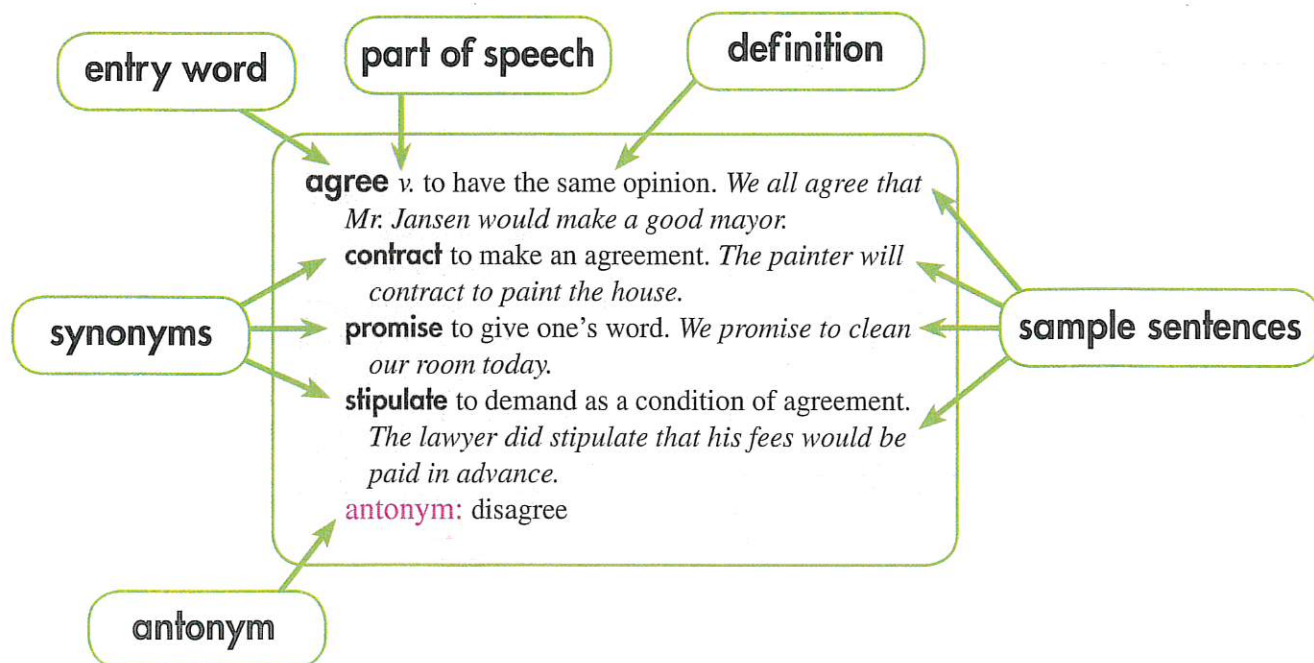


Thesaurus

The **Writing Thesaurus** provides synonyms—words that mean the same or nearly the same—and antonyms—words that mean the opposite—for your spelling words. Use this sample to identify the various parts of each thesaurus entry.

- **Entry words** are listed in alphabetical order and are printed in boldface type.
- The abbreviation for the **part of speech** of each entry word follows the boldface entry word.
- The **definition** of the entry word matches the definition of the word in your **Spelling Dictionary**. A **sample sentence** shows the correct use of the word in context.
- Each **synonym** for the entry word is listed under the entry word. Again, a sample sentence shows the correct use of the synonym in context.
- Where appropriate, **antonyms** for the entry word are listed at the end of the entry.





active *adj.* moving around. *It is difficult to keep up with our active dog.*

energetic full of energy. *My grandmother's friends are energetic.*

lively full of life. *We belong to a lively cycling group.*

antonyms: inactive, sluggish

allow *v.* to let; permit. *Our parents allow us to watch TV if we have finished our homework.*

admit to let in. *At Gate 7 they will admit fans with season passes.*

consent to give permission. *The ranger did consent to our plan to build a campfire.*

stand for to put up with. *The leader would not stand for carelessness.*

antonyms: to refuse, deny

amusement *n.* entertainment; sport; pastime. *Chess is her favorite amusement.*

enjoyment fun; entertainment. *The film was produced for our enjoyment.*

pleasure a good feeling. *Reading brings pleasure to many people.*

recreation relaxation. *Swimming is Heather's favorite form of recreation.*

ancient *adj.* belonging to times long ago. *There are many ancient temples in Greece, Italy, and Egypt.*

antique of a previous time. *Their house is furnished with antique furniture.*

olden from long ago. *The workers found several pieces of pottery from olden days.*

primitive before modern technology. *Their homes were solid but primitive.*

antonyms: modern, recent

apology *n.* words saying one is sorry; asking pardon. *Please accept my apology for coming so late; I was delayed by heavy traffic.*

acknowledgment statement of responsibility. *The printer made an acknowledgment of his mistake.*

regret repentance. *The woman expressed her regret about the accident.*

repentance feeling of regret. *She showed repentance for her rudeness.*

antonym: denial

argue *v.* 1. to disagree; dispute; quarrel. *Tanya will often argue with Michael.* 2. to give reasons for or against. *The lawyer did argue her case effectively.*

contend to struggle with. *The ranchers had to contend with the angry farmers.*

debate to disagree formally. *Members of the school board did debate the building of a new science lab.*

antonym: to agree

average *adj.* 1. determined by averaging. *The average score on the test was 75.* 2. common; ordinary; usual. *Today was an average day, neither great nor awful.*

fair neither very good nor very poor. *My grades were just fair.*

mean a middle point or score. *The class's mean grade was 88.*

normal ordinary. *The dog's behavior was normal while it was in the vet's office.*

passable just satisfactory. *His performance at the chess match was barely passable.*

typical as expected. *My sister acts like a typical teenager.*

antonyms: extraordinary, uncommon

avoid *v.* to stay away from; to keep from meeting. *I tried to avoid him when he had measles.*

dodge to get out of the way of. *I always try to dodge the snowballs.*

duck to move out of the way of. *Jim called to me to duck his wild pitch.*

escape to avoid danger. *We barely did escape the storm's damage.*

shirk to avoid; put off. *A responsible person won't shirk a duty.*

shun to ignore; to stay away from. *We won't shun a friend who is having trouble.*

steer clear of to keep away from. *Let's try to steer clear of that question.*

antonyms: to accept, welcome, meet, face, seek

awful *adj.* very bad; very ugly; unpleasant. *That was an awful movie.*

disagreeable not pleasant. *The weather was very disagreeable during most of our vacation last summer.*

fearful causing awe or fear. *The enormous bear was a fearful sight.*

miserable causing discomfort. *Harry's cold made him feel miserable.*

objectionable causing offense. *Her serious audience found the speech objectionable.*

offensive hurtful. *That was an offensive thing to say.*

terrible dreadful. *The way they sang that song was really terrible.*

unpleasant not pleasing. *The rainy day was an unpleasant one for a picnic.*

antonyms: nice, pleasant, agreeable, charming, likable, good, lovely, delightful



beautiful *adj.* having beauty; pleasing to the eye, ear, or mind; lovely. *That is a beautiful painting.*

attractive arousing interest. *Jean has an attractive smile.*

good-looking pleasing in appearance. *Jack's new suit is really good-looking.*

handsome good-looking. *That's a handsome jacket Steven is wearing.*

antonyms: ugly, unattractive

beauty *n.* the quality that makes a person or thing pleasing to the senses. *The beauty of the music made us forget everything else.*

attractiveness quality that draws one to something. *The wooden frame adds to the picture's attractiveness.*

charm personal quality that attracts. *His charm made many friends for him.*

grace smooth, beautiful movement. *The grace of the dancers captivated the audience.*

belief *n.* the acceptance of something as true or real. *His belief in life on other planets was questioned.*

confidence trust. *Have confidence in yourself!*

faith confidence; trust. *Joey has faith in his father.*

antonyms: disbelief, distrust, suspicion, uncertainty

beret *n.* a round, soft, flat cap of wool or felt. *She wore her beret at a jaunty angle.*

hat head covering. *A wool hat gives good protection on a cold day.*

tam Scottish cap. *The knit tam kept her ears warm on the coldest days.*

bother *v.* 1. to give trouble to. *Don't bother me while I'm writing.* 2. to take the time and trouble. *Don't bother to wash the dishes now.*

annoy to disturb; trouble. *That dog's bark really does annoy me.*

disturb to keep from concentrating. *Will my typing disturb you?*

irritate to annoy. *The sound of his lawn mower can irritate me.*

pester to bother repeatedly. *Try not to pester your brother when he's doing his homework.*

trouble to annoy. *Don't let me trouble you.*

upset to cause distress. *Did that remark upset you?*

broad *adj.* 1. wide; large from side to side. *The West contains broad stretches of prairies and forests.* 2. plain; easy to understand. *Alf dropped a broad hint that he wanted a puppy for his birthday.* 3. of wide range; not small. *My father has a broad view of life.*

extensive huge. *We couldn't believe that anyone would have such an extensive library in a private home.*

general broad. *The president made a very general statement about education.*

large enormous. *"We have a large selection of coats," the clerk told the customer.*

roomy having plenty of space. *Six of the cousins could sit together on the roomy couch.*

spacious roomy. *The living room was spacious and had a fireplace at one end.*

sweeping inclusive. *Her promise of help was so sweeping that it covered everything we wanted.*

vague not clear. *Terry had only a vague idea of the rules.*

wide broad; large. *Their yard is so wide that we can play football in it.*

antonyms: narrow, slim, small, detailed, clear



building *n.* a structure such as a house, school, or factory. *Our new building is larger than the old one.*

construction anything made of parts. *After hours of work, the construction of wooden blocks came tumbling down.*

structure something put together. *This strange-looking structure is our new library.*

bunch *n.* a group of things of the same kind, growing together or put together. *We took a bunch of flowers to Edward when he was in the hospital.*

band group of people. *Have you read about Robin Hood and his band of merry men?*

batch set; group of items. *Take this batch of rolls and put them on the table.*

clump bunch. *The weeds grew in a clump in the broken sidewalk.*

cluster things sharing a small space. *The school buildings are arranged in a cluster.*

collection set put together. *Have you seen her collection of dolls?*

company organized group of people. *The company of scouts marched by.*

crew group assembled for work. *The crew of workers cleaned up the picnic area.*

crowd unorganized group. *A small crowd gathered outside the theater.*

heap group of things piled on one another. *His clothes lay in a heap on the floor.*

herd group of animals. *The herd of cows grazed calmly.*

knot things tightly packed. *A knot of travelers blocked the aisle in the bus.*

lot set of things. *We found a huge box of baseball cards at a yard sale and bought the whole lot.*

number uncounted set. *We found a number of valuable books at the flea market.*

pack number of animals or items. *A pack of wild dogs lives in the woods.*

party group of people. *The waitress tried to seat the party of eight at one table.*

troop group of persons. *The small troop of soldiers moved quickly.*

caution *n.* 1. care. *Cross streets with caution.* 2. a warning. *Did you read the caution on the label?*

attention watchfulness. *Don't let your attention wander while you take this test.*

care caution. *Did you take care to turn off the iron?*

watchfulness caution. *The fox's watchfulness saved its kits from the flood.*

antonyms: neglect, carelessness

character *n.* 1. a person in a play or book. *The character of Pinocchio appeals to children.* 2. a way of behaving, thinking, and feeling. *Her character changed when she became a success.* 3. a letter; a sign. *Chinese and Japanese writing and printing have characters different from ours.*
characteristic trait; mark of personality. *List a characteristic of the hero in the legend of King Arthur.*

cipher letter; sign. *The famous artist often used a special cipher in her designs.*

figure sign; letter. *Each figure on the sign was carefully made.*

logo letter or design relating to a group. *The business used its logo for many years.*

nature way of behaving. *A wild animal won't change its nature.*

personality nature. *Jane had a very friendly personality.*

role an assigned part. *Josie played the leading role in the school play.*

trait mark of personality. *What trait do you value most in a friend?*

citizen *n.* a member of a nation who has rights, such as voting, and who also has the duty of being loyal to the nation. *Any person born in this country is a citizen of the United States.*

inhabitant resident. *We are all inhabitants of the planet Earth.*

native one born in a place. *Jeanne's grandfather is a native of France.*

resident one who lives in a place. *I'm glad to be a resident of the United States.*

subject one who is under another's rule. *The hero of the story was a loyal subject of the queen.*

voter one who casts a ballot. *Don't you agree that every citizen should be a voter?*

antonyms: foreigner, alien, outsider, visitor

common *adj.* 1. frequent; usual. *A temperature of ninety degrees is common in the summer.*
2. belonging to more than one person or company. *The city parks are common property.*

familiar well-known. *Snow is a familiar sight in the mountains.*

general occurring everywhere. *General confusion followed the explosion.*

ordinary usual; expected. *The undercover detective wore ordinary clothes.*

popular appealing to many. *Popular music played over the loudspeaker.*

public open to all. *Our park system is for public use.*

regular daily; frequent. *She visits us at regular intervals.*

social including all. *The Labor Day parade is a special social event.*

widespread general; occurring everywhere. *After the peace treaty, there was widespread celebration.*

antonyms: unusual, strange, private, personal, scarce, rare

contest *n.* a competition. *The fifth grade will hold a spelling contest.*

challenge an invitation to compete. *The sixth grade sent a challenge to a track meet.*

race contest to decide who is fastest. *I will beat you in a foot race.*

correct *adj.* having no mistakes; right. *Gary was sure he had the correct answer to the problem.*
accurate carefully done. *The figures in the report are accurate.*

all right acceptable. *She said that the way I shoveled the driveway was all right.*

errorless without mistakes. *An almanac is supposed to be errorless.*

exact correct in detail. *The carpenter's measurements had to be exact.*

OK all right. *"That's OK for now," the boss shouted.*

true accurate; correct. *Did Mark Twain tell a true story of life on a riverboat?*

antonyms: untrue, false, wrong, faulty, incorrect

coworker *n.* a fellow worker. *One coworker took Juanita out to lunch on her birthday.*

associate a friend or coworker. *The businesswoman's associate enjoys working with her.*

companion one who accompanies another. *In what story is a rooster the companion of a dog and a donkey?*

partner one who shares a task. *My partner did most of the research, and I wrote the report.*

create *v.* 1. to make a thing that has not been made before; form. *The artist wanted to create a painting.* 2. to cause; produce. *It takes only one loud person to create a disturbance.*

build to put together. *Let's build a doghouse for Bowser.*

cause to bring about. *They can cause a lot of trouble through their carelessness.*

design to plan something new. *The architect will design a new library for our school.*

discover to find the unknown. *Archaeologists want to discover how people lived in ancient times.*

dream up to think of a new idea. *How do cartoonists dream up such great drawings?*

invent to create an object or system. *Do you think someone might invent wings for people so each of us can fly?*

make to construct. *Peter dreamed that someday he would make a home for his friends.*

mold to form. *The leader wanted to mold each scout to be resourceful.*

produce to bring forth. *He worked all afternoon to produce a single poem.*

shape to form. *She can shape the driftwood into a sculpture by careful carving.*

credit *n.* 1. recognition; favorable regard. *He deserves credit for his work.* 2. a system of buying goods by charging the amount and paying the bill, with interest, later. *Using credit is convenient but expensive.*

approval sign of support. *The principal gave approval for our work on Cleanup Day.*

honor show of approval. *Let us pay honor to those who work for our safety.*

praise approval. *She was generous with praise for each student.*

regard recognition. *Their work deserves our regard.*



damage *v.* to break, injure, or harm something. *The accident did damage their car.*

deface to spoil the appearance of. *Those posters would deface the walls.*

harm to cause injury. *When you build, don't harm the environment.*

hurt to cause pain. *I hurt my ankle on the long hike.*

injure to cause damage. *Fortunately, the fall did not injure the little girl.*

ruin to spoil. *The chemicals will ruin the ancient stone buildings.*

spoil to ruin. *Be careful or you will spoil the newly painted desk.*

wreck to destroy. *The terrible storms did wreck the old fishing boat.*

decide *v.* to reach a decision; to make up one's mind. *I did finally decide to tell them.*

arrange to bring about. *I will arrange to take the test one day early.*

referee to judge. *She is going to referee the debate.*

resolve to find a solution. *I count on my parents to help me to resolve problems that are too big for me.*

rule to make a decision. *The judge will rule on the case.*

settle to bring to an end. *My friend can settle almost any argument.*

umpire to judge; referee. *He will umpire the school intramural games.*

declare *v.* 1. to announce publicly and formally; to make known to others. *Only Congress can declare war.* 2. to say positively and surely; to state openly. *Mark decided to declare that he would never again be late for school.*

announce to make a statement. *Lois heard the reporter announce the success of the space mission.*

express to state an idea. *Writing is a great way to express your ideas and to share your feelings.*

proclaim to declare formally. *We expect the mayor to proclaim a day of celebration for the city's ninety-fifth birthday.*

profess to state a belief. *The senator continued to profess his belief in his party.*

state to say; to declare. *The coach is always ready to state his opinion.*

decrease *v.* to become less; to diminish. *The noise will decrease sharply when the window is closed.*

drop to become less. *The number of fans seems to drop each year.*

fall off to lessen. *Attendance began to fall off after a week.*

lessen to become less; to make less. *We tried to lessen the noise by turning the volume down.*

reduce to make smaller. *Can you reduce the danger by driving more slowly?*

shorten to make shorter. *I ruined the jeans when I tried to shorten the legs.*

shrink to become smaller in size. *Those jeans might shrink if you wash them in hot water.*

wane to become smaller. *The moon will wane until next Sunday.*

weaken to make less strong. *Adding water will weaken the orange juice.*

antonyms: to increase, grow, rise, soar, strengthen, expand

delight *n.* enjoyment; pleasure; joy; something delightful. *Her sense of humor is a delight.*

gladness happiness. *The song about joy and gladness made me feel happy.*

happiness pleasurable feeling. *I've found happiness with my friends.*

joy intense pleasure. *Grandpa's visit brought us all so much joy!*

pleasure enjoyment. *Being outdoors gives me a lot of pleasure.*

deny

antonyms: disgust, displeasure, dissatisfaction, distaste, bore

deny *v.* 1. to state that something is untrue or incorrect. *The prisoner did deny that she had robbed the store.* 2. to refuse to give or allow. *The court continued to deny his request for a new trial.*

contradict to declare untrue. *Please be courteous if you contradict a statement.*

disown to deny connection with. *Will you disown your brother because of what he did?*

dispute to disagree. *Teresa hates to dispute about anything.*

forbid to refuse approval. *Their parents did forbid them to swim there.*

protest to object. *The fans started to protest the referee's call.*

refuse to not allow or give. *I'm going to refuse to help them.*

turn down to refuse. *Why did you turn down his request?*

veto to vote against. *The President will veto that bill.*

withhold to hold back. *Just withhold your support and see what they do.*

antonyms: to affirm, believe, allow, let, permit, give, offer, provide

destroy *v.* to put an end to; to ruin; to tear down; to wreck completely. *The fire did destroy the beautiful cathedral.*

cancel to bring to an end. *We might have to cancel our vacation plans.*

consume to eat; to use up. *We watched the fire consume the pile of leaves.*

end to finish. *This snow does end the nice, warm autumn.*

erase to rub out. *Please erase your answer neatly.*

exterminate to destroy completely. *The company promises to exterminate the termites.*

remove to take away. *Can you remove the remains of the bonfire?*

ruin to spoil. *The storm might ruin the corn.*

undo to reverse. *She tried to undo the harm done by her lie.*

wipe out to destroy. *Hail can wipe out the young crops.*

antonyms: to create, make, erect, raise

dislike

diary *n.* a written record of the things that the writer has done or thought day by day. *Ricardo kept a travel diary of his trip to New York.*

appointment book a list of daily events or business. *James wrote each day's activities in his appointment book.*

journal a daily record. *Martha found the journal that her mother kept during her trip to America.*

director *n.* a person who directs or manages the work done by other people. *He became the director of sales.*

boss a person who directs; one who gives orders. *The detective story is about two office workers and their missing boss.*

chief director; head. *The police chief retired this week.*

commander a leader, usually of a military group. *The President is the Commander-in-Chief of all the United States armed forces.*

head the person in charge. *Nora Charles is the head of the science department.*

leader a person whom others follow. *The leader of the band became famous.*

manager a person who directs a group. *The team's manager was known for making funny remarks during press interviews.*

organizer a person who plans activities. *Suki's grandfather was an organizer for labor unions.*

supervisor one who directs others in their work. *Mr. Washington is the supervisor for all the local sales representatives.*

dislike *v.* to have a feeling against; to object to. *At first I wanted to dislike him, but now we are friends.*

despise to dislike and look down upon. *Sports fans despise cheating.*

detest to hate. *Andrew did detest the way the forest was being destroyed.*

disapprove to deny support. *The coach said that she does disapprove of my diet.*

hate to dislike strongly. *"I hate seeing the river polluted," Maggie cried.*

resent to feel displeased. *Greg said that he does resent being taken off the team.*

scorn to look down on. *Mark seemed to scorn the opinion of his neighbor.*

shun to avoid. *A good rule is to shun dishonesty.*

antonyms: to like, enjoy, admire

dramatic *adj.* 1. having to do with plays or the theater. *An actor is a dramatic artist.* 2. exciting and full of adventure. *The climbers made a dramatic attempt to reach the summit.*

make-believe imaginative; not real. *Little children love make-believe games.*

remarkable worth noticing. *I think circus performers are remarkable people.*

sensational dramatic. *The high-wire acts are sensational.*

spectacular impressive and striking. *The parade was really spectacular.*

stagy artificial; not realistic. *The costumes were too stagy to suit me.*

striking noticeable. *The dance numbers were really striking.*

theatrical overly dramatic or emotional. *Georgia's reaction to the news seemed rather theatrical.*

thrilling exciting. *Do you think circuses are thrilling?*

vivid bright; noticeable. *The scenery for the show was vivid and will long be remembered.*

antonyms: flat, common, everyday, dull



energetic *adj.* full of energy; active; vigorous. *We needed energetic workers to help clean out the attic.*

active lively. *Koalas are active at night.*

brisk quick. *Make your daily walk brisk and energetic.*

forceful strong. *His speech to the band members was forceful.*

lively active; energetic. *The lively music was great for dancing.*

tireless endlessly energetic. *Walter is a tireless supporter of our senator.*

vigorous full of energy. *We gave the classroom walls a vigorous scrubbing.*

antonyms: lazy, slothful, inactive

entire *adj.* whole; complete. *We spent the entire day at the zoo.*

complete finished. *The complete set of Stevenson's books is on the top shelf.*

full having no empty space. *The children ate a full bowl of popcorn.*

perfect with nothing missing; faultless.

Everything about the dance performance was perfect.

single one; whole. *The mobile was formed from a single strand of wire.*

total complete. *The total cost was almost three hundred dollars.*

unbroken not in parts. *The dish he dropped was unbroken.*

undivided in one part; complete. *The play had our undivided attention.*

whole having all parts. *For a change, we finished the whole crossword puzzle.*

antonyms: partial, incomplete, divided

event *n.* 1. anything that happens. *To a child, a trip to the circus is a great event.* 2. one of the contests in a sports meet. *The next event is the one-hundred-meter backstroke.*

activity sports event. *In the triathlon, Mark's favorite activity is the bike race.*

adventure exciting event. *Kevin says that finding snakes for the zoo is quite an adventure.*

experience an event. *He thought that wading through a swamp was an interesting experience.*

happening something that occurs. *Our winter festival was a successful happening.*

milestone important event in a series. *Being chosen quarterback was a milestone in Shawn's career.*

exact *adj.* correct. *The machine gave me exact change.*

accurate free of error. *Did you get an accurate reading on the thermometer?*

precise correct in every detail. *A good writer uses precise language.*

explain *v.* to make something clear; to tell what something means. *The teacher will explain the difference between nouns and verbs.*

clarify to make clear. *Annie tries to clarify her thoughts by writing in her journal.*

demonstrate to teach by showing. *Please demonstrate the last step in dividing fractions.*

instruct to teach. *Uncle Jake will instruct his nieces and nephews in the skill of square dancing.*



spell out to explain step-by-step. *Last year, Ms. Arthur had to spell out how to use the Dewey Decimal System.*

teach to instruct. *To teach well takes knowledge and orderly thinking.*

extend *v.* 1. to lengthen. *We want to extend our vacation so that we can visit another national park.* 2. to stretch out. *The river does extend for many miles.* 3. to make larger; to increase. *You can extend your knowledge by reading books.* 4. to offer. *He did extend an invitation to the entire class.*

broaden to make more inclusive. *Seeing both sides of a situation will broaden your understanding of it.*

continue to make longer; extend. *The family wanted to continue the drive along the waterfront.*

draw out to extend in time. *The opposing team tried to draw out the final minutes of the basketball game.*

enlarge to make greater. *Carl says that reading the encyclopedia will enlarge his collection of trivia.*

expand to make broader. *It's true that reading will expand your mind and your imagination.*

lengthen to make longer. *Do you think it would be good to lengthen the school year?*

straighten to uncurl. *When Beth does straighten her hair, it looks longer.*

stretch to pull; to make longer. *When I tried to stretch the rubber band, it snapped.*

unroll to open to full length. *"Unroll the scroll and read it to us," they said.*

widen to make broader. *They will widen this road to reduce the traffic problem.*

antonyms: shorten, contract, curl, roll, fold, cut short, narrow, limit, reduce

external *adj.* outer; on the outside; exterior. *This old building is drab on the inside, but it has several interesting external features.*

outer covering. *Wear warm outer clothing for cold-weather hikes.*

outside outdoors. *Although it was cold outside, it was warm in the house.*

antonyms: interior, internal, inner

false *adj.* 1. not true. *It is false to say that $2 + 2 = 5$.*

2. not real or genuine. *The man wore a false beard.*

artificial not real. *The flowers looked real, but were artificial.*

dishonest deliberately untrue. *The answers they gave the travelers were dishonest.*

fake artificial. *The coat was warm and was made of soft, fake fur.*

lying deliberately false. *Lying words can cause real harm.*

make-believe not real; imaginary. *"Don't be afraid," we told the little boy. "Bambi is just make-believe."*

misleading leading to a wrong conclusion. *Some clues in the mystery story were very misleading.*

untrue not correct. *It is untrue to say that Texas is the smallest state.*

wrong not right or correct. *Kim's answer to the history question was wrong.*

antonyms: true, loyal, faithful, honest, genuine, real, correct

famous *adj.* widely known and talked about.

Colorado is famous for its mountains.

noted famous; honored. *Jesse's grandmother is a noted author.*

publicized made known. *They asked the scientists about the widely publicized discovery.*

well-known noted. *"Cinderella" is a well-known story.*

antonyms: unknown, hidden

feature *n.* 1. a part. *The interview was the best feature of the program.* 2. something that attracts attention; outstanding quality. *Her best feature is her ability to see mistakes.*

characteristic quality. *Honesty is a characteristic most people admire.*

highlight noticeable feature. *A highlight of the parade was the huge, striped balloon.*

final *adj.* 1. last; closing; coming at the end. *Friday is the final day of the sale.* 2. not to be changed. *The umpire's decision is always final.*

closing ending; last. *The audience sang the national anthem at the festival's closing ceremonies.*

concluding ending. *The concluding song on Lucy's recital was a well-known lullaby.*

finishing ending. *For the finishing touch, she drew a silver stripe along the side.*

last at the end. *Our float was the last one in the parade.*

latest most recent. *You are reading the paper's latest edition.*

antonyms: first, original, beginning, opening, earliest, introductory

foolish *adj.* senseless; silly; unwise. *Justin felt really foolish when he realized that his socks didn't match.*

absurd not reasonable. *My question didn't seem absurd at the time.*

empty-headed foolish. *It's not a compliment to be called empty-headed.*

improper not appropriate. *Joy's behavior was improper for a formal dinner.*

senseless without reason. *Destroying the picture was senseless.*

silly foolish. *The baby acted silly when she saw everybody was watching her.*

stupid not intelligent. *The puppy isn't stupid; it just isn't trained yet.*

thoughtless unthinking. *Sometimes Judy's words are thoughtless and harmful.*

unwise not sensible. *We felt that their decision was unwise.*

antonyms: wise, sensible, reasonable, intelligent

freedom *n.* the state of being free; liberty. *The Revolutionary War was fought to gain freedom for our country.*

discharge release from a duty or job. *The soldier asked for a discharge.*

elbowroom adequate space. *At the ranch, we have lots of elbowroom.*

independence freedom from control by others. *Do you think complete independence is possible?*

liberty independence. *People all over the world want liberty.*

release getting free. *The prisoners' release was celebrated by their families.*

right freedom. *In America, we have the right to share our ideas.*

scope space to move or think freely. *The children were given the scope they needed to become confident in themselves.*

self-rule independence from other governments. *The nation wants self-rule.*

antonyms: burden, pressure, confinement

frighten *v.* 1. to make afraid; to scare. *The actor's costume will frighten the little girl.* 2. to cause to move by making afraid. *They used the campfire to frighten away the wolves.*

alarm to frighten. *A strange noise alarmed the campers.*

awe to cause fear and respect. *A violent storm will awe those who experience it.*

dismay to cause concern. *Her failure to get better should dismay her doctors.*

horrify to frighten and dismay. *That mask is sure to horrify the people who see you.*

scare to alarm. *The costume will scare the little children.*

shock to surprise and frighten. *The dog's snarl seemed to shock its owner.*

startle to surprise and scare. *The doorbell managed to startle the man from his sleep.*

terrify to frighten badly. *The monster movie might terrify the young child.*

unnerve to upset seriously. *The earthquake did unnerve all of us.*

antonyms: reassure, encourage



generous *adj.* willing to share; unselfish; giving happily. *The famous athlete was generous with her time in teaching girls how to play tennis.*

abundant plentiful. *The harvest of corn was abundant this year.*

bountiful generous. *At Thanksgiving, we think of the bountiful land.*

openhanded generous. *Our neighbor is always openhanded when she bakes bread and rolls.*

overflowing more than is needed. *The overflowing cornucopia is a harvest symbol.*

unselfish willing to share. *Our neighbors are unselfish.*

antonyms: stingy, mean, scarce, small-minded, petty

good-bye or **good-by** *n.* an expression of farewell. *We said good-bye on the railway platform.*

adieu French word for good-bye. *We sadly bade them adieu on the dock.*

departure going from a place. *The plane's departure was delayed by snow.*

dismissal sending away. *Our dismissal from school was early today because of parent-teacher meetings.*

farewell parting; parting words. *They made their farewell brief.*

leave-taking parting. *The workers' leave-taking was cheerful.*

parting leave-taking. *Our parting was easier because we knew we would see them soon.*

send-off a formal leave-taking; celebration of a leave-taking. *Our block had a big send-off party when one family moved away.*

antonym: arrival

government *n.* 1. a system of ruling or managing. *Our American government is a democracy, which means that the power to make laws comes from the citizens.* 2. the people in charge of such a system. *The government has approved the new dam.*

command rule. *The army has a strict system of command.*

congress body that governs. *Members of the Congress are elected by the people.*

control power; influence. *Who has control of decisions like that?*

management method of rule. *The mayor heads our city's management.*

rule government. *How long did their rule of that region last?*

rulers persons who govern. *Who are the present rulers of the Middle East?*

antonyms: chaos, lawlessness



habit *n.* a custom; an action that has been done so often that one does it without thinking. *Brushing your teeth after every meal is a good habit to acquire.*

custom practice; habit. *It is Jake's custom to do his homework before he reads or plays.*

practice habit; routine. *Marcia's practice of reading every morning has helped her in school.*

routine regular practice. *Maggie follows the same routine every school day.*

harvest *n.* 1. a crop. *This year's grain harvest will be larger than last year's.* 2. the gathering in of a crop. *A farmer needs more workers during the harvest.*

product something that is made. *The dairy sold milk products of all kinds.*

profit gain. *The result of their work was a good profit.*

reward that which is gained. *The farm family reaped the reward for the hard work of the past year.*

yield the amount produced. *The farmer was pleased with the year's yield.*

hero *n.* 1. a person admired for courage or great deeds. *George Washington is a national hero.* 2. the most important character in a story. *The plot usually permits the hero to triumph.*

adventurer person who seeks danger and excitement. *People who like action may look up to an adventurer.*

champion person who stands up for others. *The ancient folktale is about a champion who saved the people in times of trouble.*

star person who stands out; entertainer. *Fans admire the star of that television series.*

winner person who triumphs. *Marie Curie was the winner of a Nobel prize in chemistry.*

humanity *n.* 1. people; the human race. *All humanity benefits from scientific research.* 2. kindness; mercy. *The prisoners were treated with humanity.*

charity concern for others. *Helping a friend is an act of charity.*

consideration concern for others. *Think of others and act with consideration.*

humankind all people. *Traveling adds to our knowledge of humankind.*

human race humankind. *Members of the human race are alike in important ways.*

kindness treating others well. *Most people value kindness.*

world all people; humankind. *They announced their findings to the world.*

humble *adj.* 1. modest; not proud. *She remained humble even after her huge success.* 2. not important or grand. *That actor still lives in the humble house in which he grew up.*

insignificant unimportant. *The humble artist said his work was insignificant when compared with that of artists in the past.*

lowly plain or common. *People thought of Harriet Tubman as a lowly woman until they learned about her heroic acts.*

meek quiet; making no protest. *I like my meek friend because she is so calm.*

respectful thinking well of others. *It's important to be respectful of other people's rights and ideas.*

shy timid; lacking self-confidence. *When Ted was little, he was very shy.*

simple plain; not showy. *The great writer's home is simple and looks like all of the other houses on the street.*

antonyms: arrogant, proud, haughty, boastful, important, significant

humid *adj.* damp; moist. *Tropical climates are often humid.*

damp containing water. *The damp clothes dried slowly because the air was humid.*

misty humid; foggy. *We could not see far in the misty air.*

moist slightly wet. *The tabletop was moist after I wiped it off.*

muggy hot and damp. *Even pets suffered during the muggy summer afternoons.*

steamy hot and moist. *The swamp is always steamy this time of year.*

watery full of water. *The watery soup did not look very tasty.*

wet watery. *I hung the wet towel on the clothesline.*

antonyms: dry, arid, parched

humor *n.* 1. something that makes a person laugh; a funny or amusing quality. *The essay used gentle humor to make its point.* 2. a state of mind; mood. *The cheerful story put me in a good humor.*

comedy humorous language or situations. *My favorite television show is a comedy.*

disposition attitude; feeling. *The sunny day improved my disposition.*

frame of mind attitude; disposition. *Seeing my friend always puts me in a good frame of mind.*

temper disposition. *A good joke will improve his temper.*

wit humor; cleverness. *Daniel M. Pinkwater is a writer who uses wit on every page.*

humorous *adj.* funny; comical; amusing. *The audience laughed at the humorous movie.*

amusing entertaining; comical. *The cartoon is just barely amusing.*

comical funny; amusing. *The cartoon was so comical that everybody had to laugh.*

funny humorous; laughable. *Did you ever notice that people don't all find the same things to be funny?*

laughable inspiring laughter. *Mark didn't think that the situation was laughable.*

witty clever; intelligently humorous. *Clive is so witty that we want him to do a stand-up comic routine for the talent show.*

antonyms: serious, grave, stern, sad



imagine *v.* 1. to make up an idea or picture in the mind. *I can imagine all the things I would do if I had the time.* 2. to suppose. *I imagine they'll be there soon.*

create to make something original. *Alexander Calder created a new art form called a "mobile."*

impatient

fancy to imagine something never experienced.

Just fancy living without any machines!

invent to make something new. *The Wright brothers invented a machine that would fly.*

picture to see in one's mind. *Can you picture my sister on a motorcycle?*

suppose to think. *Do you suppose the picnic will be fun?*

think of to imagine; to consider. *How did you ever think of zebra-striped walls?*

visualize to picture. *Try to visualize the way your room will look before we move all the furniture.*

impatient *adj.* not patient; restless. *We became impatient after the long delay.*

abrupt short in speech; impatient. *The clerk became abrupt when she realized that we weren't going to buy anything.*

eager impatient to do something pleasant. *We were all eager to start on the trip to Florida.*

fidgety restless. *Did you ever try to entertain a fidgety three-year-old?*

fussy irritable; nervous. *Eddie told his brother to stop being so fussy about his clothes.*

hasty in a hurry. *Slow down and don't be so hasty.*

irritable cross. *Having to wait makes me feel irritable.*

nervous anxious; concerned. *Waiting for the doctor made Rosie nervous.*

reckless careless. *Martin is often reckless with his spending money.*

restless jumpy; impatient. *The rainy day made us all restless.*

antonyms: patient, restful, quiet, calm, cool, easygoing

imperfect *adj.* not perfect; having faults or defects. *The diamond was beautiful, but the single flaw made it imperfect.*

crude natural; rough. *My uncle is drilling for crude oil on his property.*

defective having a fault. *Because the computer hookup was defective, a fuse blew.*

faulty defective. *Faulty wiring is very dangerous.*

flawed having a spot or blemish. *The surface of the beautiful table was flawed.*

incomplete missing a part. *The drawing was interesting but still incomplete.*

important

inferior of lower quality. *The desktop cracked because it was made of inferior wood.*

limited having limits; imperfect. *The self-emptying pencil sharpener Will invented is limited in its usefulness.*

marred spotted or spoiled. *The new mirror was marred by a long, thin scratch.*

unfinished incomplete. *Jed had shoveled snow for an hour, but the job was still unfinished.*

unsound not free from defects. *Katie's plans were unsound, so her great invention wouldn't work.*

antonyms: perfect, flawless, thorough

impolite *adj.* not polite; showing bad manners. *It is impolite to interrupt when another person is speaking.*

discourteous not courteous. *Loud talking in public places is discourteous.*

rude deliberately discourteous. *While he was upset, his behavior seemed rude.*

ungracious not mannerly or polite. *Never be ungracious to a guest.*

unmannerly lacking in manners; not showing courtesy. *When they were together, they were often loud and unmannerly.*

antonyms: polite, courteous, mannerly

important *adj.* 1. meaning a great deal; serious. *Your birthday is important to you.* 2. having power or authority. *Those parking places are reserved for important officials.*

critical capable of making a difference. *The decision you make now may be critical to your future.*

influential powerful. *The most influential woman in town owns the newspaper.*

major of first importance. *Clem's decision to go to the academy was a major move.*

meaningful having importance. *She and I had a very meaningful conversation.*

notable well-known; important. *The mayor and other notable officials were present.*

powerful holding authority. *Who is the most powerful elected official in our country?*

serious important; weighty. *Ms. Adamson's discussion with Tina was serious.*

weighty of great seriousness. *Mary Lynn had weighty plans for her future.*

antonyms: unimportant, slight, minor, weak

impossible *adj.* 1. not possible; not able to happen. *It is impossible for us to live without breathing air, eating food, and drinking water.* 2. difficult to get along with. *That impossible cat has clawed all the new furniture.*

unimaginable not able to be imagined. *I find it unimaginable that Sandy would have said that.*

unreal lacking reality. *The danger of an earthquake or a hurricane will seem unreal to those who have never experienced them.*

unreasonable not logical. *It is unreasonable to expect everybody to help.*

unthinkable not capable of being thought of. *A trip to the moon was once unthinkable.*

antonyms: reasonable, likely

inactive *adj.* not active; idle; not moving around. *Hawaii has both active and inactive volcanoes.*

idle not active; accomplishing little. *To be idle during vacation is pleasant.*

immobile unable to move. *The bike was so badly rusted that its wheels were immobile.*

motionless not moving. *The tiger lay motionless as she watched the grazing deer.*

antonyms: energetic, active, busy

include *v.* 1. to contain; to cover. *The price of the radio includes the tax.* 2. to put in as part of the total. *Don't forget to include the guests in the other room.*

admit to allow in. *Will the library club admit students in the lower grades, too?*

contain to hold; surround. *Sam said that no box in the world could contain his collection of treasures.*

cover to include. *The newspaper article did not cover everything that happened at the school board meeting.*

have to include. *Does that game have all the pieces we need?*

hold to contain. *The box Dad made will hold all of the chess pieces and the board.*

involve to bring into a situation. *My brother doesn't want us to involve him in our plans for the ball game.*

take in to admit. *The club hasn't room to take in everyone in school.*

antonyms: exclude, eliminate, omit

incomplete *adj.* not finished or complete; lacking something. *Your answer to the division problem was incomplete because you didn't give the remainder.*

defective missing a part; incomplete. *I think that radio is defective.*

half-finished partly finished. *Dad complained when Jack left the mowing half-finished.*

imperfect missing a quality or part. *This opal costs less because it is imperfect.*

partial incomplete. *That is only a partial answer to your question.*

undone not completed. *Al always leaves some homework undone.*

unfinished incomplete; not yet done. *Every sewing project Janet ever began was left unfinished.*

antonyms: whole, complete, finished

incorrect *adj.* 1. not correct; wrong. *This answer is incorrect.* 2. in poor taste; improper. *Slurping is considered incorrect.*

false untrue. *It is false to say that terriers make better pets than spaniels.*

faulty not correct; not thought through. *The workers couldn't complete the swimming pool because the plans were faulty.*

improper not correct. *It would be improper to talk to our guest without an introduction.*

inaccurate not exact; not correct. *Jerry's estimate for the damage was inaccurate.*

inappropriate not suitable for a situation. *The music was inappropriate for a serious gathering.*

inexact containing error. *The door didn't fit because the measurements she took were inexact.*

unfit unsuitable. *Your gym shoes are unfit for a formal dance.*

unsuitable not right for a situation. *Most people would agree that jeans are unsuitable for a wedding.*

untrue incorrect. *The statement is completely untrue.*

wrong incorrect. *I think your answer to the math problem is wrong.*

antonyms: accurate, exact, faultless, right, true, proper

increase *v.* to make or become greater. *The cost of living continues to increase every year.*

add to make larger by adding a part. *We decided to add two rooms to our house rather than move into a bigger one.*

develop to grow. *Our neighborhood will develop when the new workers move to this area.*

enlarge to make larger. *The photographer promised to enlarge our favorite snapshot.*
expand to stretch. *The balloon began to expand.*
extend to lengthen. *Grandma can extend her dining room table by adding sections.*
grow to become larger. *That tree can grow about one inch a year.*
inflate to make grow by filling with gas. *The huge balloons inflate very slowly.*
magnify to cause to appear larger. *The lens will magnify fine print.*
multiply to increase. *Sometimes, problems seem to multiply more quickly than solutions.*
prolong to make longer in time. *We couldn't prolong our winter vacation.*
raise to increase pay. *The company will raise everyone's salary.*
swell to puff up. *When Joey fell, his wrist began to swell.*

antonyms: lessen, decrease, shrink, reduce

inform *v.* to tell. *We had to inform her that she was on the wrong street.*

advise to inform; to suggest. *Would you advise her to study harder?*

educate to enlighten. *The students agreed to educate each other on local problems.*

enlighten to give information that will improve knowledge. *Gwen doesn't know what a pueblo is, so we will enlighten her.*

explain to provide information. *Gus's parents are going to explain speed skating and bike racing.*

instruct to teach. *My mother will instruct students who want to learn how to play hockey.*

notify to inform of a situation. *Please notify us if another meeting is to be held.*

teach to educate. *David's father will teach us how to ski.*

tell to inform. *Can Thomas tell us more about the carnival?*

informal *adj.* not formal; casual. *The party was informal, so we didn't have to dress up.*

casual not serious; informal; without plan. *Lunch at our house is usually very casual.*

easy relaxed; not formal. *Life around our house is pretty easy in the summertime.*

familiar well-known; casual. *I relax more easily in familiar surroundings.*

free casual; informal. *The big end-of-year dance was free and easy.*

relaxed without rules; informal. *The beach picnic had a relaxed atmosphere.*

simple plain; casual. *She wore a simple dress to the party.*

unofficial not part of an office or position. *The mayor's visit to our house was unofficial.*

antonyms: formal, official, stiff

install *v.* 1. to put something into a place where it can be used. *They will install the new water heater in the basement.* 2. to put into office with ceremony. *There was a special ceremony to install the new president of the college.*

admit to allow into; to install as part. *The Honors Club will admit twelve new members.*

establish to set up. *We might establish the deck as the place for our family breakfast.*

invest to admit with ceremony. *The society will invest the new members by giving them medals.*

locate to set in a planned place. *Where will they locate their new store?*

place to put in position. *Please place the tray on the table.*

position to put in place. *We tried to position the television set so everyone in the crowded room could watch the game.*

seat to establish in office. *A special ceremony was held to seat the city council members.*

set up to establish officially. *The position of class president has been set up for the first time in our class.*

instructor *n.* one who instructs; teacher. *Our school has a good art instructor.*

adviser one who offers suggestions. *Anyone planning a career needs an adviser.*

educator a person who teaches or studies teaching methods. *Do you want to be an educator when you are older?*

guide a person who leads through an unknown area. *The ranger was our guide through the mountain pass.*

teacher a person who instructs. *The students at Borough School named Ms. Cantor teacher of the year.*

trainer one who teaches a skill. *Beth does well with her new trainer in gymnastics.*

interest *n.* 1. a feeling of wanting to know or take part in something. *Sandra has an interest in music.* 2. the money paid for the use of another's money. *When you repay a loan, you pay the amount you borrowed plus interest.*

attention notice; interest. *The cheerful shouting caught our attention.*

attraction a pull; an interest. *History has a strong attraction for Holly.*

care concern; interest. *Show your care for the environment by not littering.*

concern interest; worry. *People in our town feel concern about the pollution of the river.*

curiosity desire to know; desire to experience. *Curiosity led Alice to meet the Mad Hatter and the March Hare.*

notice attention. *Will that poster attract their notice?*

profit gain; interest. *The bank made a profit on the loan to the city.*

antonyms: boredom, coolness, disregard

internal *adj.* 1. on the inside. *The heart is an internal organ.* 2. within a country; domestic. *A civil war is an internal conflict.*

buried hidden. *Katie's real feelings often stay buried.*

domestic national. *What are our biggest domestic problems?*

hidden personal; private; internal. *Until you know her, Della's real personality is hidden.*

inner internal; inside. *The library's inner walls have been replastered and repainted.*

inside inner. *The safest place in a wind storm is near an inside wall of your house.*

secret internal; private. *Mandy had a secret desire to be a singer.*

antonyms: exterior, outer, outside, exposed

invent *v.* 1. to make something that has never been made before. *Thomas wants to invent a new type of electric light.* 2. to make up, to imagine. *A writer can invent a story.*

create to make something new. *Maggie and Mark will create a new toy for their brother.*

falsify to deliberately change facts. *The spy in the story had to falsify a passport.*

fashion to put together. *Together they want to fashion an unusual routine for the marching band.*

fib to tell a trivial lie. *I know the minute my little sister tries to fib.*

lie to make up a false statement. *Do you ever lie about your age?*

originate to begin. *Where did the planting of potatoes originate?*

inventor *n.* one who invents. *Alexander Graham Bell was the inventor of the telephone.*

creator a person who makes something; an artist. *Michelangelo was the creator of the sculpture called "David."*

designer one who plans. *Frank Lloyd Wright was an architect and a designer of homes.*

originator a person who begins something. *Benjamin Franklin was the originator of bifocal lens.*

pioneer an originator; one who is first in a field. *Amelia Earhart was a pioneer in aviation.*



jacket *n.* 1. a short coat that covers the upper part of the body. *When the weather became cooler, Jimmy came into the house for his jacket.* 2. any outer covering. *A book's jacket protects the cover.*

case a cover. *The CD case had the artist's name on it.*

coat an outdoor garment. *Jackie's bright green coat caught everyone's attention.*

envelope a covering. *I put all of my letters in a large envelope.*

folder something that surrounds; a jacket. *Collect all of your papers and put them in a folder.*

wrapper a jacket; a cover. *The wrapper kept the snow from ruining Joe's book.*

joyous *adj.* joyful; glad. *The air rang with joyous shouts from children playing.*

cheerful happy. *The movie is mostly cheerful, but sometimes a little sad.*

happy joyful; content. *When Joe is sad, he finds that a good story will make him happy again.*

merry cheerful; joyful. *The merry, oddly dressed clown entertained the children.*

antonyms: depressing, grim, sad

judgment *n.* 1. a decision reached through careful thought. *The final judgment of the class was in favor of a picnic rather than a trip to the zoo.* 2. opinion. *In my judgment, such a plan will never succeed.* 3. the ability to make wise decisions. *Consuela shows good judgment about horses.*
award a judgment or decision. *What award did the court give them?*
conclusion a decision made after considering facts. *Her conclusion was that recycling is necessary.*
decision a conclusion; judgment. *The referee made an unpopular decision.*
decree a formal ruling. *In the fable, the cruel king's decree forbade all singing.*
finding formal ruling. *The lawyer said the court's finding was a reasonable one.*
intelligence cleverness; good judgment. *The coach says that good runners must have intelligence as well as speed.*
notion an idea; a personal judgment. *How did you arrive at that notion?*
order a ruling or decree. *He sent an order to the army.*
ruling a formal decision. *The court's ruling ended the confusion.*
sentence a legal ruling. *The judge gave a hard sentence to the careless driver.*
thought an opinion. *Tell us your thoughts after hearing our arguments.*
understanding wisdom; good judgment. *These ancient people had an understanding of how to keep the earth safe.*
verdict a legal conclusion. *The jury finally announced its verdict.*
wisdom good personal judgment. *Mr. Chee says his ancestors showed great wisdom in their care of the land.*
antonym: foolishness



kernel *n.* a grain or seed. *We eat the kernels of wheat in cereal.*
grain a small piece; kernel. *I watched as the squirrel ate every grain of corn.*

seed kernel from which grain or grass will grow. *The wheat seed is very tiny.*

kimono *n.* a loose outer garment bound with a sash in the middle. *The kimono was first used in Japan.*

costume native clothing. *The sari is still the costume of many women from India.*

dressing gown robe; kimono. *David sent his mother a beautiful silk dressing gown when he visited Japan.*

knapsack *n.* a canvas or leather bag worn or carried on the back and used to hold food, clothing, equipment, etc. *The hiker carried a knapsack and a sleeping bag.*

backpack knapsack; bag. *Jody's backpack held at least ten pounds of food and water.*

kit equipment for a soldier; equipment for a particular activity. *The hikers carried a first-aid kit at all times.*



language *n.* 1. speech; words that are spoken or written. *Language is the main way human beings communicate.* 2. the speech of a certain nation, tribe, or group of people. *The French language is spoken by the people of France.*

communication language; sharing meaning. *Using words correctly is important for good communication.*

dialect language of a region or people. *A story that uses dialect makes the setting and characters seem real.*

jargon language of a group or of experts. *I don't understand computer jargon.*

speech voice; language. *The visiting poet talked about the importance of rhythm in speech.*

latch *n.* a lock or a catch in which a movable piece fits into a notch or slot. *The door wouldn't stay closed because the latch was broken.*

bolt wooden or metal sliding bar on a door or window. *The bolt was made of wood.*

catch fastener; latch. *The metal catch broke off during the struggle.*

fastener device used for holding something in place. *Use the fastener to keep the curtains out of the way.*

launch *v.* 1. to send upward into space. *As we watched, the satellite was launched.* 2. to send into the water. *At the dock, workers prepared to launch the newest ship.* 3. to start; to begin. *Our school will launch a cleaning and painting drive in the neighborhood.*

begin to start. *Soon we will begin volleyball practice.*

eject to push out. *Student pilots learn to eject from their planes.*

institute to begin; to start. *The city will institute a plan for a new library.*

propel to push. *Escaping air will propel the balloon upward.*

push to launch; to propel. *We had to push the car to the gas station.*

set afloat to push into water. *The children used a long stick to set afloat the boats they had made.*

liberty *n.* 1. freedom; independence. *The American Revolution won liberty for the former British colonies.* 2. the right or opportunity to do something. *Our Constitution protects our liberty.*

freedom liberty; independence. *Every day the newspaper carries a story of people who work for freedom.*

independence freedom from rule. *The nation claimed its independence from Great Britain.*

permission freedom to act. *Our parents gave us permission to stay here all day.*

antonyms: denial, veto, ban

lodge *n.* 1. a building used as a temporary living place. *We stayed at a lodge on the lake.* 2. the den of an otter or beaver. *The beavers built a big lodge.*

cabin a small wooden shelter. *Early American settlers often built log cabins.*

cottage a simple house; a country home. *The Joneses have a cottage near Lake George.*

gatehouse a house at the entrance to an estate. *The owners rent the gatehouse to my friend's family.*

hut a temporary shelter; a small cabin. *The girls built a hut at the edge of the woods and used it as their clubhouse.*

loosen *v.* 1. to make loose; make less tight. *Loosen the collar around the dog's neck.* 2. to become loose. *The knot in the rope started to loosen because it was badly tied.*

decrease to lessen. *Gradually, the number of rules decreased, and Jackson was free to plan his own long summer days.*

deliver to free. *The army scouts were able to deliver their comrades from those who had captured them.*

ease to loosen to a degree. *Max's piano teacher promised to ease the practice rules after the recital.*

let up to ease. *The puppies let up on their demands for our time.*

reduce to lessen. *Kate reduced the pressure she had been putting on herself to succeed as a gymnast.*

relax to reduce an obligation. *During vacation, Gigi's parents relax her bedtime rules.*

release to let go. *The ski should release your foot if you fall.*

set free to let go. *The children wanted to set free the penned-in herd of deer.*

unbind to undo; release. *My hands are so cold I can't unbind these bales of hay.*

unbridle to loosen bindings. *Riders learn to unsaddle and unbridle their own horses.*

unchain to set free. *They won't unchain the elephant when there are visitors in the circus tent.*

unclasp to unhook. *Please unclasp the binder so I can add some pages.*

undo to unfasten. *Undo your scarf if you are too hot in here.*

unfasten to undo. *Can you unfasten the snaps on the baby's snowsuit, please?*

untie to undo a binding. *Untie your shoe and you will feel more comfortable.*

unyoke to release from a bond. *Anyone who wanted to unyoke the team of oxen had to be strong.*

weaken to grow less strong. *The bond between Joanne and her friend began to weaken.*

antonyms: to tie, bind, clasp, fasten, yoke, imprison, bridle, capture, stiffen, tighten, strengthen

loss *n.* 1. ruin; destruction. *The forest fire caused the loss of many trees.* 2. a failure to keep or to win. *The loss of the contract cost the company millions of dollars.* 3. a losing. *Marcia felt the loss of her old friends when she moved away.*

damage harm; ruin. *Covering books helps to prevent damage.*

defeat a failure to win. *The team's defeat was a surprise to the fans.*

forfeiture loss. *The breakdown of the bus caused our forfeiture of the game.*

harm hurt; destruction. *Pesticides cause harm to wild birds.*

ruin loss; destruction. *The film showed us the ruin of cities during the war.*

antonyms: excess, plus, surplus, profit, gain, return, improvement

loyal *adj.* faithful. *Sam is a loyal friend.*

devoted loyal; faithful. *Jack is devoted to his grandfather and helps him in many ways.*

faithful dependable; loyal. *That dog is so faithful that it follows Addie everywhere.*

reliable dependable; loyal. *Janet is a reliable friend.*

antonyms: faithless, disloyal, traitorous

loyalty *n.* a sense of duty; being loyal. *No one could question our loyalty to our country.*

allegiance loyalty. *We pledge allegiance to the flag and to the country for which it stands.*

devotion love and loyalty. *He showed devotion to his ideals.*

faithfulness allegiance. *History shows many examples of men and women who proved their faithfulness to their countries.*

obedience loyal following of orders. *The commander praised the sailor's obedience.*

antonyms: treachery, faithlessness, disloyalty

luggage *n.* baggage; the suitcases, trunks, bags, or boxes that are taken on a trip. *We claimed our luggage at the station.*

baggage luggage; portable equipment. *Our family always takes along more baggage than is needed.*

bags suitcases; luggage. *The tour guide limited us to four bags apiece.*

equipment gear. *A painter's equipment is lightweight and portable.*

gear luggage; equipment. *The photographer carried her gear everywhere.*

pack a soft bag, usually carried on the shoulder or back. *Tom traveled all summer with just a small pack.*

paraphernalia assortment of materials; gear. *Juan carried all kinds of drawing paraphernalia on our class trip.*

suitcases bags. *Hard-sided suitcases are heavier but safer.*



magic *n.* 1. in stories, the ability to do seemingly impossible things. *The prince was changed into a frog by magic.* 2. anything that charms and delights; an enchanting quality. *Donna was fascinated by the magic of the coral reef.*

appeal interest; glamour. *We felt the castle's appeal because we knew what had happened within those walls.*

enchantment wonder. *Many folktales are stories of enchantment.*

fascination wonder. *The beauty of the old buildings held a fascination for us.*

glamour enchantment; wonder. *Our visit to the ancient castle was full of glamour.*

spell enchantment. *A spell had been cast upon the little green troll.*

wonder-working act of enchanting; casting spells. *In the cartoon, the wizard's wonder-working was always for the good of the people.*

majority *n.* 1. a number that is more than half of a total; the larger part. *The majority of Americans can read and write.* 2. the number of votes by which an election is won. *The vote was thirteen to nine, so they won the election by a majority of four votes.*

bulk large part. *The bulk of the food was eaten before the party began.*

lion's share largest part. *The Great Dane got the lion's share of the dog food.*

antonyms: minority, few, little

margin *n.* an edge; border. *We left a wide margin on our printed report.*

border edge; margin. *The scarf of white silk had a picture of a Chinese home and garden and was edged with a red border.*

edge boundary. *The farmer built a stone wall at the edge of the field.*

rim edge where depth changes. *At the rim of the canyon, we stopped the horses and looked down at the river.*

midday *n.* the middle of the day; noon. *The parade began at midday.*

noon midday. *The cafeteria begins to serve lunch exactly at noon.*

twelve o'clock noon; midday. *The sun is highest in the sky at twelve o'clock standard time.*

midterm *adj.* in the middle of a term. *Jim failed the midterm exam, but did well on the final exam.*

midquarter halfway through a quarter. *If your school year is divided into quarters, you probably have a midquarter exam.*

midsemester halfway through a semester. *The midsemester vacation was a welcome break.*

midyear halfway through the year. *The Fourth of July is a great midyear celebration for Americans.*

modernize *v.* to make or become modern; bring up to date. *To modernize our bathroom we converted the tub into a shower.*

renew to make new. *The faculty decided to renew some class procedures.*

renovate to make like new. *The owners have promised to renovate those old buildings.*

streamline to make modern and efficient. *The fire department will streamline its emergency procedures.*

update to make modern. *The city announced that it would update its phone system.*

antonyms: to age, date, outdate, antique

motor *n.* an engine that turns power into motion. *The car would not move because the motor wouldn't start.*

dynamo a small generator. *At the flea market we found an old dynamo.*

engine a motor. *The car's old engine needed to be overhauled.*

generator a machine that converts mechanical energy into electricity. *The hospital can use a backup generator if the electricity in the city fails.*



narrow *adj.* 1. not wide. *The house is on a narrow street.* 2. close. *The careless riders had a narrow escape.*

close by a small amount; narrow. *We had a close call while driving on the freeway yesterday.*

slender thin; narrow. *The baby's cap was tied with a slender strip of ribbon.*

thin slender; narrow. *The wire on which the mobile hung was so thin it was almost invisible.*

antonyms: wide, fat, thick, broad

nonsense *n.* foolish actions or words; silly talk; anything that does not make sense. *Babies talk nonsense when they are learning to speak.*

foolishness silly talk or behavior. *We all laughed at their foolishness.*

poppycock an old-fashioned word for nonsense. *"Balderdash and poppycock!" the officer cried impatiently.*

rubbish nonsense; something with no merit. *The magazine was really just rubbish, and Pat found it boring.*

silliness nonsense. *The silliness of the cartoons helped me to relax.*

trivia unimportant facts. *The book reported a lot of trivia, but didn't contain much helpful information.*

antonyms: sense, logic, basics

nonstop *adv.* without stopping. *We flew nonstop from Denver to Seattle.*

ceaselessly without ceasing. *The puppy whined ceaselessly when we left him alone in the basement.*



office *n.* 1. a place or room where business is done or a service is supplied. *We waited in the doctor's office.* 2. a position to which one is elected or appointed. *She holds the office of mayor.*

position office; role; job. *The position of scout leader is challenging.*

post position; official work. *The ambassador's family joined him at his new post in Europe.*

role a position; office. *The governor seems comfortable in his new role.*

room place for business. *When they began their business, they rented a small room in the building across the street.*

suite a set of rooms. *The magazine editors work in the suite on the second floor.*

operate *v.* to run or work. *Do you know how to operate a sewing machine?*

go to run; to work. *The engine is made to go on very little energy.*

run to operate; to make go. *Brian likes to run the electric train he received for his birthday.*

work to run; to operate. *After practice, most people learn how to work the controls on a microwave oven.*

antonyms: to fail, stop, break down

operator *n.* one who runs or operates a machine, vehicle, business, etc. *The telephone operator helped us find the correct number.*

conductor operator. *The conductor on the trolley car was very good-natured.*

mechanic one who operates or repairs machines. *The factory needs good mechanics.*

pilot operator. *The riverboat pilot finished a long period of training.*

technician trained operator. *The huge water-processing plant employs that technician.*

worker operator. *Some fancy, older hotels have a worker running each elevator.*

organize *v.* to arrange; to put in order. *Organize your ideas before you start to write your paper.*

catalogue to organize by type. *There are several ways to catalogue library books.*

classify to put in a particular order. *Classify your notes according to topic.*

group to put in like sets. *The dancing teacher wants to group the children according to height.*

order to arrange. *Please order the books alphabetically on each shelf.*

sort to decide on an order. *Would you sort these papers according to their subjects, please?*

antonyms: to scramble, jumble, confuse, mix up, disorganize, disarrange

ornament *n.* something pretty used for decoration. *A mirror can make an attractive wall ornament.*

accessory something that is decorative or extra. *Clement added a gold chain as an accessory to the black shirt he wore for the party at school.*

adornment decoration. *Ms. Carter wears simple clothes with little adornment.*

decoration ornament; trimming. *The city put up beautiful decorations for its hundredth anniversary celebration.*

trimming decoration; adornment. *We will use ribbons as the trimming on the package.*

outline *n.* a plan; a list of main subjects. *Martin made an outline of the points he wanted to cover.*

diagram a plan; an outline. *Can you make a diagram so that I can understand your idea?*

plan an outline. *A good plan will make the job easier.*

sketch a plan. *Make a quick sketch of main ideas before you begin to write.*

summary statement of main ideas. *Be sure the summary is complete.*



parcel *n.* 1. a package; a bundle of things wrapped together. *The shopper's arms were filled with parcels.* 2. a piece; a section. *The farmer sold a parcel of land.*

box a container with a flat base. *We tried to find a box large enough for the bicycle.*

bundle package; load. *The teddy bear and the stuffed monkey made a bundle too awkward to carry easily.*

carton box; container. *The neighborhood children played in the cardboard carton from our refrigerator.*

package bundle; parcel. *We received a package of cheese from our friends in Italy.*

packet a small package. *The earrings came in a small packet.*

portion part; piece. *Grandfather sold a portion of the orchard to a neighbor.*

patient *adj.* able to put up with pain, trouble, delay, etc., without complaint. *The driver was patient despite the heavy traffic.*

persistent keeping at a task or problem. *Eve was persistent until she finally learned to play the computer game.*

resigned patient; able to put up with. *The driver was resigned to frequent traffic delays.*

sympathetic understanding; able to feel as others feel. *Families are usually sympathetic to each other's problems.*

picture *n.* 1. a painting, drawing, or photograph. *The picture in the magazine was beautiful.* 2. a likeness; image. *Larry is the picture of his father.* 3. a description. *Her letter gave a good picture of army life.*

description picture made in words. *I love novels that use a lot of description.*

drawing picture made with lines, not colored in. *One student in our class made a very lifelike drawing of horses.*

illustration picture; drawing. *Jamie drew a realistic illustration of our class trip to the circus.*

image likeness. *Steven is the image of his grandfather at Steven's age.*

likeness picture similar to its live object. *That is a perfect likeness of my parents when they were younger.*

painting picture; work of art. *Amy spent all of her time studying one painting.*

photograph a picture taken with a camera. *Elise showed us a photograph she took on her vacation in Hawaii.*

portrait likeness of a person. *Sally had an artist paint her portrait.*

portrayal description. *C. S. Lewis's portrayal of the land beyond the wardrobe is my favorite fictional description.*

sketch picture showing only the main lines of an object. *The artist at the mall made a quick sketch of me.*

pioneer *n.* a person who goes first and opens the way for others. *The ancient Egyptians were pioneers in astronomy.*

developer one who develops. *Henry and Camille Dreyfus were among the first developers of manufactured fibers that would replace natural fibers.*

forerunner person who goes first. *A forerunner in aviation was Harriet Quimby, who received a pilot's license in 1911.*

originator a person who begins something. *Elisha Otis was the originator of the passenger elevator.*

antonyms: follower, imitator, copier

plaza *n.* a public square in a city or town. *The cathedral faces the plaza.*

courtyard an enclosed area next to a building. *The office building where Mr. Scott works has a beautiful courtyard with a fountain.*

mall collection of shops, often under one roof. *Three new stores have just opened in the mall.*

marketplace place where products are sold. *The farmers brought fruit and vegetables to sell in the marketplace.*

piazza public square. *Restaurants in the piazza have outdoor tables.*

shopping center mall. *We like to meet at the shopping center downtown.*

square central public area. *In our town, the square is flooded for ice skating every winter.*

pleasant *adj.* 1. delightful; pleasing. *We had a pleasant vacation.* 2. fair and warm. *The weather was pleasant.* 3. agreeable; friendly. *The natives were pleasant to the tourists.*

agreeable pleasant; cheerful; obliging. *Mom asked us to be agreeable to our visiting aunt because she didn't feel well.*

cheerful pleasant; agreeable. *We think it's nice to have such a cheerful traffic officer near our school crossing.*

comfortable giving comfort; giving pleasure. *Our house is a comfortable place to be.*

enjoyable pleasurable. *Just about everyone said that the music was enjoyable.*

pleasing giving pleasure. *Ben was surprised to find that pomegranates have a pleasing taste.*

pleasurable giving pleasure. *Swimming in the cool water was pleasurable on hot summer days.*

refreshing making fresh; giving pleasure. *Orange juice is a refreshing drink.*

satisfying supplying enjoyment. *Our family Thanksgiving was a satisfying experience.*

antonyms: unpleasant, distressing, annoying

pledge *n.* a promise; an agreement. *We made a pledge to be home by ten o'clock.*

guarantee a promise to keep an agreement. *The teacher said he could not guarantee that the field trip was still possible.*

promise pledge. *"Give me your promise that you'll come to my party," Jan said to Mike.*

word pledge; promise. *Your friends know you will keep your word.*

polite *adj.* having good manners; courteous; thoughtful. *It is polite to shake hands when you meet someone.*

civilized polished; gracious. *Manners are a sign of civilized behavior.*

considerate thoughtful; well-mannered.

Politeness is a sign of a considerate person.

courteous polite. *People who serve the public should be courteous at all times.*

gracious courteous; welcoming. *Lori's Aunt Maisie is the most gracious hostess I've ever met.*

nice pleasant. *Well-mannered people are nice to be around.*

polished well-mannered; knowing what is correct. *The butlers in English television shows usually have very polished manners.*

well-mannered courteous. *Everybody was impressed by the well-mannered little boy.*

antonyms: rude, discourteous, impolite, impudent, crude, insolent

postscript *n.* a note added to a letter after the writer's signature. *Rieko wrote in a postscript that she had found her socks after all.*

addition something added. *Suki found a good addition to fill out her report.*

afterthought postscript; addition. *Jim's invitation to the party gave the location at the end, as if it were an afterthought.*

supplement addition. *The newsletter sent out by the school included a dress code as a supplement to the list of rules.*

practice *v.* 1. to put into actual use. *He does practice what he believes.* 2. to do exercises in order to become skilled. *Let's practice our spelling.*

do to practice. *Do the examples before going on to the next page.*

drill to practice; to train. *Drill regularly to learn the dance.*

employ to use. *Let the science students employ the ideas they have developed.*

engage in to practice; to follow. *My cousin will engage in a live demonstration of lion training.*

exercise to do; to practice. *The hall guards in our school are quick to exercise their authority.*

follow to practice. *A good athlete must follow a regular program of exercise.*

perfect to make right; to rehearse. *After a week, Judy should perfect her playing of the folk song.*

polish to perfect. *Let's polish our performance and be ready to win our blue ribbon at the talent show.*

rehearse to practice, usually an art. *The actors rehearse every afternoon.*

sharpen to make correct; to perfect. *Sharpen those math skills!*

train to practice. *Triathletes train daily during the season.*

work out to drill intensely. *Does the football squad work out daily?*

precaution *n.* action or care taken in advance, often for protection or safety. *We took the precaution of locking the car.*
foresight seeing needs ahead of time. *Their foresight made the day pleasant.*
preparation getting ready. *The police department helped with preparation for the governor's visit.*
prevention planning to stop something. *Eating well helps in the prevention of illness.*
prudence foresight; planning. *Saving money shows prudence.*
safeguard prevention. *They took extra water on the run as a safeguard.*

principal *adj.* most important; chief; main. *The principal product of Pittsburgh was steel from the many huge mills.*

central main; most important. *The central idea of the novel is that people can overcome their fears.*

chief central; main. *The chief reason we called was to invite you to dinner.*

foremost primary; main. *The town's foremost industry is textiles.*

leading major; principal. *The leading department store is closed for inventory.*

main most important. *Two of Iowa's main farm products are corn and pork.*

major most important. *Kit went to work for a major newspaper.*

prime most important. *The prime suspect was easy to spot in that show.*

antonyms: minor, secondary, lesser

principle *n.* a basic fact; a rule upon which other rules are based. *Learning from experimentation is a basic principle of science.*

doctrine beliefs; teachings. *What doctrine do you live by?*

law rule; principle. *Gravity is a natural law.*

rule law; basis. *It's a rule of nature that most plants need light.*

truth principle; basic fact. *What truth does this fable try to convey?*

private *adj.* belonging to a certain person or group of persons; not public. *Your letters are your private property.*

confidential secret; private. *Most secrets should be kept confidential.*

hidden not seen; not public. *The house has a small, hidden garden in the back.*

nonpublic private. *The telephones inside that office building are all nonpublic.*

secret personal; hidden. *The spy kept a secret diary.*

unofficial not official. *The mayor travels on official business, but some of his traveling is also unofficial.*

unpublished not public; unrevealed. *The famous poet's letters to his friends are unpublished.*

unrevealed not made known. *The whole story is still unrevealed.*

antonyms: available, general, public, official

purpose *n.* aim; plan; intention. *The purpose of the meeting was to plan our spring show.*

aim plan; purpose. *The girls' aim was to collect a hundred toys for children who had none of their own.*

design plan; aim. *Their design was to complete the work early.*

desire wish; plan. *The parents' club expressed its desire to build a bigger library for the school.*

plan aim; purpose. *Wally's plan was to surprise the coach.*

scheme complicated, secret plan. *Tom Sawyer's scheme to watch his own funeral was a success.*

wish desire. *The boys cleaned the playground out of a wish to be helpful.*



radiant *adj.* bright; shining. *Ann has a radiant smile.*

bright brilliant; shining. *The bright day made us all feel better.*

brilliant radiant; bright. *Sunlight shining through the prism made a brilliant rainbow on the classroom wall.*

glowing radiant. *Glowing brightly, Jupiter appeared low in the eastern sky.*

shining bright; giving light. *The shining yard light outside the window lit up the room and made it hard for Jan to sleep.*

realize *v.* to understand; to know; to be aware. *Allen was startled to realize that he was late for school.*

know to understand; to have knowledge. *The neighbors wanted to know why Pat played basketball all day.*

understand to comprehend; to know. *Reading about the Revolutionary War helped Betsy understand the history of her country.*

reappear v. to become visible again; to appear again. *The chipmunk seemed to vanish into a hole and then to reappear again.*

recur to come up again; to be repeated. *Once Janie had learned the new word, it seemed to recur in every TV show she watched.*

recent adj. done, made, or happening not long ago. *A recent news article told about progress being made in building safer cars.*

contemporary new; current. *Wicker furniture is a contemporary style.*

fresh recently made; recently discovered. *The hunters followed the fresh tracks through the canyon.*

late recent. *Dad listens to the radio for the late news stories.*

modern up-to-date; of recent make. *Joy wants a kitchen with modern appliances.*

new modern; recent. *Information in the newspaper should be new every day.*

novel unknown; original and fresh. *Katie's ideas for having fun are usually novel.*

up-to-date contemporary; current. *Jason reads a lot of up-to-date scientific journals.*

antonyms: old, ancient, early, old-time

reclaim v. 1. to restore to a usable condition. *We can reclaim used cans and newspapers by recycling them.* 2. to claim back; to ask for the return of. *I will reclaim my furniture from storage.*

recover to get back; to make available. *The company wants to recover the business it lost during the strike last year.*

recycle to make reusable. *The city plans to recycle plastic bottles and have them formed into boards for playground benches.*

restore to make like new; to make usable. *Donna worked hard to restore the old furniture.*

antonyms: to discard, waste, abandon, neglect, lose, reject

region n. 1. a large portion of the surface of Earth. *Cactuses grow in that desert region.* 2. any area or place. *We live in the northeast region of the state.*

area place; region. *I come from a heavily populated area of the country.*

barrio Spanish-speaking part of a city. *The houses in the barrio were made of stucco and painted in pale colors.*

district part of an area regarded as a unit. *The beautiful old city has an area called the Garden District.*

place area; region. *What places in this country have you visited?*

section measured part of a space. *Each family had its own section of the garden area in which to grow vegetables or flowers.*

space region; area. *We planted flowers in the large, empty space near the parking lot.*

spot small area. *On this spot by the river, Josh saw a crane for the first time.*

territory area claimed by a group, person, or animal. *The red-winged blackbird's soft whirring sound warns other birds to stay away from its territory.*

tract stretch of land. *The tract by the river will become a park.*

zone area with a special purpose. *Most cities set aside a residential zone where only houses can be built.*

rehearse v. to practice or prepare for a performance. *Our choir will rehearse for the spring concert.*

itemize to list. *Itemize everything that you want me to get at the store.*

practice to repeat to make correct. *Jason is good at drawing because he has practiced for years.*

recount to tell. *The old sailor began to recount the story of his first voyage.*

repeat to do again. *Please repeat that story about the weasel.*

relative n. a person connected to another by blood or marriage. *My favorite relative is Uncle Ed.*

kin relatives. *Mother said we could never count all of our kin.*

relation a person in one's family. *"He is no relation of mine!" Marge exclaimed.*

repair *v.* to bring back to good condition; to fix; to mend. *Do you know how to repair a flat tire?*
fix to repair. *Jonas can fix any toy you bring him.*
freshen to renew. *A coat of paint will freshen the room's appearance.*
mend to make whole. *Grandmother tells me she used to mend holes in my dad's socks.*
overhaul to examine and repair. *Last month Zach needed to overhaul the engine in his truck.*
patch up to make small repairs. *Maybe Billy should patch up the holes in the fence.*
restore to make like new. *When she got her first apartment, Gina learned to restore wooden furniture.*



separate *v.* to divide; keep apart; be between. *The fence will separate the two yards.*
break to separate into many pieces. *Don't drop the vase or the handles will break off.*
come apart to separate. *The old bike began to come apart as Hugo rode down the street.*
come between to divide; to separate. *He decided not to let a move to a distant neighborhood come between Joe and his friends.*
cut to sever with a sharp instrument. *In kindergarten, children are taught to cut straight.*
detach to take off; separate. *You can detach the training wheels and use the bicycle without them.*
divide to separate into parts; come between. *The Mississippi River divides Iowa from Wisconsin.*
part to put space between. *Many novels tell about someone's efforts to part a boy or girl and a pet.*
sever to cut apart. *It was hard to sever the drumstick from the thigh with a dull knife.*
split to divide wood on the grain. *Abe Lincoln is sometimes called "the rail-splitter" because he split wood for fence rails.*
tear to separate; rip. *The tailor could tear the material smoothly.*
antonyms: to unite, connect, join, mix, put together
serious *adj.* 1. thoughtful; solemn. *You look so serious; is something wrong?* 2. in earnest; honest; not joking. *She is serious about becoming a dancer.*

earnest showing serious feeling. *The little girl was earnest about helping her grandfather shovel the sidewalk.*
solemn very serious. *The funeral is a solemn ceremony for the family.*
thoughtful serious; earnest. *Wally was thoughtful as he worked at the computer.*
antonyms: lighthearted, humorous

shelter *v.* to protect; give shelter to. *Our house will shelter us from the cold weather.*
care for to protect. *Barb tries to care for birds in the winter by providing them with food and water.*
cover to give protection; to shelter. *Cover the sleeping bags so they don't get wet.*
harbor to give protection. *The old house was built to harbor many generations of Wallaces.*
house to give shelter. *The city wants to house anyone who has no shelter from the cold.*
lodge to give shelter to. *The rangers said they would lodge any campers whose tents had been destroyed.*
look after to care for; safeguard. *Rick is going to look after Eric's dog during Eric's vacation.*
preserve to save; keep. *The photographer is trying to preserve all of the old photographs of the city.*
protect to shield. *Police officers promise to protect citizens.*
provide for to care for; look after. *The Red Cross can provide for thousands of people in emergencies.*
safeguard to protect by prevention. *Drink bottled water to safeguard against illness.*
shield to cover; protect; give shelter. *Tents did shield the campers from the storm.*
take in to shelter; provide housing. *The motel owners offered to take in flood victims.*
slim *adj.* 1. thin; slender. *Jill chose a slim volume of poems at the library.* 2. small; slight. *There was a slim hope that he would win.*
narrow not wide. *The river is narrow at its source.*
skinny very thin. *The skinny cat slid past me as I tried to push it outside.*
slender fine; thin. *A slender path wound through the field.*
small very little. *There was a small chance that Lou would win the tournament.*

thin slim; slender. *The little girl was thin enough to slip between the fence rails.*

antonyms: stout, thick, broad, wide, abundant, large

summarize v. to give the main points of; to restate in fewer words. *Can you summarize Roger's speech?*

condense to summarize. *The newspaper will condense the mayor's talk.*

outline to list main ideas. *A good listener can easily outline a report.*

review to summarize. *The television reporter didn't review the movie soon enough for me to know that it was a waste of time.*

sum up to summarize; give main ideas. *Try to sum up the short story without telling the details.*

antonyms: to enlarge on, expand

supply v. to provide; furnish; give. *Who will supply the lemonade for the neighborhood block party?*

equip to supply materials. *It is expensive to equip oneself for horseback riding.*

furnish to supply; provide. *The girls agreed to furnish decorations for the party.*

give to provide. *Andy's mother decided to give him a new winter jacket.*

provide to furnish; supply. *The class had to decide how to provide food for the field trip.*

stock to store supplies. *The men agreed to stock the cabin where they stayed when they went fishing.*

swiftness n. speed; quickness. *The antelope's swiftness amazed us.*

haste speed; hurry. *Students entered the gym in haste.*

speed quickness; fast movement. *The cheetah's speed reaches seventy miles an hour!*

suddenness quickness. *The owl swooped down with such suddenness that the rabbit didn't know it was there.*

antonym: slowness



thorough adj. 1. complete. *She did a thorough job.* 2. careful and exact. *The police were thorough in examining the evidence.*

all-inclusive including all; thorough. *The sports almanac that Manny brought to school is all-inclusive.*

exhaustive including all details. *Janie gave an exhaustive account of her vacation.*

sweeping generalizing. *Her statements were too sweeping to be taken seriously.*

throw v. 1. to toss or cast through the air. *I'll throw the ball to you.* 2. to put into a particular state. *A power failure can throw the office into confusion.*

cast to throw; to bring about. *The news of the coming storm cast us into panic.*

fling to throw hurriedly. *The boys stopped to fling their coats on before leaving.*

hurl to throw violently. *The athlete tried to hurl the discus with all his strength.*

pitch to throw in a controlled way. *Ted can pitch the ball across the plate.*

toss to throw gently. *Pat continued to toss the ball over and over again to his little cousin.*

tone n. 1. a sound, especially with reference to its quality. *The bell rang with a harsh tone.* 2. a manner of speaking. *She used an angry tone.*

mood feeling; tone. *The first song set a cheerful mood for the concert.*

note a musical tone. *The pianist gave the singers their starting note.*

sound noise. *The sound of the school bell startled everyone.*

style tone; mood. *How would you describe that author's style?*

tourist *n.* a person traveling for pleasure. *The tourist took pictures of the famous German castle.*

globetrotter person who travels constantly.

Janet's Uncle Arthur is a globetrotter.

journeyer person who is on a trip; a person who takes trips. *The short story was about a journeyer through space and time.*

pilgrim person who travels for religious reasons or to a holy place. *The American Pilgrims were searching for religious freedom.*

sightseer person who travels to see famous places. *Traveling with a sightseer can be very tiring.*

traveler person who travels. *The traveler rode the bus from coast to coast.*

voyager person who travels by ship or in space. *Thor Heyerdahl is a famous voyager in modern times.*

wanderer person or thing moving without a settled route or pattern. *A comet is a wanderer around the solar system.*

truly *adv.* 1. really; truthfully. *Do you think he told us what he truly thought?* 2. in fact; indeed. *The music sounded truly glorious.*

actually in fact; truly. *The top speed of a greyhound may actually be close to 70 miles an hour.*

as a matter of fact honestly; truly. *The fans, as a matter of fact, want a victory.*

honestly truly; in fact. *The team is honestly trying to play better than they did last season.*

indeed truly; actually. *Deer are indeed beautiful animals.*

in fact actually. *In fact, no one knows the size of the universe.*

really actually; truly. *Josie told the class that she really wanted to be president of student council next year.*

type *n.* a particular kind; sort; class. *What type of book do you like best?*

kind a type; a category. *Catherine and Jane couldn't decide which kind of books they liked best at the public library.*

sort a type; kind. *The new mall has shops of every sort, including places to buy food.*



unit *n.* a standard measure. *Meters are a unit of distance.*

measure unit; standard. *Which measure is longer, an inch or a centimeter?*

quantity amount; unit. *The travelers bought a small quantity of milk.*

unknown *adj.* not known; strange; not familiar. *A stranger is an unknown person.*

hidden not known; not recognized. *Paul's talent for mimicry was hidden for a long time.*

mysterious unknown; not understood. *The source of the noise remained mysterious.*

unrecognized strange; not known. *The famous author was unrecognized when she visited our city.*

up-to-date *adj.* including any recent changes; current; modern. *This edition of the dictionary is the most up-to-date version.*

current up-to-date; recent. *The weekly school newspaper always tries to have information on current events.*

latest most recent. *My sister's latest interest is painting.*

recent modern; new. *I'm looking for a recent copy of that magazine.*

antonyms: old, former, out-of-date



vain *adj.* 1. too proud of oneself. *After Elaine won the prize, she became vain of her accomplishment.* 2. not successful; useless. *I soon gave up my vain efforts to attract his attention.*

boastful bragging. *The boastful athlete angered his teammates.*

conceited vain; proud. *Conceited people are usually not very patient with others.*

useless of no value. *Because they lost the match, the members of the tennis team felt that their practice had been useless.*

valley *n.* an area of low land between hills or mountains. *A clear river flowed through the valley.*

glen a narrow valley. *The houses and yards in the glen were nearly always dark.*

hollow space surrounded by hills. *The little town in the hollow was old and beautiful.*

ravine a deep cleft between mountains. *Fog rolled down into the ravine and hid the houses from sight.*

antonyms: hill, highland, upland, rise

value *n.* worth; importance. *No one doubts the value of a good education.*

advantage benefit. *Doing homework carefully has many advantages.*

merit value; worth. *The idea is unusual, but it has merit and will be considered.*

worth value; merit. *Wilma Rudolph knew the worth of ambition and hard workouts.*

vary *v.* to cause to change or be different. *People can vary their appearance by wearing different clothes.*

alter to change. *Please alter the jacket to make it fit properly.*

mix to combine parts. *We asked the band to mix modern music with old favorites.*

modify to make a small change. *Zeke modified his appearance by curling his hair.*

reshape to vary the shape. *The cleaners said they could reshape Grandpa's old felt hat when they cleaned it.*

voyage *n.* a journey by water or through air or space. *Christopher Columbus made a famous voyage to America.*

cruise a voyage for pleasure. *The family took a cruise to Alaska.*

sail a trip on a sailing ship or boat. *Every Sunday afternoon, people take a sail on the lake.*



warmth *n.* 1. the state of being warm. *The warmth of the sun felt good.* 2. friendly or affectionate feeling. *We appreciated the warmth of their welcome.*

affection warmth of feeling. *Members of Roger's family clearly felt a strong affection for one another.*

heat warmth; high temperature. *The heat in the house felt good after we walked home in the cold.*

worth *n.* merit; value. *This book has little real worth, but it's fun to read.*

cost price. *What is the cost of that portable CD player?*

merit worth; value. *Peggy saw the merit of daily practice on the piano.*

price cost. *Do they ever lower the price of cars?*

value worth; merit. *The value of a thing cannot always be measured in dollars.*



youth *n.* 1. a young person, especially a young man. *Who is the tall youth with the red hair?* 2. the quality or time period of being young. *Youth is followed by adulthood.*

childhood period of being a child. *Tamar wants to know how long childhood lasts.*

infancy babyhood. *During infancy, children need a lot of care.*

juvenile having the characteristics of youth. *Many good books and films are written for and about juveniles.*

teens the years from thirteen through nineteen. *Young people grow in many ways during their teens.*

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