely
- m.** to encourage a response
- n.** open and honest

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 15. epitome | o. related; appropriate |
| _____ | 16. germane | p. to give new life |
| _____ | 17. gist | q. spread throughout |
| _____ | 18. glean | r. open; obvious |
| _____ | 19. glib | s. cannot be disproven |
| _____ | 20. incontrovertible | t. figure out |
| _____ | 21. overt | u. the ideal example |
| _____ | 22. permeate | v. to arise from |
| _____ | 23. pertinent | w. to dive deeply |
| _____ | 24. reinvigorate | x. clear and persuasive |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

Peacetime Propaganda

In the beginning, there was only word of mouth. Advertising began in earnest with the advent of print media. The combination of printing and widespread literacy gave manufacturers a way to _____ readers into customers. As the Industrial Revolution spawned a multiplicity of products, however, merchants could _____ the limits of print advertising. Many still could not read. Those that could might choose to read one periodical over another or simply ignore the small blurbs of advertising. It was not until the invention of radio that advertising could truly _____ every home. The effectiveness of radio advertising was _____: clumsy radio ads generated more business than the most _____ print messages.

Advertising did not truly come into its own until after World War II, however. Breakthroughs in psychology had shown propagandists how to _____ desired behaviors. After the war, the advertising industry sought to _____ demand using many of the same methods. One such technique was selling the consumer an image of who they wanted to be—a VIP, a mountaineer, a fashion model, or a movie star—and then encouraging the consumer to _____ associate the product with the image. Through advertising, Americans were encouraged to see certain brands as the _____ of identity and status. Through techniques like “_____” celebrity endorsements and product placement, advertising gained new levels of influence during the golden age of television. Teenagers became the prime consumers of music during the rise of rock ‘n’ roll.

Children's programming not only encouraged kids to plead for the latest toys, but also began the process of inculcating the ethos of consumerism.

WEEK 43



DAY 1

Quantity

NEW WORDS

inordinate

in - ôr - də - nət

ubiquitous

yū - bik - wit - əs

emanate

em - ən - ət

array

ə - rā

abound

ə - bound

saturate

sach - ə - rāt

Notable Roots:

ordinal = order, degree; ubiqui = everywhere; emana = flow; bound = limit

LIGHT IS NOT ENOUGH

When the speed of light was first computed, scientists recognized it to be a velocity *inordinate* to that of any known object. Einstein later proved that

light speed is *ubiquitous*, unaffected by the motion of the source from which it is *emanating*. His mathematics also demonstrated light speed to be an unreachable limit. Due to an *array* of discoveries, astronomers simultaneously began to comprehend the vastness of space. Edwin Hubble discovered that our nearest galactic neighbor, Andromeda, is two million light-years away. Since that time, scientists have dealt with a paradox*: the universe *abounds* with objects too far to reach, while our world is *saturated* with light that has taken eons to arrive.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. By adolescence, Mozart had already composed an impressive _____ of music.
2. Rumors that America _____ with gold proved to be unfounded.
3. Prices crash when the market is _____ with supply.
4. Punitive damages may seem _____ but are meant to deter future crimes.
5. The sounds that _____ from a laboring person can be unearthly.
6. Cell towers are _____ on the coasts but rarer in the rural interior.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. inordinate | _____ | a. an impressive display |
| 8. ubiquitous | _____ | b. occur in large quantity |
| 9. emanate | _____ | c. out of proportion |
| 10. array | _____ | d. fill beyond capacity |
| 11. abound | _____ | e. to flow from |
| 12. saturate | _____ | f. to be found everywhere |

WEEK 43



DAY 2

Quantity

NEW WORDS

inundate

in - un - dāt

extraneous

eks - trān - ē - əs

concomitant

kon - kom - ə - tənt

unmitigated

un - mit - ə - gāt - əd

consummate

kon - sə - mət

myriad

mēr - ē - ad

Notable Roots:

inundat = flood; extra = beyond; comit = companion; summa = peak

LIFE ABOUNDS*

Earth is so *inundated* with life that life forms have altered the planet. Photosynthesis is so effective that the *extraneous* oxygen has changed the composition of the atmosphere. Before this change, iron-rich rocks did not

rust, and the dominant species were anaerobic bacteria. The *concomitant* binding of atmospheric carbon in living tissues proved to be an *unmitigated* loss of a crucial greenhouse gas, beginning a cycle of wild climatic swings. Thanks to genetic mutation and natural selection, however, life has proven a *consummate* survivor of climate fluctuation. Since the Cambrian explosion, *myriad* forms of life have arisen to exploit the opportunities that have followed mass extinction events.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The Ford Edsel proved to be an _____ disaster.
2. Army-Navy stores sell _____ supplies not required by the armed forces.
3. Egyptian farmers once relied on the Nile to annually _____ their fields.
4. Charles Lindbergh ultimately rued* the fame _____ with his achievement.
5. Teachers hear _____ excuses from their students for late assignments.
6. Christy Mathewson was such a _____ gentlemen that his death was mourned by all of baseball.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 7. inundate | _____ | a. without compensation; total |
| 8. extraneous | _____ | b. extremely skilled; perfect |
| 9. concomitant | _____ | c. more than necessary |
| 10. unmitigated | _____ | d. great in number |
| 11. consummate | _____ | e. accompanying |
| 12. myriad | _____ | f. to flood |

WEEK 43



DAY 3

Quantity

NEW WORDS

manifold

man - ə - fōld

bounteous

boun - tē - əs

superfluous

sū - pér - flū - əs

copious

kō - pē - əs

succulent

suk - yū - lənt

epicurean

ep - ə - kyur - ē - ən

Notable Roots:

mani = many;

bound = limit; super = over; fluous = flow

FEEDING THE MASSES

The rise of cities, with their *manifold* benefits and drawbacks, began with food surpluses. When each person was needed to farm in order for a whole

community to survive, there was little time to do anything else. Once crop yields were so *bounteous* that extra farmhands were *superfluous*, however, it allowed for the development of specialist workers like craftsmen and artisans. Yields that were truly *copious* allowed for trade with neighboring communities for *succulent* delicacies and *epicurean* luxuries. Thus, economics was born.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Many creatures produce _____ eggs to ensure survival of some offspring.
2. College is an environment with _____ distractions.
3. A slow-roasted steak is a truly _____ entrée.
4. Roman conservatives like Cato lamented the adoption of _____ tastes in the city.
5. Even a superficial head wound is usually accompanied by _____ bleeding.
6. This year's Thanksgiving feast was so _____ that dessert was barely touched.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------|
| 7. manifold | _____ | a. surplus |
| 8. bounteous | _____ | b. abundant |
| 9. superfluous | _____ | c. tender and juicy |
| 10. copious | _____ | d. pleasure-loving |
| 11. succulent | _____ | e. in generous quantity |
| 12. epicurean | _____ | f. numerous |

WEEK 43



DAY 4

Quantity

NEW WORDS

enhance

in - hans

replete

rə - plēt

plethora

pleth - ôr - ə

redolent

red - ə - lənt

rife

rīf

profuse

prō - fyūs

Notable Roots:

plere = fill; olea = oil, essence; fuse = flow

MARKETPLACE OF CIVILIZATION

Trade *enhances* both the space and time of the urban environment. In Turkey, a land at the intersection of trade routes, every town is *replete* with an open-air market, which serves as the climax to every week. In fact, the

Turkish name for Sunday, *pazar*, means “market day.” In Istanbul, not only does each neighborhood hold its own bazaar, but there’s also a *plethora* of permanent institutions. The Spice Bazaar, located on the opposite end of the city’s busiest bridge, is *redolent* with the smells of Turkey’s most treasured trade goods: pistachios, dried apricots, figs, tea, and cumin. A mile away lies the Grand Bazaar, a warren of passageways *rife* with trade. Here merchants and shoppers engage, with *profuse* swearing and gesturing, in the time-honored ritual of haggling over everything from hookahs and tea sets to leather purses and engagement rings.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The interior of my father’s work van was _____ with nostalgic* smells.
2. The wealthiest, most _____ donors have inordinate* political influence.
3. The young couple’s bridal purse was _____ with generous gifts.
4. With modern software, the once-grainy image had been greatly _____.
5. Small children often feel overwhelmed when presented with a _____ of options.
6. New York society was _____ with gossip after the murder of Stanford White.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. enhance | _____ | a. plentiful amount |
| 8. replete | _____ | b. filled with the odor of something |
| 9. plethora | _____ | c. prevalent; common |
| 10. redolent | _____ | d. overflowing with |
| 11. rife | _____ | e. to improve or refine |
| 12. profuse | _____ | f. equipped with |

WEEK 43



DAY 5

Quantity

GROUP REVIEW

It's been said that societies have the greatest abundance of words for the subjects that most occupy people's minds. The English language is saturated* with words related to both trade and language. Thus, your supply of synonyms on these topics should never run dry.

Matching

Directions: Match the words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. abound
- _____ 2. array
- _____ 3. bounteous
- _____ 4. concomitant
- _____ 5. consummate
- _____ 6. copious
- _____ 7. emanate
- _____ 8. enhance
- _____ 9. epicurean
- _____ 10. extraneous
- _____ 11. inordinate
- _____ 12. inundate
- _____ 13. manifold
- _____ 14. myriad

DEFINITIONS

- a. filled with the odor of something
- b. fill beyond capacity
- c. overflowing with
- d. to flood
- e. to flow from
- f. abundant
- g. without compensation; total
- h. out of proportion
- i. extremely skilled; perfect
- j. prevalent; common
- k. numerous
- l. in generous quantity
- m. pleasure-loving
- n. plentiful amount

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ | 15. plethora | o. accompanying |
| _____ | 16. profuse | p. to be found everywhere |
| _____ | 17. redolent | q. more than necessary |
| _____ | 18. replete | r. surplus |
| _____ | 19. rife | s. great in number |
| _____ | 20. saturate | t. occur in large quantity |
| _____ | 21. succulent | u. tender and juicy |
| _____ | 22. superfluous | v. an impressive display |
| _____ | 23. ubiquitous | w. equipped with |
| _____ | 24. unmitigated | x. to improve or refine |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

4th Day

Whistle Blowing

How much loyalty do employees owe to their employers? Many industries are _____ with companies that go out of their way to encourage employees to make suggestions that will improve the way they operate. A _____ ethicist will not reprimand an employee who points out _____ problems that are harming the business. In fact, it should be in the bosses' interest that the secrets the whistleblower unearths _____ to upper management.

However, there seems to be a _____ problem in business of whistleblowers facing harsh punishment for calling attention to unethical actions. The whistleblower soon faces an _____ of problems. He or she is ostracized at the workplace, often _____ with abuse. The informer might face _____ punishment for some minor error—real or invented. Such punishment carries with it _____ damage to reputation, and soon enough the whistleblower either is fired or quits. As a result, the employees go back to “business as usual” without any change. The annals* of business and government are unfortunately _____ with such stories.

WEEK 44



DAY 1

Chaos

NEW WORDS

disarray

dis - ər - ə

tumultuous

tû - mul - chû - əs

turbulent

tər - byū - lənt

pandemonium

pan - də - mō - nē - ūm

conundrum

kə - nûn - drûm

phenomenon

fə - nom - ə - non

Notable Roots:

array = impressive display; tumult = disturbance; turbu = disorder; pan = all

HAVE WE MASTERED OUR ENVIRONMENT?

Natural disasters tend to leave the best efforts of mankind in *disarray*. It is as though *tumultuous* forces are contemptuous* of our proud achievements.

Hurricanes, arising from *turbulent* air on the other side of the Atlantic, unleash *pandemonium* along our coasts. Those living along fault lines face the *conundrum* of when the next earthquake will strike. A more patient *phenomenon*, drought, is an implacable enemy of agriculture as well as the fuel for conflagrations.*

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Fenway Park was in a state of _____ after Fisk's famous World Series home run.
2. A total eclipse is the most astounding astronomical _____ one can witness.
3. Passage of the Civil Rights Act was one of the most _____ acts of legislation in congressional history.
4. Fort Ticonderoga was in such _____ it could not repel an attack.
5. FDR faced the _____ of preparing a nation with an isolationist people for war.
6. The _____ cultural rift* that opened in the 1960s has never fully healed.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------|
| 7. disarray | _____ | a. unsteady; violent |
| 8. tumultuous | _____ | b. ruin; disorder |
| 9. turbulent | _____ | c. singular occurrence |
| 10. pandemonium | _____ | d. dilemma |
| 11. conundrum | _____ | e. full of uproar |
| 12. phenomenon | _____ | f. total chaos |

WEEK 44



DAY 2

Chaos

NEW WORDS

awry

ə - rī

tortuous

tôr - tū - əs

impromptu

im - promp - tū

unwieldy

un - wēl - dē

cacophony

kə - kof - ən - ē

bedlam

bed - ləm

Notable Roots:

wry = twisted; tort = twist; prompt = cue; phon = sound

WHO CAN YOU TRUST?

Societies go *awry* when sources of trustworthy information are discredited. Documents leaked during the Vietnam War showed that top officials were offering rosy prognostications* to the press long after privately admitting

the conflict was a fiasco. Later, President Nixon's recorded conversations revealed that he had lied about his knowledge of the Watergate break-in. Scientists have lent their credentials to *tortuous* studies denying the harm of tobacco use. Media have prioritized sensationalism—*impromptu* scandals or celebrity gossip—over dry, often *unwieldy*, policy concerns. It's no wonder, then, that people have turned to the Internet in an attempt to access unfiltered information. Unfortunately, the web is a *cacophony* of voices, and many are lured by the loudest or those that tell them what they want to hear. A society in which each person feels entitled to their own facts is a *bedlam* in which nothing is certain.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Unlike the mellifluous* harmonies of Beethoven's Ninth, _____ denotes* sonic discord.
2. _____ would be one way to describe a sword too heavy to be swung.
3. Without its prefix, the root of _____ describes an ironic smile.
4. _____, a word that better describes mountain roads, has nothing to do with pain.
5. An _____ speech, given without electronic cues, can be refreshingly candid.*
6. The noun _____ has no roots but refers to a notorious London lunatic asylum.

Definitions: Study these carefully for the fine differences in meaning.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 7. awry | _____ | a. awkward; heavy |
| 8. tortuous | _____ | b. madness |
| 9. impromptu | _____ | c. off kilter |
| 10. unwieldy | _____ | d. full of twists and turns |
| 11. cacophony | _____ | e. spontaneous |
| 12. bedlam | _____ | f. unpleasant noise |

WEEK 44



DAY 3

Chaos

NEW WORDS

occult

ə - kult

absurd

əb - surd

apocryphal

ə - pok - rif - əl

hoodwink

hud - wink

jarring

jär - ing

peccadillo

pek - ə - dil - ə

Notable Roots:

occlu = cover, hide; pecado = sin

EVIDENCE OF ABSENCE

Believers in the *occult* need never fear disillusionment because of one simple principle: absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. In practical terms, it means that proving that something does not exist, no

matter how *absurd*, is next to impossible. *Apocryphal* sightings of the Loch Ness Monster will never stop *hoodwinking* the credulous unless we are willing to drain the 263 million cubic feet of water in the Scottish lake. Even that probably would not do it. However *jarring* it may seem in a scientific world, belief in the fantastic is a common *peccadillo*. Some people would just rather live in a world where monsters could exist.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Awakening from intubation is a _____ experience.
2. During the demonstration, the pickpocket _____ a dozen FBI trainees.
3. Abstract art uses _____ images to convey dreams, movement, or emotions.
4. Interest in the _____ arose concomitantly* with scientific advancement.
5. Criminals are sometimes tracked because of _____ like tearing up matchbooks.
6. _____ tales, like the legend of the *Flying Dutchman*, are part of sea lore.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 7. occult | _____ | a. illogical |
| 8. absurd | _____ | b. unnerving |
| 9. apocryphal | _____ | c. a minor fault |
| 10. hoodwink | _____ | d. the supernatural |
| 11. jarring | _____ | e. of doubtful origin |
| 12. peccadillo | _____ | f. to trick |

WEEK 44



DAY 4

Chaos

NEW WORDS

satire

sat - īr

occlude

ə - klūd

mordant

môr - dənt

inchoate

in - kō - āt

acerbic

ə - sēr - bik

welter

wel - tēr

Notable Roots:

occlu = cover, hide; acer = sharp

THE POWER OF LAUGHTER

Charlie Chaplin's "The Great Dictator" was a devastating *satire* that invited audiences to laugh at the ridiculousness of fascist dictators. The absurdity* of Hitler and Mussolini's theatrics had hitherto been *occluded* by the fear

they inspired. Chaplin's *mordant* wit, however, transformed them into clowns, in the process inspiring resistance to their tyranny.* In this way, humor often constitutes the earliest, *inchoate* phase of rebellion. The *acerbic* pens of Voltaire, Mencken, and Wilde were frontline weapons aimed at the pretensions of would-be strongmen. The shrill laugh, a defiant battle cry rising above the *welter* of shouts proclaiming "you may take our lives, but we will never take you seriously!"

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The _____ solar system had many protoplanets that were destroyed or ejected.
2. Ben's self-esteem was destroyed by years of his father's _____ comments.
3. *Calvin and Hobbes*'s _____ humor is best recognized by parents.
4. A fumble is always followed by a _____ of strong bodies grasping for a ball.
5. Compared with slapstick comedy, _____ is characterized by subtle wordplay.
6. Recent studies suggest that the star Betelgeuse was _____ by a gas cloud.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. satire | _____ | a. a mass of confusion |
| 8. occlude | _____ | b. barely formed |
| 9. mordant | _____ | c. a form of humor that ridicules |
| 10. inchoate | _____ | d. to hide or block |
| 11. acerbic | _____ | e. humorously critical |
| 12. welter | _____ | f. cutting |

WEEK 44



DAY 5

Chaos

GROUP REVIEW

The history, or derivation, of words is called *etymology*. This is a fascinating study, and it gives insight into the background of words, such as *canary* and thousands of others. Knowing the history of a word helps you remember it.

Matching

Directions: Match the words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. absurd
- _____ 2. acerbic
- _____ 3. apocryphal
- _____ 4. awry
- _____ 5. bedlam
- _____ 6. cacophony
- _____ 7. conundrum
- _____ 8. disarray
- _____ 9. hoodwink
- _____ 10. impromptu
- _____ 11. inchoate
- _____ 12. jarring
- _____ 13. mordant
- _____ 14. occlude

DEFINITIONS

- a. humorously critical
- b. to trick
- c. awkward; heavy
- d. barely formed
- e. unsteady; violent
- f. a minor fault
- g. to hide or block
- h. total chaos
- i. a form of humor that ridicules
- j. the supernatural
- k. cutting
- l. off kilter
- m. of doubtful origin
- n. spontaneous

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | 15. occult | o. dilemma |
| _____ | 16. pandemonium | p. full of uproar |
| _____ | 17. peccadillo | q. madness |
| _____ | 18. phenomenon | r. singular occurrence |
| _____ | 19. satire | s. ruin; disorder |
| _____ | 20. tortuous | t. a mass of confusion |
| _____ | 21. tumultuous | u. illogical |
| _____ | 22. turbulent | v. full of twists and turns |
| _____ | 23. unwieldy | w. unpleasant noise |
| _____ | 24. welter | x. unnerving |

Sensible Sentences?

Directions: Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The downpour was so (*consummate, copious*) that the canal flooded its banks.
2. For many, Leonardo is the (*gist, epitome*) of the Renaissance Man.
3. The team faced such (*gaunt, adverse*) conditions that the trip to the summit was postponed.
4. Regardless of their veracity, (*occult, satire*) topics can be fascinating.
5. Trade wars can occur when countries (*abound, saturate*) foreign markets with cheap goods.
6. Fine art can command prices (*inordinate, redolent*) to those of other luxuries.
7. The Tunguska incident is a (*peccadillo, phenomenon*) that has never been properly explained.
8. The (*salubrious, ruddy*) effects of desert air can help improve lung function.
9. The real Northwest Passage is a (*turbulent, tortuous*) journey through many ice-choked straits.
10. Napoleon was quick to (*discern, allude*) the strength of enemy forces.

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

1st Day

4th Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

Reprise for Wolves

One of the most difficult _____ to resolve has to do with the conflicting interests of environmentalists and profit-making businesses. Examples of this dilemma—and the resulting _____—seem to abound.* While a dispute about cutting down a forest to preserve owls was in the news, there appeared another _____ in Alaska. Hoping to increase the number of tourists who seek to hunt deer and caribou, the state ordered the killing of wolves that prey on those animals.

This resulted in a _____ struggle waged by letter and article condemning the _____ that would result from the anti-wolf policy. The environmentalists maintain that the natural balance should not be interfered with. The Alaskan tourist industry, which wants to attract hunters to increase state revenue, considers this position _____. After a _____ of protest, Alaska brought the plan to a _____ halt.

WEEK 45



DAY 1

Cooperation

NEW WORDS

tacit

ta - kit

material (adj.)

mə - tēr - ē - əl

subservient

süb - sér - vē - ənt

volition

və - lish - ən

condone

kən - dōn

galvanize

gal - və - nīz

Notable Roots:

tacit = silent; mat = matter; sub = under; serv = slave, servant; vol = want

COLLUSION WITH THE ENEMY

Cooperation is so vital to society that it persists even in the most competitive endeavors. Belligerent* armies during a siege *tacitly* agree not to attack during mealtimes since having one's own feast disturbed by

retaliation negates any *material* benefit from the original assault. Military necessity is, at times, *subservient* to the physical and spiritual needs of the soldiers. On Christmas Eve in 1914, units along the western front of World War I engaged in a ceasefire of their own *volition* in honor of the holiday. Commanders on both sides did not *condone* such fraternization and punished many responsible. However, the event is celebrated today as an example of the spirit of brotherhood that *galvanizes* all honorable warriors. It explains why veterans from opposite sides of a conflict are often able to become fast friends years later.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Moral decisions are those made by _____ and not under compulsion.
2. Martyrs have a way of _____ adherents to a cause more powerfully than rhetoric.
3. Monks of any faith regard _____ attachments as distractions from the spiritual.
4. Old partners, Scrooge and Marley could communicate by mere _____ looks.
5. No one knows if Montcalm _____ attacking the British who had surrendered.
6. Douglass notes that Mrs. Auld was initially uncomfortable with the _____ demeanor of her husband's servants.

Definitions: Match the new words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|---|
| 7. tacit | _____ | a. to allow; to offer unspoken approval |
| 8. material | _____ | b. unspoken |
| 9. subservient | _____ | c. actions of one's own will |
| 10. volition | _____ | d. obedient |
| 11. condone | _____ | e. to unify; to harden |
| 12. galvanize | _____ | f. of concrete value |

WEEK 45



DAY 2

Cooperation

NEW WORDS

rationalize

rash - ən - ə - līz

coterie

kō - tə - rē

advocate (v.)

ad - vō - kāt

aegis

ē - jis

vindicate

vin - də - kāt

vogue

vōg

Notable Roots:

ratio = calculation;

ad = to, for; voc = voice; vinc = conquer

THE CORPORATE POINT OF VIEW

The concept of the corporation is, at first, a hard one to *rationalize*. Some consider such entities to represent nothing more than *coteries* of magnates

who despoil all weaker competition. Those who *advocate* for corporations counter that, taken to an extreme, competition can be destructive to everyone. During the nineteenth century, John D. Rockefeller observed that when oil reservoirs are drained by too many competing wells, pressure is lost and more oil is left in the ground. He also saw that too much oil on the market leads to prices too low to justify its extraction. Rockefeller's solution was Standard Oil, a corporation that made partners of small drillers under the *aegis* of a single banner. Standard Oil's success *vindicated* Rockefeller's vision and, before long, corporations were in *vogue* throughout American business.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. For decades, a _____ of baseball owners kept wages low by barring free agency.
2. Robespierre _____ many executions as "necessary to preserve the Revolution."
3. Madison argued that the states are stronger under the _____ of one nation.
4. Fashions that are in _____ to one generation can appear ridiculous to posterity.
5. The right of conquest claims that victory at arms _____ the winner's position.
6. To maintain position, one should minimize _____ for ideas that have fallen into disfavor with the regime.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 7. rationalize | _____ | a. to uphold |
| 8. coterie | _____ | b. the latest fashion |
| 9. advocate | _____ | c. to justify what one desires |
| 10. aegis | _____ | d. an inner circle |
| 11. vindicate | _____ | e. to argue for a person or position |
| 12. vogue | _____ | f. a unifying banner or standard |

WEEK 45



DAY 3

Cooperation

NEW WORDS

concur

kən - kur

adamant

ad - ə - mənt

entourage

on - tər - oj

confidant

kon - fə - dont

ancillary

an - sə - ler - ē

paragon

par - ə - gon

Notable Roots:

con = together; cur = run; adaman = hard; fidel = faith

THE *CODEDUELLO*

Dueling is the defunct practice by which gentlemen settled disputes involving personal honor. The “code” of dueling demanded that the parties would first try to *concur* on a peaceful resolution. If both remained

adamant, however, they would agree on a time, place, and weapon with which to conduct an “interview.” Each combatant’s *entourage* of “seconds” would then settle the details. On the day of the contest, each duelist’s closest *confidant* would inspect the weapons and dueling ground before the fight commenced. Victory in such contests was an *ancillary* concern compared with upholding one’s reputation as a *paragon* of honor and courage. The objective was usually to draw first blood, but many lives were still claimed by such affairs.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The War of 1812 was an _____ contest of the Napoleonic Wars.
2. The position of *consiglieri* is held by the closest _____ of a mafioso.
3. To prevent accidents, two officers must _____ before a nuclear weapon is fired.
4. To the Ancient Greeks, Hercules was the _____ of strength.
5. Stars that avoid having an _____ tend to remain grounded and practical.
6. Despite his _____ disapproval of Stalin, Churchill hated Hitler more.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 7. concur | _____ | a. secondary; supplemental |
| 8. adamant | _____ | b. a trustworthy friend |
| 9. entourage | _____ | c. a perfect example |
| 10. confidant | _____ | d. to agree |
| 11. ancillary | _____ | e. a circle of followers |
| 12. paragon | _____ | f. set on a point of view |

WEEK 45



DAY 4

Cooperation

NEW WORDS

conducive

kən - dū - siv

corroborate

kə - rob - ər - āt

progeny

pro - jən - ē

ilk

ilk

substantiate

sub - stan - chē - āt

haven

hā - vin

Notable Roots:

duc = lead; robo = strengthen; gen = create; stan = stance

HONOR AMONG THIEVES

The Golden Age of Piracy began during the sixteenth century when the English and Dutch found it *conducive* to their interests to authorize privateers. The successes of buccaneers like Henry Morgan raiding the

Spanish certainly *corroborated* this view but it also set an awful precedent.* Sailors who enjoyed the wealth and freedom of privateering were loath* to live any other way when the wars ended. Thus, the unintended *progeny* of this system were men of a different *ilk* who fought under their own flags. They elected as captains their most able leaders. The result of this perverse* meritocracy was men like Blackbeard, who spent years *substantiating* reputations for cunning and ruthlessness. With towns like Nassau as *havens*, the pirates became a scourge to all transatlantic commerce.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Associating with the _____ of bootleggers and gangsters harms Gatsby's respectability.
2. Switzerland was a well-armed _____ during both world wars.
3. Multiple independent witnesses _____ the prosecutor's charges.
4. Parents in industrial societies have fewer _____ than in pre-industrial times.
5. The Zimmerman Telegram _____ Wilson's case that Germany had to be stopped.
6. Offering free alcohol has proven quite _____ to casino profits.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 7. conducive | _____ | a. to provide material* evidence |
| 8. corroborate | _____ | b. enabling |
| 9. progeny | _____ | c. to support another's testimony |
| 10. ilk | _____ | d. sanctuary |
| 11. substantiate | _____ | e. offspring |
| 12. haven | _____ | f. similar people |

WEEK 45



DAY 5

Cooperation

GROUP REVIEW

English is the first language with over one million words in its vocabulary. Erudite individuals make new words part of their vocabulary as quickly as they come into accepted use.

Matching

Directions: Match the words with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

- _____ 1. adamant
- _____ 2. advocate
- _____ 3. aegis
- _____ 4. ancillary
- _____ 5. concur
- _____ 6. condone
- _____ 7. conducive
- _____ 8. confidant
- _____ 9. corroborate
- _____ 10. coterie
- _____ 11. entourage
- _____ 12. galvanize
- _____ 13. haven
- _____ 14. ilk

DEFINITIONS

- a. to argue for a person or position
- b. to uphold
- c. to provide material* evidence
- d. of concrete value
- e. sanctuary
- f. unspoken
- g. a circle of followers
- h. a unifying banner or standard
- i. to agree
- j. actions of one's own will
- k. to allow; to offer unspoken approval
- l. to unify; to harden
- m. a trustworthy friend
- n. similar people

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| _____ | 15. material | o. obedient |
| _____ | 16. paragon | p. set on a point of view |
| _____ | 17. progeny | q. secondary; supplemental |
| _____ | 18. rationalize | r. the latest fashion |
| _____ | 19. subservient | s. enabling |
| _____ | 20. substantiate | t. to justify what one desires |
| _____ | 21. tacit | u. an inner circle |
| _____ | 22. vindicate | v. a perfect example |
| _____ | 23. vogue | w. to support another's testimony |
| _____ | 24. volition | x. offspring |

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

4th Day

3rd Day

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

4th Day

1st Day

4th Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

3rd Day

1st Day

2nd Day

Henry VIII and British History

The brevity of the existence of the United States is _____ to knowing its history well. Students in Great Britain would certainly _____, for their history goes back some 1,000 years! In that time, England has had rulers. Some were _____ of responsible stewardship. Other less virtuous examples of royal _____ have also held power. Perhaps the most fascinating is Henry VIII.

When his first wife could not bear him a son, he _____ his divorce by claiming their marriage to have been illegitimate. When the Pope refused to _____ this charge, Henry VIII renounced Catholicism. He founded the Church of England and filled his treasury by selling off Church property. This act _____ Protestants, who stood to lose their new lands if Catholicism ever returned. It also ensured over a century of religious strife.*

Henry then married Anne Boleyn, whom he later had executed on a charge of adultery that was never _____ . His third wife _____ herself in Henry's eyes by giving birth to a son, but she died in the process. He divorced a fourth wife, whom he never met. His fifth, Katherine Howard, was beheaded after evidence surfaced that she was having an affair with one of her _____. Only his sixth wife, who was more of a _____, was neither discarded nor executed. Although his contemporaries could only offer _____ condemnation of Henry's behavior, history has more vociferously _____ against him.

WEEK 46



DAY 1

Virtue

NEW WORDS

exemplar

eg - zemp - lär

charisma

kə - riz - mə

humility

hyū - mil - ə - tē

solace

sol - əs

poignant

poi - nyənt

deference

def - ər - əns

Notable Roots:

exem/exam = sample; humus = soil; sole = soothe

ANCIENT EMPIRES OF THE “NEW” WORLD

One of the anomalies* of our approach to history is the propensity* to look only to Europe for *exemplars* of great and *charismatic* societies. Despite living in the Western Hemisphere, Americans fall under the same spell. That

the Incan Empire began four millennia ago and lasted until the sixteenth century ought to instill some *humility* in European ethnocentrists. Although their empire is gone, descendants of the Incas can take *solace* in wonders that have survived. Cusco and Machu Picchu, Incan ruins poised high in the Andes, are *poignant* reminders that the inhabitants of this half of the world were just as capable as their Greco-Roman counterparts. Similarly, we owe *deference* to the Mayans, one of only a handful of civilizations on Earth to independently invent a system of writing.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. How many ideas have been lost because their thinkers lacked _____?
2. The most intense competitors take little _____ in moral victories.
3. In Greek tragedy, lack of _____ is a flaw of many figures punished by the gods.
4. Jon Snow considers his father to be an _____ of honesty.
5. Jefferson made it a point to show equal _____ to all foreign dignitaries.
6. *Dido's Lament* is the _____ valedictory speech of a spurned queen.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------|
| 7. exemplar | _____ | a. comfort |
| 8. charisma | _____ | b. respect |
| 9. humility | _____ | c. moving |
| 10. solace | _____ | d. perfect specimen |
| 11. poignant | _____ | e. charm |
| 12. deference | _____ | f. meekness |

WEEK 46



DAY 2

Virtue

NEW WORDS

demagogue

dem - ə - gog

affable

af - ə - bəl

virtuosity

vér - chū - os - ə - tē

congenial

kən - jēn - ē - əl

rectitude

rek - tə - tūd

philanthropist

fil - an - thrō - pist

Notable Roots:

deme = people; gen = create, nature; rect = upright; phil = love; anthro = people

A BATTLE FOR POWER

It's often been said that the projection of strength is the most important attribute of a wartime leader. Certainly, many a *demagogue* has cultivated

an image of machismo by strutting in uniform. However, during its three worst wars, the United States was led by a lawyer, a college professor, and an *affable* socialite in a wheelchair. All three had a *virtuosity* as war leaders that was not readily apparent. Abraham Lincoln was by all accounts physically strong—he could hold an axe at arm’s length for one minute—but was by nature a *congenial*, yarn-spinning country lawyer. Woodrow Wilson, the first PhD elected president, had a sense of personal *rectitude* one might expect from a preacher. FDR, after losing the use of his legs to polio, gained strength as a *philanthropist* running a hot springs resort for fellow sufferers. All three possessed a strength of purpose that served them better than the martial fortitude of generals and knights.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Edmond Dantes was _____ company for the Abbé Faria.
2. Many great museums were endowed by nineteenth century _____.
3. Greatness is not always accompanied by personal _____.
4. A _____ arouses the passions of the masses for selfish ends.
5. No other element can match the _____ of carbon in forming compounds.
6. Long John Silver proves a more _____ leader than Captain Flint.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--|
| 7. demagogue | _____ | a. like-minded |
| 8. affable | _____ | b. a leader who appeals to people’s emotions |
| 9. virtuosity | _____ | c. pleasant and friendly |
| 10. congenial | _____ | d. benefactor |
| 11. rectitude | _____ | e. versatility |
| 12. philanthropist | _____ | f. righteousness |

WEEK 46



DAY 3

Virtue

NEW WORDS

impeccable

im - pek - ə - bəl

amiable

ā - mē - ə - bəl

frugal

frū - gəl

conciliatory

kən - sil - ē - ə - tōr - ē

congregate

kon - grə - gāt

altruistic

al - trū - is - tik

Notable Roots:

pecca = flaw; ami = friend; concil = counsel, soothe; greg = social; alt = other

SUPERMAN

In 1943, Ayn Rand published a novel noteworthy for the unconventionality of its hero. Howard Roark, the protagonist of *The Fountainhead*, is an

architect with *impeccable* manners, but who makes no effort to be *amiable*. He lives *frugally* because he has no desire to impress. Devoted to his inner vision, he constructs buildings that flaunt their modernity, with no *conciliatory* nods to the neoclassical designs then in vogue.* In time, independent-minded individuals come to love his buildings and *congregate* around him because of his devotion to excellence. In the end, he designs a housing project—not to be *altruistic*, but because he enjoys solving its technical challenges. When his design is changed without his permission, he destroys the building and successfully defends his right to do so in court, arguing that creators offer their best efforts on their own terms and expect the same in exchange from others.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. The Trojans thought the wooden horse on their beach to be a _____ gesture.
2. A rare few are so _____ that they give their lives to helping the downtrodden.
3. Children during the Great Depression grew up to be naturally _____ adults.
4. The forgery was so _____ that it went unnoticed by experts for years.
5. People _____ around televisions on the afternoon that JFK was assassinated.
6. A teacher cannot be so _____ that she passes students who haven't earned it.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 7. impeccable | _____ | a. careful with money |
| 8. amiable | _____ | b. to gather together |
| 9. frugal | _____ | c. concerned about others |
| 10. conciliatory | _____ | d. likeable |
| 11. congregate | _____ | e. without mistakes |
| 12. altruistic | _____ | f. offering peace |

WEEK 46



DAY 4

Virtue

NEW WORDS

amicable

am - ik - ə - bəl

cordial

kôr - jəl

equanimity

ek - wə - nim - ə - tē

gregarious

grə - gar - ē - əs

convivial

kən - viv - ē - əl

benevolent

bə - nev - əl - lənt

Notable Roots:

ami = friend; equa = equal; greg = social;
viv = life; bene = good; vol = desire

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING NICE

It used to be a maxim of polite society that it never hurts to be *amicable*. When Aaron Burr met Alexander Hamilton on the dueling ground of

Weehawken, the too old rivals were unfailingly *cordial* to the very end. In fact, just before shooting him, Burr allowed Hamilton to retrieve his glasses! The moral, if there is one, is that people can show *equanimity* toward everyone—even enemies. Humans are naturally *gregarious* creatures. Studies have shown that it is actually stressful to not return a smile or greeting. Giving in to the *convivial* spirit can improve one's mood and may lead to a *benevolent* disposition simply by habit.

Sample Sentences: Insert the new words in these sentences.

1. Jesse Owens's _____ endeared him to his fellow Olympians from all nations.
2. Bill Clinton and George Bush, naturally _____ men, became friends after office.
3. Such a _____ invitation is hard to refuse.
4. Bipartisanship relies on an _____, if not friendly, atmosphere in Congress.
5. Prince Hans's _____ personality soon evaporated, revealing his selfishness.
6. The _____ feeling between families allowed friendships to form among in-laws.

Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 7. amicable | _____ | a. outgoing |
| 8. cordial | _____ | b. kind; generous |
| 9. equanimity | _____ | c. not outwardly hostile |
| 10. gregarious | _____ | d. evenness of temper |
| 11. convivial | _____ | e. gracious; polite |
| 12. benevolent | _____ | f. friendly; jovial |

WEEK 46



DAY 5

Virtue

GROUP REVIEW

This is your *last* week. At this point, you have worked with over 1100 of the most useful words in our language. The final review test will give you some idea of how well you have mastered them. From time to time, you should reread sections of this book to refresh your memory. Remember, keep learning new words at every opportunity!

Matching

Directions: Match the words you learned this week with their meanings.

REVIEW WORDS

1. affable
2. altruistic
3. amiable
4. amicable
5. benevolent
6. charisma
7. conciliatory
8. congenial
9. congregate
10. convivial
11. cordial
12. deference
13. demagogue

DEFINITIONS

- a. gracious; polite
- b. offering peace
- c. benefactor
- d. friendly; jovial
- e. moving
- f. versatility
- g. a leader who appeals to people's emotions
- h. careful with money
- i. charm
- j. to gather together
- k. comfort
- l. meekness
- m. respect

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ | 14. equanimity | n. outgoing |
| _____ | 15. exemplar | o. righteousness |
| _____ | 16. frugal | p. concerned about others |
| _____ | 17. gregarious | q. without mistakes |
| _____ | 18. humility | r. kind; generous |
| _____ | 19. impeccable | s. not outwardly hostile |
| _____ | 20. philanthropist | t. evenness of temper |
| _____ | 21. poignant | u. perfect specimen |
| _____ | 22. rectitude | v. likeable |
| _____ | 23. solace | w. like-minded |
| _____ | 24. virtuosity | x. pleasant and friendly |

Which Word Comes to Mind?

Directions: Write the letter of the vocabulary word in the space adjacent to the headline or sentence that brings it to mind.

- a. charisma
- b. condone
- c. subservient
- d. rationalize
- e. gregarious
- f. humility
- g. confidant
- h. frugal
- i. amicable
- j. benevolent
- k. progeny
- l. amiable
- m. conducive
- n. substantiate
- o. exemplar
- p. corroborate

- _____ 1. Mayor Says Nothing in Wake of Attack
- _____ 2. Best in Show
- _____ 3. “Remember, thou are mortal.”
- _____ 4. Rabbits are good at multiplication.
- _____ 5. The Velvet Divorce: The Peaceful Breakup of Czechoslovakia
- _____ 6. How to Save on Your Electric Bill
- _____ 7. Madison: Jefferson’s Closest Adviser
- _____ 8. Eclipse Observations Confirm Einstein’s Theory
- _____ 9. Blanche relies on “the kindness of strangers.”
- _____ 10. He’s a hard man not to like.

Wordsearch

Directions: Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

Clues

1st Day

2nd Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

1st Day

3rd Day

4th Day

2nd Day

2nd Day

4th Day

3rd Day

Words, Words, Words

Your vocabulary is now 1100 words larger. If you've sojourned this far, take pride in being an _____ of fortitude. Hopefully you've shown _____ in using these words in your speech and writing. Perhaps you've noticed how an apt* turn of phrase can enhance your personal _____.

A person with _____ will recall that no one knows every word. Moreover, it's important to show _____ to their power. Used judiciously, words make for _____ expressions of sentiment. Words of _____ can comfort those suffering from loss. _____ words can heal rifts* between former friends. _____ words can make those we love feel treasured.

Beware, however: an _____ person is not one who flaunts ostentatious* erudition in order to show superiority. In the mouth of a _____, words can be weapons that destroy the

_____ spirit that allows society to flourish. So just remember, when you _____ with others, choose your words carefully!

Appendix

Answer Key

Index

ANSWER KEY

Week 1, Day 1

1. probity
2. acuity
3. prudence
4. astute
5. proffered
6. surmised
7. e
8. a
9. f
10. b
11. c
12. d

Week 1, Day 2

1. concocted
2. apprised
3. cognizant
4. pedantic
5. circumspect
6. peruse
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. e
11. a
12. c

Week 1, Day 3

1. incisive
2. politic
3. ruminate
4. cogent
5. introspective
6. canny
7. e
8. c
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. d

Week 1, Day 4

1. trenchant
2. pensive
3. pedagogue
4. pragmatic
5. perspicacious
6. stipulated
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. c
11. a
12. b

Week 1, Day 5

Matching

1. t
2. u
3. r

4. e
5. l
6. h
7. a
8. w
9. k
10. x
11. j
12. n
13. d
14. g
15. s
16. q
17. b
18. f
19. v
20. p
21. c
22. o
23. i
24. m

Exploring Roots

1. h
2. g
3. e
4. f
5. d
6. a
7. b
8. c

Wordsearch

1. canny
2. concocted
3. astute
4. stipulated
5. probity

Week 2, Day 1

1. infamous
2. dilatory
3. impish
4. unsavory
5. iniquities
6. egotist
7. b
8. f
9. d
10. e
11. a
12. c

Week 2, Day 2

1. slovenly
2. brigands
3. miscreants
4. scurrilous
5. asinine
6. untoward
7. d
8. f
9. a
10. e
11. c
12. b

Week 2, Day 3

1. dilettante
2. obsequious
3. callow
4. sinister
5. pathological
6. megalomania
7. d
8. f
9. a
10. e
11. b
12. c

Week 2, Day 4

1. bias
2. servile
3. callous
4. sordid
5. nefarious
6. lurid
7. d
8. a
9. f
10. b
11. c
12. e

Week 2, Day 5

Matching

1. g

- 2. o
- 3. e
- 4. i
- 5. x
- 6. q
- 7. k
- 8. w
- 9. p
- 10. l
- 11. t
- 12. a
- 13. b
- 14. d
- 15. r
- 16. n
- 17. v
- 18. h
- 19. c
- 20. m
- 21. f
- 22. u
- 23. s
- 24. j

Exploring Roots

- 1. f
- 2. h
- 3. a
- 4. g
- 5. c
- 6. d
- 7. b
- 8. e

Wordsearch

1. pathological
2. slovenly
3. callous
4. obsequious
5. asinine

Week 3, Day 1

1. feasible
2. zenith
3. prestigious
4. sally
5. prolific
6. acclaim
7. e
8. f
9. b
10. a
11. d
12. c

Week 3, Day 2

1. pinnacle
2. ebullient
3. acme
4. prodigy
5. fortuitous
6. plaudits
7. e
8. f
9. b
10. d

- 11. a
- 12. c

Week 3, Day 3

- 1. viable
- 2. nirvana
- 3. anointed
- 4. ascend
- 5. sanguine
- 6. efficacy
- 7. b
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. f
- 11. d
- 12. c

Week 3, Day 4

- 1. burgeoning
- 2. felicitous
- 3. laudable
- 4. halcyon
- 5. propitious
- 6. auspicious
- 7. f
- 8. a
- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. c
- 12. d

Week 3, Day 5

Matching

1. u
2. t
3. i
4. a
5. e
6. s
7. q
8. n
9. j
10. b
11. p
12. h
13. l
14. v
15. x
16. w
17. g
18. f
19. o
20. d
21. r
22. m
23. k
24. c

Wordsearch

1. acclaim
2. zenith
3. viable
4. fortuitous
5. sanguine

Synonym Shout-Out

1. l
2. o
3. g
4. i
5. b, e, p
6. s
7. h, n
8. f, k, m, q
9. d
10. a
11. t
12. c, j, r

Week 4, Day 1

1. ominous
2. debacle
3. harbinger
4. carnage
5. incapacitated
6. succumb
7. d
8. a
9. f
10. b
11. c
12. e

Week 4, Day 2

1. forestalled
2. moribund
3. balked

4. nadir
5. ramifications
6. abortive
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. a
11. c
12. e

Week 4, Day 3

1. repulse
2. catastrophic
3. besieged
4. fiasco
5. fruitless
6. capitulate
7. c
8. f
9. a
10. e
11. d
12. b

Week 4, Day 4

1. thwarted/stymied
2. plight
3. quandary
4. falter
5. impasse
6. stymie/thwart
7. d
8. a

- 9. e
- 10. f
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 4, Day 5

Matching

- 1. u
- 2. o
- 3. x
- 4. v
- 5. t
- 6. l
- 7. h
- 8. k
- 9. s
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. w
- 13. r
- 14. d
- 15. i
- 16. f
- 17. j
- 18. n
- 19. c
- 20. m
- 21. e
- 22. p
- 23. q
- 24. g

Sensible Sentences?

1. incapacitated
2. harbinger
3. plight
4. fruitless
5. moribund
6. nadir
7. fiasco
8. thwarted
9. abortive
10. faltered

Antonyms Attract

1. b, h
2. k, o
3. e
4. a
5. g, j
6. c
7. d, l
8. n
9. f, q, s
10. m
11. i, p
12. r

Wordsearch

1. impasse
2. plight
3. debacle
4. carnage
5. balk

Week 5, Day 1

1. subterfuge
2. absconded
3. dupe
4. chicanery
5. duplicity
6. perfidious
7. c
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 5, Day 2

1. cabal
2. duress
3. fabricate
4. mendacious
5. foisted
6. charlatan
7. e
8. d
9. f
10. c
11. a
12. b

Week 5, Day 3

1. guile
2. prevarication
3. usurped
4. fulsome
5. artifice

6. fawning
7. c
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 5, Day 4

1. repress
2. canard
3. factitious
4. feinting
5. fallacious
6. guise
7. d
8. e
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. c

Week 5, Day 5

Matching

1. g
2. v
3. e
4. x
5. w
6. s
7. n
8. u

- 9. l
- 10. q
- 11. o
- 12. f
- 13. a
- 14. p
- 15. t
- 16. r
- 17. m
- 18. i
- 19. d
- 20. h
- 21. b
- 22. c
- 23. k
- 24. j

Wordsearch

- 1. canards
- 2. guile
- 3. artifice
- 4. duress
- 5. repress

Exploring Roots

- 1. d
- 2. g
- 3. a
- 4. h
- 5. b
- 6. c
- 7. e
- 8. f

Week 6, Day 1

1. lucrative
2. underwrite
3. mercenary
4. glut
5. pecuniary
6. surfeit
7. c
8. d
9. e
10. a
11. f
12. b

Week 6, Day 2

1. largess
2. compensation
3. hoards
4. affluent
5. copious
6. avarice
7. e
8. d
9. b
10. a
11. f
12. c

Week 6, Day 3

1. sinecures
2. fiscal
3. sumptuous

4. voracious
5. remuneration
6. covet
7. b
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. c
12. d

Week 6, Day 4

1. palatial
2. cupidity
3. rapacious
4. bountiful
5. opulence
6. munificent
7. c
8. e
9. f
10. b
11. a
12. d

Week 6, Day 5

Matching

1. p
2. g
3. b
4. c
5. h
6. o

- 7. w
- 8. u
- 9. q
- 10. t
- 11. m
- 12. i
- 13. e
- 14. n
- 15. j
- 16. s
- 17. v
- 18. x
- 19. a
- 20. l
- 21. d
- 22. r
- 23. k
- 24. f

Wordsearch

- 1. surfeit
- 2. lucrative
- 3. pecuniary
- 4. fiscal
- 5. opulence

Sensible Sentences?

- 1. hoards
- 2. sinecure
- 3. mercenary
- 4. rapacious
- 5. largess
- 6. underwrite

7. sumptuous
8. affluent
9. opulence
10. fiscal

Week 7, Day 1

1. futile
2. liquidation
3. bereft
4. destitution
5. insolvent
6. pittance
7. e
8. f
9. b
10. d
11. c
12. a

Week 7, Day 2

1. barren
2. alms
3. meager
4. dearth
5. supplicant
6. penniless
7. d
8. e
9. b
10. f
11. c
12. a

Week 7, Day 3

1. pauper
2. privation
3. scanty
4. indigent
5. piteous
6. penury
7. d
8. a
9. e
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 7, Day 4

1. miserly
2. paucity
3. mendicant
4. extortion
5. abjection
6. parsimonious
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. c
11. a
12. b

Week 7, Day 5

Matching

1. m

- 2. p
- 3. a
- 4. f
- 5. t
- 6. b
- 7. u
- 8. w
- 9. g
- 10. k
- 11. s
- 12. c
- 13. h
- 14. e
- 15. o
- 16. r
- 17. l
- 18. v
- 19. i
- 20. j
- 21. q
- 22. x
- 23. d
- 24. n

Wordsearch

- 1. penury
- 2. privation
- 3. destitution
- 4. supplicants
- 5. miserly

Synonym Shout-Out

- 1. j

2. g
3. f
4. h
5. b
6. d
7. i
8. e
9. a
10. c

Week 8, Day 1

1. impetuous
2. incipient
3. neophyte
4. fledgling
5. nascent
6. indolence
7. c
8. f
9. d
10. e
11. b
12. a

Week 8, Day 2

1. dabbler
2. juvenile
3. ingenuous
4. utopian
5. artless
6. quixotic
7. d
8. e

- 9. f
- 10. a
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 8, Day 3

- 1. scion
- 2. puerile
- 3. dilatory
- 4. jejune
- 5. imprudent
- 6. fatuous
- 7. d
- 8. f
- 9. b
- 10. a
- 11. c
- 12. e

Week 8, Day 4

- 1. mawkish
- 2. maudlin
- 3. sophomoric
- 4. infantile
- 5. pretentious
- 6. tyros
- 7. f
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. c
- 11. d
- 12. b

Week 8, Day 5

Matching

1. v
2. a
3. x
4. e
5. q
6. p
7. w
8. t
9. n
10. g
11. c
12. i
13. b
14. o
15. r
16. f
17. h
18. j
19. s
20. m
21. k
22. d
23. u
24. l

Sensible Sentences?

1. mawkish
2. quixotic
3. fledgling
4. incipient

5. indolent
6. scion
7. artless
8. utopian
9. impetuous
10. sophomoric
11. jejune

Parts of Speech

1. g
2. f
3. l
4. a
5. e
6. d
7. m
8. h
9. c
10. o
11. j
12. b
13. n
14. k

Wordsearch

1. dilatory
2. nascent
3. indolent
4. imprudent
5. dabblers

Week 9, Day 1

1. inveterate

2. eminent
3. perennial
4. inured
5. curmudgeon
6. seasoned
7. b
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. d
12. c

Week 9, Day 2

1. urbane
2. enfeebled
3. erudite
4. revere
5. sage
6. prosaic
7. d
8. e
9. b
10. f
11. a
12. c

Week 9, Day 3

1. decrepit
2. unaffected
3. trite
4. patriarch
5. archaic
6. venerable

- 7. c
- 8. f
- 9. a
- 10. e
- 11. b
- 12. d

Week 9, Day 4

- 1. recondite
- 2. stagnant
- 3. doddering
- 4. passé
- 5. pedestrian
- 6. immutable
- 7. f
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. c
- 11. d
- 12. b

Week 9, Day 5

Matching

- 1. d
- 2. k
- 3. m
- 4. i
- 5. s
- 6. u
- 7. o
- 8. j
- 9. w

10. q
11. g
12. c
13. t
14. f
15. r
16. v
17. n
18. e
19. p
20. l
21. h
22. a
23. b
24. x

Wordsearch

1. pedestrian
2. injured
3. perennial
4. doddering
5. enfeebled

Sensible Sentences?

1. patriarch
2. seasoned
3. erudite
4. immutable
5. perennial
6. urbane
7. trite
8. venerable
9. archaic

10. enfeebled

Week 10, Day 1

1. recoils
2. repugnant
3. grotesque
4. heinous
5. insidious
6. pernicious
7. b
8. f
9. e
10. d
11. a
12. c

Week 10, Day 2

1. abhorrent
2. malevolent
3. mortified
4. appalled
5. trepidation
6. aversion
7. d
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 10, Day 3

1. unctuous

2. anathema
3. acrimonious
4. antipathy
5. repulsed
6. odious
7. d
8. f
9. a
10. e
11. c
12. b

Week 10, Day 4

1. loath
2. internecine
3. noisome
4. antithesis
5. loathed
6. reviled
7. c
8. e
9. d
10. a
11. f
12. b

Week 10, Day 5

Matching

1. a
2. d
3. l
4. k

- 5. b
- 6. t
- 7. c
- 8. o
- 9. s
- 10. m
- 11. h
- 12. p
- 13. j
- 14. i
- 15. w
- 16. e
- 17. r
- 18. q
- 19. u
- 20. v
- 21. g
- 22. n
- 23. f
- 24. x

Wordsearch

- 1. appalled
- 2. recoil
- 3. trepidation
- 4. aversion
- 5. antithesis

First and 10

- 1. b, i
- 2. f, m
- 3. g, o
- 4. e, t

5. d, s
6. j, q
7. p, r
8. c, k
9. a, l
10. h, n

Week 11, Day 1

1. hyperbole
2. adorned
3. vivid
4. entralling
5. embellish
6. florid
7. d
8. e
9. b
10. f
11. c
12. a

Week 11, Day 2

1. excruciating
2. panoply
3. archetype
4. pall
5. histrionic
6. deliverance
7. f
8. d
9. a
10. b
11. c

12. e

Week 11, Day 3

1. entrancing
2. flamboyant
3. climactic
4. grandiloquent
5. pageantry
6. rhetoric
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. c
11. b
12. a

Week 11, Day 4

1. rousing
2. salient
3. resolution
4. extenuating
5. sanctimonious
6. denouement
7. f
8. d
9. c
10. a
11. e
12. b

Week 11, Day 5

Matching

1. k
2. h
3. w
4. v
5. u
6. t
7. o
8. m
9. e
10. b
11. s
12. i
13. g
14. x
15. a
16. q
17. p
18. r
19. c
20. d
21. j
22. f
23. l
24. n

Wordsearch

1. florid
2. sanctimonious
3. hyperbole
4. grandiloquent
5. entrancing

Sensible Sentences?

1. panoply
2. excruciating
3. vivid
4. salient
5. deliverance
6. histrionic
7. flamboyant
8. denouement
9. adorned
10. archetype

Exploring Roots

1. e
2. g
3. h
4. a
5. b
6. c
7. d
8. f

Week 12, Day 1

1. savvy
2. apt
3. versatile
4. chimerical
5. aptitude
6. utilitarian
7. e
8. d
9. c
10. f
11. b

12. a

Week 12, Day 2

1. agile
2. adept
3. obliging
4. impresario
5. acumen
6. proficient
7. e
8. d
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 12, Day 3

1. dexterity
2. lithe
3. aficionado
4. emulate
5. apposite
6. precocious
7. b
8. d
9. a
10. e
11. f
12. c

Week 12, Day 4

1. aplomb

2. adroit
3. connoisseur
4. protean
5. mavericks
6. arbiter
7. c
8. e
9. d
10. b
11. f
12. a

Week 12, Day 5

Matching

1. q
2. n
3. o
4. x
5. l
6. p
7. i
8. s
9. u
10. c
11. h
12. f
13. g
14. k
15. d
16. v
17. a
18. t
19. b

- [20.](#) m
- [21.](#) r
- [22.](#) j
- [23.](#) w
- [24.](#) e

Sensible Sentences?

- [1.](#) precocious
- [2.](#) lithe
- [3.](#) maverick
- [4.](#) chimerical
- [5.](#) prestigious
- [6.](#) aplomb
- [7.](#) protean
- [8.](#) agile
- [9.](#) arbiter
- [10.](#) apt
- [11.](#) dexterity

Wordsearch

- [1.](#) proficiency
- [2.](#) adroit
- [3.](#) lithe
- [4.](#) precocious
- [5.](#) savvy
- [6.](#) acumen
- [7.](#) maverick
- [8.](#) chimerical

Week 13, Day 1

- [1.](#) precludes
- [2.](#) reactionary
- [3.](#) forthwith

4. inciting
5. tantamount
6. induce
7. c
8. e
9. f
10. b
11. a
12. d

Week 13, Day 2

1. culmination
2. premise
3. eventuates
4. catalyst
5. precursor
6. perpetuating
7. e
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. d
12. c

Week 13, Day 3

1. contingencies
2. inadvertently
3. fomenting
4. engendered
5. consummation
6. analogous
7. f
8. d

- 9. e
- 10. a
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 13, Day 4

- 1. extrapolating
- 2. substrate
- 3. obviated
- 4. precipitated
- 5. antecedent
- 6. promulgated
- 7. e
- 8. d
- 9. f
- 10. c
- 11. a
- 12. b

Week 13, Day 5

Matching

- 1. r
- 2. q
- 3. j
- 4. l
- 5. x
- 6. i
- 7. g
- 8. a
- 9. v
- 10. n
- 11. h

- 12. c
- 13. m
- 14. s
- 15. d
- 16. t
- 17. b
- 18. k
- 19. f
- 20. w
- 21. o
- 22. p
- 23. e
- 24. u

Wordsearch

- 1. induced
- 2. precipitates
- 3. precursor
- 4. incited
- 5. reactionary

Exploring Roots

- 1. d
- 2. f
- 3. h
- 4. e
- 5. c
- 6. a
- 7. b
- 8. g

Week 14, Day 1

- 1. intransigence

2. imperious
3. indomitable
4. affront
5. intrepid
6. poise
7. d
8. c
9. f
10. b
11. a
12. e

Week 14, Day 2

1. effrontery
2. stalwart
3. formidable
4. brazen
5. temerity
6. undaunted
7. c
8. f
9. a
10. e
11. b
12. d

Weeks 14, Day 3

1. stolid
2. recalcitrant
3. braggadocio
4. brash
5. audacity
6. obdurate

- 7. d
- 8. a
- 9. e
- 10. c
- 11. f
- 12. b

Week 14, Day 4

- 1. gravitas
- 2. pluck
- 3. stentorian
- 4. bravado
- 5. intractable
- 6. haughty
- 7. f
- 8. c
- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. d

Week 14, Day 5

Matching

- 1. r
- 2. i
- 3. m
- 4. w
- 5. p
- 6. f
- 7. j
- 8. v
- 9. l

10. b
11. h
12. k
13. o
14. s
15. g
16. c
17. e
18. x
19. a
20. u
21. d
22. t
23. q
24. n

Wordsearch

1. affront
2. brazen
3. poise
4. effrontery
5. stalwart

Too Much of a Good Thing?

1. pluck
2. tyro
3. glut
4. patriarch
5. intrepid
6. fomented
7. grandiloquent
8. circumspect
9. guile

10. dilettante

Week 15, Day 1

1. accomplices
2. egregious
3. alleged
4. unconscionable
5. culpable
6. perpetrator
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. e
11. c
12. a

Week 15, Day 2

1. infraction
2. rampant
3. jeopardize
4. abrogated
5. expurgated
6. blatant
7. e
8. a
9. d
10. b
11. f
12. c

Week 15, Day 3

1. reprimanded

2. heresy
3. tainted
4. admonished
5. empirical
6. indicted
7. f
8. a
9. e
10. b
11. c
12. d

Week 15, Day 4

1. nepotism
2. redress
3. flagrant
4. castigated
5. culprit
6. unrepentant
7. c
8. e
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. d

Week 15, Day 5

1. e
2. r
3. a
4. m
5. c
6. j

- [7. q](#)
- [8. p](#)
- [9. x](#)
- [10. t](#)
- [11. u](#)
- [12. n](#)
- [13. v](#)
- [14. d](#)
- [15. i](#)
- [16. o](#)
- [17. g](#)
- [18. w](#)
- [19. k](#)
- [20. b](#)
- [21. s](#)
- [22. h](#)
- [23. f](#)
- [24. l](#)

Wordsearch

- [1. blatantly](#)
- [2. castigated](#)
- [3. abrogate](#)
- [4. flagrant](#)
- [5. reprimand](#)
- [6. redress](#)
- [7. culpable](#)
- [8. egregious](#)

Week 16, Day 1

- [1. persevere](#)
- [2. resourceful](#)
- [3. industrious](#)

4. automatons
5. vigilant
6. punctilious
7. b
8. d
9. f
10. c
11. a
12. e

Week 16, Day 2

1. unstinting
2. thrifty
3. prompt
4. meticulous
5. unflagging
6. attentive
7. e
8. a
9. d
10. f
11. c
12. b

Week 16, Day 3

1. foraged
2. scrupulous
3. arduous
4. assiduously
5. chary
6. indefatigable
7. d
8. e

- 9. f
- 10. c
- 11. a
- 12. b

Week 16, Day 4

- 1. solicit
- 2. resolved
- 3. aspiring
- 4. tenacious
- 5. fastidious
- 6. laborious
- 7. c
- 8. e
- 9. d
- 10. b
- 11. f
- 12. a

Week 16, Day 5

Matching

- 1. k
- 2. l
- 3. d
- 4. q
- 5. x
- 6. b
- 7. w
- 8. s
- 9. j
- 10. u
- 11. o

- 12. p
- 13. a
- 14. m
- 15. e
- 16. c
- 17. h
- 18. f
- 19. r
- 20. n
- 21. v
- 22. i
- 23. t
- 24. g

Wordsearch

- 1. thrifty
- 2. fastidious
- 3. aspiring
- 4. scrupulous
- 5. persevered

Exploring Roots

- 1. d
- 2. g
- 3. h
- 4. a
- 5. c
- 6. b
- 7. e
- 8. f

Week 17, Day 1

- 1. credentials

2. accommodate
3. alleviate
4. cajole
5. ingratiate
6. ameliorate
7. f
8. d
9. a
10. e
11. b
12. c

Week 17, Day 2

1. assuaged
2. propitiate
3. inconsolable
4. allay
5. entreaties
6. wheedling
7. c
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. d
12. b

Week 17, Day 3

1. blandishments
2. quell
3. condolences
4. petitioner
5. importuned
6. placated

- 7. c
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. b
- 11. f
- 12. d

Week 17, Day 4

- 1. implored
- 2. mollify
- 3. deflect
- 4. coerced
- 5. insatiable
- 6. pacify
- 7. d
- 8. a
- 9. f
- 10. e
- 11. b
- 12. c

Week 17, Day 5

Matching

- 1. e
- 2. p
- 3. d
- 4. l
- 5. x
- 6. b
- 7. h
- 8. v
- 9. r

10. c
11. q
12. m
13. f
14. u
15. a
16. g
17. n
18. w
19. j
20. t
21. i
22. k
23. s
24. o

Wordsearch

1. accommodated
2. petitioner
3. entreaties
4. deflected
5. wheedling

Sensible Sentences?

1. placated
2. cajoled
3. credentials
4. alleviate
5. ingratiated
6. allay
7. implores
8. propitiated
9. accommodated

10. inconsolable

Week 18, Day 1

1. gesticulated
2. demonstrative
3. lexicon
4. hail
5. evoked
6. impart
7. c
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 18, Day 2

1. evinced
2. vivacious
3. emotive
4. veneer
5. grimace
6. countenance
7. d
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. b
12. c

Week 18, Day 3

1. winced

2. innate
3. mien
4. tableau
5. diminutive
6. avid
7. c
8. d
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. e

Week 18, Day 4

1. facades
2. chagrin
3. penchant
4. demeanor
5. physiognomy
6. nondescript
7. b
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. d
12. c

Week 18, Day 5

Matching

1. p
2. l
3. g
4. u

5. a
6. x
7. m
8. q
9. c
10. d
11. o
12. e
13. n
14. j
15. b
16. w
17. f
18. h
19. v
20. t
21. k
22. i
23. r
24. s

Wordsearch

1. wince
2. vivacious
3. nondescript
4. countenance
5. mien
6. tableau
7. emotive
8. innately
9. physiognomy
10. demeanor

Week 19, Day 1

1. tyranny
2. legion
3. coups
4. infallible
5. despot
6. omnipotent
7. c
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 19, Day 2

1. officious
2. disinterested
3. august
4. abjure
5. prerogative
6. paramount
7. d
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 19, Day 3

1. impregnable
2. potentates
3. subjugated
4. miscarried
5. puissant

6. abstruse
7. e
8. d
9. a
10. f
11. c
12. b

Week 19, Day 4

1. imperative
2. abdicated
3. regal
4. effigies
5. peremptory
6. foiled
7. c
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. d

Week 19, Day 5

Matching

1. v
2. j
3. o
4. m
5. h
6. g
7. c
8. q

9. w
10. n
11. r
12. f
13. p
14. k
15. a
16. d
17. l
18. e
19. x
20. t
21. u
22. s
23. i
24. b

Wordsearch

1. abdicate
2. regal
3. impregnable
4. tyranny
5. legion
6. prerogatives
7. august
8. paramount
9. subjugated
10. potentate

Week 20, Day 1

1. defamatory
2. polemics
3. denigrated

4. stigmatized
5. opprobrium
6. vilified
7. d
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. c
12. e

Week 20, Day 2

1. condescend
2. calumny
3. besmirched
4. umbrage
5. derided
6. excoriated
7. e
8. f
9. b
10. a
11. c
12. d

Week 20, Day 3

1. scoffed
2. retort
3. risible
4. disdain
5. belittle
6. quipped
7. c
8. f

- 9. d
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. e

Week 20, Day 4

- 1. deprecate
- 2. contemptuous
- 3. caustic
- 4. repudiated
- 5. repulsive
- 6. disparaged
- 7. f
- 8. a
- 9. d
- 10. b
- 11. e
- 12. c

Week 20, Day 5

Matching

- 1. e
- 2. g
- 3. p
- 4. n
- 5. s
- 6. v
- 7. a
- 8. c
- 9. t
- 10. x
- 11. r

- 12.** o
- 13.** h
- 14.** i
- 15.** w
- 16.** u
- 17.** m
- 18.** k
- 19.** j
- 20.** l
- 21.** b
- 22.** d
- 23.** q
- 24.** f

Hapless Headlines

- 1.** k
- 2.** w
- 3.** s
- 4.** m, q, x
- 5.** u
- 6.** c
- 7.** a, b, h, i, j, l, x
- 8.** h, i, j, k, q
- 9.** r
- 10.** n

Wordsearch

- 1.** defamatory
- 2.** besmirching
- 3.** polemics
- 4.** denigrate
- 5.** vilified
- 6.** opprobrium

7. deprecating
8. risible
9. stigmatize
10. umbrage

Week 21, Day 1

1. deluding
2. conjecture
3. latent
4. nuances
5. dubious
6. imperceptible
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. b
12. c

Week 21, Day 2

1. opaque
2. inscrutable
3. euphemism
4. dormant
5. disabuse
6. reticent
7. c
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. d

Week 21, Day 3

1. furtive
2. nebulous
3. discreet
4. ostensible
5. esoteric
6. circuitous
7. b
8. d
9. f
10. a
11. e
12. c

Week 21, Day 4

1. ambiguous
2. clandestine
3. reputed
4. specious
5. surreptitious
6. impenetrable
7. c
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. d
12. b

Week 21, Day 5

Matching

1. s

- 2. p
- 3. o
- 4. h
- 5. x
- 6. n
- 7. d
- 8. i
- 9. f
- 10. u
- 11. a
- 12. t
- 13. k
- 14. e
- 15. g
- 16. w
- 17. r
- 18. c
- 19. v
- 20. b
- 21. q
- 22. l
- 23. j
- 24. m

Wordsearch

- 1. euphemism
- 2. dubious
- 3. nebulous
- 4. discreet
- 5. deluded
- 6. dormant
- 7. nuances
- 8. latent
- 9. esoteric

10. reputed
11. conjecture

Week 22, Day 1

1. aloof
2. cynical
3. apathy
4. lethargic
5. drudgery
6. timorous
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. c
12. b

Week 22, Day 2

1. unkempt
2. stupor
3. sedentary
4. lax
5. lassitude
6. inhibition
7. e
8. a
9. d
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 22, Day 3

1. banal
2. phlegmatic
3. taut
4. tremulous
5. indifferent
6. imperturbable
7. d
8. a
9. e
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 22, Day 4

1. lackluster
2. stunted
3. squeamish
4. languid
5. blasé
6. fretful
7. e
8. f
9. c
10. b
11. a
12. d

Week 22, Day 5

Matching

1. d
2. k
3. g

4. s
5. w
6. x
7. c
8. u
9. l
10. a
11. m
12. t
13. o
14. r
15. b
16. h
17. q
18. e
19. v
20. i
21. n
22. p
23. j
24. f

Wordsearch

1. indifferent
2. lax
3. unkempt
4. apathy
5. cynical
6. banal
7. fretful
8. lackluster
9. drudgery

Week 23, Day 1

1. desultory
2. ferment
3. interim
4. vicissitudes
5. agitated
6. arbitrary
7. e
8. d
9. f
10. c
11. b
12. a

Week 23, Day 2

1. inert
2. whimsical
3. derelict
4. vacillates
5. tenuous
6. capricious
7. b
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. d
12. c

Week 23, Day 3

1. amnesty
2. malleable
3. jettisoned
4. extemporize
5. volatile

6. mercurial
7. b
8. a
9. d
10. e
11. f
12. c

Week 23, Day 4

1. fluctuates
2. transient
3. ephemeral
4. metamorphosis
5. evanescent
6. provisional
7. f
8. c
9. a
10. e
11. d
12. b

Week 23, Day 5

Matching

1. w
2. x
3. r
4. o
5. c
6. s
7. p
8. m

- 9. b
- 10. g
- 11. d
- 12. a
- 13. k
- 14. n
- 15. e
- 16. h
- 17. j
- 18. u
- 19. v
- 20. f
- 21. q
- 22. i
- 23. l
- 24. t

Wordsearch

- 1. fluctuating
- 2. jettisoned
- 3. provisional
- 4. arbitrary
- 5. tenuous

Synonym Shout-Out

- 1. i, t
- 2. d
- 3. g, i
- 4. a, f, r
- 5. e, k, s
- 6. c
- 7. b, o
- 8. h, m, n, p

- 9.** q
- 10.** j

Week 24, Day 1

- 1.** adherents
- 2.** pantheon
- 3.** devout
- 4.** proselyte
- 5.** venerate
- 6.** deify
- 7.** f
- 8.** c
- 9.** e
- 10.** a
- 11.** b
- 12.** d

Week 24, Day 2

- 1.** zealous
- 2.** taboo
- 3.** duped
- 4.** stoic
- 5.** sacrosanct
- 6.** dogmatic
- 7.** c
- 8.** d
- 9.** f
- 10.** e
- 11.** a
- 12.** b

Week 24, Day 3

1. schism
2. staunch
3. ascetic
4. idolatry
5. hedonism
6. ardent
7. d
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. b
12. c

Week 24, Day 4

1. agnostics
2. fervor
3. canon
4. recanted
5. martyr
6. credo
7. f
8. d
9. e
10. c
11. b
12. a

Week 24, Day 5

Matching

1. g
2. v
3. c

- 4. i
- 5. q
- 6. o
- 7. d
- 8. f
- 9. t
- 10. s
- 11. m
- 12. r
- 13. x
- 14. h
- 15. a
- 16. u
- 17. k
- 18. b
- 19. j
- 20. e
- 21. n
- 22. p
- 23. w
- 24. l

Adjective Leaders and Noun Followers

- 1. n
- 2. c
- 3. g
- 4. m
- 5. l
- 6. b
- 7. j
- 8. o
- 9. i
- 10. d

Wordsearch

1. duped
2. sacrosanct
3. schisms
4. zealous
5. stoic
6. martyrs
7. proselytes

Week 25, Day 1

1. conflagration
2. havoc
3. deluge
4. insurgent
5. razed
6. obliterated
7. e
8. c
9. a
10. f
11. b
12. d

Week 25, Day 2

1. gauntlet
2. fractious
3. rift
4. eradicated
5. nullify
6. strife
7. f
8. d

- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. c

Week 25, Day 3

- 1. fettered
- 2. fray
- 3. impede
- 4. skirmishes
- 5. inclement
- 6. wrested
- 7. c
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. f
- 11. b
- 12. d

Week 25, Day 4

- 1. detriment
- 2. exacerbated
- 3. deterred
- 4. deleterious
- 5. fracas
- 6. dissent
- 7. d
- 8. a
- 9. b
- 10. e
- 11. f
- 12. c

Week 25, Day 5

Matching

1. u
2. n
3. f
4. j
5. e
6. h
7. t
8. o
9. p
10. m
11. v
12. b
13. x
14. c
15. r
16. k
17. i
18. d
19. a
20. l
21. s
22. g
23. q
24. w

Wordsearch

1. impeded
2. fettered
3. havoc
4. inclement

5. strife
6. wrest
7. exacerbated
8. insurgent
9. rift
10. conflagration
11. fray
12. razed
13. obliterated

Week 26, Day 1

1. attested
2. succinct
3. epistles
4. eulogy
5. vestiges
6. missives
7. b
8. d
9. e
10. f
11. a
12. c

Week 26, Day 2

1. prolix
2. memoir
3. libel
4. discourse
5. anecdotes
6. reverberated
7. d
8. f

- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. c

Week 26, Day 3

- 1. deciphered
- 2. glyphs
- 3. scribe
- 4. encomiums
- 5. manifesto
- 6. treatise
- 7. f
- 8. d
- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. c
- 12. a

Week 26, Day 4

- 1. citations
- 2. accolades
- 3. epithet
- 4. preamble
- 5. expository
- 6. relegated
- 7. c
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. f
- 11. b
- 12. d

Week 26, Day 5

Matching

1. s
2. a
3. w
4. e
5. n
6. u
7. x
8. p
9. l
10. b
11. q
12. c
13. j
14. k
15. g
16. m
17. v
18. d
19. o
20. f
21. h
22. r
23. i
24. t

Wordsearch

1. attests
2. succinct
3. memoir
4. discourse

5. epithet
6. citation
7. libels
8. epistle
9. relegated

Roots Roundup

1. treatment
2. recourse
3. testimony
4. prescription
5. remit
6. verbose
7. hieroglyphics
8. recite

Week 27, Day 1

1. idyllic
2. incandescent
3. infatuated
4. alluring
5. resplendent
6. entice
7. c
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. d
12. b

Week 27, Day 2

1. raiment

2. dapper
3. dulcet
4. betrothed
5. reverie
6. tantalized
7. e
8. d
9. f
10. a
11. b
12. c

Week 27, Day 3

1. comely
2. gaudy
3. amorous
4. luminous
5. aesthetic
6. ethereal
7. f
8. d
9. a
10. e
11. c
12. b

Week 27, Day 4

1. mellifluous
2. sublime
3. translucent
4. limpid
5. pellucid
6. diaphanous

- 7. e
- 8. d
- 9. f
- 10. a
- 11. b
- 12. c

Week 27, Day 5

Matching

- 1. v
- 2. l
- 3. r
- 4. o
- 5. q
- 6. u
- 7. w
- 8. x
- 9. m
- 10. a
- 11. e
- 12. b
- 13. i
- 14. f
- 15. n
- 16. d
- 17. t
- 18. k
- 19. j
- 20. h
- 21. s
- 22. p
- 23. c
- 24. g

Wordsearch

1. alluring
2. dapper
3. resplendent
4. incandescent
5. enticing
6. reverie
7. limpid
8. luminosity
9. sublime

Week 28, Day 1

1. citadels
2. domicile
3. bucolic
4. asylum
5. juxtaposed
6. sedate
7. b
8. e
9. f
10. d
11. a
12. c

Week 28, Day 2

1. locale
2. ensconced
3. terminus
4. archipelago
5. remote
6. niche

- 7. e
- 8. f
- 9. b
- 10. a
- 11. d
- 12. c

Week 28, Day 3

- 1. hinterland
- 2. enclave
- 3. meridian
- 4. ambience
- 5. milieu
- 6. expatriate
- 7. e
- 8. f
- 9. a
- 10. b
- 11. d
- 12. c

Week 28, Day 4

- 1. berth
- 2. propinquity
- 3. ebb
- 4. extremity
- 5. bastions
- 6. rustic
- 7. c
- 8. e
- 9. f
- 10. b
- 11. a

12. d

Week 28, Day 5

Matching

1. i
2. j
3. p
4. m
5. g
6. c
7. n
8. w
9. k
10. q
11. o
12. a
13. d
14. u
15. l
16. f
17. r
18. v
19. h
20. x
21. t
22. s
23. e
24. b

Doing Double Duty

Answers will vary.

Wordsearch

1. extremity
2. hinterland
3. archipelago
4. bastion
5. terminus
6. meridian
7. remote
8. juxtaposed
9. locale
10. propinquity

Week 29, Day 1

1. frenzy
2. deployed
3. scurries
4. acute
5. elusive
6. frenetic
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. b
11. a
12. c

Week 29, Day 2

1. romp
2. celerity
3. advent
4. unabated
5. spontaneous

6. propagation
7. a
8. d
9. e
10. f
11. c
12. b

Week 29, Day 3

1. alacrity
2. cursory
3. dissemination
4. peregrination
5. expedient
6. febrile
7. c
8. e
9. b
10. f
11. a
12. d

Week 29, Day 4

1. spate
2. perfunctory
3. expedite
4. escalation
5. flurry
6. imminent
7. c
8. d
9. e
10. a

11. f
12. b

Week 29, Day 5

Matching

1. a
2. h
3. g
4. m
5. j
6. o
7. i
8. f
9. c
10. t
11. n
12. u
13. s
14. v
15. e
16. l
17. d
18. p
19. b
20. r
21. x
22. w
23. k
24. q

Wordsearch

1. acute

2. frenzy
3. perfunctory
4. cursory
5. romp
6. scurry
7. unabated
8. advent
9. flurry
10. disseminated
11. propagated
12. expedience
13. alacrity

Week 30, Day 1

1. reciprocal
2. effusive
3. lampooned
4. amenable
5. raucous
6. extolled
7. d
8. e
9. f
10. c
11. b
12. a

Week 30, Day 2

1. nonchalance
2. facetious
3. winsome
4. levity
5. jocose

6. droll
7. d
8. e
9. a
10. f
11. c
12. b

Week 30, Day 3

1. impunity
2. exalted
3. iconoclast
4. jubilant
5. insouciant
6. beneficent
7. e
8. c
9. f
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 30, Day 4

1. bohemian
2. libertine
3. philanthropic
4. venal
5. facile
6. profligate
7. c
8. f
9. d
10. e

- 11. a
- 12. b

Week 30, Day 5

Matching

- 1. s
- 2. u
- 3. c
- 4. n
- 5. h
- 6. q
- 7. x
- 8. e
- 9. j
- 10. v
- 11. r
- 12. m
- 13. g
- 14. a
- 15. o
- 16. w
- 17. t
- 18. i
- 19. d
- 20. k
- 21. l
- 22. b
- 23. f
- 24. p

Wordsearch

- 1. extolled

2. exalted
3. bohemian
4. nonchalance
5. insouciance
6. philanthropists
7. jubilant
8. amenable
9. iconoclastic
10. winsome
11. raucous
12. libertine
13. effusive

Week 31, Day 1

1. intrinsic
2. homogeneous
3. repertoire
4. respite
5. indigenous
6. steeped
7. e
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. d
12. c

Week 31, Day 2

1. chants
2. facets
3. mundane
4. propensity
5. tranquil

6. indoctrinate
7. c
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. d
12. b

Week 31, Day 3

1. nominal
2. abode
3. rudimentary
4. tenable
5. cliques
6. inevitable
7. e
8. c
9. f
10. d
11. b
12. a

Week 31, Day 4

1. edifices
2. incumbent
3. menial
4. compatible
5. inanimate
6. extant
7. e
8. c
9. d
10. f

11. b
12. a

Week 31, Day 5

Matching

1. j
2. x
3. r
4. h
5. s
6. i
7. k
8. w
9. n
10. u
11. t
12. o
13. m
14. e
15. f
16. c
17. p
18. q
19. b
20. g
21. a
22. v
23. d
24. l

Wordsearch

1. propensity

2. inevitable
3. repertoire
4. mundane
5. tenable
6. compatible
7. rudimentary

Sensible Sentences?

1. inanimate
2. extant
3. tenable
4. homogeneous
5. tranquil
6. respites
7. abode
8. mundane
9. steeped
10. cant

Week 32, Day 1

1. din
2. caches
3. aggregated
4. cavalcade
5. pith
6. prodigious
7. e
8. c
9. d
10. f
11. b
12. a

Week 32, Day 2

1. voluminous
2. monolithic
3. augmented
4. comprehensive
5. cumbersome
6. colossal
7. c
8. d
9. f
10. e
11. b
12. a

Week 32, Day 3

1. commodious
2. ostentatious
3. amalgamated
4. mammoth
5. gargantuan
6. grandeur
7. f
8. e
9. a
10. c
11. d
12. b

Week 32, Day 4

1. engrossed
2. bulwark
3. swank

4. subsumed
5. aggrandize
6. cumulative
7. e
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. d
12. c

Week 32, Day 5

Matching

1. r
2. o
3. q
4. w
5. p
6. k
7. b
8. f
9. j
10. i
11. v
12. u
13. h
14. n
15. t
16. c
17. l
18. d
19. x
20. a
21. m

- [22. e](#)
- [23. g](#)
- [24. s](#)

Antonyms Attract

- [1. malevolent](#)
- [2. thorough](#)
- [3. measly](#)
- [4. indefensible](#)
- [5. plod](#)
- [6. extraordinary](#)
- [7. scatter](#)
- [8. diminutive](#)
- [9. taciturn](#)
- [10. phlegmatic](#)
- [11. frugal](#)
- [12. boorish](#)
- [13. diminish](#)
- [14. reluctance](#)
- [15. motley](#)

Wordsearch

- [1. prodigious](#)
- [2. cumbersome](#)
- [3. voluminous](#)
- [4. cavalcade](#)
- [5. engrossed](#)

Week 33, Day 1

- [1. remiss](#)
- [2. vitiated](#)
- [3. paltry](#)
- [4. spurious](#)

5. negligible
6. wane
7. c
8. e
9. b
10. f
11. a
12. d

Week 33, Day 2

1. susceptible
2. innocuous
3. hypothetical
4. sporadic
5. curtail
6. fatalistic
7. c
8. e
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. d

Week 33, Day 3

1. ersatz
2. jilted
3. attenuate
4. enervated
5. desist
6. intangible
7. f
8. d
9. e

10. a
11. c
12. b

Week 33, Day 4

1. encumbrance
2. regresses
3. eschewed
4. supine
5. vapid
6. cessation
7. e
8. f
9. d
10. b
11. c
12. a

Week 33, Day 5

Matching

1. p
2. q
3. r
4. a
5. s
6. d
7. l
8. f
9. t
10. k
11. v
12. x

- 13. i
- 14. w
- 15. e
- 16. u
- 17. h
- 18. o
- 19. j
- 20. m
- 21. c
- 22. g
- 23. n
- 24. b

Wordsearch

- 1. jilt
- 2. eschew
- 3. fatalistic
- 4. enervate
- 5. curtail

May I Borrow That Expression?

- 1. j
- 2. h
- 3. s
- 4. q
- 5. t
- 6. n
- 7. d
- 8. p
- 9. a
- 10. o
- 11. l
- 12. r

13. k
14. m
15. e
16. b
17. g
18. i
19. f
20. c

Week 34, Day 1

1. somber
2. disgruntled
3. bristle
4. ineffectual
5. doleful
6. qualms
7. c
8. d
9. f
10. b
11. a
12. e

Week 34, Day 2

1. neurotic
2. disheveled
3. fraught
4. sullen
5. foreboding
6. forlorn
7. d
8. a
9. e

- 10. f
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 34, Day 3

- 1. ignominious
- 2. ennui
- 3. hapless
- 4. lachrymose
- 5. deplorable
- 6. inane
- 7. e
- 8. f
- 9. d
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. c

Week 34, Day 4

- 1. interloper
- 2. nonentity
- 3. macabre
- 4. melancholy
- 5. dregs
- 6. bedraggled
- 7. e
- 8. d
- 9. f
- 10. c
- 11. b
- 12. a

Week 34, Day 5

Matching

1. f
2. r
3. a
4. d
5. g
6. w
7. i
8. h
9. s
10. u
11. n
12. t
13. q
14. e
15. p
16. o
17. x
18. v
19. k
20. j
21. l
22. m
23. b
24. c

Wordsearch

1. fraught
2. inane
3. deplorably
4. bristle

5. hapless
6. ignominious
7. interloper
8. qualms

Week 35, Day 1

1. flabbergasted
2. paean
3. concise
4. parable
5. skeptical
6. pithy
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. c
11. e
12. a

Week 35, Day 2

1. curt
2. clamor
3. averred
4. demure
5. laconic
6. sophistry
7. c
8. d
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. e

Week 35, Day 3

1. utterance
2. verbatim
3. garbled
4. explicate
5. dissembling
6. loquacious
7. d
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. b
12. c

Week 35, Day 4

1. gaffes
2. divulging
3. ineffable
4. garrulous
5. terse
6. verbose
7. d
8. a
9. f
10. e
11. c
12. b

Week 35, Day 5

Matching

1. p

- 2. m
- 3. c
- 4. t
- 5. q
- 6. w
- 7. k
- 8. e
- 9. b
- 10. j
- 11. r
- 12. a
- 13. i
- 14. l
- 15. h
- 16. n
- 17. g
- 18. d
- 19. s
- 20. x
- 21. v
- 22. f
- 23. u
- 24. o

Wordsearch

- 1. pithy
- 2. explicating
- 3. aver
- 4. laconic
- 5. utterances
- 6. loquacious
- 7. sophistry
- 8. paeans
- 9. flabbergasted

10. garbled
11. terse
12. verbose

Week 36, Day 1

1. enigmatic
2. incoherent
3. legerdemain
4. disconcerting
5. incongruous
6. disparate
7. f
8. d
9. e
10. c
11. a
12. b

Week 36, Day 2

1. indiscriminate
2. tinged
3. cryptic
4. anomalous
5. contorted
6. divergent
7. b
8. d
9. a
10. f
11. e
12. c

Week 36, Day 3

1. atypical
2. heterogeneous
3. dichotomy
4. baroque
5. maladjusted
6. extrinsic
7. d
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. c
12. b

Week 36, Day 4

1. pungent
2. aberrant
3. perverse
4. discrepancy
5. degenerate
6. dissolute
7. b
8. e
9. f
10. a
11. d
12. c

Week 36, Day 5

Matching

1. p

- 2. n
- 3. d
- 4. j
- 5. q
- 6. l
- 7. w
- 8. o
- 9. a
- 10. k
- 11. m
- 12. h
- 13. s
- 14. u
- 15. v
- 16. r
- 17. f
- 18. x
- 19. t
- 20. c
- 21. g
- 22. i
- 23. b
- 24. e

Sensible Sentences?

- 1. dissemble
- 2. vapid
- 3. bastion
- 4. reverie
- 5. incongruous
- 6. fraught
- 7. loquacious
- 8. macabre
- 9. cryptic

10. ennui

Wordsearch

1. dichotomy
2. aberrant
3. tinged
4. perverse
5. indiscriminate
6. anomalous
7. dissolute
8. extrinsic
9. atypical

Week 37, Day 1

1. vexation
2. asperity
3. irascible
4. consternation
5. badger
6. inexorable
7. f
8. a
9. d
10. b
11. e
12. c

Week 37, Day 2

1. internecine
2. irate
3. accosted
4. belligerent

5. begrudge
6. reproach
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. c
11. a
12. e

Week 37, Day 3

1. diatribes
2. nettled
3. livid
4. paroxysms
5. railing
6. inveighed
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. c
11. a
12. b

Week 37, Day 4

1. rebuked
2. vitriolic
3. pique
4. pugnacious
5. vituperating
6. invectives
7. d
8. a
9. b

- 10. c
- 11. f
- 12. e

Week 37, Day 5

Matching

- 1. k
- 2. l
- 3. t
- 4. q
- 5. f
- 6. o
- 7. b
- 8. d
- 9. n
- 10. x
- 11. p
- 12. h
- 13. g
- 14. w
- 15. j
- 16. s
- 17. v
- 18. r
- 19. u
- 20. a
- 21. i
- 22. m
- 23. c
- 24. e

Wordsearch

1. irascible
2. belligerent
3. nettled
4. paroxysm
5. consternation
6. badgered
7. rebuke
8. pugnacious
9. begrudges
10. inexorable
11. vexatious
12. pique
13. diatribes
14. railing
15. accost

Week 38, Day 1

1. flouted
2. proscribed
3. supersedes
4. secular
5. inviolable
6. mandated
7. b
8. e
9. d
10. f
11. c
12. a

Week 38, Day 2

1. transgressions
2. abeyance

3. doctrine
4. fiat
5. sanctions
6. adjudicate
7. e
8. f
9. b
10. c
11. d
12. a

Week 38, Day 3

1. dictating
2. emissaries
3. manifest
4. protocol
5. prohibition
6. accord
7. d
8. f
9. a
10. c
11. e
12. b

Week 38, Day 4

1. propriety
2. abstained
3. criterion
4. requisite
5. precedent
6. decorum
7. f

- 8. c
- 9. a
- 10. b
- 11. d
- 12. e

Week 38, Day 5

Matching

- 1. t
- 2. e
- 3. r
- 4. f
- 5. x
- 6. c
- 7. m
- 8. j
- 9. w
- 10. h
- 11. i
- 12. v
- 13. n
- 14. d
- 15. k
- 16. b
- 17. q
- 18. o
- 19. p
- 20. l
- 21. u
- 22. a
- 23. g
- 24. s

Wordsearch

1. fiats
2. requisite
3. sanction
4. dictate
5. abstain
6. mandated
7. accord
8. doctrine
9. precedent
10. prohibition
11. propriety
12. manifest
13. emissaries
14. transgressing
15. inviolable
16. adjudicate
17. supersede

Week 39, Day 1

1. flotilla
2. redoubtable
3. fortified
4. domineering
5. impervious
6. reinforced
7. a
8. d
9. f
10. b
11. c
12. e

Week 39, Day 2

1. behemoth
2. virile
3. titanic
4. dynamic
5. steadfast
6. strapping
7. c
8. f
9. e
10. b
11. a
12. d

Week 39, Day 3

1. junta
2. hegemony
3. sinewy
4. ruffians
5. supremacy
6. hale
7. c
8. a
9. e
10. b
11. f
12. d

Week 39, Day 4

1. undergirds
2. invulnerable
3. vigorous

4. robust
5. brawny
6. buttress
7. d
8. c
9. e
10. a
11. f
12. b

Week 39, Day 5

Matching

1. s
2. v
3. o
4. j
5. m
6. k
7. b
8. f
9. d
10. e
11. i
12. r
13. p
14. c
15. a
16. w
17. u
18. x
19. h
20. g
21. n

- 22. q
- 23. l
- 24. t

Wordsearch

- 1. hegemony
- 2. steadfast
- 3. dynamic
- 4. domineering
- 5. brawny
- 6. reinforced
- 7. behemoth
- 8. supremacy
- 9. invulnerable
- 10. sinewy
- 11. redoubtable
- 12. ruffians

Week 40, Day 1

- 1. elapses
- 2. regimen
- 3. retrospect
- 4. truncated
- 5. paradox
- 6. interminable
- 7. c
- 8. a
- 9. f
- 10. d
- 11. b
- 12. e

Week 40, Day 2

1. antiquity
2. troves
3. obsolete
4. prelude
5. defunct
6. annals
7. d
8. f
9. b
10. e
11. a
12. c

Week 40, Day 3

1. zeitgeist
2. antiquated
3. rues
4. nostalgia
5. pining
6. reminisce
7. e
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. d
12. c

Week 40, Day 4

1. prescient
2. auspice
3. procrastinate
4. belated
5. clairvoyant

6. prognosticate
7. e
8. d
9. a
10. b
11. f
12. c

Week 40, Day 5

Matching

1. i
2. l
3. n
4. g
5. c
6. x
7. m
8. d
9. q
10. j
11. p
12. r
13. f
14. w
15. k
16. h
17. s
18. a
19. t
20. u
21. b
22. o
23. e

24. v

Hapless Headlines

1. h
2. p
3. m
4. t
5. k
6. g
7. b
8. o
9. e
10. a

Wordsearch

1. paradoxes
2. nostalgia
3. rued
4. annals
5. clairvoyant
6. interminable
7. zeitgeist
8. belatedly
9. defunct
10. pining

Week 41, Day 1

1. imbibes
2. ruddy
3. atrophy
4. gaunt
5. spartan
6. afflicted

- 7.** c
- 8.** a
- 9.** b
- 10.** f
- 11.** d
- 12.** e

Week 41, Day 2

- 1.** panacea
- 2.** palliate
- 3.** debilitated
- 4.** malignant
- 5.** longevity
- 6.** maladies
- 7.** c
- 8.** a
- 9.** e
- 10.** b
- 11.** f
- 12.** d

Week 41, Day 3

- 1.** virulent
- 2.** repose
- 3.** laceration
- 4.** fettle
- 5.** mastication
- 6.** abstemious
- 7.** d
- 8.** c
- 9.** e
- 10.** a
- 11.** f

12. b

Week 41, Day 4

1. salubrious
2. gallant
3. adverse
4. austere
5. deficiency
6. degraded
7. c
8. a
9. e
10. f
11. b
12. d

Week 41, Day 5

Matching

1. j
2. h
3. u
4. o
5. w
6. b
7. x
8. p
9. t
10. k
11. i
12. s
13. c
14. v

15. n
16. e
17. q
18. m
19. r
20. a
21. f
22. g
23. l
24. d

Wordsearch

1. malignant
2. deficient
3. longevity
4. adverse
5. ruddy
6. salubrious
7. gaunt
8. fettle
9. atrophied

Week 42, Day 1

1. ascertain
2. overt
3. permeated
4. delved
5. discern
6. converted
7. b
8. d
9. a
10. f

- 11. c
- 12. e

Week 42, Day 2

- 1. glib
- 2. epitome
- 3. germane
- 4. elicit
- 5. candid
- 6. cogent
- 7. f
- 8. d
- 9. e
- 10. a
- 11. b
- 12. c

Week 42, Day 3

- 1. enunciate
- 2. gleaned
- 3. pertinent
- 4. construed
- 5. denotes
- 6. incontrovertible
- 7. e
- 8. d
- 9. f
- 10. a
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 42, Day 4

1. reinvigorate
2. delineated
3. allude
4. gist
5. derived
6. elucidate
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. b
11. c
12. a

Week 42, Day 5

Matching

1. c
2. t
3. n
4. x
5. k
6. b
7. l
8. w
9. j
10. v
11. g
12. m
13. i
14. d
15. u
16. f
17. h
18. a

19. e
20. s
21. r
22. q
23. o
24. p

Wordsearch

1. convert
2. discern
3. permeate
4. incontrovertible
5. cogent
6. elicit
7. reinvigorate
8. overtly
9. epitome
10. candid

Week 43, Day 1

1. array
2. abounded
3. saturated
4. inordinate
5. emanate
6. ubiquitous
7. c
8. f
9. e
10. a
11. b
12. d

Week 43, Day 2

1. unmitigated
2. extraneous
3. inundate
4. concomitant
5. myriad
6. consummate
7. f
8. c
9. e
10. a
11. b
12. d

Week 43, Day 3

1. superfluous
2. manifold
3. succulent
4. epicurean
5. copious
6. bounteous
7. f
8. e
9. a
10. b
11. c
12. d

Week 43, Day 4

1. redolent
2. profuse
3. replete

4. enhanced
5. plethora
6. rife
7. e
8. f
9. a
10. b
11. c
12. d

Week 43, Day 5

Matching

1. t
2. v
3. l
4. o
5. i
6. f
7. e
8. x
9. m
10. q
11. h
12. d
13. k
14. s
15. n
16. c
17. a
18. w
19. j
20. b
21. u

- 22. r
- 23. p
- 24. g

Wordsearch

- 1. replete
- 2. consummate
- 3. unmitigated
- 4. emanate
- 5. ubiquitous
- 6. array
- 7. inundated
- 8. inordinate
- 9. unmitigated
- 10. rife

Week 44, Day 1

- 1. pandemonium
- 2. phenomenon
- 3. tumultuous
- 4. disarray
- 5. conundrum
- 6. turbulent
- 7. b
- 8. e
- 9. a
- 10. f
- 11. d
- 12. c

Week 44, Day 2

- 1. cacophony

2. unwieldy
3. awry
4. tortuous
5. impromptu
6. bedlam
7. c
8. d
9. e
10. a
11. f
12. b

Week 44, Day 3

1. jarring
2. hoodwinked
3. absurd
4. occult
5. peccadilloes
6. apocryphal
7. d
8. a
9. e
10. f
11. b
12. c

Week 44, Day 4

1. inchoate
2. acerbic
3. mordant
4. welter
5. satire
6. occluded

- 7. c
- 8. d
- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. f
- 12. a

Week 44, Day 5

Matching

- 1. u
- 2. k
- 3. m
- 4. l
- 5. q
- 6. w
- 7. o
- 8. s
- 9. b
- 10. n
- 11. d
- 12. x
- 13. a
- 14. g
- 15. j
- 16. h
- 17. f
- 18. r
- 19. i
- 20. v
- 21. p
- 22. e
- 23. c
- 24. t

Sensible Sentences?

1. copious
2. epitome
3. adverse
4. occult
5. saturate
6. inordinate
7. phenomenon
8. salubrious
9. tortuous
10. discern

Wordsearch

1. conundrums
2. pandemonium
3. welter
4. tumultuous
5. disarray
6. absurd
7. cacophony
8. jarring

Week 45, Day 1

1. volition
2. galvanizing
3. material
4. tacit
5. condoned
6. subservient
7. b
8. f
9. d

- 10. c
- 11. a
- 12. e

Week 45, Day 2

- 1. coterie
- 2. rationalized
- 3. aegis
- 4. vogue
- 5. vindicates
- 6. advocating
- 7. c
- 8. d
- 9. e
- 10. f
- 11. a
- 12. b

Week 45, Day 3

- 1. ancillary
- 2. confidant
- 3. concur
- 4. paragon
- 5. entourage
- 6. adamant
- 7. d
- 8. f
- 9. e
- 10. b
- 11. a
- 12. c

Week 45, Day 4

1. ilk
2. haven
3. corroborated
4. progeny
5. substantiated
6. conducive
7. b
8. c
9. e
10. f
11. a
12. d

Week 45, Day 5

Matching

1. p
2. a
3. h
4. q
5. i
6. k
7. s
8. m
9. w
10. u
11. g
12. l
13. e
14. n
15. d
16. v

17. x
18. t
19. o
20. c
21. f
22. b
23. r
24. j

Wordsearch

1. conducive
2. concur
3. paragons
4. progeny
5. rationalized
6. corroborate
7. galvanized
8. substantiated
9. vindicated
10. coterie
11. confidant
12. tacit
13. advocated

Week 46, Day 1

1. charisma
2. solace
3. humility
4. exemplar
5. deference
6. poignant
7. d
8. e

- 9. f
- 10. a
- 11. c
- 12. b

Week 46, Day 2

- 1. congenial
- 2. philanthropists
- 3. rectitude
- 4. demagogue
- 5. virtuosity
- 6. affable
- 7. b
- 8. c
- 9. e
- 10. a
- 11. f
- 12. d

Week 46, Day 3

- 1. conciliatory
- 2. altruistic
- 3. frugal
- 4. impeccable
- 5. congregated
- 6. amiable
- 7. e
- 8. d
- 9. a
- 10. f
- 11. b
- 12. c

Week 46, Day 4

1. equanimity
2. gregarious
3. cordial
4. amicable
5. benevolent
6. convivial
7. c
8. e
9. d
10. a
11. f
12. b

Week 46, Day 5

Matching

1. x
2. p
3. v
4. s
5. r
6. i
7. b
8. w
9. j
10. d
11. a
12. m
13. g
14. t
15. u
16. h

- 17.** n
- 18.** l
- 19.** q
- 20.** c
- 21.** e
- 22.** o
- 23.** k
- 24.** f

Which Word Comes to Mind?

- 1.** b
- 2.** o
- 3.** f
- 4.** k
- 5.** i
- 6.** h
- 7.** g
- 8.** n
- 9.** j
- 10.** a

Wordsearch

- 1.** exemplar
- 2.** virtuosity
- 3.** charisma
- 4.** humility
- 5.** deference
- 6.** poignant
- 7.** solace
- 8.** conciliatory
- 9.** benevolent
- 10.** affable
- 11.** demagogue

12. convivial
13. congregate

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