

## UNIT EIGHT

**III** The Latin *cedere* means both to “go forth,” as you do when you walk from one place to another, and “to give way, to yield.” This is why we get the word *proceed*, which means “go forward,” and *cease*, which means “stop,” from the same root.

**III** You have probably heard the word *succeed* used to mean “do well” or “win.” It also “to come after,” especially, “to follow someone else into a position of authority.” Thus, a prince might succeed his father on the throne; one president succeeds the next.

### CESS

Latin CEDERE, CESSUM, “to go, to yield”

**ACCESSIBLE** (ak ses' ə bəl) *adj.* Able to be reached or understood

L. ad, “to,” + *cessum* = come to

My school was not *accessible* because a huge tree was blocking the road.

**SUCCESSION** (suk sesh' ən) *n.* A group of things that follow one another

L. sub, “up from under,” + *cessum* = to go up from under, climb up to, follow

A *succession* of bad leaders had made the country unstable.

*syn:* series

**PROCESSION** (prə sesh' ən) *n.* A group that moves together

L. pro, “forth,” + *cessum* = going forth

The beautiful *procession* of animals and performers from the circus persuaded us to buy tickets as soon as possible.

### GRAD, GRESS

Latin GRADI, GRESSUS, “to go, progress”

**TRANSGRESS** (tranz gres' ən) *v.* To go against a law or rule

L. trans, “across,” + *gressus* = going across (boundaries or rules)

For every rule that the children *transgress*, their mother fines them a nickel.

*syn:* violate

*ant:* obey

**PROGRESSION** (prə gresh' ən) *n.* A going forth, a movement toward

L. pro, “forth,” + *gressus* = going forth

Because Arlene practiced extremely hard, her *progression* from amateur to professional dancer took her only one year.

**GRADUAL** (gra' jōō əl) *adj.* Happening over a period of time

Everyone was happy to see the *gradual* but steady increase in the number of students going to college.

*syn:* eventual

*ant:* immediate



**IT**

Latin IRE, ITUM, "to go"

**AMBITION** (âm bish' ən) *n.* A desire to succeed or be powerful

L. ambi, "around," + itum = *a going around*

Larry's *ambition* is to be an Elvis Presley impersonator, which is surprising because he cannot sing.

**TRANSIT** (tranz' it) *n.* The act or process of moving from one place to another

L. trans, "across," + itum = *a going across*

The package is now in *transit*, heading for New Jersey.

**CUR, COURS**

Latin CURRERE, CURSUM, "to run"

**OCCURRENCE** (ə kûr' əns) *n.* An instance

L. ob, "towards," + currere = *running towards*

Fred wasn't sure, but he felt JoAnn was referring to the *occurrence* that took place yesterday.

**COURSE** (kôrs) *v.* To flow; to stream

Once the pipe is fixed, water will *course* through at about a gallon a minute.

*syn:* gush

**CURRENCY** (kûr' ən sē) *n.* Money, especially paper money

Confederate money that was used in the Civil War has no real value today, except to *currency* collectors.

**RECURRENT** (rē kûr' ənt) *adj.* Happening many times

L. re, "again," + currere = *to run again*

In Paul's *recurrent* nightmare, which wakes him up frequently, cannibals are chasing him through the jungle.

*syn:* repeated

*ant:* one-time



*Shocking himself became a RECURRENT event.*

**III** In ancient Rome, candidates for political office walked ("itum") around ("ambi") to ask for votes. In modern day, ambition does not have to be political; you, for instance, could have great ambitions for your science fair project or your career.



**EXERCISES - UNIT EIGHT**

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. In order to make the difficult book more *accessible* to readers, the author...
2. Water could not *course* through the hose because...
3. The *procession* of funeral-goers started at the funeral home because...
4. Jay's *ambition* is to be student body president because...
5. The country's *currency* had lost some of its value because...
6. Darlene does not wish to *transgress* the...
7. The disappearance of the rain forest has not been *gradual*, but...
8. Doctors followed the *progression* of the patient's disease by...
9. When Mike learned that there had been an *occurrence* of water poisoning in his town, he...
10. While the package was in *transit*, some of its contents...
11. Justin had *recurrent* headaches that...
12. Our class had a *succession* of substitute teachers because...

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

course      progress      accessible      gradual      currency

1. Because of the Internet, information that was once unavailable is now \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ increase in rainfall led the city's sewers to slowly fill up with water.
3. When we crossed the border into Spain, we had to exchange all of our French \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The doctors were happy to see blood \_\_\_\_\_ through the patient's veins after the arm had been sewn back on.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

occurrence    transit    succession    progression    ambition

5. A new \_\_\_\_\_ system is needed to carry people from one end of the city to the other.
6. As the reporter said, the snowstorm was a strange \_\_\_\_\_ in the hot desert town.
7. It was difficult to follow the \_\_\_\_\_ of notes in the musical piece because they skipped all over the place.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of kings ended when King Frank was killed in battle.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

recurrent    ambitions    successions    procession    transgressed

9. Geraldine was given a new punishment for every rule she \_\_\_\_\_.
10. For someone with as many \_\_\_\_\_ as Pauline, a simple desk job will never be good enough.
11. Death, good and evil, and love are \_\_\_\_\_ ideas in the novel.
12. We saw a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of automobiles following the President in the parade.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. The idea that health care should be \_\_\_\_\_ to everyone was \_\_\_\_\_ in the President's speech.  
A. gradual; recurrent  
B. accessible; recurrent  
C. recurrent; gradual  
D. accessible; gradual
2. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of disasters led to a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ decline in the town's population.  
A. occurrence; accessible  
B. procession; accessible  
C. ambition; recurrent  
D. succession; gradual
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of cars was in \_\_\_\_\_ from the park to the beach.  
A. procession; transit  
B. progression; ambition  
C. occurrence; succession  
D. currency; transit



4. You may have a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ and desire to succeed, but it doesn't mean you can \_\_\_\_\_ all the rules of our company.
- succession; transgress
  - currency; course
  - ambition; transgress
  - ambition; course
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the blood as it \_\_\_\_\_ through the patient's veins was represented by a series of arrows.
- transit; transgressed
  - progression; coursed
  - currency; coursed
  - currency; transgressed

**Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.**

- If Morgan notices a *gradual* increase in the temperature outside, he could believe that...
- If the President declares that all Federal buildings should be *accessible* to wheelchairs,...
- If the criminal makes a *progression* from burglary to assault, police might infer that...

**Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.**

As you grow in maturity and social skills, you naturally want to branch out and do interesting things with your friends. One of the finest things young people can do today is volunteer in their communities. Volunteering gives you an opportunity to interact with adults who provide necessary services in your community. Maybe there are refugees who need legal or medical services that are not \_\_\_\_\_ (CESS) to them, but have nobody willing to take the time to show them the way to the offices. You could be that person, and you could learn during the course of your service how people of other cultures live by talking with these people in need. You might even make some life-long friends!

Maybe you are naturally talented as a game player or computer genius. What if you took those skills into a local nursing home and taught senior citizens how to use e-mail or type on a computer? Soon, they would be able to increase their contact with the outside world. You could help them escape from the boredom of everyday life in a nursing home. That would certainly make both you and those you help feel pretty special.

We all know we are lucky to live the way we do. It isn't without cost, though. Citizens have to contribute in a meaningful way to their society, or the society will not prosper. Just as you should contribute to the welfare of your home and your school, you should contribute to the general welfare of your community. Join a club or service organization, help adults pick up trash along the interstate, help deliver meals to the housebound, visit the sick, volunteer at a hospital, read to a blind person, help rescue abandoned pets, clean up a riverbed, etc. The list is endless, and the rewards are great. They may not be financial, but the pride, character and self-esteem you will gain will more than make up for the lack of funds. Your community will be a better place, your contribution will not go unnoticed, and your friends will want to join you as you make a significant contribution to the well-being of your fellow human. Who knows—your volunteering may blossom into a field of study, leading you on a \_\_\_\_\_ (GRAD) path to becoming a certified professional caregiver. Volunteer! You'll be glad you did.



1. Why does the author of this passage encourage volunteerism?
  - A. It is the duty of all adults.
  - B. It gives someone a chance to give back to the community.
  - C. It is a way to build character.
  - D. Both B and C
  
2. According to the article, a young person could volunteer to do all of the following EXCEPT
  - A. wait on tables.
  - B. rescue stray animals.
  - C. teach how to use e-mail.
  - D. pick up trash.
  
3. What could be considered a "reward" of volunteering?
  - A. Increased self-esteem
  - B. Improvement of the community
  - C. Cultural awareness
  - D. All the above
  
4. The author of this article is more likely to be from \_\_\_\_\_ than a large city.
  - A. America
  - B. a small town
  - C. Neither A nor B
  - D. It is impossible to tell from the passage.
  
5. The passage could be best categorized as
  - A. descriptive.
  - B. scientific.
  - C. persuasive.
  - D. dramatic.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the *italicized* words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Note that *ex* means "out" or "beyond."

The money the Lee family spent on vacation this year *exceeded* their summer budget. They went to Paris and had such a wonderful time that they completely forgot about their wallets. When they got home and saw that they had spent too much, they decided next year's trip will have to be cheaper. They will probably take a brief *excursion* to Yellowstone National Park, which is not far from their home.