



## Word List

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

- claustrophobia** *n.* An abnormal fear of narrow, enclosed spaces.  
 klōs trə fō´ bē ə Although John is in the Navy, his **claustrophobia** prevents him from serving in submarines.
- colleague** *n.* An associate or coworker of similar status.  
 kəl´ ēg On her birthday, Mom’s **colleagues** surprised her by taking her out to lunch.
- condescend** *v.* 1. To lower oneself to a position one considers inferior.  
 kən də send´ Once he became president of the company, Mr. Rose never **condescended** to travel any way but first class.  
 2. To behave in an offensively superior manner.  
 During rehearsals, the star of the show never **condescended** to join the rest of the cast for lunch; instead he ate alone in his dressing room.  
**condescending** *adj.* Showing an offensively superior manner.  
 Lucinda’s **condescending** attitude is not what we want in our elementary school tutors.
- contingent** *adj.* 1. Conditional; depending on something else.  
 kən tin´ jənt Tanya’s plans for attending the university were **contingent** on receiving a scholarship.  
 2. Likely, but not certain to happen; possible.  
 If it rains, our **contingent** plan is to move the strawberry festival from the school lawn to the auditorium.  
*n.* A group that is part of a larger one.  
 The Ethiopian **contingent** led the parade of Olympic athletes into the stadium.
- daunt** *v.* To discourage or intimidate.  
 dɔnt Learning that she needed a bone-marrow transplant did not **daunt** Miranda, but instead gave her hope for her future.  
**daunting** *adj.* So difficult or dangerous as to discourage or intimidate.  
 Expelled from Massachusetts Bay Colony in the winter of 1636, Roger Williams began a **daunting** journey south to find a place to settle.

**deluge**  
del' yooj

*n.* 1. A downpour of rain; a flood.  
Opening the dam just north of the Grand Canyon sent a **deluge** to the dry river beds in the canyon.  
2. A flood of anything.  
When the Millers advertised their new car for such a low price, they received a **deluge** of offers to buy.  
*v.* To flood or overwhelm.  
As she convalesced from her surgery, Delia's friends **deluged** her with cards, phone calls, and visits.

**dispel**  
di spel'

*v.* To clear away; to remove or get rid of, as if by scattering.  
I wanted Linda to reassure me, but her letter, instead of **dispelling** my fears, increased them.

**dub**  
dub

*v.* To give a title, nickname, or description to.  
His fans **dubbed** Babe Ruth "the Sultan of Swat."

**fanfare**  
fan' far

*n.* 1. A sounding of trumpets or other brass instruments.  
The audience is alerted to the entrance on-stage of Hamlet's mother, Queen Gertrude, by a loud **fanfare**.  
2. Any showy display.  
The props manager, working behind the scenes without **fanfare**, was essential to the overall effect of the play.

**fledgling**  
flej' lin

*n.* 1. A young bird just learning to fly.  
The **fledglings** took short trial flights over the yard from their nest on the porch.  
2. A young and inexperienced person.  
The reporter, a **fledgling**, forgot to get the eyewitness's name.  
*adj.* New and untested.  
My father's **fledgling** computer programming business has been very busy this month.

**inane**  
in an'

*adj.* Empty; shallow or silly.  
Susan, bored by the **inane** chatter of her classmates, walked on down the hall.  
**inanity** *n.* (in an' ə tē) Foolishness; a silly or pointless act.  
Hearing the **inanity** of his own response made Bruno understand how exhausted and in need of sleep he really was.

**mettle**  
met' l

*n.* Courage to bear up under difficult circumstances; spirit.  
In spite of the soldiers' threats, the children showed their **mettle** by refusing to tell them anything about their friend.

**negligible**  
neg' li jə bəl

*adj.* Small and unimportant, not worth noticing.  
The team's mistakes in the final tournament were **negligible**, having no effect on the result.

**protract**  
prō trakt'

v. To draw out or lengthen (in time).  
Our trip was **protracted** unnecessarily by our driving right past the correct exit.

**replica**  
rep' li kə

n. A copy or reproduction, especially one on a smaller scale than the original.  
A **replica** of the Statue of Liberty stood on my grandmother's shelf, a reminder of her first glimpse of her new country.

**7A** Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 7. Write each sentence in the space provided.

- 1. (a) A contingent is (c) a coworker with equal status.
- (b) A colleague is (d) an inexperienced person.

---

---

- 2. (a) fear of enclosed spaces. (c) a breakdown of the social order.
- (b) Mettle is (d) Claustrophobia is

---

---

- 3. (a) a flood of it. (c) A deluge of something is
- (b) A replica of something is (d) a showy display of it.

---

---

- 4. (a) a part of a larger group. (c) a fixed period of time.
- (b) A fanfare is (d) A contingent is

---

---

- 5. (a) A condescending actor (c) is one who outshines all others.
- (b) A fledgling actor (d) is one who treats others as inferior.

---

---

© SSI • DO NOT DUPLICATE

6. (a) a lack of spirit. (c) A fanfare is  
(b) An inanity is (d) a flourish of trumpets.
- 
- 

7. (a) fail to take proper care. (c) be afraid or intimidated.  
(b) To be daunted is to (d) To be negligible is to
- 
- 

8. (a) a young bird. (c) A replica is  
(b) A fledgling is (d) a feather worn as decoration.
- 
- 

9. (a) one that offers encouragement. (c) A negligible remark is  
(b) one that is foolish. (d) An inane remark is
- 
- 

10. (a) If an argument is protracted, (c) If an argument is dispelled,  
(b) it becomes more heated. (d) it is drawn out in time.
- 
- 

claustrophobia  
colleague  
condescend  
contingent  
daunt  
deluge  
dispel  
dub  
fanfare  
fledgling  
inane  
mettle  
negligible  
protract  
replica

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 7.

1. Your salary will be **dependent to some extent** on how many years of experience as a nurse you have had.
2. A **somewhat smaller copy** of Philadelphia's Liberty Bell hangs in our town museum.
3. **Young and inexperienced** fencers need close supervision at first, so that they do not hurt each other with their foils.
4. The cost of an oil change for the car was **small enough that we thought nothing of it**.
5. With very little **display intended to gain attention**, the owner announced that he would continue to pay his workers while the burned factory building was repaired.
6. When Brad and Tom got caught in a blizzard with the herd of horses they were driving over the mountain, they had plenty of opportunities to show their **ability to bear up under difficult circumstances**.
7. The sudden **downpour of rain** caused the crowd at the racetrack to run for shelter.
8. On summer mornings, the ocean breeze soon **gets rid of** the morning mist.
9. Last summer the lifeguard at our pool was **given the name** Hercules because he loved to show off his muscles.
10. The way to deal with the **silly foolishness** of daytime talk shows is to turn off the television.