



## Word List

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

**adroit**  
ə droit'*adj.* Clever at dealing with difficult situations; adept; skillful.  
Her **adroit** handling of the boat saved us from going onto the rocks.**affront**  
ə frunt'*v.* To insult or to offend deliberately.  
There is no better way to **affront** your coworkers than to suggest that they are indolent.  
*n.* A deliberate insult or offensive act.  
We will not ignore the **affront** to our family expressed in this letter.**avocation**  
av ə kā' shən*n.* An activity pursued for pleasure; a hobby.  
Serious artists say that painting is both their profession and their **avocation**.**crusade**  
krōō sād'*n.* A prolonged, impassioned struggle for what is believed to be a just cause.  
John Brown's **crusade** to emancipate the slaves led to his execution in 1859.  
*v.* To engage in such a struggle.  
Throughout much of his life, Ralph Nader has **crusaded** energetically to remove dangerous products from the marketplace.**definitive**  
də fin' ə tiv*adj.* Supplying a final answer; conclusive.  
Some scholars believe that the **definitive** biography of the poet Sylvia Plath has not yet been written.**demeanor**  
də mēn' ə r*n.* Behavior; bearing.  
She must have been in shock, because her **demeanor** didn't change in the slightest as she watched her home go up in flames.**erudite**  
er' yōō dit'*adj.* Having or demonstrating extensive knowledge; learned.  
In her first book, the author provided an **erudite** account of the looting of artworks during World War II.**erudition** *n.*  
His **erudition** is evident in more than one subject.**induct**  
in dukt'*v.* 1. To install in office, sometimes with a formal ceremony.  
The president of the university was **inducted** into office in the morning and then attended a luncheon held in her honor at noon.  
2. To admit to a society or to military service.  
Each year the National Academy of Science **inducts** a few celebrated researchers.  
**induction** *n.*  
The **induction** ceremony into the Baseball Hall of Fame was a thrilling experience for the retired pitcher.



**lapse**  
laps

*v.* 1. To fall or slip from a certain level of conduct or accomplishment.

After a month of regular exercise, we **lapsed** into inactivity.

2. To come to an end; to expire.

When the state trooper stopped me for speeding, he also discovered that my driver's license had **lapsed**.

*n.* 1. A minor mistake; a slip.

A **lapse** of memory caused me to miss our tennis engagement last week.

2. A pause or interval.

With such voluble students, there was never a **lapse** in class discussion.

**militant**  
mil' i tǎnt

*adj.* Ready to fight, especially for a cause.

My parents, **militant** supporters of public education, worked with other parents and the teachers to improve the elementary schools in our town.

*n.* One who is ready to fight for a cause.

**Militants** occupied the president's office, demanding changes in the college curriculum.

**pariah**  
pə ri' ə

*n.* A social outcast.

Her classmates treated Maria like a **pariah** when she told the principal that drugs were being sold in school.

**prodigy**  
präd' ə jē

*n.* 1. A person who shows remarkable talent at an early age.

Mozart was a musical **prodigy** who began composing at age five.

2. An amazing or extraordinary thing or event.

Everyone flocked to the new Ferris wheel, which was regarded as a **prodigy** of the age of steel.

**protégé**  
prōt' ə zhā

*masc. n.; protégée, fem. n.* One whose training or career is helped along by another.

Margaret Thatcher was a **protégée** of Edward Heath, whom she eventually replaced as British prime minister.

**raucous**  
rô' kəs

*adj.* 1. Rough and unpleasant to the ear.

The **raucous** cries of the restaurant's parrot startled the diners.

2. Boisterous and disorderly.

Before the lights went out, our camp counselor let us have a pillow fight, but made sure things didn't become too **raucous**.

**tacit**  
tas' it

*adj.* Expressed without words; implied.

You gave your **tacit** approval by not raising any objections to our 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. A **crusade** is an Italian pastry.

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2. An **induction** is a powerful explosion.

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3. When an agreement **lapses**, it is no longer in effect.

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4. A **prodigy** is something amazing or extraordinary.

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5. An **affront** is a mistake that has serious consequences.

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6. A **protégé** is a first or early version of something.

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7. A **raucous** cry is one that is not very pleasant to the ear.

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8. A **militant** group is one whose members wear a uniform.

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9. An **erudite** person is one who is excessively proud.

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10. An **avocation** is a short trip taken for pleasure.

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11. One's **demeanor** is the way one behaves or presents oneself.

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adroit  
 affront  
 avocation  
 crusade  
 definitive  
 demeanor  
 erudite  
 induct  
 lapse  
 militant  
 pariah  
 prodigy  
 protégé  
 raucous  
 tacit

12. An **adroit** move is one that is skillfully thought out and executed.

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13. A **pariah** is a leader of a political, religious, or social group.

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14. A **tacit** agreement is one that is understood but unspoken.

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15. A **definitive** result is one that cannot reasonably be questioned.

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8B

### 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. **induct**

- (a) Max is taking care of some last-minute details before he is \_\_\_\_\_ into the army.
- (b) A secretary \_\_\_\_\_ me across the hall and into the manager's office.
- (c) Ty Cobb was the first person \_\_\_\_\_ into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

#### 2. **militant**

- (a) As the peasants became more \_\_\_\_\_, the soldiers became more violent.
- (b) We belong to an organization that has become more \_\_\_\_\_ in protecting the environment.
- (c) Colonel and brigadier general are senior \_\_\_\_\_ ranks.

#### 3. **crusade**

- (a) Senator Braun's \_\_\_\_\_ for the White House was starting to falter.
- (b) The government's \_\_\_\_\_ against drunk drivers began having an effect in the 1980s.
- (c) Those who \_\_\_\_\_ against unnecessary violence in movies deserve our support.

4. **lapse**

- (a) I'm afraid he will \_\_\_\_\_ into his old bad habits if he doesn't get help.
- (b) Don't allow your passport to \_\_\_\_\_ if you are going abroad this year.
- (c) A single C+ is his only \_\_\_\_\_ in an otherwise perfect record of straight As.

5. **raucous**

- (a) The coach's voice was \_\_\_\_\_ from shouting at the rookie players throughout practice.
- (b) The \_\_\_\_\_ weekend parties at Wetherby House disturb the entire neighborhood.
- (c) The wound had been left unattended and was now \_\_\_\_\_ and inflamed.

6. **protégé**

- (a) Being a \_\_\_\_\_ of a Supreme Court Justice greatly helped her legal career.
- (b) As an endangered species, the manatee has \_\_\_\_\_ status.
- (c) My cousin was a chess \_\_\_\_\_.

7. **adroit**

- (a) Her \_\_\_\_\_ replies to reporters' tough questions earned her their respect.
- (b) He gave me an \_\_\_\_\_ look when I asked him what help he needed.
- (c) The sheepdog's \_\_\_\_\_ maneuvering kept the flock moving smoothly to the pasture.

8. **definitive**

- (a) It now seems \_\_\_\_\_ that Friday's parade will have to be canceled.
- (b) The public is entitled to \_\_\_\_\_ answers to these troubling questions.
- (c) The results of your study, while not \_\_\_\_\_, are very significant.

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raucous  
tacit



Choose from the two words provided and use each word only once when filling in the spaces. One space should be left blank.

**adroit / skillful**

1. Did you notice the \_\_\_\_\_ way she changed the subject?
2. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ carpenter could do the work in two hours.
3. Suzie was \_\_\_\_\_ with the math problem.

**erudite / clever**

4. It was \_\_\_\_\_ of Jeff to change the subject whenever politics was mentioned.
5. A person familiar with the literature of eight languages can be called \_\_\_\_\_.
6. It's \_\_\_\_\_ the way the moon always shows the same face to Earth.

**censure / criticize**

7. People sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ what they don't understand.
8. The United States Senate can \_\_\_\_\_ a member for unethical behavior.
9. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ my right to free speech."

**divulge / reveal**

10. A close inspection was able to \_\_\_\_\_ several small surface cracks.
11. The information he planned to \_\_\_\_\_ was deliberately misleading.
12. Those actors \_\_\_\_\_ their speeches too quickly.

**cynical / skeptical**

13. It is smart to be \_\_\_\_\_ of claims that seem too good to be true.
14. These reports are too \_\_\_\_\_ to be believed.
15. A child may become \_\_\_\_\_ if his parents don't keep their promises.