

4th Edition

WORDLY WISE 3000®

SAMPLE LESSONS

Direct Academic Vocabulary Instruction | Grades K–12 | RTI

BOOK 12:
Lessons
1 & 10

Lesson 1 Word List

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

acolyte
a' ko lit
n. A person who assists in some religious services by carrying out minor duties, attends or assists, a follower.
The movie director's **acolytes** hung on his every word.

bibulous
bi' byu las
adj. 1. Given to the consumption of alcoholic drinks.
Health education classes provide information about the damage that can result from an excessively **bibulous** lifestyle.
2. Highly absorbent.
The dentist ordered an ample supply of **bibulous** paper on which to place the X-rays.

coalesce
ko a les
v. To grow together; to unite to form a whole.
Disaffected Republicans and Democrats **coalesced** behind the third-party candidate.
Discuss with your partner if there is a social cause your class might coalesce around.

covert
ko' vert
adj. Not openly acknowledged; secret.
The intelligence operation was supposed to be **covert**, but sophisticated spies eventually revealed the plan.
Talk with your partner about why it is important to be covert when planning a surprise party.

declaim
di klaim
v. To recite something in the style of a public speech; to speak in a loud, dramatic voice.
"To be or not to be," **declaimed** the actor, "that is the question!"
Stand up and declaim to your partner your thoughts on your last year of school.

delineate
di li ne at
v. 1. To describe vividly and in detail.
In *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen **delineates** the social practices of the early 19th-century upper-class England.
2. To draw an outline of; to represent by drawing.
In her studio, the architect **delineated** her plan for the new wing of the school.
Delineate for your partner your idea of a perfect day.

demagogue
de ma go gw
n. A leader who seeks power by appealing to people's emotions and making false claims and promises.
During the 1950s, Senator Joseph McCarthy was a **demagogue** of fear.
demagoguery n.

encomium
en ko me am
n. (plural: encomiums or encomia) An expression of warm and enthusiastic praise.
At a dinner in his honor, the philanthropist received **encomium** for his work.

BOOK 12

WORDLY WISE

3000®

Direct Academic Vocabulary Instruction

Fourth Edition

Kenneth Hodkinson • Sandra Adams • Erika Hodkinson

EDUCATORS PUBLISHING SERVICE

Lesson 10 Word List

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

acumen
a' kyoo men
n. Keeness of the mind; shrewdness.
Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legal **acumen** led to her appointment to a position on the Supreme Court.
Tell your partner about someone you know who possesses great acumen.

apotheosis
a po the o sis
n. 1. The elevation of a person or thing to divine status.
Nero's vanity was so great that nothing less than his **apotheosis** by the Roman senate could satisfy it.
2. The highest point or best example.
Many people view Beethoven's music as the **apotheosis** of the Romantic movement.
Ask your partner who he or she believes is the apotheosis of athleticism.

askew
a skyoo
adj. and adv. Turned or twisted to one side; out of line.
The gate to the cow pasture had been knocked slightly **askew** and didn't close properly.

chasten
cha' son
v. To correct or improve by disciplining; to cause to be more careful or restrained.
The boy's parents **chastened** him for arriving home after his curfew.
chastening adj. Having the effect of humbling or restraining.

demarcation
de mar ka shan
n. 1. The act or process of setting a boundary; the boundary itself.
According to the 1953 armistice, the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) is the **demarcation** between North Korea and South Korea.
2. Separation; distinction.
In the summer haze, there was no clear line of **demarcation** between sea and sky.
Discuss with your partner one **demarcation** between Republicans and Democrats.

dictum
dik' tum
n. A statement or pronouncement.
The gym instructor's **dictum** was "No pain, no gain."
Talk to your partner about the dictum "Might makes right."

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erst' wail
adj. Of an earlier time; former.
My **erstwhile** companions have all gone their separate ways.

forte
for' ta
n. An activity at which a person excels.
Tennessee Williams was a poet and short-story writer, but his **forte** was playwrighting.

habitué
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n. A person who regularly goes to a particular place.
Edward Hopper painted the **habitués** of all-night diners.
Ask your partner what place he or she is a habitué of.

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During the 1950s, Senator Joseph McCarthy was a **demagogue** who played on people's fear of communism.

demagoguery *n.*

encomium

en kō' mē əm

n. (plural: *encomiums* or *encomia*) An expression of warm and enthusiastic praise; a tribute.

At a dinner in his honor, the philanthropist received **encomiums** for his generous financial gift to the cancer center.

obdurate
äb' də rət

adj. 1. Resistant to persuasion; inflexible.
Despite our pleadings, Maisie remained **obdurate** in her determination to hike the hazardous trail.
2. Persistent in wrongdoing.
The judge reasoned that the **obdurate** high schooler would benefit more from focused education than from prolonged incarceration.

obduracy *n.*

prescience
pre' shē ənts

n. Foresight; knowledge beforehand of events.
The ancient Greeks consulted oracles because they believed them to have the power of **prescience**.

prescient *adj.*



.....
Chat with your partner about whether you believe in prescient fortune-tellers.

protagonist
prō tā' gə nīst

n. The chief character in a drama or story.
The **protagonist** in Shakespearean tragedy is usually a person destroyed by a character flaw such as jealousy or excessive ambition.



.....
Tell your partner some characteristics your ideal protagonist would have in a book or movie about superheroes.

sedulous
se' jə ləs

adj. Completed with careful perseverance; diligent.
Through their **sedulous** efforts, workers in Project HOPE delivered medicine and supplies to doctors and patients in the disaster zone.

trenchant
tren' chənt

adj. Expressed with vigor and penetrating insight; keenly perceptive.
The reviewer's **trenchant** criticism did not please the book's author.

utopia
yoo tō' pē ə

n. A place or state of perfect social and political conditions.
The **utopia** promised by communism failed to materialize in Eastern Europe.

utopian *adj.*



.....
Describe for your partner your idea of utopia.

valedictory
va lə dik' tə rē

n. A farewell address, especially one given at a graduation ceremony.
The **valedictory** is usually given by a student who has achieved great distinction.
adj. Of or relating to such a farewell address.
General Lee's **valedictory** remarks to the Army of Virginia were tinged with sadness.

valediction *n.*

1A

Understanding Meanings

Read the following sentences. If the word in bold is used correctly, write C on the line. If the word is used incorrectly, write a new sentence using the word correctly.

1. To **delineate** something is to describe it.

2. A **bibulous** gathering is one at which alcohol is consumed to excess.

3. A **utopia** is a false promise.

4. An **obdurate** person is one who sticks stubbornly to a position.

5. A **covert** act is one that is open for all to see.

6. An **encomium** is an expression of displeasure.

7. An **acolyte** is anything that brings about change.

8. **Demagoguery** is appealing to people's prejudices in pursuit of power.

9. A **prescient** person is one who is able to foresee what might happen.

10. A **valedictory** is a farewell address.

11. A **sedulous** effort is one that is halfhearted.

12. A **protagonist** is a person who is quick to criticize.

13. To **declaim** something is to deny having anything to do with it.

14. A **trenchant** comment is one that is vigorously expressed.

15. To **coalesce** is to come together into a single body.

1B

Using Words

If the word (or a form of the word) in bold fits in a sentence in the group following it, write the word in the blank space. If the word does not fit, leave the space empty. There may be more than one correct answer or no correct answer.

1. **declaim**

- (a) Pam said she would _____ the reward because she did not really need the money.
- (b) Sultan loves to _____ his views on educational reform to anyone who will listen.
- (c) "I didn't quite catch what you said, so would you please _____ it?"

2. **obdurate**

- (a) In winter, heavy frosts make the soccer field too _____ to play on.
- (b) Kumiko begged her parents to change their minds, but they were _____.
- (c) Pulling out weeds was such _____ work that we soon quit.

3. **valedictory**

- (a) This brief note was Professor Higgs's _____ to her colleagues.
- (b) It is customary for presidents to give a _____ speech upon leaving office.
- (c) The cast members presented a Miró print as a _____ to the director.

acolyte
bibulous
coalesce
covert
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delineate
demagogue
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obdurate
prescience
protagonist
sedulous
trenchant
utopia
valedictory

4. **bibulous**

- (a) No _____ drinks will be served to those who are under twenty-one.
- (b) The office holiday party is no longer the _____ affair it once was.
- (c) Some people believe that drinking one glass of wine a day can be a healthful and _____ act.

5. **protagonist**

- (a) Macbeth is the _____ of Shakespeare's tragedy of that name.
- (b) England was France's _____ in the Hundred Years' War (1337–1453).
- (c) Every _____ in the 100-meter dash was given a chance of winning.

6. **coalesce**

- (a) The two automobiles _____ during the accident.
- (b) The political parties looked for a leader around whom they could _____.
- (c) Water molecules begin to _____ when the temperature drops to 0°C.

7. **prescience**

- (a) Dario's decision to take the earlier train suggested _____ when he learned that the later train had derailed.
- (b) Farmers frequently show great _____ regarding the weather.
- (c) With the completed project due in two days, the designers felt a great amount of _____.

8. **sedulous**

- (a) She gave a _____ grin when I discovered her prank.
- (b) The work in the midday sun is extremely _____, but you will be paid well for your efforts.
- (c) After the blizzard, the snow removal crews were _____ in their efforts to clear the streets.

1C

Word Study: Synonyms and Antonyms

Each group of words contains two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Circle them. Then circle *S* if they are synonyms or *A* if they are antonyms.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---|---|
| 1. secret | obdurate | silent | covert | S | A |
| 2. flexible | obdurate | prescient | honest | S | A |
| 3. bully | protagonist | follower | acolyte | S | A |
| 4. utopian | enormous | vague | trenchant | S | A |
| 5. alert | bibulous | temperate | sedulous | S | A |
| 6. coalesce | delineate | soften | scatter | S | A |
| 7. demagogue | encomium | protagonist | tribute | S | A |
| 8. relevant | sedulous | utopian | diligent | S | A |
| 9. prescience | hindsight | valedictory | defeat | S | A |
| 10. delineate | declaim | declare | desire | S | A |

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Images of Words

Circle the letter next to the sentence that suggests the bold vocabulary word. There may be more than one correct answer or no correct answer.

1. **demagoguery**

- (a) The man claimed to be a doctor, but actually he knew little about medicine.
- (b) The speaker argued that improving government-sponsored health-care benefits to older citizens would cost too much.
- (c) Making subtle appeals to racial prejudice to get votes is shameful.

2. **covert**

- (a) The overthrow of the Bokhari government took most people by surprise.
- (b) Though they try to hide it, it's obvious that the two are planning a surprise.
- (c) The agents were disappointed when their sting to catch the smugglers failed.

3. **acolyte**

- (a) The tree was just four feet high when we planted it.
- (b) Although the neurosurgeon performed the crucial procedures, the resident helped throughout the operation with the routine ones.
- (c) The apprentice watched as the mason began constructing the curved wall.

4. **delineate**

- (a) With a few quick pencil strokes, Roz captured Sean's bemused expression.
- (b) Roberta repeated that she had been home since eight o'clock and knew nothing about the theft.
- (c) Charles Dickens's ability to portray characters vividly is widely acknowledged.

5. **encomium**

- (a) "They didn't give me enough time to do the job properly."
- (b) "Be careful! Look where you're going!"
- (c) This humidifier has received the highest ratings from an independent testing center.

6. **valediction**

- (a) "Everything I am I owe to my angel mother" is one of Abraham Lincoln's better known quotes on his personal life.
- (b) "A plague on both your houses!" cried Mercutio.
- (c) "Pisa Pizza has the best calzones in town."

7. **utopian**

- (a) My grandparents came to this country seeking a new life.
- (b) Our group is monitoring the water quality in the bay.
- (c) One day, poverty, crime, and disease will be banished from Earth.

8. **protagonist**

- (a) Willy Loman confronts a variety of trying situations throughout the play.
- (b) Audrey Hepburn played the leading role in the Broadway musical *My Fair Lady*.
- (c) Former President Jimmy Carter won the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize.

9. **trenchant**

- (a) The soldiers positioned themselves in a way that prevented a surprise attack.
- (b) Carolina did not think much of the popular author’s latest book.
- (c) “The negotiator’s comment cut right to the heart of the matter in the dispute between management and labor.”

10. **prescience**

- (a) “I think I’m going to be ill,” Padma murmured.
- (b) Hosea felt certain the car would break down as soon as the warranty expired.
- (c) The next full moon will be on the ninth of October.



Vocabulary in Context

Read the passage.

Invisible Man

During the summer of 1945, Ralph Ellison lived on a friend’s farm in Vermont, recuperating from a stress-related illness, a result of his wartime service in the Merchant Marine. He hoped to use the time to write. Even though he was little known as an author, he had written essays about literature for years. One day as he sat at his typewriter, he pecked out the words, “I am an invisible man.”

At first, he was unsure what the sentence meant, but as he pondered it, a number of ideas relating to his identity as an African American began to **coalesce** for him. Although at the time he was unaware of the impact his book would have, he had begun writing one of the most significant novels of the twentieth century. It took him seven years. When the work was published in 1952 as *Invisible Man*, the **encomiums** that greeted it (including the National Book Award for fiction in 1953) ensured its instant status as a classic American novel. It has held this position ever since. One frequently mentioned feature of the book is the use Ellison makes of the richness and diversity of African American speech and experience. Another feature often noted is the **prescience** of the book. Many of the events **delineated** in the novel have parallels in the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements that erupted in the United States within a few years of its publication.

The **protagonist** of *Invisible Man* is an unnamed African American. He is invisible as an individual because white Americans, blinded by racial stereotypes, see only the color of his skin. The novel begins with his graduation from a high school in the South. He has been asked to give the **valedictory** address. Later he is invited to present his speech before a gathering of the town’s leading white male citizens and to receive a scholarship from them. This turns out to be a **bibulous** occasion, at which the entertainment is a fight pitting Invisible Man and his classmates against each other. His speech is almost forgotten. Bruised and bloodied from the fight,

acolyte
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Invisible Man **declaims** his speech. Still dazed from the melee, however, he uses the words “social equality” in place of “social responsibility.” One of the men in the audience angrily challenges him, informing him: “We mean to do right by you, but you’ve got to know your place at all times.” The rest of the novel concerns Invisible Man’s attempts to “find his place,” and it is emphatically not the place to which white America has consigned him.

Dropped from the college he attended because he has unwittingly embarrassed the president of the school, Invisible Man travels north to New York to look for work. After a series of jobs, he becomes an **acolyte** of Brother Jack, the leader of the Brotherhood, a group that hopes to further their goals of social change by using the discontent of African Americans over discrimination. Modeled in part on the Communist Party, which sought a **covert** alliance with African Americans for its own political ends, the Brotherhood offers a **utopian** vision of equality. However, Invisible Man gradually understands that he and other African American members are being used by the organization.

The **demagoguery** of Ras the Exhorter, leader of an African American separatist group, offers as little hope for change to African Americans as the false promises of the Brotherhood do. In the midst of a violent riot, spawned in part by the Brotherhood and taken up by Ras and his followers, Invisible Man takes shelter inside an underground coal cellar from which vantage point he tells his story. In the closing passage of the novel, he announces, “I’m shaking off the old skin and I’ll leave it here in the hole. I’m coming out, no less invisible without it, but coming out nevertheless. And I suppose it’s damn well time.”

In the years that followed, Ellison’s **trenchant** critique of race relations in America was not well received by militant African American leaders, who viewed him as an apologist for white America. But Ellison was **obdurate** in his insistence that literature was not propaganda for particular causes. In one of his essays, he states, “I had to accept the fact that if I tried to adapt to their point of view, I would not only be dishonest but would violate disastrously that sense of complexity, historical and cultural, political and personal, out of which it is my fate and privilege to write.”

For the next forty years, Ellison worked **sedulously** on a second novel. When he died in April 1994, it was still unfinished and consisted of some fifteen hundred manuscript pages kept in no particular order in several cardboard boxes. Ellison’s widow invited his longtime friend John Callahan, a professor of literature, to shape this material into a novel. The resulting 368-page work, titled *Juneteenth*, was published in 1999 to mixed reviews. *Invisible Man* had set an extraordinarily high standard that the second book, in the view of some critics, failed to match. Ellison once said, “I would rather write one good book than five bad ones.” In the end that is perhaps what he did.

► Answer each question with a sentence. If a question does not contain a word from the lesson, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. Why would it be inaccurate to say that Ralph Ellison presents a **utopian** view of African American life in *Invisible Man*?

2. Why is it unusual for a **protagonist** to have no name?

3. Why can we assume that the gathering of white citizens at the Invisible Man's high school graduation grew more raucous as the evening progressed?

4. What effect did the sentence "I am an invisible man" have on Ellison?

5. What kind of work do you think Invisible Man did for Brother Jack?

6. What details in the story suggest that Ras the Exhorter probably **declaimed** his ideas to those who would listen?

7. Why would the **prescience** of the ideas in the book not have been apparent on publication?

8. What details suggest that Invisible Man was **sedulous** in his studies?

9. How does the passage indicate that Ellison was not **covert** about his opinions?

10. How do you know that Invisible Man was **obdurate** in refusing to take the place that white society had assigned him?

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11. In what way was the reception of *Juneteenth* different from that of *Invisible Man*?

Fun & Fascinating FACTS

-
 - A **covert** act is one that is hidden or kept secret. The term comes from the French verb *couvrir*, "to cover." Its antonym is *overt*. An *overt* act is one that is open for all to see. This word comes from the French *ouvrir*, "to open."
-
 - Because *pro-* means "for," and *anti-* means "against," it would seem reasonable to assume that *antagonist* and **protagonist** are antonyms, but such is not the case. *Antagonist* derives from *anti-*, "against," and the Greek *agon*, "a struggle," and means "one who opposes or struggles against another." *Protagonist* is actually formed from *proto-*, "first," and the Greek *agonistes*, "an actor," and means "the main character in a play or story." In ancient Greek drama, the *protagonist* was the first actor to occupy the stage and engage in dialogue with the chorus.
-
 - Sir Thomas More was an English statesman and author. In 1516, he wrote *Utopia*, a description of an ideal state governed by reason. The title derives from the Greek *ou*, "not," and *topos*, "place." It literally means "no (such) place." The word entered the language unchanged as a noun and acquired an adjective form *utopian*. Unless naming the place described by More, the word is not capitalized.

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Tennessee Williams was a poet and short-story writer, but his **forte** was playwriting.

habitué

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n. A person who regularly goes to a particular place.

Edward Hopper painted the **habitués** of all-night diners.



.....
Ask your partner what place she or he is a habitué of.

nonplus
nän pläs´

v. To cause to be at a loss as to what to say or do.
The guest's continuing reticence **nonplussed** the host of the TV talk show.

peripatetic
per ə pə te´ tik

adj. Of or relating to going from place to place, especially on foot.
These **peripatetic** discussions among the lawyers took place between their offices and the courthouse.

prodigal
prä´ di gəl

n. One who spends lavishly or wastefully.
During the Gilded Age of the second half of the nineteenth century, millionaires in the United States were often referred to as **prodigals**.
prodigal adj.

sycophant
si´ kə fənt

n. One who uses flattery to win favor or to ingratiate himself or herself.
The Emperor's **sycophants** would not dream of telling him the truth about his "new clothes."

sycophantic adj.



.....
With your partner, think of a famous sycophant from movies or books.

vacuous
va´ kyə wəs

adj. Lacking intelligence or ideas; intellectual emptiness.
I couldn't wait to leave the dinner because of the **vacuous** conversation at the table.



.....
Tell your partner if you would rather hang out with a nice but vacuous person or with someone who is intelligent but mean-spirited.

wraith
rāth

n. A shadowy or ghostlike figure.
In the film, a **wraith** appeared out of the mist, pointed an accusing finger, and then was gone.
wraithlike adj.

10A

Determining Precise Meaning

Choose the most accurate paraphrase for each sentence.

- Uncle Charlie had a **dictum** for every situation.
 - Uncle Charlie had a **widely accepted statement** for every situation.
 - Uncle Charlie had a **jacket** for every situation.
- The host was **nonplussed** when the guests refused to shake hands.
 - The host was **quietly furious** when the guests refused to shake hands.
 - The host was **at a loss as to what to think** when the guests refused to shake hands.
- My **acumen** would be severely tested in my new job.
 - My **mental ability** would be severely tested in my new job.
 - My **physical condition** would be severely tested in my new job.

4. Some meetings were held at the office, and some were **peripatetic**.
 - (a) Some meetings were held at the office, and some were **held across town**.
 - (b) Some meetings were held at the office, and some were **held while we walked around**.
5. My **erstwhile** student has just been made a federal judge.
 - (a) My **former** student has just been made a federal judge.
 - (b) My **favorite** student has just been made a federal judge.
6. The political party promised to mend its **prodigal** ways.
 - (a) The political party promised to mend its **free-spending** ways.
 - (b) The political party promised to mend its **parsimonious** ways.
7. In Shakespeare's famous play, Hamlet's father appears before him as a **wraith**.
 - (a) In Shakespeare's famous play, Hamlet's father appears before him as a **ghostlike figure**.
 - (b) In Shakespeare's famous play, Hamlet's father appears before him as **an old man**.
8. It was common for a Roman emperor to decree the **apotheosis** of his deceased predecessor.
 - (a) It was common for a Roman emperor to decree the **public abandonment** of his deceased predecessor.
 - (b) It was common for a Roman emperor to decree the **elevation to a divine status** of his deceased predecessor.
9. The **demarcation** between Shia and Sunni was critical in the Middle East.
 - (a) The **boundaries that marked the separation** between Shia and Sunni was critical in the Middle East.
 - (b) The **ongoing struggle** between Shia and Sunni was critical in the Middle East.
10. I wasn't surprised when my cousin was accused of being a **sycophant**.
 - (a) I wasn't surprised when my cousin was accused of being a **petty thief**.
 - (b) I wasn't surprised when my cousin was accused of being a **shameless flatterer**.
11. The experience, I will admit, was **chastening**.
 - (a) The experience, I will admit, was **painful but necessary**.
 - (b) The experience, I will admit, was **ecstatic**.
12. Bringing people together was the president's **forte**.
 - (a) Bringing people together was the president's **special gift**.
 - (b) Bringing people together was the president's **proposal**.
13. My little sister gave all sorts of **vacuous** reasons for not wanting to go to school.
 - (a) My little sister gave all sorts of **serious** reasons for not wanting to go to school.
 - (b) My little sister gave all sorts of **inane** reasons for not wanting to go to school.
14. The announcer appeared on TV with his tie **askew**.
 - (a) The announcer appeared on TV with his tie **spotted with food stains**.
 - (b) The announcer appeared on TV with his tie **twisted to one side**.

15. The author writes about the **habitués** of the underworld.
- (a) The author writes about the **denizens** of the underworld.
 - (b) The author writes about the **unwritten laws** of the underworld.

10B

Understanding Word Relationships

Circle the letter next to each correct answer. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. Which word or words are related to *ability*?
 - (a) acumen
 - (b) crass
 - (c) aptitude
 - (d) serrated

2. Which word or words are related to *elevation*?
 - (a) zenith
 - (b) apotheosis
 - (c) demarcation
 - (d) infinitesimal

3. Which word or words are related to *out of line*?
 - (a) enervated
 - (b) disarray
 - (c) askew
 - (d) habitué

4. Which word or words are related to *scold*?
 - (a) chastise
 - (b) chasten
 - (c) castigate
 - (d) sycophant

5. Which word or words are related to *pronouncement*?
 - (a) wraith
 - (b) adage
 - (c) maxim
 - (d) dictum

6. Which word or words are related to *an earlier time*?
 - (a) precursor
 - (b) acumen
 - (c) exculpate
 - (d) erstwhile

acumen
apotheosis
askew
chasten
demarcation
dictum
erstwhile
forte
habitué
nonplus
peripatetic
prodigal
sycophant
vacuous
wraith

7. Which word or words are related to *ability*?
- (a) domain
 - (b) forte
 - (c) aptitude
 - (d) dictum
8. Which word or words are related to *flattery*?
- (a) adulation
 - (b) sycophant
 - (c) calumny
 - (d) prodigal
9. Which word or words are related to *excessive*?
- (a) apposite
 - (b) erstwhile
 - (c) exorbitant
 - (d) prodigal
10. Which word or words are related to *confound*?
- (a) enervate
 - (b) disconcert
 - (c) peripatetic
 - (d) nonplus

10C

Word Study: Analogies

Complete the analogies by selecting the pair of words whose relationship most resembles the relationship of the pair in capital letters. Circle the letter next to the pair you choose.

1. CALUMNY : ENCOMIUM ::
 - (a) desuetude : idleness
 - (b) exemplar : example
 - (c) mélange : mixture
 - (d) chicanery : rectitude

2. STRONG : HERCULEAN ::
 - (a) bad : egregious
 - (b) actual : ostensible
 - (c) clear : brackish
 - (d) amenable : recalcitrant

3. INVIDIOUS : RESENTMENT ::
 - (a) empirical : data
 - (b) amorphous : shape
 - (c) endemic : disease
 - (d) risible : laughter

4. BIVOUAC : TENT ::
 - (a) chasten : wrongdoer
 - (b) swim : pool
 - (c) wage : vendetta
 - (d) waive : requirement

5. DORSAL : BACK ::
 (a) lateral : side
 (b) filial : son
 (c) peripatetic : pedestrian
 (d) torpid : torpor
6. TORPID : ENERGY ::
 (a) recalcitrant : defiance
 (b) risible : seriousness
 (c) germane : relevance
 (d) benighted : ignorance
7. EPICURE : TASTE ::
 (a) dissembler : suspicion
 (b) wraith : ghost
 (c) hiatus : pause
 (d) dancer : grace
8. SYCOPHANT : FLATTERY ::
 (a) apothecary : health
 (b) exemplar : stupidity
 (c) charlatan : guile
 (d) prodigal : absence
9. ERSTWHILE : FORMER ::
 (a) invidious : absent
 (b) congenital : viviparous
 (c) fecund : present
 (d) prospective : future
10. AMORPHOUS : SHAPE ::
 (a) nefarious : crime
 (b) brackish : salt
 (c) infinitesimal : size
 (d) nihilistic : meaning

10D

Understanding Contextual Meanings

Read the following sentences. If the word in bold is used correctly, write C on the line. If the word is used incorrectly, write a new sentence using the word correctly.

acumen
apotheosis
askew
chasten
demarcation
dictum
erstwhile
forte
habitué
nonplus
peripatetic
prodigal
sycophant
vacuous
wraith

1. The driveway was recently paved with **acumen**.

2. The **peripatetic** car chase was caught on national television.

3. Children who misbehave are **chastened** with a "timeout."

4. With higher altitude, the air becomes more **vacuous**.

5. The travelers were **nonplussed** when they found that the campsite was closed for the season.

6. The **demarkation** was shown on the map with a red line.

7. The **dictum** I quoted was found inside a fortune cookie.

8. Silas was so **prodigal**, he used the same teabag three times.

9. **Habitués** of the veterans' center are extremely patriotic.

10. Every year, we hang a **wraith** on the front door for the holidays.



Vocabulary in Context

Read the passage.

The Tycoon of Pop

When the Andy Warhol Museum opened in 1994 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it marked the **apotheosis** of one of America's best-known and most prolific artists. Two characteristics are essential for a museum devoted to a single artist to be successful; if the artist is relatively obscure, few people will visit the museum, and if his or her output is small, there will be insufficient works to fill the space. Warhol succeeded triumphantly in both respects—he was both well-known and prolific. Each year thousands of people visit the museum, which displays only a portion of Warhol's prodigious output—more than three thousand works of art.

Pittsburgh was an appropriate choice for the museum. Warhol, whose parents had immigrated to the United States from Transylvania, grew up in one of its suburbs. After attending that city's Carnegie Institute of Technology, he graduated in 1949, at the age of twenty-one, with a degree in pictorial design and moved to New York City. Within a decade of his arrival in New York, through a combination of

business **acumen** and his skill as a commercial artist, he earned enough money to buy an elegant Manhattan townhouse.

Having established himself financially, Andy Warhol wanted to make himself known as an artist. He set about blurring the **demarcation** that separated commercial art from fine art. Through the use of silk screen and photography, which allowed the creation of multiple copies of a work, and through the choice of common and often commercial objects as subject matter, he created art that expressed the reality of everyday life. This was in direct contrast to the art of the time, known as abstract expressionism. The work of Warhol and others was called popular art, later shortened to pop art.

Then Andy Warhol went further. His **forte** was self-promotion, and despite his putative indifference to fame, he pursued it avidly. Soon after his arrival in New York, he had begun to dye his hair silver, which accentuated his already **wraithlike** appearance. By the sixties, as he began to bald, he started wearing a silver wig, which strongly resembled a mop. This was to become a trademark. He went out almost every evening—to gallery openings, parties, restaurants, and clubs. He made a point of meeting celebrities and began associating with the elite of New York society, most of whom were flattered to be seen in his company. His seemingly **vacuous** gaze took in everything; his slight build belied his influence in the art world. Warhol’s life and art became one: He himself became one of his greatest creations.

Warhol produced his art in a studio he called “the Factory.” The name was apposite because of the techniques of mass production that he employed. The Factory changed its location a few times over the years but always attracted a small band of **sycophants** from the fringes of the art world and the drug culture, who were drawn there by Warhol’s celebrity. The more outrageous their behavior, the more likely they were to gain admittance to his presence. In 1968, this led to tragedy when one of the Factory’s former **habitués**, in a deranged state, shot and nearly killed Warhol. Warhol’s celebrated **dictum** that in the future everyone will be world famous for fifteen minutes became true for him in a way he had not predicted.

Chastened by this experience, Warhol adopted a more cautious way of living, installing security cameras in the Factory for the first time. He dropped many of his **erstwhile** acquaintances. His prodigious output continued unabated. Paintings of soup cans, sculptures of soap-pad containers, multiple images of such celebrities as Marilyn Monroe, Jacqueline Kennedy, Elvis Presley, and, of course, portraits of himself with his silver wig **askew** became icons of pop art; all commanded high prices.

With his vast wealth, Warhol indulged himself by shopping on a **prodigal** scale for everything from Old Master paintings to cookie jars. His **peripatetic** expeditions took him to Manhattan art galleries, auction houses, jewelry stores, and flea markets, with a limousine following behind to transport the purchases to his twenty-room mansion.

Warhol died unexpectedly in 1987, following gallbladder surgery. His estate was valued at over a half-billion dollars, most of which he left to establish a foundation to promote the visual arts. The contents of his townhouse realized twenty-five million

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wraith

dollars at auction. His collection of 175 cookie jars sold for an average of fifteen hundred dollars each, a bargain to the proud owners, who could point thereafter to their genuine Warhol cookie jars.

During his lifetime, art critics disagreed on whether Warhol was a great artist or merely a self-promoter in a class by himself. Many refused to take his work seriously, and they were **nonplussed** when he agreed with them. When told that critics accused him of producing meaningless art, Andy Warhol's disarming response was, "They're right." Nevertheless, today, his influence is still present.

► **Answer each question with a sentence. If a question does not contain a word from the lesson, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.**

1. What talents did Andy Warhol possess that helped him achieve success?

2. How did Warhol's physical appearance belie his importance in the art world?

3. What detail suggests that Warhol was not concerned with a neat appearance?

4. Why did Warhol become a **habitué** of the gatherings of celebrities and of New York society?

5. What effect did the attempted assassination have on Warhol?

6. Why do you think people were **sycophantic** toward Warhol?

7. Why did Warhol's death leave many people **nonplussed**?

8. What posthumous event extended Warhol's fame?

9. In what way did Warhol's **prodigal** shopping trips actually earn money after his death?

10. How did Warhol contradict his famous **dictum**?

11. How was Warhol's art different from the art produced in the mid-twentieth century?

Fun & Fascinating **FACTS**

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• A person who possesses **acumen** can be said to have a sharp mind, and the etymology of the term suggests this. It comes from the Latin *acuere*, "to sharpen." Several other words share this root. An *acute* pain is one that is sharp, as is an *acute* angle. An *acid* smell is one that feels sharp to the nose. *Acids*, too, have a sharp taste or smell. *Acupuncture* is an ancient Chinese medical treatment in which thin, sharp needles puncture the skin at carefully selected locations.
-
• The Greek philosopher Aristotle gave instruction to his pupils as he walked about his school outside Athens. The Greek word **Peripatetic**, from *peri-*, "around," and *patein*, "to walk," became applied to his philosophy. The word has been retained, but without the capital *p*, its meaning has become "traveling from place to place on foot."

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