



8

[55-65]

Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

apropos
ap rə pō'*adj.* Fitting the occasion; suitable or apt.The governor's red, white, and blue blouse seemed quite **apropos** for her post-election celebration.**ascendancy**
ə sen' dən sē*n.* Controlling influence; domination.The **ascendancy** of the United States as a world power coincided with the decline of the British Empire.**assess**
ə ses'*v.* To analyze and determine the nature, value, or importance of.After I **assessed** the difficulties we faced in repairing the storm damage, I proposed a three-part plan.**assessment** *n.*Our **assessment** of the water quality of the bay shows that there has been a significant improvement over the last five years.**aver**
ə vər'*v.* To declare positively; to state as the truth.The lawyer **averred** that her client was innocent.**concede**
kən sēd'*v.* 1. To admit to be true, often reluctantly.Bungee jumpers **concede** that the sport can be dangerous.

2. To grant or let have.

When her queen was placed in an indefensible position, Marla **conceded** the chess game to her opponent.**deficient**
də fish' ənt*adj.* Lacking.A diet **deficient** in fruits and vegetables won't provide enough vitamins for good nutrition.**deficiency** *n.*Teachers argued that students experienced a serious **deficiency** when schools could not provide music and art education.**dogma**
dôg' mə*n.* An unproven principle or belief held to be true.The economic theory that the wealth of large companies will trickle down to others in the society was **dogma** to many in the 1980s.**dogmatic** *adj.* Overly positive and assertive about something that cannot be proved.While we are enthusiastic about our method of teaching dance, we try not to be **dogmatic** in our approach.

embody
em bād' ē

- v. 1. To put an idea into a form that can be seen.
Picasso's great painting *Guernica* **embodies** his ideas about the barbarity of war.
2. To make part of a system; incorporate.
The Bill of Rights **embodies** the basic freedoms of all Americans.

impart
im pärt'

- v. 1. To make known; disclose.
He **imparted** his views in such a humorous manner that we were unsure whether to take them seriously.
2. To bestow.
The capers **impart** just the right amount of piquancy to the fish sauce.

oratory
or' ə tōr ē

- n. The art of public speaking.
Ms. Wade's inspired **oratory** made her address the high point of the convention.
- orator** n. A public speaker.
Patrick Henry, a contemporary of George Washington, was a brilliant **orator**.
- oratorical** adj.
Attending a workshop on public speaking can help sharpen one's **oratorical** skills.

propagate
prəp' ə gāt

- v. 1. To reproduce.
The scientists were puzzled when the frogs that **propagated** in the fall had unusually few offspring.
2. To cause to reproduce.
Begonias are easy plants to **propagate** by cuttings.
3. To foster the spread of.
The professor wrote several articles to **propagate** his theory explaining the causes of sudden climate change.
- propagation** n.
The **propagation** of information has been facilitated by the use of computers.

proponent
prə pō' nənt

- n. Someone who proposes or supports an idea; an advocate.
The bill passed easily since its **proponents** were in the majority.

rudimentary
rūō' də men' tər ē

- adj. 1. Not yet fully developed; basic.
The **rudimentary** train system of the United States developed rapidly during the second half of the nineteenth century.
2. Elementary.
Juan speaks four languages perfectly and has a **rudimentary** knowledge of several others.

sojourn
sō' jərn

- n. A visit or temporary stay.
Our summer **sojourn** with our cousins ended after six wonderful weeks in Puerto Rico.
- v. To stay for a while.
We usually **sojourn** for a week or so at our grandparents' cabin as we make our way north.

vociferous
vō sif' ə r əs

- adj. Making one's feelings known in a loud way.
The community's **vociferous** opposition to a stadium in their neighborhood led the governor to abandon the plan.

Read the sentences. If a sentence correctly uses the word in bold, write C on the line. If a sentence is incorrect, rewrite it so that the vocabulary word in bold is used correctly.

1. To **impart** something is to have an effect on it.

2. To **propagate** is to increase by producing offspring.

3. **Oratory** is the cultivation of fruits and vegetables.

4. A **dogma** is a brief, usually witty, saying.

5. To be in the **ascendancy** is to have power or influence.

6. To **concede** something is to hide it.

7. A **rudimentary** plan is one that is not expressed politely.

8. If a remark is **apropos**, it fits the situation perfectly.

9. To **assess** damage is to escape responsibility for it.

10. To be **deficient** is to be without certain things.

11. To **embody** a principle is to add details that may not be true.

12. A **proponent** of a scheme is one who is in favor of it.

13. To **sojourn** is to go on a long journey.

14. A **vociferous** supporter is one who cannot be trusted.

15. To **aver** something is to deny it happened.

6B

Using Words

If the word (or a form of the word) in bold fits in a sentence in the group following it, write the word in the blank space. If the word does not fit, leave the space empty. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. **embody**

- (a) Russo attempted to _____ the document where no one could find it.
- (b) The architecture of these cathedrals _____ the religious beliefs of the age.
- (c) The words "My country right or wrong" _____ the senator's philosophy.

2. **concede**

- (a) We have reluctantly _____ victory to the team from Brockton.
- (b) I refuse to _____ that I made an error in my calculations.
- (c) Each of us _____ a quart of water after the game.

3. **ascendancy**

- (a) By 49 B.C.E., Rome's _____ over the Gaulish tribes was complete.
- (b) My first _____ in a hot-air balloon was a thrilling experience.
- (c) The _____ of Mount Whitmore took us almost three hours.

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4. **vociferous**

- (a) The painter's early works are noted for their _____ use of color.
- (b) A _____ crowd gathered outside city hall demanding to see the mayor.
- (c) My cousin Tom is known for his _____ appetite.

5. **apropos**

- (a) What is the _____ of your paper?
- (b) For a vegetarian picnic, soyburgers would be _____.
- (c) Greed is an _____ title for this book on how to get rich quick.

6. **rudimentary**

- (a) Luz fashioned a _____ fishing rod out of a long branch she found on the ground.
- (b) It was very _____ of you to tell Mrs. Longworth that she was gaining weight.
- (c) Ken's knowledge of cooking is so _____ he can barely boil an egg.

7. **dogma**

- (a) Try to be a little more _____ when you talk to the principal.
- (b) Carla is so _____ that I don't enjoy conversing with her.
- (c) Scientific _____ asserts that water is made up of oxygen and hydrogen.

8. **deficient**

- (a) The thermometer shows a _____ temperature, so wear a warm coat.
- (b) Bruce has shown many times that he is _____ in good judgment.
- (c) Anemia is a medical condition caused by blood that is _____ = in iron.

Each group of words contains two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Circle them. Then circle *S* if they are synonyms or *A* if they are antonyms.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---|---|
| 1. noisy | rudimentary | vociferous | sedentary | S | A |
| 2. impart | assist | withhold | assess | S | A |
| 3. evaluate | assess | enunciate | embody | S | A |
| 4. increase | venerate | wane | regale | S | A |
| 5. secular | flamboyant | trusting | cynical | S | A |
| 6. hollow | sagacious | callow | secular | S | A |
| 7. precise | haphazard | sedentary | voluntary | S | A |
| 8. lament | exhort | implicate | urge | S | A |
| 9. careful | voracious | punctilious | wry | S | A |
| 10. deficient | temporal | lacking | pensive | S | A |

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