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Государственное образовательное учреждение
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НИЖЕГОРОДСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ЛИНГВИСТИЧЕСКИЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМ. Н.А. ДОБРОЛЮБОВА

Факультет международных отношений, экономики и управления

Кафедра иностранных языков

Н.П. Кудрявцева

Учебно-методические материалы по развитию лексических навыков
студентов II, III курсов ФМЭУ

Нижний Новгород
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Настоящие учебно-методические материалы предназначены для работы над лексической стороной речи. Издание предназначено для студентов II, III курсов ФМЭУ, а также может быть использовано всеми, изучающими английский язык самостоятельно.

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Unit 1

1. Learn the following words.

1. abandon [*q`bʌndən*] desert; leave without planning to come back; quit

- a. When Roy **abandoned** his family, the police went looking for him.
- b. The soldier could not **abandon** his friends who were hurt in battle.
- c. Because Rose was poor, she had to **abandon** her idea of going to college.

2. keen [*kʃn*] sharp; eager; intense; sensitive

- a. The butcher's **keen** knife cut through the meat.
- b. My dog has a **keen** sense of smell.
- c. Bill's **keen** mind pleased all his teachers.

3. jealous [*ˈdʒelʌs*] afraid that the one you love might prefer someone else; wanting what someone else has

- a. A detective was hired by the **jealous** widow to find the boyfriend who had abandoned her.
- b. Although my neighbor just bought a new car, I am not **jealous** of him.
- c. Being **jealous**, Mona would not let her boyfriend dance with any of the cheerleaders.

4. tact [*tækt*] ability to say the right thing

- a. My aunt never hurts anyone's feelings because she always uses **tact**.
- b. By the use of **tact**, Janet was able to calm her jealous husband.
- c. Your friends will admire you if you use **tact** and thoughtfulness.

5. oath [*oʊ*] a promise that something is true; a curse

- a. The president will take the **oath** of office tomorrow.
- b. In court, the witness took an **oath** that he would tell the whole truth.

c. When Terry discovered that he had been abandoned, he let out an angry **oath**.

6. vacant [*ˈveɪkənt*] empty; not filled

a. Someone is planning to build a house on that **vacant** lot.

b. I put my coat on that **vacant** seat.

c. When the landlord broke in, he found that apartment **vacant**.

7. hardship [*ˈhɑːrʃɪp*] something that is hard to bear; difficulty

a. The fighter had to face many **hardships** before he became champion.

b. Abe Lincoln was able to overcome one **hardship** after another.

c. On account of **hardship**, Bert was let out of the army to take care of his sick mother.

8. gallant [*ˈɡælənt*] brave; showing respect for women

a. The pilot swore a **gallant** oath to save his buddy.

b. Many **gallant** knights entered the contest to win the princess.

c. Ed is so **gallant** that he always gives up his subway seat to a woman.

9. data [*ˈdeɪtə*] facts; information

a. The **data** about the bank robbery were given to the police.

b. After studying the **data**, we were able to finish our report.

c. Unless you are given all the **data**, you cannot do the math problem.

10. unaccustomed [*ˌʌnəˈkʌstəmd*] not used to something

a. Coming from Alaska, Claude was **unaccustomed** to Florida's heat.

b. The king was **unaccustomed** to having people disobey him.

c. **Unaccustomed** as he was to exercise, Vic quickly became tired.

11. bachelor [*ˈbætʃələ*] a man who has not married

- a. My brother took an oath to remain a **bachelor**.
- b. In the movie, the married man was mistaken for a **bachelor**.
- c. Before the wedding, all his **bachelor** friends had a party.

12. qualify [*kwaɪfaɪ*] become fit; show that you are able

- a. I am trying to **qualify** for the job that is now vacant.
- b. Since Pauline can't carry a tune, she is sure that she will never qualify for the Girls' Chorus.
- c. You have to be taller than 5'5" to **qualify** as a policeman in our town.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

My Brother, the Gentleman

The story of Sir Walter Raleigh, who spread his cloak on the ground to keep Queen Elizabeth from the **hardship** of crossing a muddy puddle, can **qualify** that nobleman for an award as a man of **tact** and good breeding. My brother Kenny, a **bachelor** with a **keen** interest in history, was impressed by that anecdote and thought he might demonstrate his excellent upbringing in a parallel situation. Accordingly he decided to **abandon** his subway seat in favor of a woman standing nearby.

Although **unaccustomed** to such generous treatment, the young woman was pleased to accept Kenny's kind offer. However, her **jealous** boyfriend swore an oath under his breath because he thought my brother was flirting with his girlfriend. I don't have any **data** on the number of young men who get into similar trouble as a result of a **gallant** gesture, but it's probably one in a thousand. Poor Kenny! He pointed to the now **vacant** seat.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. As I looked at all the _____ the salesman showed me, I knew that I was getting more mixed up.
2. I used _____ when I told my fat uncle that his extra weight made him look

better.

3. When the guard saw that the cot was _____, he realized that the prisoner had left the jail.
4. Although he took an _____ on the Bible, Sal lied to the jury.
5. My aunt was so _____ of our new couch that she bought one just like it.
6. I enjoyed reading the story of the _____ man who put his cloak over a mud puddle so that the queen would not dirty her feet.
7. The loss of Claudia's eyesight was a _____ which she learned to live with.
8. The driver was forced to _____ his car when two of the tires became flat.
9. Betty could not _____ for the Miss Teenage America Contest because she was twenty years old.
10. The blade was so _____ that I cut myself in four places while shaving.
11. _____ to being kept waiting, the angry woman marched out of the store.
12. Because he was a _____, the movie actor was invited to many parties.

4. From the list of 12 new words that follows, choose the one that corresponds to each definition below.

abandon	keen	jealous	tact
oath	vacant	hardship	gallant
data	unaccustomed	bachelor	qualify

1. a promise that something is true _____
2. sharp; eager; intense _____
3. to desert; to leave without planning to come back _____
4. something that is hard to bear _____
5. to become fit _____
6. wanting what someone else has _____
7. brave; showing respect for women _____

8. a man who has not married _____
9. facts; information _____
10. the ability to say the right thing _____
11. empty; not filled _____
12. not used to something _____

Unit 2

1. Learn the following words

1. corpse [*kɔ:ps*] a dead body, usually of a person

- a. When given all the data on the **corpse**, Columbo was able to solve the murder.
- b. The **corpse** was laid to rest in the vacant coffin.
- c. An oath of revenge was sworn over the **corpse** by his relatives.

2. conceal [*kən'si:l*] hide

- a. Tris could not **conceal** his love for Gloria.
- b. Count Dracula **concealed** the corpse in his castle.
- c. The money was so cleverly **concealed** that we were forced to abandon our search for it.

3. dismal [*dɪzml*] dark and depressing

- a. When the weather is so **dismal**, I sometimes stay in bed all day.
- b. I am unaccustomed to this **dismal** climate.
- c. As the **dismal** reports of the election came in, the senator's friends tactfully made no mention of them.

4. frigid [*friˈdʒɪd*] very cold

- a. It was a great hardship for the men to live through the **frigid** winter at

Valley Forge.

- b. The jealous bachelor was treated in a **frigid** manner by his girlfriend.
- c. Inside the butcher's freezer the temperature was **frigid**.

5. inhabit [*in`hɪbɪt*] live in

- a. Eskimos **inhabit** the frigid part of Alaska.
- b. Because Sidney qualified, he was allowed to **inhabit** the apartment.
- c. Many crimes are committed each year against those who **inhabit** the slum area of our city.

6. numb [*nʌm*] without the power of feeling; deadened

- a. My fingers quickly became **numb** in the frigid room.
- b. A **numb** feeling came over Mr. Massey as he read the telegram.
- c. When the nurse stuck a pin in my **numb** leg, I felt nothing.

7. peril [*perɪl*] danger

- a. The hunter was abandoned by the natives when he described the **peril** that lay ahead of them.
- b. There is great **peril** in trying to climb the mountain.
- c. Our library is filled with stories of **perilous** adventures.

8. recline [*ri`klaɪn*] lie down; stretch out; lean back

- a. Richard likes to **recline** in front of the television set.
- b. After **reclining** on her right arm for an hour, Maxine found that it had become numb.
- c. My dog's greatest pleasure is to **recline** by the warm fireplace.

9. shriek [*ʃrɪk*] scream

- a. The maid **shrieked** when she discovered the corpse.

- b. With a loud **shriek**, Ronald fled from the room.
- c. Facing the peril of the waterfall, the boatman let out a terrible **shriek**.

10. sinister [*ˈsɪnɪstə*] evil; wicked; dishonest; frightening

- a. The **sinister** plot to cheat the widow was uncovered by the police.
- b. When the bank guard spied the **sinister**-looking customer, he drew his gun.
- c. I was frightened by the **sinister** shadow at the bottom of the stairs.

11. tempt [*ˈtempt*] try to get someone to do something; test; invite

- a. A banana split can **tempt** me to break my diet.
- b. The sight of beautiful Louise **tempted** the bachelor to change his mind about marriage.
- c. Your offer of a job **tempts** me greatly.

12. wager [*ˈweɪʒə*] bet

- a. I lost a small **wager** on the Superbowl.
- b. After winning the **wager**, Tex treated everyone to free drinks.
- c. It is legal to make a **wager** in the state of Nevada.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

Terror in the Cemetery

I like to bet on anything that is exciting, so when my friends tried **to tempt** me with an offer, I took it. The idea was for me to spend a **frigid** December night in a cemetery, all alone, in order to win twenty dollars. Little did I realize that they would use dirty tricks to try to frighten me into abandoning the cemetery, therefore losing my **wager**.

My plan was to **recline** in front of a large grave, covered by a warm blanket, with a flashlight to help me cut through the **dismal** darkness. After

midnight, I heard a wild **shriek**. I thought I saw the grave open and a corpse rise out of it! Although I was somewhat **numb** with fear, I tried to keep my senses. Using good judgment, I knew that no **peril** could come to me from that **sinister** figure. When I did not run in terror, my friends, who had decided **to conceal** themselves behind the nearby tombstones, came out and we all had a good laugh. Those spirits that may **inhabit** a cemetery must have had a good laugh, too.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. The chances of my winning the election were so _____ that I decided to quit before the votes were counted.
2. I won the _____ that my bachelor friend would be married by June.
3. Kit Carson's keen eyesight protected him from the _____ in the forest.
4. While escaping from the bank, the robbers forced the teller to _____ on the floor of their car.
5. Since the shack was vacant, we did not expect to hear the terrible _____ which came from it.
6. With a _____ smile, the gangster invited Martha into his Cadillac.
7. You cannot _____ the truth when you are questioned by the keen lawyer.
8. It is said that many ghosts _____ the old Butler house.
9. In _____ weather I always wear three or four sweaters.
10. After standing guard duty for four hours, I became completely _____ .
11. As the closet was opened, the _____ fell out, frightening the janitor out of one year's growth.
12. With the promise of a raise in pay, my boss tried to _____ me to stay on in the job.

Exercise

Now make up your own sentences, one for each of the new words you have just

been taught.

Unit 3

1. Learn the following words.

1. **typical** [*tɪˈpɪkəl*] usual; of a kind

- a. The sinister character in the movie wore a **typical** costume, a dark shirt, loud tie, and tight jacket.
- b. The horse ran its **typical** race, a slow start and a slower finish, and my uncle lost his wager.
- c. It was **typical** of the latecomer to conceal the real cause of his lateness.

2. **minimum** [*mɪˈnɪməm*] the least possible amount; the lowest amount

- a. Studies show that adults need a **minimum** of six hours sleep.
- b. The **minimum** charge for a telephone, even if no calls are made, is about twenty dollars a month.
- c. Congress has set a **minimum** wage for all workers.

3. **scarce** [*skɛərs*] hard to get; rare

- a. Chairs that are older than one hundred years are **scarce**.
- b. Because there is little moisture in the desert, trees are **scarce**.
- c. How **scarce** are good cooks?

4. **annual** [*ˈænjuəl*] once a year; something that appears yearly or lasts for a year

- a. The **annual** convention of musicians takes place in Hollywood.
- b. The publishers of the encyclopedia put out a book each year called an **annual**.
- c. Plants that live only one year are called **annuals**.

5. persuade [*pɜː `swedeɪd*] win over to do or believe; make willing

- a. Can you **persuade** him to give up his bachelor days and get married?
- b. No one could **persuade** the captain to leave the sinking ship.
- c. Beth's shriek **persuaded** Jesse that she was in real danger.

6. essential [*ɛ `senʃəl*] necessary; very important

- a. The **essential** items in the cake are flour, sugar, and shortening.
- b. It is **essential** that we follow the road map.
- c. Several layers of thin clothing are **essential** to keeping warm in frigid climates.

7. blend [*blend*] mix together thoroughly; a mixture

- a. The colors of the rainbow **blend** into one another.
- b. A careful **blend** of fine products will result in delicious food.
- c. When Jose **blends** the potatoes together, they come out very smooth.

8. visible [*vɪzəb(ə)l*] able to be seen

- a. The ship was barely **visible** through the dense fog.
- b. Before the stars are **visible**, the sky has to become quite dark.
- c. You need a powerful lens to make some germs **visible**.

9. expensive [*ɪk `spensɪv*] costly; high-priced

- a. Because diamonds are scarce they are **expensive**.
- b. Margarine is much less **expensive** than butter.
- c. Shirley's **expensive** dress created a great deal of excitement at the party.

10. talent [*ˈtælənt*] natural ability

- a. Medori's **talent** was noted when she was in first grade.
- b. Feeling that he had the essential **talent**, Carlos tried out for the school play.

c. Hard work can often make up for a lack of **talent**.

11. devise [*dɪˈvaɪz*] think out; plan; invent

a. The burglars **devised** a scheme for entering the bank at night.

b. I would like to **devise** a method for keeping my toes from becoming numb while I am ice skating.

c. If we could **devise** a plan for using the abandoned building, we could save thousands of dollars.

12. wholesale [*ˈhɔːlˌseɪl*] in large quantity; less than retail in price

a. The **wholesale** price of milk is six cents a quart lower than retail.

b. Many people were angered by the **wholesale** slaughter of birds.

c. By buying my ties **wholesale** I save fifteen dollars a year.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

An Unusual Strike

The baseball strike of 1994-95, which kept the public from seeing the **annual** World Series, was not a **typical** labor dispute in which low-paid workers try to **persuade** their employers to grant a raise above their **minimum** wage. On the contrary, players who earned millions of dollars yearly, who were **visible** on TV commercials, drove **expensive** autos, and dined with presidents, withheld their **essential** skills until the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of our government were forced to **devise** solutions to the quarrel.

The team owners, a **blend** of lawyers, manufactures, corporate executives, etc., felt that something had to be done about the huge salaries that the players were demanding. Since the **talent** beyond the major leagues was **scarce**, they had to start spring training in 1995 with a **wholesale** invitation to replacement players. The regular athletes returned in late April but there was a feeling that the strike could happen again.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. The March of Dimes makes its _____ appeal in the early spring.
2. Oil paints _____ easily to form thousands of different shades.
3. The _____ passing mark in most schools is 65%.
4. The producer always had her eye out for young _____.
5. Your gifts do not tempt me and will not _____ me to change my mind.
6. In the cemetery the corpse was _____ in the bright moonlight.
7. A _____ day in Florida is full of sunshine and warm breezes.
8. Let's _____ a plan for doing away with homework.
9. Everyone agrees that friendship is _____ for all of us.
10. A sharp rise in _____ prices is bound to affect the prices in our neighborhood stores.
11. The buffalo, which once roamed the plains, is quite _____ today.
12. Government experts told us to buy chicken without realizing how _____ it had become.

Exercise

Now make up your own sentences, one for each of the new words you have just been taught.

Unit 4

1. Learn the following words

1. **vapor** [^ˌveɪpə] moisture in the air that can be seen; fog; mist

- a. Scientists have devised methods for trapping **vapor** in bottles so they can study its makeup.
- b. He has gathered data on the amount of **vapor** rising from the swamp.
- c. A **vapor** trail is the visible stream of moisture left by the engines of a jet

flying at high altitudes.

2. eliminate [*ɪˈlɪmɪneɪt*] get rid of; remove; omit

- a. When the railroad tracks are raised, the danger of crossing will be **eliminated**.
- b. When figuring the cost of a car, don't **eliminate** such extras as air conditioning.
- c. If we were to **eliminate** all reclining chairs, no one would fall asleep while watching television.

3. villain [*vɪˈleɪn*] a very wicked person

- a. A typical moving picture **villain** gets killed at the end.
- b. The **villain** concealed the corpse in the cellar.
- c. When the **villain** fell down the well, everyone lived happily ever after.

4. dense [*dens*] closely packed together; thick

- a. The **dense** leaves on the trees let in a minimum of sunlight.
- b. We couldn't row because of the **dense** weeds in the lake.
- c. His keen knife cut through the **dense** jungle.

5. utilize [*juːˈtɪlɪz*] make use of

- a. No one seems willing to **utilize** this vacant house.
- b. The gardener was eager to **utilize** different flowers and blend them in order to beautify the borders.
- c. Does your mother **utilize** leftovers in her cooking?

6. humid [*hɪˈmɪd*] moist; damp

- a. It was so **humid** in our classroom that we wished the school would buy an air conditioner.

- b. New Yorkers usually complain in the summer of the **humid** air.
- c. Most people believe that ocean air is quite **humid**.

7. theory [*ˈθiəri*] explanation based on thought, observation, or reasoning

- a. Einstein's **theory** is really too difficult for the average person to understand.
- b. My uncle has a **theory** about the effect of weather on baseball batters.
- c. No one has advanced a convincing **theory** explaining the beginnings of writing.

8. descend [*dɪˈsend*] go or come down from a higher place to a lower level

- a. If we let the air out of a balloon, it will have to **descend**.
- b. The pilot, thinking his plane was in peril, **descended** quickly.
- c. Knowing her beau was waiting at the bottom of the staircase, Eleanor **descended** at once.

9. circulate [*sɪˈkjʊleɪt*] go around; go from place to place or person to person

- a. A fan may **circulate** the air in summer, but it doesn't cool it.
- b. My father **circulated** among the guests at the party and made them feel comfortable.
- c. Hot water **circulates** through the pipes in the building, keeping the room warm.

10. enormous [*ɪˈnɔːrməs*] extremely large; huge

- a. The **enormous** crab moved across the ocean floor in search of food.
- b. Public hangings once drew **enormous** crowds.
- c. The gallant knight drew his sword and killed the **enormous** dragon.

11. predict [*ˈprɪdɪkt*] tell beforehand

- a. Weathermen can **predict** the weather correctly most of the time.
- b. Who can **predict** the winner of the Superbowl this year?

c. Laura thought she could **predict** what I would do, but she was wrong.

12. vanish [*vʌnɪʃ*] disappear; disappear suddenly

a. Even in California the sun will sometimes **vanish** behind a cloud.

b. Not even a powerful witch can make a jealous lover **vanish**.

c. Give him a week without a job and all his money will **vanish**.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

A Fan in the Air

Fog, tiny droplets of water **vapor**, is the **villain** of the airports. In an effort to **eliminate dense** fog from airports, weathermen **utilize** giant fans, nylon strings, and chemicals dropped from planes or shot upwards from strange machines on the ground. Nothing works as well, though, as a new weapon in the fight against fog: the helicopter. Researchers believe that if warm dry air above the fog could somehow be driven down into the **humid** blanket of fog, the droplets would evaporate, thus clearing the air. In a recent experiment to test their **theory** the researchers had a helicopter **descend** into the fog above barely visible Smith Mountain Airport near Roanoke, Virginia. The blades of the helicopter caused the air to **circulate** downwards and an **enormous** hole in the clouds opened above the airport. Weathermen **predict** that with larger, more expensive helicopters they will be able to make the thickest fog **vanish**.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. If we have one more hot, _____ day, you will be able to persuade me to move to Alaska.

2. In the show the magician waved his wand to make a lady _____.

3. The hair on his head was so _____, a special pair of scissors was used to thin it.

4. Since he has passed all his subjects, I'll _____ that he will graduate.
5. The _____ in the movie was played by an actor who was able to look mean.
6. _____ rose out of the valve on top of the steam engine.
7. The basketball player was _____; he could practically drop the ball through the hoop.
8. What _____ can you suggest to explain the frequent changes in women's clothing?
9. Why don't you _____ all the space on that page?
10. Sooner or later the elevator will _____ and we'll be able to go up.
11. I heard a doctor on a television show say that if we _____ one slice of bread each day, we'll lose weight.
12. Copies of some magazines are so scarce, the librarian won't allow them to _____.

4. Synonyms. Circle the word that most nearly expresses the meaning of the word printed in heavy black type.

1. circulate the news

- (a) report (b) spread (c) interpret (d) watch

2. eliminate a problem

- (a) perceive (b) wipe out (c) aggravate (d) create

3. an enormous ocean liner

- (a) incredible (b) extravagant (c) unforgettable (d) huge

4. dense fog

- (a) misty (b) thick (c) invisible (d) dismal

5. descend the stairs

- (a) slip on (b) fortify (c) come down (d) use

6. the suspected villain

- (a) wicked person (b) schemer (c) gossip (d) dictator

7. humid climate

- (a) frigid (b) moist (c) perilous (d) sunny

8. predict the future

- (a) plan for (b) look forward to (c) foretell (d) accept

9. deadly vapors from the chemical explosion

- (a) forces (b) explosives (c) gases (d) sleet

10. vanish into thin air

- (a) change (b) crumble (c) disappear (d) vacate

11. science theory

- (a) knowledge of facts (b) laboratory equipment (c) explanation based on thought (d) experiment

12. utilize their services

- (a) pay for (b) make use of (c) extend (d) regain

Unit 5

1. Learn the following words.

1. tradition [*trɪˈdɪʃən*] beliefs, opinions, and customs handed down from one generation to another

- a. The father tried to persuade his son that the **tradition** of marriage was important.
- b. All religions have different beliefs and **traditions**.
- c. As time goes on, we will eliminate **traditions** that are meaningless.

2. rural [*ˈrʊərəl*] in the country

- a. Tomatoes are less expensive at the **rural** farm stand.
- b. **Rural** areas are not densely populated.
- c. The **rural** life is much more peaceful than the city one.

3. burden [*ˈbɜːdn*] what is carried; a load

- a. The **burden** of the country's safety is in the hands of the president.
- b. Irma found the enormous box too much of a **burden**.
- c. Ricky carried the **burden** throughout his college career.

4. campus [*ˈkæmpəs*] grounds of a college, university, or school

- a. The **campus** was designed to utilize all of the college's buildings.
- b. Jeff moved off **campus** when he decided it was cheaper to live at home.
- c. I chose to go to Penn State because it has a beautiful **campus**.

5. majority [*ˌmɑːjərɪˈtɪ*] the larger number; greater part; more than half

- a. A **majority** of votes was needed for the bill to pass.
- b. The **majority** of people prefer to pay wholesale prices for meat.
- c. In some countries, the government does not speak for the **majority** of the people.

6. assemble [*q`semb(q)l*] gather together; bring together

- a. The rioters **assembled** outside the White House.
- b. I am going to **assemble** a model of a spacecraft.
- c. All the people who had **assembled** for the picnic vanished when the rain began to fall.

7. explore [*ʃk`spɹl*] go over carefully; look into closely; examine

- a. Lawyer Spence **explored** the essential reasons for the crime.
- b. The Weather Bureau **explored** the effects of the rainy weather.
- c. Sara wanted to know if all of the methods for solving the problem had been **explored**.

8. topic [*tɒpɹk*] subject that people think, write, or talk about

- a. Predicting the weather is our favorite **topic** of conversation.
- b. Valerie only discussed **topics** that she knew well.
- c. The speaker's main **topic** was how to eliminate hunger in this world.

9. debate [*dɛb`et*] a discussion in which reasons for and against something are brought out

- a. The **debate** between the two candidates was heated.
- b. **Debate** in the U.S. Senate lasted for five days.
- c. Instead of shrieking at each other, the students decided to have a **debate** on the topic.

10. evade [*ɪ`veɪd*] get away from by trickery or cleverness

- a. Juan tried to **evade** the topic by changing the subject.
- b. In order to **evade** the police dragnet, Ernie grew a beard.

c. The prisoner of war **evaded** questioning by pretending to be sick.

11. probe [*prəʊ* *v* *h*] search into; examine thoroughly; investigate

- a. The lawyer **probed** the man's mind to see if he was innocent.
- b. After **probing** the scientist's theory, we proved it was correct.
- c. King Henry's actions were carefully **probed** by the noblemen.

12. reform [*ri* *f* *ɔ* *m*] make better; improve by removing faults

- a. After the prison riot, the council decided to **reform** the correctional system.
- b. Brad **reformed** when he saw that breaking the law was hurting people other than himself.
- c. Only laws that force companies to **reform** will clear the dangerous vapors from our air.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

Shape Up at Shaker

Each summer at the Shaker Work Group, a special school in **rural** Pittsfield, where teenagers learn by working, it has been a **tradition** to have the teenagers take on the **burden** of setting their own rules and living by them. Although there are some adults on the campus, teenagers are a **majority**.

One summer the group **assembled** to **explore** the **topic** of lights-out time. There was little debate until 10:30 p.m. was suggested. Why? Everyone at the Shaker Work Group works a minimum of several hours each morning on one project and several hours each afternoon on another. Since everyone has to get up early, no one wanted to stay up later at night anyway.

Few teenagers at the Shaker Work Group try to **evade** the rules. When one does, the entire group meets to **probe** the reasons for the "villain's" actions. Their aim is to **reform** the rule breaker. However, at Shaker Village, the theory

is that teenagers who are busy working will have no time to break rules.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. I left the city for a peaceful _____ farm.
2. Professor Dixon liked the atmosphere of the university _____.
3. He tried to _____ questions he didn't know how to answer.
4. The _____ of people wanted him to be president.
5. The guests began to _____ for Thanksgiving dinner.
6. Christmas trees are a popular _____ for many people.
7. Making a living for his family was too much of a _____.
8. I want to _____ all the cities I haven't visited.
9. If Gene doesn't _____, he will get into serious trouble.
10. He had to do research on the _____ of biology for a school report.
11. Historians will _____ the causes of the war in Bosnia.
12. Whether or not eighteen-year-olds should be allowed to vote was in _____ for a long time.

Exercise

Now make up your own sentences, one for each of the new words you have just been taught.

Unit 6

1. Learn the following words.

1. approach [*əˈprəʊtʃ*] come near or nearer to

- a. The lawyers in the Simpson trial were often asked to **approach** the bench.
- b. Her beau kissed Sylvia when he **approached** her.
- c. Ben **approached** the burden of getting a job with a new spirit.

2. detect [*dɪˈtekt*] find out; discover

- a. Sam Spade **detected** that the important papers had vanished.
- b. From her voice it was easy to **detect** that Ellen was frightened.
- c. We **detected** from the messy room that a large group of people had assembled there.

3. defect [*dɪˈfɛkt*] fault; that which is wrong

- a. My Chevrolet was sent back to the factory because of a steering **defect**.
- b. His theory of the formation of our world was filled with **defects**.
- c. The villain was caught because his plan had many **defects**.

4. employee [*ɪmˈplɔɪiː*] a person who works for pay

- a. The **employees** went on strike for higher wages.
- b. My boss had to fire many **employees** when meat became scarce.
- c. Joey wanted to go into business for himself and stop being an **employee**.

5. neglect [*niˈɡlekt*] give too little care or attention to

- a. The senator **neglected** to make his annual report to Congress.
- b. Bob's car got dirty when he **neglected** to keep it polished.
- c. It is essential that you do not **neglect** your homework.

6. deceive [*dɪˈseɪv*] make someone believe as true something that is false;
mislead

- a. Atlas was **deceived** about the burden he had to carry.
- b. Virginia cried when she learned that her best friend had **deceived** her.
- c. The villain **deceived** Chief White Cloud by pretending to be his friend.

7. undoubtedly [*ʌnˈdʌbtəbəlɪ*] certainly; beyond doubt

- a. Ray's team **undoubtedly** had the best debators in our county.

- b. The pilgrims **undoubtedly** assembled to travel to Rome together.
- c. If she didn't want to get into an argument, Valerie would have followed the majority **undoubtedly**.

8. popular [*ˈpɒpjələ*] liked by most people

- a. The Beatles wrote many **popular** songs.
- b. At one time miniskirts were very **popular**.
- c. **Popular** people often find it hard to evade their many friends.

9. thorough [*ˈθʊrə*] being all that is needed; complete

- a. The police made a **thorough** search of the house after the crime had been reported.
- b. My science teacher praised Sandy for doing a **thorough** job of cleaning up the lab.
- c. Mom decided to spend the day in giving the basement a **thorough** cleaning.

10. client [*ˈkliːnt*] person for whom a lawyer acts; customer

- a. The lawyer told her **client** that she could predict the outcome of his trial.
- b. My uncle tried to get General Motors to be a **client** of his company.
- c. If this restaurant doesn't improve its service, all its **clients** will vanish.

11. comprehensive [*ˌkɒmprɪˈhensɪv*] including much; covering completely.

- a. After a **comprehensive** exam, my doctor said I was in good condition.
- b. The engineer gave our house a thorough, **comprehensive** check-up before my father bought it.
- c. Mrs. Silver wanted us to do a **comprehensive** study of Edgar Allan Poe.

12. defraud [*dɪˈfrɔːd*] take money, rights, etc., away by cheating

- a. My aunt saved thousands of dollars by **defrauding** the government.
- b. If we could eliminate losses from people who **defraud** the government, tax rates could be lowered.
- c. By **defrauding** his friend, Dexter ruined a family tradition of honesty.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

Health of Your Car

The newest **approach** to automobile repair is the clinic, a place where car doctors go over an automobile in an attempt to **detect defects**. Since the clinic does no repairs, its **employees** do not **neglect** the truth. So many automobile owners feel that mechanics **deceive** them that the clinics, even though they **undoubtedly** charge high fees, are quite **popular**.

The experts do a **thorough** job for each **client**. They explore every part of the engine, body, and brakes; they do all kinds of tests with expensive machines. Best of all, the **comprehensive** examination takes only about half an hour. With the clinic's report in your hand no mechanic will be able to **defraud** you by telling you that you need major repairs when only a small repair is necessary.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. Each of our workers is trained to give your car _____ examination. (Which two words might fit this sentence?)
2. Tom Jones was _____ the best singer in the choir when he was young.
3. He could _____ the problem from all angles.
4. Mrs. Spector always wanted to be _____ with her friends.
5. Why did you _____ cleaning your room today?
6. The _____ bought his boss a birthday present.
7. Rocco's only _____ was that he walked with a slight limp.
8. None of the other poker players suspected that their friend would _____ them in order to win.

9. When Cynthia realized that nobody liked her, she knew she had been _____.
10. I could _____ from the tone of his voice that he was in a bad mood.
11. His _____ was happy with the work Terence had been doing for him.
12. I do not want to do anything less than a _____ job on my term paper.
(Which two words might fit this sentence?)

4. Choose the Correct Word. Circle the word in parentheses that best fits the sense of the sentence.

1. Many of today's (popular, comprehensive) songs will become tomorrow's Golden Oldies.
2. My boss insists that all of the (employees, clients) punch a time clock each morning.
3. I (approached, detected) a hint of sarcasm in your seemingly innocent reply to the sales clerk who apologized for the long lines.
4. As the car (approached, detected) the bridge, we could see the dense fog coming in off the water.
5. Our weekly vocabulary quizzes are (comprehensive, popular), including not only that week's new words, but words we learned in past weeks as well.
6. Even a small (client, defect) in an electric appliance can be the possible cause of a fire.
7. Ms. Rodriguez (undoubtedly, comprehensively) felt she had been unjustly accused of showing favoritism, but most of her students felt otherwise.
8. Her (thorough, popular) description of the missing bracelet helped police find it.
9. We've all learned that if you (defraud, neglect) your teeth, you will surely develop dental problems of one kind or another.
10. It is probably still true that the majority of Americans do not think our political leaders would knowingly (defect, defraud) the government.
11. To (defraud, deceive) someone into thinking you are a friend when you are

only along for the ride is selfish and unfeeling.

12. Since your livelihood depends on pleasing them, (clients, employees), like customers, are always right.

Unit 7

1. Learn the following words.

1. **postpone** [*ˈpɒstˌpɒn*] put off to a later time; delay

a. The young couple wanted to **postpone** their wedding until they were sure they could handle the burdens of marriage.

b. I neglected to **postpone** the party because I thought everyone would be able to come.

c. The supermarket's owner planned to **postpone** the grand opening until Saturday.

2. **consent** [*ˈkɒnsɛnt*] agree; give permission or approval

a. My teacher **consented** to let our class leave early.

b. David would not **consent** to our plan.

c. The majority of our club members **consented** to raise the dues.

3. **massive** [*ˈmæsɪv*] big and heavy; large and solid; bulky

a. The boss asked some employees to lift the **massive** box.

b. From lifting weights, Willie had developed **massive** arm muscles.

c. The main building on the campus was so **massive** that the new students had trouble finding their way around at first.

4. **capsule** [*ˈkæpsjʊl*] a small case or covering

a. The small **capsule** contained notes he had written after the meeting.

b. A new, untested medicine was detected in the **capsule** by the police scientists.

c. He explored the space **capsule** for special equipment.

5. preserve [*prɪˈzɜːv*] keep from harm or change; keep safe; protect

- a. The lawyers wanted to **preserve** the newest reforms in the law.
- b. Farmers feel that their rural homes should be **preserved**.
- c. Records of Hank Aaron's home runs will undoubtedly be **preserved** in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

6. denounce [*dɪˈnaʊns*] condemn in public; express strong disapproval of

- a. The father **denounced** his son for lying to the district attorney.
- b. Some people **denounce** the government for probing into their private lives.
- c. Ralph Nader, the consumer advocate, **denounced** the defective products being sold.

7. unique [*juˈniːk*] having no like or equal; being the only one of its kind

- a. Going to Africa was a **unique** experience for us.
- b. The inventor developed a **unique** method of making ice cream.
- c. Albie has a **unique** collection of Israeli stamps.

8. torrent [*ˈtɒrənt*] any violent, rushing stream; flood

- a. A massive rain was coming down in **torrents**.
- b. In the debate, a **torrent** of questions was asked.
- c. After trying to defraud the public, Lefty was faced with a **torrent** of charges.

9. resent [*riˈzent*] feel injured and angered at (something)

- a. Bertha **resented** the way her boyfriend treated her.
- b. The earthquake victim **resented** the poor emergency care.
- c. Columbus **resented** the fact that his crew wanted to turn back.

10. molest [*mɒl`est*] interfere with and trouble; disturb

- a. My neighbor was **molested** when walking home from the subway.
- b. The gang did a thorough job of **molesting** the people in the park.
- c. Lifeguards warned the man not to **molest** any of the swimmers.

11. gloomy [*glu:mi*] dark; dim; in low spirits

- a. My cousin was **gloomy** because his best friend had moved away.
- b. The reason Doris wasn't popular was that she always had a **gloomy** appearance.
- c. Jones Beach is not so beautiful on a **gloomy** day.

12. unforeseen [*un`fɔ:rsi:n*] not known beforehand; unexpected

- a. We had some **unforeseen** problems with the new engine.
- b. The probe into the congressman's finances turned up some **unforeseen** difficulties.
- c. The divers faced **unforeseen** trouble in their search for the wreck.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

The Frozen Future

Doctors are always devising new cures for diseases that kill people. But suppose you are dying from an incurable illness now. If only you could **postpone** death until a cure was found! Now some people are trying to do just that. One young man **consented** to having his body frozen and placed in a **massive capsule** in order to **preserve** it until doctors find a cure for his disease. Some people have **denounced** this **unique** experiment with a **torrent** of angry words. They **resent** human attempts to **molest** the natural order of life and death. There is also a **gloomy** fear that the world is already overcrowded and that people have to die to make room for those who are about to be born. If the

experiment works, **unforeseen** problems undoubtedly will arise.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. We have tried for over 200 years to _____ the United States Constitution.
2. The _____ weather predictions upset him.
3. Will Karen _____ to having her baby picture published in the school newspaper?
4. I found a _____ collection of old books in the attic.
5. Dave knew that if he mistreated her, she would _____ it.
6. The president _____ the criminal activities that were going on.
7. Lori feared that if she walked the streets, she would be _____.
8. Owning a house created _____ difficulties.
9. The new movie invited a _____ of disapproval.
10. A telephone call told us that the employees' picnic was _____ until next week.
11. The _____ was filled with records of the past.
12. It was a _____ job for just one person to unload the big truck.

Exercise

Now make up your own sentences, one for each of the new words you have just been taught.

Unit 8

1. Learn the following words.

1. **exaggerate** [*ɪgˈzæɡreɪt*] make something greater than it is; overstate

- a. He wasn't trying to deceive you when he said that his was the best car in the world; he was just **exaggerating**.
- b. The bookkeeper **exaggerated** her importance to the company.

c. When he said that Shaquille O'Neal was eight feet tall, he was undoubtedly **exaggerating**.

2. amateur [*ˈæmətɪər*] person who does something for pleasure, not for money or as a profession

a. The **amateur** cross-country runner wanted to be in the Olympics.

b. After his song, Don was told that he wasn't good enough to be anything but an **amateur**.

c. Professional golfers resent **amateurs** who think they are as good as the people who play for money.

3. mediocre [*ˈmiːdi.ə.ri.ə*] neither good nor bad; average; ordinary

a. After reading my composition, Mrs. Evans remarked that it was **mediocre** and that I could do better.

b. Howard was a **mediocre** scientist who never made any unique discoveries.

c. The movie wasn't a great one; it was only **mediocre**.

4. variety [*ˈvæ.ri.ə.ti*] lack of sameness; a number of different things

a. Eldorado Restaurant serves a wide **variety** of foods.

b. The show featured a **variety** of entertainment.

c. He faced unforeseen problems for a **variety** of reasons.

5. valid [*ˈvæl.ɪd*] supported by facts or authority; sound; true

a. The witness neglected to give **valid** answers to the judge's questions.

b. Rita had **valid** reasons for denouncing her father's way of life.

c. When Dave presented **valid** working papers, the foreman consented to hiring him immediately.

6. survive [*sɪˈvʌv*] live longer than; remain alive after

- a. It was uncertain whether we would **survive** the torrent of rain.
- b. Some people believe that only the strongest should **survive**.
- c. The space capsule was built to **survive** a long journey in space.

7. weird [*wɪˈd*] mysterious; unearthly

- a. She looked **weird** with that horrible makeup on her face.
- b. Allen felt that **weird** things were starting to happen when he entered the haunted house.
- c. Becky had a **weird** feeling after swallowing the pills.

8. prominent [*ˈprɒmɪˈnɛnt*] well-known; important

- a. My client is a **prominent** businessperson.
- b. Napoleon is a **prominent** figure in the history of France.
- c. Her violet eyes were the **prominent** feature of the model's face.

9. security [*sɪˈkjʊəri*] freedom from danger, care, or fear; feeling or condition of being safe

- a. Our janitor likes the **security** of having all doors locked at night.
- b. When the president travels, strict **security** measures are taken.
- c. Pablo wanted to preserve the **security** of his life-style.

10. bulky [*ˈbʌli*] taking up much space; large

- a. Charley and Morty removed the **bulky** package from the car.
- b. The massive desk was quite **bulky** and impossible to carry.
- c. His client wanted an item that wasn't so **bulky**, Olsen told us.

11. reluctant [*ˈrɪlʌkt*] unwilling

- a. It was easy to see that Herman was **reluctant** to go out and find a job.

- b. The patient was **reluctant** to tell the nurse the whole gloomy truth.
- c. I was **reluctant** to give up the security of family life.

12. obvious [*ˈɒb.vi.ʃəs*] easily seen or understood; clear to the eye or mind; not to be doubted; plain

- a. It was **obvious** that the lumberjack was tired after his day's work.
- b. The fact that Darcy was a popular boy was **obvious** to all.
- c. The detective missed the clue because it was too **obvious**.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

The Guitar

It is impossible to **exaggerate** the popularity of the guitar. One out of every four **amateur** musicians in the United States plays the guitar. Even a **mediocre** player can produce a **variety** of music with this unique instrument. Trying to find **valid** reasons for the guitar's ability to **survive** through the years isn't hard. One **weird** theory by a **prominent** musician states that guitarists find **security** hiding behind the **bulky** instrument. But most people are **reluctant** to accept this idea because there are more **obvious** reasons for playing a guitar. It can be carried anywhere, it is inexpensive to buy, and only a few lessons are required to learn to play it well.

Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. Most people agreed that he was a ____ looking man because of the long red beard.
2. Chuck's reason for quitting his job was ____; he was not being paid.
3. The answer to the question was so ____ that everyone knew it.
4. The ____ tennis player would never make the Olympic squad.
5. She was ____ to take on any more responsibilities at work.
6. People often tend to ____ stories they hear.

7. The bank is kept under very tight _____.
8. Because the box was so _____, it took two men to lift it.
9. Even though he was not a professional, the _____ photographer entered the contest.
10. A wide _____ of shows is playing at the concert hall.
11. Mrs. Meyers is a _____ member of the staff.
12. We all hoped that the small boat would _____ the storm.

3. Matching. Match the 12 new words in Column I with the definitions in Column II.

Column I

Column II

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| _____ 1. reluctant | a. large; taking up much space |
| _____ 2. mediocre | b. true; supported by facts |
| _____ 3. prominent | c. person who does something for pleasure, not as a profession |
| _____ 4. obvious | d. average; ordinary |
| _____ 5. exaggerate | e. mysterious; unearthly |
| _____ 6. bulky | f. unwilling |
| _____ 7. variety | g. easily seen or understood |
| _____ 8. valid | h. well-known; important |
| _____ 9. security | i. remain alive; live on |
| _____ 10. survive | j. overstate; make something greater than it is |
| _____ 11. weird | k. feeling or condition of being safe |
| _____ 12. amateur | l. a number of different things |

Unit 9

1. Learn the following words

1. vicinity [*vɪˈsɪnɪtɪ*] region near a place; neighborhood

- a. Living in the **vicinity** of New York, Jeremy was near many museums.
- b. The torrent of rain fell only in our **vicinity**.
- c. We approached the Baltimore **vicinity** by car.

2. century [*ˌsenʃrɪ*] 100 years

- a. George Washington lived in the eighteenth **century**.
- b. The United States is more than two **centuries** old.
- c. Many prominent men have been born in this **century**.

3. rage [*reɪʒ*] violent anger; something that arouses intense but brief enthusiasm

- a. Joan's bad manners sent her mother into a **rage**.
- b. In a fit of **rage**, Francine broke the valuable glass.
- c. The mayor felt a sense of **rage** about the exaggerations in the press.

4. document [*dɒkjʊmɪnt*] something handwritten or printed that gives information or proof of some fact

- a. Newly discovered **documents** showed that the prisoner was obviously, innocent.
- b. The **documents** of ancient Rome have survived many centuries.
- c. We were reluctant to destroy important **documents**.

5. conclude [*kɒnˌkluːd*] end; finish; decide

- a. Most people are happy when they **conclude** their work for the day.
- b. The gloomy day **concluded** with a thunderstorm.
- c. Work on the building could not be **concluded** until the contract was signed.

6. undeniable [*ˌʌndɪˈnæbl̩*] not to be denied; cannot be questioned

- a. The jury concluded that the teenagers were **undeniably** guilty.

- b. It is **undeniable** that most professionals can beat any amateur.
- c. That Leon resented Rita's good marks in school was **undeniable**.

7. resist [*rɪˈzɪst*] act against; strive against; oppose

- a. Totie could not **resist** eating the chocolate sundae.
- b. Tight security measures **resisted** Jimmy's entrance into the bank.
- c. Harold **resisted** the opportunity to poke fun at the weird man.

8. lack [*læk*] be entirely without something; have not enough

- a. Your daily diet should not **lack** fruits and vegetables.
- b. His problem was that he **lacked** a variety of talents.
- c. As an amateur dancer, Vincent knew that he **lacked** the professional touch.

9. ignore [*ɪgˈnɔː*] pay no attention to; disregard

- a. Little Alice realized that if she didn't behave, her parents would **ignore** her.
- b. The student could not answer the question because he **ignored** the obvious facts.
- c. Older brothers and sisters often feel **ignored** when their parents only spend time with a new baby.

10. challenge [*ˈtʃælɪndʒ*] call to a fight

- a. Aaron Burr **challenged** Alexander Hamilton to a duel.
- b. No one bothered to **challenge** the prominent lawyer.
- c. Trying to become a doctor was quite a **challenge**, Dick discovered.

11. miniature [*mɪˈnɪʃə*] represented on a small scale

- a. The young boy wanted a **miniature** sports car for his birthday.
- b. Instead of buying a massive dog, Teddy got a **miniature** poodle.

c. We were seeking a **miniature** model of the bulky chess set.

12. source [*sɪs*] place from which something comes or is obtained

a. The college student knew that he needed more than a basic textbook as a **source** for his report.

b. The **source** of Buddy's trouble was boredom.

c. Professor Smith's speech was a valid **source** of information on chemistry.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

More About the Guitar

The guitar is one of the oldest instruments known to man. It probably originated in the **vicinity** of China. There were guitars in ancient Egypt and Greece as well, but the written history of the guitar starts in Spain in the 13th **century**. By 1500 the guitar was popular in Italy, France, and Spain. A French **document** of that time **concludes** that many people were playing the guitar.

Stradivarius, the **undeniable** king of violin makers, could not **resist** creating a variety of guitars. Also, there was no **lack** of music written for the instrument. Haydn, Schubert, and others wrote guitar music. When the great Beethoven was asked to compose music for the guitar, he went into a **rage** and refused, but eventually even Beethoven could not **ignore** the **challenge**; legend tells us he finally called the guitar a **miniature** orchestra. Indeed the guitar does sound like a little orchestra! Perhaps that is why in rural areas around the world the guitar has been a **source** of music for millions to enjoy.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. Ernesto would constantly ____ his father's questions.

2. Historical ____ are kept in a special section of the library.

3. Great scientific progress has been made in this ____.

4. The massive wrestler accepted the ____ of the newcomer.

5. Not wearing warm clothing was the ____ of his illness.
6. "When do you expect to ____ your investigation of the case?"
7. It is ____ that this restaurant's food is delicious.
8. Lena showed a ____ of good judgment.
9. Everyone who lived in the ____ of the bomb test was in peril.
10. Anita's habit of interrupting him sent her husband into a _____.
11. My nephew was given a set of ____ soldiers for Christmas.
12. When you are tired it is hard to ____ staying in bed all day.

4. Synonyms. Circle the word that most nearly expresses the meaning of the word printed in heavy black type.

1. **century**

- (a) countless years (b) three score years (c) one hundred years (d) generation

2. **document**

- (a) official paper (b) critical review (c) decree (d) composition

3. **undeniable**

- (a) essential (b) unforeseen (c) comprehensive (d) unquestionable

4. **vicinity**

- (a) region near a place (b) division of a city or town (c) residential district
(d) metropolitan area

5. **challenge**

- (a) banish permanently (b) verify easily (c) call to a fight (d) join together

6. **lack**

- (a) take responsibility (b) correct (c) be without (d) give freely

7. **miniature**

- (a) balanced (b) tiny (c) eager (d) forbidden

8. **rage**

- (a) extreme anger (b) foolish explanation (c) rapid movement (d) bad habit

9. **conclude**

(a) show (b) reorganize (c) examine (d) decide

10. **source**

(a) origin (b) task (c) onlooker (d) chart

11. **resist**

(a) discuss honestly (b) change completely (c) strive against (d) pay attention

12. **ignore**

(a) disregard (b) complete (c) exaggerate (d) offer

Unit 10

1. Learn the following words

1. excel [*ˈɛkˌsel*] be better than; do better than

- a. Because he was so small, Larry could not **excel** in sports.
- b. At least Hannah had the security of knowing that she **excelled** in swimming.
- c. Clarence Darrow wanted to become a prominent lawyer, but he felt that he must first **excel** in the study of history.

2. feminine [*ˈfemɪnɪn*] of women or girls

- a. When my sister wants to look **feminine** she changes from dungarees into a dress.
- b. Some men cannot resist staring when they see a woman who is especially **feminine**.
- c. My brother is ashamed to cry at a sad movie because people might think he is behaving in a **feminine** manner.

3. mount [*mʌnt*] get up on

- a. Congressman Gingrich **mounted** the platform to make his speech.

- b. The watchman **mounted** the tower to see if there were any people in the vicinity.
- c. My sister couldn't **mount** the horse so they gave her a pony instead.

4. compete [*kəmˈpiːt*] try hard to get something wanted by others; be a rival

- a. Steffi Graf was challenged to **compete** for the tennis title.
- b. The runner was reluctant to **compete** in front of his parents for the first time.
- c. When the amateur became a pro he had to **compete** against better men.

5. dread [*driːd*] look forward to with fear; fear greatly; causing great fear

- a. The poor student **dreaded** going to school each morning.
- b. He had a **dread** feeling about the challenge he was about to face.
- c. I **dread** going into that deserted house.

6. masculine [*mæskjʊˈlɪn*] of man; male

- a. The boy became more **masculine** as he got older.
- b. It is undeniable that his beard makes him look **masculine**.
- c. The girls liked Jerry because of his **masculine** ways.

7. menace [*ˈmenɪs*] threat

- a. Tom's lack of respect made him a **menace** to his parents.
- b. The torrents of rain were a **menace** to the farmer's crops.
- c. Sergeant Foy's raw language was an obvious **menace** to the reputation of the entire police department.

8. tendency [*ˈtendənsi*] leaning; movement in a certain direction

- a. My algebra teacher has a **tendency** to forget the students' names.
- b. His **tendency** was to work hard in the morning and then to take it easy in the

afternoon.

c. The **tendency** in all human beings is to try to survive.

9. underestimate [ⁿˌʌndərˈestɪmeɪt] set too low a value, amount, or rate

a. I admit that I **underestimated** the power in the bulky fighter's frame.

b. Undoubtedly the boss **underestimated** his employee's ability to work hard.

c. The value of our house was **underestimated** by at least two thousand dollars.

10. victorious [vɪkˈtɪrɪʃəs] having won a victory; conquering

a. Playing in New Jersey, the Giants were **victorious** two years in a row.

b. Terry faced the challenge with the bad attitude that he could not be **victorious**.

c. Our girls' volleyball squad was **victorious** over a taller team.

11. numerous [ˈnjuːmərəs] very many; several

a. Critics review **numerous** movies every week.

b. Dr. Fischer had resisted accepting money from the poor woman on **numerous** housecalls.

c. The debator used **numerous** documents to back up his statements.

12. flexible [ˈfleksɪbəl] easily bent; willing to yield

a. The toy was **flexible**, and the baby could bend it easily.

b. Remaining **flexible**, Nick listened to arguments from both sides.

c. A mouse's **flexible** body allows it to squeeze through narrow openings.

2. Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.

Bet on the Blond

Can women **excel** as jockeys in big-time horse racing? Years ago the

feminine touch was kept out of racing, but now at tracks all over the country women **mount** horses and **compete** with men, many of whom **dread** the whole idea. Their **masculine** image, they feel, may be threatened. Also, some offer the **weak** argument that females are a **menace** on the track. But, as we all know, we should resist the **tendency** to **underestimate** the power of women. A few female jockeys have been **victorious** in **numerous** races, and this is probably what has put the male jockeys in a rage. It would be wise if the men were more **flexible** in their attitudes toward women athletes.

3. Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. The massive tree on the corner was a _____ to traffic.
2. At parties, the shy girl would _____ being asked to dance.
3. My uncle has a _____ to repeat the same story over and over again.
4. The modest man used to _____ his own strength.
5. No person can ever _____ in all things he does.
6. Being _____ is far better than being stubborn.
7. We went to the beach on _____ occasions last summer.
8. Playing with dolls is traditionally a _____ pastime, but attitudes are changing.
9. Only the brightest students were invited to _____ for the prize.
10. Carole was ten years old before her parents finally let her _____ a horse.
11. The amateur tennis player completed many matches without being _____.
12. When Stuart started growing a mustache, it was obvious he was becoming more _____.

Exercise

Now make up your own sentences, one for each of the new words you have just been taught.

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