

**Clovis North Educational Center**  
**English Department**



C L O V I S   N O R T H  
B R O N C O S

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Essentials**

## Kinds/Types of Writing

<b>Expository</b>	explain/inform
<b>Persuasive</b>	argue for or against something
<b>Analysis</b>	provide analysis (response to literature, author's purpose, AP/SAT essays)
<b>Research</b>	expository or persuasive
<b>Descriptive</b>	show/describe
<b>Narrative</b>	tells story/event
<b>Summary</b>	1/3 original text
<b>Technical/Business</b>	directions, resume, proposal, manual
<b>Letter</b>	personal, business, complaint

## Essay Terminology

### Introduction

Attention Getter	Curb appeal	Hook	
Identify title and author (if applies)			
Thesis Statement	Controlling Idea	Subject + Position	Proposition

### Body

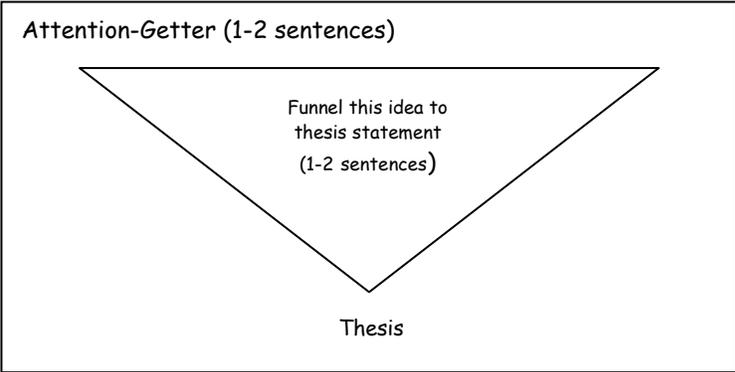
<b><u>Topic Sentence</u></b>	Mini-thesis	Argument	
<b><u>Evidence</u></b>	Supporting Details Quotation	Fact or Example Paraphrase	Concrete Detail
<b><u>Analysis</u></b>	Commentary Interpretation	Opinion Evaluation	Insight Inference

### Conclusion

Re-state thesis		
Highlight	Final Commentary	"Tell'em what you already told'em"
Close		

# ESSAY TEMPLATE

## The Introduction



## The Body Paragraph (2+)

Topic Sentence	
Concrete Detail/ Evidence	Commentary/Analysis
	Commentary/Analysis
Concrete Detail/ Evidence	Commentary/Analysis
	Commentary/Analysis
Concluding Sentence	

## The Conclusion

3+ sentences

CLOVIS NORTH ESSAY RUBRIC

<b>Essay Requirements: Components of an Essay</b>	<b>6</b> Clearly superior, excellent in all respects	<b>5</b> Displays a developing sense of style with some precision and insight	<b>4</b> Adequate achievement	<b>3</b> Demonstrates developing competence but is flawed	<b>2</b> Attempts the assignment, but the essay is seriously flawed	<b>1</b> Does not meet minimal standards for an essay
<b>Prompt:</b> Describes/outlines what is required of the essay writer. Good writers take time to fully understand the prompt before they begin reading or writing. Thesis addresses prompt and guides the paper by stating the position of the author in direct response to the prompt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addresses all aspects of the prompt very well. Makes an insightful connection to the prompt.</li> <li>Thesis statement guides development of ideas in support of a position - strong thesis that is repeatedly proved throughout the entire essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addresses all aspects of the prompt efficiently.</li> <li>Thesis statement guides development of ideas in support of a position - strong thesis that is proved throughout all or most of the essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addresses most aspects of the prompt.</li> <li>Thesis statement guides the essay but lacks depth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neglects prompt, or demonstrates inability to interpret and/or develop necessary aspects of the prompt</li> <li>Thesis is simple and general, is mostly plot summary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicates serious confusion/gross misread of the text/prompt or neglects important aspects of the prompt</li> <li>An attempt is made to create a thesis, but it summarizes plot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essay is not legible</li> <li>No thesis</li> </ul>
<b>Organization:</b> The paper should include evidence that the author took time to structure the paper in a logical way to outline an idea that addresses the prompt.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization and structure appropriate to purpose and paragraphs are well developed and logical.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates an organization and structure appropriate to purpose and paragraphs are effectively argued.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrates ability to reasonably organize and develop ideas by having definite separation of paragraphs from introduction to bodies to conclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized minimally, probably has an introduction and body paragraphs but paragraphs themselves may be disorganized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is very little attempt to separate different thoughts. The paper appears to be written without any attempt at pre-writing or drafting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no attempt to separate different thoughts. The paper appears to be written without any attempt at pre-writing or drafting.</li> </ul>
<b>Introduction:</b> Commences the paper with some kind of background familiarize the reader to the subject of the paper and includes a thesis (typically at the end).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction orients the reader to the situation in an engaging manner</li> <li>Thesis appears in introduction of essay and is well- connected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction orients the reader to the situation.</li> <li>Thesis appears in introduction of essay and is well- connected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction orients the reader to the situation, however briefly.</li> <li>Thesis appears in introduction of essay and is reasonably connected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction limited and fails to orient the reader to the situation</li> <li>Connection of introduction to thesis is disjointed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrates very weak organization or very little development of ideas</li> <li>Thesis may not appear in the introduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essay far too brief (skeletal development, can be one or two paragraphs)</li> <li>No thesis evident</li> </ul>
<b>Topic Sentences:</b> The first sentence of a body paragraph (b.p.) that has an argument/opinion that supports/connects to thesis which guides the entire paragraph.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic sentences guide paragraphs with strong opinion and clarify connections to thesis seamlessly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic sentences guide paragraphs with strong opinions and connect to thesis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic sentences support thesis but lack insight and/or connection to thesis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic sentences are mostly plot summary or quoted text and no connection to thesis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>True topic sentence not present (see definition).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>True topic sentence not present (see definition).</li> </ul>

<b>Components of an Essay continued:</b>	6 Clearly superior, excellent in all respects	5 Displays a developing sense of style with some precision and insight	4 Good, adequate achievement	3 Demonstrates developing competence but is flawed	2 Attempts the assignment, but the essay is seriously flawed	1 Does not meet minimal standards for an essay
<p><b>Writing Style:</b> sentence structure, elevated diction and a sense of voice is established in the paper and is interesting to read. Helps the audience understand the argument of the essay.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates sophistication of style, insightful analysis, with a seamless flow of ideas by using elements of creative writing such as extended metaphors, sophisticated lead-in to thesis, keen sense of audience, varied sentence structures, precise language/excellent use of diction and virtually error free (e.g. mechanics, punctuation).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presents ideas clearly and a develops a sense of style and creativity.</li> <li>• Uses precise language/good use of diction .</li> <li>• Contains few errors that do not detract from meaning (e.g. mechanics, punctuation).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideas are reasonably presented but lack a sense of style and creativity. Minimal awareness of audience.</li> <li>• Demonstrates adequate sentence control, but uses mostly simple sentences and average diction and/or misuses of effective diction.</li> <li>• Contains few errors that do not detract from meaning (e.g. mechanics, punctuation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expresses ideas in an unclear and confusing manner.</li> <li>• Demonstrates a minimal sense of organization and/or lack of sentence control.</li> <li>• Diction is elementary.</li> <li>• Errors confuse the reader, interrupts the presentation of thought and/or detract from meaning (e.g. mechanics, punctuation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows inadequate sentence control and diction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows inadequate or no sentence control and extremely limited diction</li> </ul>
<p><b>Concrete Details:</b> Support the topic sentence with direct quotations and/or paraphrases from the prompt or text. Synonyms for concrete detail: evidence, facts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses impressive, compelling and relevant supporting details, examples, evidence, facts</li> <li>• Uses logical and fluent transitions and lead ins to orient the reader to the evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses effective and relevant details/evidence/examples /facts</li> <li>• Uses effective transitions and lead ins to orient the reader to the evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses sufficient general/adequate textual evidence/concrete details/examples /facts</li> <li>• Lacking or inconsistent transitions and lead ins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses some evidence but relies too much on paraphrasing and can be repetitious</li> <li>• Evidence does not consistently connect to topic sentence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses little or no evidence that is often irrelevant; mostly plot summary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appears to not understand text</li> </ul>
<p><b>Commentary:</b> Analyzes the evidence as it relates to the argument.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writes commentary/Analysis that is plentiful, insightful, persuasive, and original</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writes commentary/analysis that is plentiful, insightful, and persuasive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writes Commentary/an alysis that can be plentiful, but also repetitive and/or commonplace</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writes commentary/analysis that is primarily paraphrase, repetitive</li> <li>• Commentary does not connect or support the argument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writes minimal analysis/commentary –almost all summary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little or no commentary</li> </ul>
<p><b>Conclusion:</b> final paragraph of an essay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creatively and/or sophisticatedly reinforces arguments and main idea of essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively reinforces arguments and main idea of essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequately reinforces arguments and main idea of essay</li> </ul>	<p>Restates or rewrites thesis/introduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses no conclusion</li> <li>• Uses a one sentence conclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No conclusion</li> </ul>

## BEYOND THE FORMULA

Now that you are in high school and are in the process of elevating your writing, please consider omitting the following words from your essays:

1. Stuff
2. Thing
3. Every + thing, one, body, etc. (absolutes)
4. So
5. First, Second, Third...
6. In the beginning, in the middle, in the end...
7. Personal pronouns (I, you, etc. )
8. Contractions
9. Slang (uber, texting language)
10. Should of, could of, would of
11. Symbols
12. Excessing ending punctuation
13. This shows that/this also shows
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.
- 26.
- 27.
- 28.
- 29.
- 30.

## DURING READING

### Annotation of a Text - Leaving Tracks of Thinking

*Annotating is recording what a reader is **thinking** while reading—it helps a reader remember what s/he has read. Annotation also provides an opportunity for a reader to **wrestle with the meaning of the text**.*

*Nothing matters more than **THINKING** while reading.*

#### **Throw away the highlighter—underline and make notes with a pen or pencil.**

Highlighting can actually distract from the business of learning and dilute your comprehension. Highlighting only *seems* like an active reading strategy, but it can actually lull you into *passivity* rather than *thinking* about the text.

**Mark up the margins of your text with WORDS or ILLUSTRATIONS.** These are **ideas** that occur to you, **notes** about things that seem important to you, **reminders** of how issues in a text may connect with class discussion or course themes. This kind of interaction keeps you conscious of the **reason** you are reading and the **purposes** your instructor has in mind. Later in the term, when you are reviewing for a test or project, your margin notes may become useful memory triggers. Make a list of your ideas, write phrases or complete sentences—it is up to you! Just **interact** with the text by **writing** and **marking it up!** (Post-it notes work too!)

**Get in the habit of hearing yourself ASK QUESTIONS.** **What** does this mean? **Why** is the author drawing that conclusion? **Why** is the class reading this text? **How** would this happen? **Where** have I heard of this idea before? **When** will it happen? **Who** would it affect? Write the questions down in your margins, at the beginning or end of the reading, in a notebook, or elsewhere.

**WHEN READING, STOP-THINK-REACT. (STRategy) I wonder...**

**Develop your own symbol system.** Asterisk a key idea in the text, for example, or use an **exclamation point** for the surprising, absurd, bizarre, or **question marks** for unclear passages or straight lines or crooked lines beside certain passages... Like your margin notes, your hieroglyphs can help you reconstruct the important observations that you made at an earlier time, and they will be indispensable when you return to a text later in the term, in search of a passage, an idea for a topic, or while preparing for an exam or project.

#### **Some annotation ideas:** *When I annotate, what do I write? Sometimes I...*

Record a <b>REACTION</b> to the reading.
Ask a <b>QUESTION</b> of the reading. What do I <b>WONDER</b> about?
Give an <b>OPINION</b> of the reading.
Make a <b>CONNECTION</b> to my own experiences, or local, national, or global situations, or other readings.
<b>PARAPHRASE</b> or <b>SUMMARIZE</b> sections of the reading—a line or two of summary per paragraph, perhaps.
Respond to how I would <b>RELATE</b> if I were in that situation.
Record the <b>“WHAT and WHERE and HOW and WHY and WHEN and WHO.”</b> Describe what is significant about the process and what conditions make the event or situation possible, where it happens, how it happens, where else it <i>could</i> happen, and speculate about <i>why</i> it happens...
Record an <b>ANALOGY</b> . Compare the reading to something that is already understood. (For example, lines of military defense compared to the lines of the immunity system’s defense)
Circle <b>WORDS</b> that I need to define. Keep a list of new words.

#### **Text Code Ideas:**

✓ for something known	?? for confusion	R for a connection (reminds me...)
L for new learning	☆ for important information	
? for a question	! for exciting or surprising information	

Ideas adapted from Harvey Daniels, Stephanie Harvey, and Cris Tovani





## 10th Grade Vocabulary

## Roots

Unit 1	Definitions	Words
hept	seven	
hepta	seven	<u>heptagon</u>
hemi	half	<u>hemisphere</u>
<b>Unit 2</b>		
rupt	to break or to burst	<u>rupture</u>
re	again or back	<u>reduce</u>
<b>Unit 3</b>		
sept	seven	
septem	seven	<u>September</u>
septi	seven	
septu	seven	
<b>Unit 4</b>		
tele	far or far off	<u>television</u>
therm	hot, warm, or heat	<u>thermal</u>
thermo	hot, warm, or heat	<u>thermometer</u>
thermy	hot, warm, or heat	
<b>Unit 5</b>		
dec	ten or a tenth part	<u>decade</u>
deca	ten or a tenth part	<u>decagram</u>
decem	ten or a tenth part	<u>December</u>
deci	ten or a tenth part	<u>deciliter</u>
<b>Unit 6</b>		
cracy	rule, gov't, power	<u>democracy</u>
crat		<u>aristocrat</u>
cratic		<u>autocratic</u>
<b>Unit 7</b>		
logical	a science or study of	<u>zoological</u>
logist	a science or study of	<u>entomologist</u>
logy	a speech	<u>eulogy</u>
loquy	pertaining to speech	<u>soliloquy</u>
<b>Unit 8</b>		
mill	a thousand	<u>millennium</u>

Unit 11	Definitions	Words
spir	to breathe or breath	<u>respiration</u>
spire	to breathe or breath	<u>inspire</u>
pir	to breathe or breath	<u>expiration</u>
pire	to breathe or breath	<u>expire</u>
<b>Unit 12</b>		
ject	to throw or cast	<u>eject</u>
kilo	a thousand	<u>kilometer</u>
<b>Unit 13</b>		
aut	of	<u>autopsy</u>
auth	by or for one's self	<u>author</u>
auto	self propelled	<u>automobile</u>
<b>Unit 14</b>		
bi	life and living	<u>biopsy</u>
bio	life and living	<u>biology</u>
bious	life and living	<u>amphibious</u>
<b>Unit 15</b>		
di	across or through	<u>diorama</u>
dia	across or through	<u>diameter</u>
dict	to say, to speak, to tell	<u>dictate</u>
<b>Unit 16</b>		
hem	blood	
hemo	blood	<u>hemorrhage</u>
emia	blood	<u>lukemia</u>
<b>Unit 17</b>		
hecto	a hundred	<u>hectometer</u>
hex	six	
hexa	six	<u>hexagon</u>
<b>Unit 18</b>		
medi	in the middle	<u>intermediate</u>

milli	a thousand	<u>millimeter</u>
mile	a thousand	
<b>Unit 9</b>		
pan	all or every	<u>panacea</u>
pass	suffering and feeling	<u>compassion</u>
path	suffering and feeling	<u>pathetic</u>
pathy	suffering and feeling	<u>sympathy</u>
<b>Unit 10</b>		
post	after in time or place	<u>postpone</u>
pre	before in time or place	<u>predict</u>

meter	a measurement	<u>barometer</u>
metry	a measurement	<u>trigonometry</u>
<b>Unit 19</b>		
phon	sound	<u>phonics</u>
phone	sound	<u>microphone</u>
phono	sound	<u>phonograph</u>
phony	sound	<u>symphony</u>
<b>Unit 20</b>		
sub	under or below	<u>submerge</u>
vice	in place of	<u>vicero</u> y

## English 10

### Lesson 1

- asperity** n. Sharpness or harshness of manner.  
There as a noticeable **asperity** in her voice as she scolded the children for teasing Andrea.
- bane** n. A person or thing that destroys or causes harm.  
Jonathan's little brother was the **bane** of our slumber party.
- buffoon** n. A person who often makes attempts to be funny; a clown; a fool.  
Although he acted like a **buffoon** at parties, Matt was usually rather serious.
- doleful** adj. Mournful or full of sorrow; causing grief.  
The **doleful** look on her face told me she has not gotten the grant to go to the summer program.
- extrovert** n. A person whose attention is focused on others and on what is going on around her or him, rather than on her or his own feels.  
Ray is an **extrovert** now, but he was rather shy as a young child.
- garish** adj. Excessively bright and flashy; tastelessly glaring.  
I told Henry that his tie was too **garish** to wear to a job interview.
- hierarchy** n. A group or system in which portions of power are ranked, usually from lowest to highest.  
In the state government **hierarchy**, the governor is at the top.
- imbue** v. To fill completely with a feeling or idea; to inspire.  
The really great athletes are **imbued** with a desire to excel.
- instigate** v. To stir up or urge on; to provoke.  
Because Joy was jealous of Dara's friendship with Kim, she **instigated** an argument between them.
- penchant** n. A strong attraction or leaning.  
Susan and Carl shared a **penchant** for crossword puzzles and made a ritual of doing them together every Sunday morning.
- rambunctious** adj. Behaving in a wild and unruly manner.  
When the puppies get too **rambunctious** in their play, the trainer separates the.
- repertoire** n. The list of pieces an actor, musician, etc., is ready to perform; the skills or accomplishments of a person or group.  
The band knew most of the requests, but several songs were not part of its **repertoire**.
- rudiment** n. A basic principle or skill.

This book teaches the **rudiments** of cooking, but it will not make you a master chef.

**undermine** v. To attack by indirect, secret, or underhanded means.  
During World War II, the French underground sought to **undermine** the Nazi occupation.

**unremitting** adj. Not stopping or slowing down; constant.  
The **unremitting** sounds of the city kept me awake in my hotel room all night.

## Lesson 2

**adjudicate** v. To hear and decide judicially; to judge.  
Since her case was still being **adjudicated**, the defendant didn't want to speak to the press.

**centennial** n. A one-hundredth anniversary or its celebration.  
The nation celebrated its **centennial** in 1876, one hundred years after the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776.

**countenance** n. A person's face; the expression on a person's face.  
Luke's **countenance** was doleful when he heard the news that the class trip was cancelled.

**disgruntle** v. To make dissatisfied; to put in a bad mood  
The employees, who haven't been given a raise in over two years, are **disgruntled** with their wages and want to increase in pay.

**equilibrium** n. A state of balance  
The United States government is most effective when its executive, legislative, and judicial branches are all working in **equilibrium**.

**expedite** v. To speed up a process; to facilitate  
The company hired additional workers to **expedite** the delivery of holiday order.

**gird** v. To encircle, bind, or surround  
He **girded** his waist with a wide leather belt

**gratuitous** adj. No called for; unnecessary  
The violence in that movie was gratuitous because it didn't add to the plot.

**illusory** adj. Unreal or imagined; deceiving  
His chances of getting a raise were **illusory** since he had such a poor work record.

**implacable** adj. incapable of being placated, soothed, or significantly changed; relentless.  
Despite Gina's apologies, Karen still felt hurt by her friend's betrayal and remained **implacable**.

**luminary** n. A source of light, especially from the sky, such as the sun or moon

**manifesto** The moon far outshines all other **luminaries** in the night sky.  
n. A public statement explaining the intentions, motives, or views of an individual or group  
In their 1848 Communist **Manifesto**, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels outlined their philosophies about class and economics.

**mesmerize** v. To fascinate or hypnotize  
The agile, death-defying moves of the trapeze artist kept the audience **mesmerized** during her performance.

**precedent** n. The act of statement that may serve as an example or justification for a later one  
The successful revolt of the American colonies provided a **precedent** for the French Revolution.

**spurious** adj. Not genuine; false  
**Spurious** reports that Elvis Presley was alive kept appearing in the tabloids.

### Lesson 3

**curtail** v. To cut short or reduce  
The performance was **curtailed** when a fire broke out in the theater.

**discriminate** v. The act of making a distinction in favor of or against a person or thing on the basis of the group or category rather than according to actual merit.  
Federal law prohibits **discrimination** based on race or creed.

**espionage** n. The act of spying, especially a government spy obtaining secrets of another government.  
Counterintelligence specialists use their knowledge of high-tech spying equipment to thwart acts of **espionage**.

**inalienable** adj. Not able to be taken or given away  
United States citizens are promised certain **inalienable** rights that are spelled out in the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution.

**incarcerate** v. To confine or to put in prison.  
Maximum security prisoners were **incarcerated** on Alcatraz, an island in San Francisco Bay, until 1963.

**indignity** n. An insult to one's pride; offensive or humiliating treatment  
His mother waited until they got home to reprimand her son, in order to spare him the **indignity** of being criticized in front of his friends.

**indiscriminate** adj. Not marked by careful distinctions; haphazard  
She was an **indiscriminate** reader and devoured everything from comics to history books.

**infamous** adj. Having a very bad reputation; notorious

The CIA's **infamous** agent, Aldrich Ames, sold compromising information to the Soviets that cost the lives of many Soviet secret agents.

**intercede** v. To act or plead on another's behalf; to try to smooth the differences between two parties.  
Instead of **interceding**, my parents encouraged my brother and me to resolve our differences on our own.

**malign** v. To say negative and unfair things about; slander  
The proprietor thought **maligning** his competitor's products would boost his own sales.

**perpetrate** v. To commit, as a crime or other antisocial act  
The con artist was guilty of **perpetrating** a minor scam.

**rampant** adj. Threateningly wild, without restraint or control; widespread.  
The **rampant** vines covered the slope and began to climb the surrounding trees.

**rancor** n. A deep, long-held feeling of hatred or bitterness.  
His rancor for the group turned him into its **implacable** foe.

**reparation** n. A mending or repair  
The building needed major **reparation** after the tornado.

**smattering** n. A small amount  
She wrote thousands of letters, of which only a **smattering** have been published.

#### Lesson 4

**accolade** n. An expression of approval or respect for special merit; a award.  
In England, knighthood is a high **accolade** given for service to the state.

**adamant** adj. Not yielding; firm.  
I missed the TV show because of my mother's **adamant** refusal to let me watch television before I'm done with my homework.

**adulate** v. To flatter or admire excessively; to idolize.  
Opera lovers **adulate** the Mexican singing sensation Rosaria Rosario; her performances are often sold out.

**altercation** n. A loud and determined dispute; a noisy quarrel  
After the hockey player purposely tripped a member of the opposing team, an **altercation** broke out .

**annals** n. A historical record of events, often arranged in a yearly sequence.  
I can easily research the history of my town because its **annals** have been preserved consistently since 1685.

**assiduous** adj. Diligent and persistent.

Maureen was the most **assiduous** researcher in our biology lab.

**chary** adj. Exercising caution; hesitant  
Be **chary** about making promises that you might not be able to keep.

**clique** n. A small, exclusive group; a group held together by like interests or purpose.  
The new student found it difficult to fit in at the high school because many of the students there belonged to **cliques** that didn't welcome newcomers.

**decrepit** adj. Worn-out with use; broken-down  
The **decrepit** buildings were torn down and replaced with a modern apartment complex.

**endow** v. To provide with a quality, a thing, or a gift or money  
Connie was **endowed** with a beautiful singing voice.

**ephemeral** adj. Lasting a very short time.  
The pleasures of our few days in the mountains were **ephemeral**, with only a faint memory remaining.

**ingratiate** v. To work to gain the favor of someone  
He attempted to **ingratiate** himself with his teacher by helping out after class.

**pantheon** n. A group of people held in high esteem for their great achievements.  
Albert Einstein is one of the most famous figures in the **pantheon** of great scientists.

**perverse** adj. turned away from what is right; wicked  
He gets a **perverse** satisfaction from teasing the dog

**tutelage** n. Instruction, protection. Or guardianship  
I prepared for the test under the **tutelage** of my math teacher.

### Lesson 5

**acrimony** n. Bitterness or sharpness of temper, manner, or speech; hostility.  
The political debates were marred by the unremitting **acrimony** of the candidates.

**affinity** n. Attraction for someone or something with which one feels a closeness or kinship.  
Rob and Luis developed an **affinity** for one another as soon as they met and have remained close friends ever since.

**ambivalent** adj. Having mixed, often opposing, feeling about something or someone; indecisive.  
He was **ambivalent** about his future; he couldn't decide whether to go to college or join the Coast Guard.

**cessation** n. A stopping, either final or temporary.  
There was a **cessation** of mail delivery during the severe snowstorm.

<b>emaciated</b>	adj. Very thin or wasted away, especially from lack of nourishment; scrawny Sufferers from the eating disorder anorexia often starve themselves to the point of becoming <b>emaciated</b> .
<b>enclave</b>	n. A distinct region or community enclosed within a larger territory Chicago's Chinatown is an <b>enclave</b> of Chinese American Residents.
<b>engender</b>	v. To bring into being, to produce Honesty <b>engenders</b> trust in others.
<b>exacerbate</b>	v. To make more severe, bitter, or violent Running in the race on Saturday <b>exacerbated</b> Marina's knee injury.
<b>illicit</b>	adj. Not allowed, improper, or unlawful During the days of Prohibition, bootlegging was one of Al Capone's many <b>illicit</b> activities.
<b>indigenous</b>	adj. naturally living or growing in a certain area; native. The turkey is <b>indigenous</b> to North America.
<b>inexorable</b>	adj. Not to be persuaded, stopped, or moved by entreaty or plea; relentless The <b>inexorable</b> move toward the rainforest's destruction is a serious concern for environmentalists.
<b>infatuated</b>	adj. filled with excessive, shallow, or foolish love or desire My parents are <b>infatuated</b> with the idea of sailing around the world, so they attend every boat show they can.
<b>insatiable</b>	adj. never satisfied; greedy My nephew is endowed with an <b>insatiable</b> curiosity and is constantly asking questions.
<b>poignant</b>	adj. Painfully moving, affecting, or touching. The <b>poignant</b> ending of the movie brought tears to my eyes.
<b>proselytize</b>	v. To convert someone to a faith, belief, or cause. She's an adamant socialist; she's always trying to <b>proselytize</b> people she meets.

### Lesson 6

<b>ameliorate</b>	v. To make better; to become better; to improve The snowplows were put to work to <b>ameliorate</b> the dangerous driving conditions that resulted from the storm.
<b>baleful</b>	adj. Expressing hatred or evil; harmful, ominous. Roger gave me a <b>baleful</b> look when I accused him of lying.
<b>berate</b>	v. To criticize vigorously; to scold vehemently. Ms. Alonso told the older students to <b>berate</b> the younger ones when they made mistakes.

- circumvent** v. To avoid through craftiness  
She boasted that she was able to **circumvent** the tax laws by using every loophole she could find.
- compunction** n. A feeling of uneasiness or anxiety caused by guilt  
Robin Hood had no **compunction** about stealing from the rich to give to the poor.
- condone** v. To overlook or accept without punishment; to pardon or excuse  
Mr. Hagopian said that he could not **condone** keeping a library book for the whole school year, because that made it unavailable to other students.
- diminutive** adj. Very small; tiny  
On the dollhouse kitchen table there was a **diminutive** bowl of fruit.
- euphemism** n. A polite term used to avoid directly naming something considered offensive or unpleasant  
“Pass away” is a **euphemism** for “die.”
- expendable** adj. Able to be used up and then discarded or replaced  
Paper, envelopes, and pencils, are **expendable** office items.
- heresy** n. The expression of shocking or unacceptable views.  
In the 1800’s the belief that women should vote was considered **heresy** by some.
- infirmity** n. Physical or mental weakness or defect  
Brittle bones is a common **infirmity** of the elderly.
- profane** v. Disrespectful of sacred things  
Dancing as considered **profane** by the Puritans
- recompense** v. To pay or compensate  
The insurance company **recompensed** us for the damage to the roof caused by the storm.
- repast** n. Food and drink; a meal.  
His usual midday **repast** was a sandwich and a glass of milk.
- servitude** n. A lack of freedom forced labor  
The United States Constitution bans involuntary **servitude** except as a legally justified punishment for a crime.

## Lesson 7

<b>castigate</b>	v. To punish by criticizing sharply; to berate Our former principal used to castigate students in public; Ms. Abrosino would never do that.
<b>colloquial</b>	adj. Characterized by informal language Most of the lecturers were formal and boring, but the last one was more engaging and lively because of her colloquial speech.
<b>epitaph</b>	n. The words carved on a tombstone in memory of the deceased The gravestone had no epitaph, just the name Al Cott and the dates 1813-1865.
<b>exodus</b>	n. A mass departure Poverty and political misrule caused the exodus of Haitians from their homeland to the United States.
<b>inter</b>	v. To put in a grave; to bury Soon after the funeral, his body was interred in its grave.
<b>lacerate</b>	v. To tear or cut roughly My legs were lacerated by the rocks as we climbed to the peak.
<b>largesse</b>	n. The act of giving generously; gifts After donating a large amount of money to a homeless shelter, the man received an award in recognition of his largesse.
<b>obituary</b>	n. A notice of someone's death, such as in a newspaper, usually with a brief summary of that person's life. I didn't know she'd died until I saw her obituary in the local paper.
<b>omnivorous</b>	adj. Eating all kinds of food, including both animal and vegetable food Even though some people are vegetarians, the human species is classified as omnivorous, because humans may eat both animal and vegetable products.
<b>permeate</b>	v. To spread throughout; to pass through The smell of garlic permeated the kitchen.
<b>rendition</b>	n. An interpretation or translation; a performance The choir's poignant rendition of the hymn was the high point of the concert.

- resurgence** n. A rising again to life. Use. Acceptance. Or prominence; a revival  
A resurgence in ballroom dancing got everyone rushing to learn the tango and the fox-trot.
- stereotype** n. A generalization that is used to characterize a person without acknowledging individual differences.  
Some people believe the **stereotype** that football players are unintelligent and insensitive.
- stipend** n. A regular and fixed amount of pay for work done or to help cover living or work expenses.  
My part-time summer job as a lifeguard carried with it a weekly **stipend** of ninety dollars.
- subservient** adj. Serving or acting in a subordinate manner; servile.  
The host tried to ingratiate himself with his guests by acting in a **subservient** manner, attending to their every whim.

### Lesson 8

- adjacent** adj. Near or next to; adjoining.  
The two couples requested **adjacent** rooms when they checked into the boat.
- beset** v. To surround or attack repeatedly  
Mosquitoes **beset** the campers as soon as they entered the woods.
- cede** v. To give up or transfer, especially by treaty or formal agreement  
France **ceded** vast territories to the United States as part of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.
- circuitous** adj. Roundabout; indirect  
Before the Panama Canal was completed in 1914, ships had to travel **circuitous** route around South America.
- desultory** adj. Proceeding or carried out in an aimless or random way  
After my best friend moved away, our phone conversations became more and more **desultory**.
- galvanize** v. To excite or arouse action.  
The discovery of gold in California galvanized Easterners to West to seek their fortunes.
- implement** v. To carry out  
The governor **implemented** his plan for health care reform as soon as he took office.
- inconsequential** adj. Lacking importance or worth; unable to make an impact; trivial  
The issue of cafeteria hours seemed so **inconsequential** that I didn't bother to raise it at the meeting.

- magnitude** n. Greatness of size, power, or influence  
The **magnitude** of the success of her book thrilled the author.
- materialize** v. To appear in physical form, especially suddenly  
The trapped miners were about to abandon hope when the rescue crew **materialized**.
- muster** v. To summon or call forth; to gather  
Sam wanted to ask for a raise but couldn't **muster** the courage to ask his boss.
- prohibitive** adj. Serving to restrain action or discourage use of  
Many students couldn't attend the concert because the ticket prices were **prohibitive**.
- reminisce** v. To think or talk about one's past  
My grandparents like to reminisce about when they were our age.
- vanguard** n. The leading or forwards position in a movement  
Andy Warhol was in the **vanguard** of the pop art movement.
- visionary** adj. Able to see what might be accomplished in the future  
President Kennedy had the **visionary** goal of landing people on the moon.

### Lesson 9

- cautionary** adj. Offering or serving as a warning  
Aesop's fables are **cautionary** tales; their morals are intended to teach lessons.
- constrain** v. To confine, inhibit, or hold back by force or necessity  
Abraham Lincoln was not **constrained** by his humble birth.
- flotilla** n. A fleet of boats or small ships  
A **flotilla** of tall ships sailed into Baltimore's Inner Harbor as part of the city's celebrations.
- gossamer** n. Thin, sheer fabric resembling gauze.  
Her veil was **gossamer** and revealed her radiant face.
- ignominious** adj. Marked by, deserving, or causing shame or disgrace  
The off-key singer made an **ignominious** exit from the stage, foregoing the encore he had planned.
- incur** v. To bring upon oneself something undesirable, such as a debt.  
When she voted against giving out raises this year, the supervisor further **incurred** the hostility of her disgruntled workers.
- liquidate** v. To settle the affairs of a business; to convert into cash  
They **liquidated** their assets by selling almost all of their possessions, and used the proceeds to pay their debts.
- magnate** n. An important, often wealthy, person prominent in a large industry or business

Andrew Carnegie was the steel **magnate** who endowed 2,800 libraries across the country.

- misnomer** n. A name that does not fit  
“Vegetable” is sometimes considered to be a **misnomer** for the tomato, since tomatoes are actually classified as fruits.
- onerous** adj. Burdensome; oppressive.  
After working hard all day, my mother considers cleaning up after us an **onerous** task.
- pandemonium** n. a state or place of great confusion or uproar.  
A shout of “Fire!” created **pandemonium** in the crowded theater.
- quixotic** adj. Romantic and idealistic, but impractical.  
Creating a huge public park in the middle of Manhattan must have seemed a **quixotic** notion when it was first proposed.
- tenacious** adj. Holding fast; persistent in adhering to something valued or habitual.  
Bulldogs are known for their **tenacious** grip once they seize something in their jaws.
- vestige** n. A trace of something that once was present.  
These ancient bones are the **vestiges** of a once-mighty dinosaur.
- zephyr** n. A light, gently breeze.  
An afternoon **zephyr** carried the scent from the rose garden through the open window.

### Lesson 10

- attest** v. To declare or be evidence of something as true, genuine, or accurate  
The constant long lines at Romolo’s bakery **attest** to its popularity.
- axiom** n. A statement or principle that requires no proof because its truth is obvious  
My pleasure-loving aunt believes in the **axiom** that no one lives forever.
- churlish** adj. Lacking good manners; rude, impolite  
Barrett’s **churlish** remarks started an altercation.
- concoct** v. To make up, prepare, or invent  
We were able to **concoct** a delicious meal from the leftovers in the refrigerator.
- derivative** n. Something that grows out of or results from an earlier form or condition  
The artificial sweetener saccharin is a **derivative** of coal tar.
- differentiate** v. To see the difference; to distinguish  
The twins looked so much alike I could not **differentiate** between them.
- disparage** v. To criticize in a negative, disrespectful manner.  
I didn’t mean to **disparage** your relationship with Corey when I said that he was not a loyal person.

<b>dissipate</b>	v. To break up and spread out so thinly as to disappear; to scatter or be scattered. The sun <b>dissipated</b> the morning fog.
<b>esoteric</b>	adj. Not generally known or understood; familiar to only a relatively small number of people. Arabic used to be so <b>esoteric</b> that almost no one in America studied it, but it has become much more popular recently.
<b>olfactory</b>	adj. Relating to the sense of smell His <b>olfactory</b> sense told him that he was close to a chocolate factory.
<b>plethora</b>	n. Too great a number; an excess Of the <b>plethora</b> of suggestions, there were a few that were useful.
<b>refurbish</b>	v. To make like new; to renovate We <b>refurbished</b> the guest room before our cousins came to stay with us.
<b>secrete</b>	v. To produce and give off. Enzymes <b>secreted</b> by the stomach aid in digestion.
<b>vagary</b>	n. a departure from the normal, expected course; a whim or unpredictable action. The <b>vagaries</b> of the marketplace make it difficult to predict how well the stock market will perform each year.
<b>volatile</b>	adj. Evaporating quickly Gasoline is a <b>volatile</b> substance.

### Lesson 11

<b>agrarian</b>	adj. Having to do with farming or agriculture At the state fair, everyone was talking about the grain harvest and other <b>agrarian</b> concerns
<b>burgeon</b>	v. To grow and expand rapidly; to flourish The <b>burgeoning</b> population of Las Vegas puts a strain on the area's resources.
<b>cataclysm</b>	n. A sudden and violent change; a catastrophe It would take a long time to rebuild the city of New Orleans fully after the cataclysm of 2205's Hurricane Katrina.
<b>culinary</b>	adj. Having to do with cooking Julia Child, a well-known cookbook author and chef, had a great deal of <b>culinary</b> expertise.
<b>denigrate</b>	v. To attack the reputation of; to criticize in a derogatory manner The sales manager <b>denigrated</b> his competitors' products.

- gourmet** n. A person who likes fine food and is a good judge of its quality  
To his great satisfaction, the meal Tom had spend hours preparing was fir for a **gourmet**.
- grandiloquent** adj. Using lofty or pompous speech or expression  
He began in **grandiloquent** fashion by addressing his listeners as “My fellow toilers  
In the vineyard of scientific truth.”
- hybrid** n. The offspring of two animals or plants of different species or varieties.  
The sweet corn **hybrid** is disease resistant.
- manifold** adj. Having many different kinds, forms, or parts  
As head of the student council, her duties were **manifold**: she did everything from  
stuffing  
envelopes to addressing the PTA.
- palatable** adj. Acceptable or pleasing, especially to the sense of taste  
Although raw fish didn’t sound very appetizing to me, it was, in fact, surprisingly  
**palatable**.
- panacea** n. Something that is supposed to cure all ills or difficulties; a cure-all  
Nuclear power plants were once hailed as the **panacea** for the world’s energy problems.
- plebeian** adj. Of or pertaining to the common people; common; unrefined  
Although she was from a **plebian** family, she was highly educated and had managed to  
travel a great deal.
- scourge** n. Something that causes great pain and suffering; a social evil.  
The **scourge** of AIDS affects populations worldwide.
- stalemate** n. A halt in a struggle because both sides are equally strong and neither side will give in; a  
deadlock  
Both parties left the room when the negotiations turned into a **stalemate**.
- temperate** adj. Mild, moderate; restrained  
Josh doesn’t like living in a **temperate** climate; he prefers the extreme heat of the tropics

## Lesson 12

- aftermath** n. A consequence or result, often a negative one  
Thousands of people were left without shelter in the **aftermath** of the earthquake.
- aphorism** n. A short of truth or principle; an adage  
My mother often warned me to slow down, citing the **aphorism**, “Haste makes waste.”
- catharsis** n. A releasing of the emotions, often through the arts, that brings about spiritual renewal  
or a relieving of tension.

By drawing pictures reflecting their traumatic experiences, children often experience **catharsis**.

**cohort** n. One who assists another, especially in a dubious or criminal activity; an accomplice  
He denied being a **cohort** of a crime boss.

**culpable** adj. Deserving blame or censure  
Because of his negligence, the driver of the car that crashed was found **culpable**.

**diabolical** adj. Devilish; wicked or evil  
The **diabolical** plot to assassinate the chief justice was discovered before it could be implemented.

**enormity** n. The state or quality of being monstrous or outrageous  
After the dictator was toppled from power, the **enormity** of his crimes was revealed.

**gibe** v. To utter taunting, sarcastic words  
The fans **gibed** at the referee for ignoring the deliberate foul.

**innocuous** adj. Harmless; unlikely to offend  
The reporter's questions seemed **innocuous**, yet I was chary of giving out any information.

**necessitate** v. To require; to make necessary  
This new situation **necessitates** a different approach to the problem.

**odyssey** n. A long, adventurous journey  
My South American **odyssey** took me through half a dozen countries and lasts almost six months.

**partisan** n. A strong supporter or advocate.  
The young volunteers were **partisans** of the newest candidate for mayor.

**posterity** n. A person's descendants; future generations  
Is it quixotic to want to make the world a better place for **posterity**?

**premeditated** adj. Fully planned beforehand; deliberate.  
The lawyer argued that the defendant's action was impulsive and not **premeditated**.

**scurrilous** adj. Vulgar; coarsely abusive  
These **scurrilous** rumors were perpetrated by someone trying to denigrate your character.

### **Lesson 13**

**adjunct** n. Something or someone joined or added to something else but not essentially a part of it.

The roadside stand was an **adjunct** to the orchard's pick-your-own apples business.

- belie** v. To give a false impression of; to contradict  
His temperate tone **belied** the inflammatory content of his speech.
- carnage** n. Great destruction of life; slaughter  
An entire generation recoiled in horror from the **carnage** of World War 1
- dilemma** n. A problem that seems to have no satisfactory solution; a difficult choice  
His **dilemma** was whether to go to his daughter's play or his son's recital, both of which were on the same right.
- diverse** adj. Differing from one another; having various or distinct parts  
The fair had a **diverse** selection of food; everything from Italian and French to Ethiopian and Indian cuisine was available.
- eradicate** v. To get rid of; to uproot  
The goal of the literacy project is to **eradicate** illiteracy.
- flout** v. To ignore in a disrespectful or scornful way  
Miranda **flouted** convention by wearing jeans to graduation.
- foment** v. to stir up, to rouse; to instigate  
In the 1960's, anti-war activists **fomented** student demonstrations and strikes that shook the Johnson and Nixon administrations.
- insurrection** n. An open revolt against legal authority; a rebellion  
According to Lincoln, the Confederacy's withdrawal from the Union was an **insurrection**.
- mandatory** adj. Ordered by an authority; required  
Courses in English, math. And science are **mandatory** for all first-year students.
- mitigate** v. To make or become less serious or severe; to ameliorate  
The unusually warm weather **mitigated** the effects of the ice storm by melting all the ice and snow.
- pretext** n. An effort to conceal the real intention or state of affairs; an excuse  
He always went to that restaurant because he was infatuated with the waitress, but he made a **pretext** of going because of the food.
- singular** adj. Extraordinary; exceptional  
Audiences were captivated by the **singular** beauty of Hermann Prey's voice.
- somnolent** adj. Tending to cause sleepiness  
The motion of the train had a **somnolent** effect, and I had to shake myself to stay alert.
- stalwart** adj. Strong; sturdy

The football squad was a **stalwart** a group as I'd seen in a long time.

### Lesson 14

- aberration** n. A departure from the norm or what is considered right, natural, or normal; a flaw or defect.  
The mid-April snowstorm was an **aberration** that is unlikely to recur next year.
- antiquated** adj. Grown old; out-of-date  
Kirsten tends to dismiss her parents' views as hopelessly **antiquated**.
- celestial** adj. Of or relating to the skies or heavens.  
The appearance of a comet s a dramatic **celestial** occurrence.
- certitude** n. The state of being certain of the truth or rightness of something  
I can say with **certitude** that the stock market will continue to be unpredictable.
- disburse** v, To distribute something or pay out money, especially from a public or other fund  
At Midtown Auto, paychecks are **disbursed** every Friday.
- galaxy** n. A vast cluster of stars and other matter, billions of which make up the known universe.  
Our **galaxy** is known as the Milky Way.
- intractable** adj. Hard to manage, tame, or control; stubborn; not easily cured  
That horse is too **intractable** to be ridden by a beginner.
- junction** n. A joining or coming together; the place where such a connection occurs.  
There is a traffic light at the **junction** of 55tgh Street and Hyde Park Boulevard.
- juxtapose** v. To place side by side  
The original sketch and the finished portrait were **juxtaposed** to show the artist's technique.
- maelstrom** n. A large and violent whirlpool or something resembling a whirlpool.  
It is believed that the solar system was formed over five billion years ago out of a great **maelstrom** of whirling dust.
- optimum** adj. Best or most favorable  
Clear skies at night provided **optimum** conditions for viewing Mars through the telescope.
- pillory** v. To expose to public scorn or contempt  
The press **pilloried** the First Lady for taking part in important policy matters.
- proliferate** v. To grow, expand, or multiply at a rapid rate  
College courses on women's studies have **proliferated** since the 1980's.
- remiss** adj. Negligent; careless; lax

A late notice reminded me that I was **remiss** in paying my electric bill.

**titanic** adj. Marked by great strength, size, or influence  
The **titanic** winds of the tornado hurled the car through the air.

### Lesson 15

**abominate** v. To hate or loathe intensely  
Many who **abominated** slavery worked unremittingly for its cessation.

**abridge** v. To shorten in duration or extent; to diminish  
The publishers plan to **abridge** the 900-page novel to a more-manageable 600 pages.

**animosity** n. Intense ill will.  
His **animosity** was clear from the baleful looks he gave them.

**auspicious** adj. Favorable, promising.  
The speaker felt he was off to an **auspicious** beginning when the audience laughed at his opening anecdote.

**beleaguer** v. To surround with troubles; to harass  
The actress was **beleaguered** by the freezing theatre, the small audience and her costar's cold.

**confidant** n. A person to whom secrets are told  
Not even the governor's closest **confidants** knew whether or not he would run for reelection.

**constituent** n. One of the parts that make up a whole  
Oxygen the nitrogen are the main **constituents** of the air we breathe.

**iniquitous** adj. Unjust; wicked  
The **iniquitous** practice of making young children work long hours has been banned in some countries but is still in effect in others.

**inure** v. To adjust to and accept unpleasant or undesirable conditions  
People living on Blakeslee Street soon became **inured** to the smells from the nearby paper mill.

**inveigh** v. To complain or protest strongly  
The newspaper's education columnist **inveighed** against the school's decision to institute an additional testing program.

**predecessor** n. A person or thing that has held a position or office before another  
President Clinton's **predecessor** was George H.W. Bush.

**sabotage** n. Acts that intentionally damage, hinder, or seek to discredit

Hiding the notes for my final report wasn't a practical joke, it was **sabotage**.

**sadistic** adj. Taking pleasure in causing pain  
Some **sadistic** person thought it amusing to tie tin cans to the cat's tail.

**scathing** adj. Harshly critical  
The author was devastated by the **scathing** reviews of his book; his previous book had been a best-seller.

**transpire** v. To become apparent; to come to light  
It **transpired** that the two senators knew about the planned invasion all along.

### Lesson 16

**aura** n. A distinctive atmosphere or feeling that seems to surround someone or something; a distinctive appearance or impression.  
There was an **aura** of serenity about the woman sitting quietly in the corner.

**banal** adj. Lacking freshness; trite.  
The plot of that movie was so **banal**, I predicted the ending within the first half hour.

**bemuse** v. To confuse or bewilder  
The noise and hubbub of Times Square **bemused** the tourists, who had come from a rural area for their first trip to New York City.

**cognizant** adj. Fully aware; taking notice.  
Janine was so mesmerized by the clown at the fair that she was not **cognizant** of her surroundings.

**conundrum** n. A riddle whose answer is a play on words  
Answer this **conundrum**: "What's the difference between an engineer and a professor?"

**evanescent** adj. Short-lived; staying temporarily  
Evening showers are an **evanescent** phenomenon in the tropics.

**factotum** n. A helper or assistant with a wide range of duties and responsibilities  
The studio head made the decisions, and his **factotum** handles the details.

**grandiose** adj. Impressive because of large size or scope  
Gothic cathedrals are **grandiose** structures that continue to attract tourists.

**induce** v. To influence or persuade  
We finally **induced** my grandmother to use the air conditioner we put in her bedroom.

**intransigent** adj. Refusing to compromise or change one's position on an issue  
The new committee's **intransigent** attitude made it impossible to work out any sort of compromise with the veteran employees.

- laudatory** adj. Full of praise  
A **laudatory** review in the St. Louis Post-dispatch guaranteed a successful run for the new play.
- panache** n. Dash or flamboyance in style or action  
The chef chopped and diced the vegetables with awe-inspiring **panache**.
- picayune** adj. Petty or insignificant; concerned with trifling matters  
When evaluating the house, the inspector looked at the most **picayune** details, practically checking.
- predilection** n. An inclination; preference  
I have a predilection for Thai food and eat it or at least once a week.
- promontory** n. A high point of land that juts out into water  
We had a beautiful view of the whole surrounding bay from the rocky **promontory**.

### Lesson 17

- aggregate** n. A group of things gathered into a whole; sum total.  
The **aggregate** of human experience had been compressed into that one extraordinary volume.
- allocate** v. To set aside for a specific purpose; to allot.  
Courtney **allocated** at least one hour a day for exercise.
- augur** v. To predict future events, especially from omens  
From the animal's strange behavior, the farmer could **augur** the imminent arrival of bad weather.
- bastion** n. A fortified area or position; a person, place, or thing that is a source of strength  
The math advisor was a **bastion** of strength for students who were taking the advanced placement test.
- decorum** n. Suitable, proper behavior or speech  
Talking loudly during a movie shows a lack of **decorum**.
- defunct** adj. No longer existing or functioning  
The typewriter store, once a thriving business, is **defunct** now that computers have become popular.
- disarray** n. A lack of order; confusion  
It was hard to find anything on Sonje's desk because it was in complete **disarray**.
- halcyon** adj. Calm, peaceful, and happy; prosperous  
Cassandra remembered the **halcyon** days when she was a little girl. Playing with her best friend, Anissa.

- homily** n. A lecture usually long, on how to behave morally.  
Ms. Perkins was known for frequently delivering **homilies** to students who treated others rudely.
- hyperbole** n. Extravagant exaggeration  
Charisse was using **hyperbole** when she described Ted as being as tall as a giraffe.
- importune** v. To plead for persistently  
Lynette repeatedly **importuned** Chrissy to go shopping with her.
- jurisdiction** n. Legal authority to govern or control  
The federal government has **jurisdiction** over the nation's air traffic control system.
- ruminate** v. To think over again and again; to ponder  
I spent weeks **ruminating** about the meaning of Kafka's novella Metamorphosis.
- temerity** n. Reckless boldness without regard to danger or opposition  
Desmond did not have the **temerity** to correct the French teacher's faulty pronunciation.
- winnow** v. To separate and remove what is undesirable and leave what is desirable; to blow away the chaff from again  
It was Nadia's job to interview potential employees, **winnow** out the unqualified candidates, and recommend the qualified candidates for a second interview.

### Lesson 18

- acoustic** adj. Relating to sound or hearing  
A tiny **acoustic** device improved Grandfather's hearing.
- assemblage** n. A collection or gathering of people or things  
The **assemblage** at Camp Tamarack included people from all over the country.
- august** adj. Inspiring great respect or admiration; noble  
Thomas Jefferson's **august** presence made a deep impression on those privileged to know him.
- auspices** n. Protection, support, or guidance; patronage  
The concert is being given under the **auspices** of the town's arts foundation.
- cavil** n. A minor criticism  
My only **cavil** with the restaurant is that they don't warm the bread.
- curator** n. A person in charge of an exhibition; an overseer of a museum or library collection  
The **curator** wrote brief explanations for all the works in the Picasso exhibit.
- extant** adj. Still existing; not lost or destroyed

I had an opportunity to view one of the few **extant** copies of the first edition of Middlemarch.

- gamut** n. The entire range of something  
Stars run the **gamut** from Earth-sized white dwarfs to red giants, which are hundreds of times bigger than the truth.
- ineffable** adj. Incapable of being expressed in words  
They sat gazing at the **ineffable** beauty of the Green Mountains.
- mellifluous** adj. Sweetly flowing; pleasant to the ear  
The **mellifluous** sound of a cello filled the rehearsal room.
- mien** n. A person's manner, appearance, or expression; bearing  
Although Sandro was worried about all the work he had to do, you couldn't tell that from his untroubled **mien**.
- nonpareil** n. A person or thing without an equal  
Claire followed her brother's example of how to behave at the function because he was considered the **nonpareil** of decorum.
- patina** n. A green film that forms on copper exposed to the elements  
The **patina** of the building's roof indicates that it is sheathed with copper.
- rapt** adj. Fully absorbed; engrossed  
We listen with **rapt** attention to her song.
- resuscitate** v. To revive from unconsciousness or apparent death; to revive or restore to health or vigor  
Our first aid class taught us how to **resuscitate** someone who has nearly drowned.

### Lesson 19

- amenable** adj. Responsive; willing to be controlled or to take advice.  
The director was **amenable** to our suggested changes in the schedule and implemented them promptly.
- ascribe** v. To attribute to a source or a cause  
The Passionate Pilgrim is a collection of poems, some of which are **ascribed** to Shakespeare; the authorship of the others is unknown.
- charisma** n. A special quality in a person that inspires devotion or fascination in others  
**Charisma** is a definite asset if you're running for office.
- dearth** n. Scarcity; a shortage  
There was a **dearth** of good restaurants around the waterfront until the city extended the subway there.

- demoralize** v. To destroy the morals or morale of someone; to weaken the spirit or courage of someone  
The band members were **demoralized** by the poor attendance at their final concert.
- ebullient** adj. Bubbling with enthusiasm or high spirits  
**Ebullient** fans, ecstatic over their team's victory, carried the captain of the team off the field in triumph.
- entrepreneur** n. An individual who manages and takes the risk of a business  
The Small Business Administration gives loans and advice to **entrepreneurs** starting new businesses.
- fatuous** adj. Foolish; silly; stupid  
Jenna was getting annoyed at Malcolm for the **fatuous** grin with which he greeted her every suggestion.
- harbinger** n. A person or thing that is a symbol of what is to come  
According to American tradition, the appearance of a groundhog's shadow on February 2 is a **harbinger** of six more weeks of winter.
- homogeneous** adj. Of a similar kind or nature; uniform throughout  
The walking club was made up of a **homogeneous** group of middle-class, working mothers.
- incumbent** n. One who occupies an office or position  
George Washington was the first **incumbent** of the U.S. presidency.
- matriarchy** n. A society that is headed by a female  
African elephants live in a **matriarchy** that excluded males from the herd when they reach about five years old.
- neophyte** n. A beginner; a novice  
Most students in the playwriting class were **neophytes** who had never written a play before.
- prerogative** n. A special right limited to a person, group, or office; a privilege  
It is the governor's **prerogative** to pardon convicted felons.
- sibling** n. One of two or more people who have the same parents; brother or sister  
Sila had seven **siblings**: three sisters and four brothers.

## Lesson 20

- accost** v. To approach and speak to in an aggressive or challenging way  
When Greta was leaving the store, the owner **accosted** her and asked her what was in her tote bag.

- avarice** n. Greed for wealth  
Corey's **avarice** led her to overcharge her customers for her services as a consultant.
- bilk** v. To cheat out of what is due  
Michael hired a neighbor to mow his lawn, and then **bilked** him out of the fee they had agreed upon.
- consummate** adj. Extremely skilled; complete or perfect  
Devin was a consummate cook who had received several awards for her culinary creations.
- conversant** adj. Having knowledge or experience; well-informed  
Are you **conversant** with Einstein's theory of relativity?
- credulous** adj. Willing to believe things with only slight or no evidence; easily convinced  
The **credulous** crowd listened with rapt attention to the reports of UFO abductions.
- euphoria** n. A feeling of great happiness or well-being  
Jared was overcome with **euphoria** when he found out that he was going to be cast in a movie.
- fortuitous** adj. Happening by lucky chance; accidental  
The old friends ran into each other at the bookstore, and after their **fortuitous** meeting, they decided to go to a movie together.
- hypothetical** adj. Based on something that is not actual but assumed or supposed  
Zoe considered the **hypothetical** question of what she would wish for if she were granted three wishes.
- incoherent** adj. Not connected; confused; rambling  
Because the lecturer had not time to prepare for her talk, she delivered an **incoherent** speech that was hard to follow.
- minuscule** adj. Very small in size or importance  
Tyrone added just a **minuscule** amount of chili pepper to the soup because his mother doesn't like it when it's too spicy.
- pleasantry** n. An agreeable, casual remark  
Whitney and Yvette didn't know each other very well, so when they ran into each other on the street, they would simply exchange **pleasantries** about their families and the weather.
- procrastinate** v. To put off until later  
Instead of starting her homework as soon as she came home, Meredith usually **procrastinated** by watching TV or calling friends first.
- qualm** n. A feeling of uneasiness as to whether what one is doing is right or wise; a misgiving.

Noah had **qualms** about accepting money for shopping for his elderly neighbor.

**stigma**

n. A mark of shame or disgrace

After she was caught cheating on the Spanish test, Sasha had to deal with the **stigma** of being seen as dishonest.