Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**aboard**

*adv., prep.* In or on a ship, train, or airplane.

Jason jumped **aboard** the train just before the doors closed.

**blast**

*n.*

1. A strong wind or movement of air.
   
   An icy **blast** blew into the room when Caleb opened the door.

2. A loud noise.
   
   The whistle gave two **blasts**, and then the ship began to move away from the dock.

*v.*

1. To blow something up.
   
   To begin the tunnel through the mountain, the workers need to **blast** these rocks.

2. *(used with off)* To go up in the air or into space.
   
   Raisa and her family will watch the rocket **blast** off at noon tomorrow.

**career**

*n.* The kind of work a person does for many years.

After finishing college, Ramona chose a **career** as a firefighter.

**cautious**

*adj.* Careful in order to avoid mistakes, trouble, or danger.

Ray and Theresa were **cautious** when they saw the icy sidewalk.
girder

*n.* A large, strong piece of metal or wood used to support bridges or buildings.

These steel girder* s* support the railroad bridge.

inventor

*v.* To make something for the first time.

In 1868, Margaret Knight invented a machine to make square bottoms on paper bags.

*n.* inventor A person who thinks up or makes something for the first time.

The inventor of the electric light bulb was Thomas Edison.

rotate

*v.* 1. To turn in a circle around a center.

Our planet, Earth, rotates like a spinning top.

2. To take turns in a certain order.

Miss Wu rotates the job of group leader to a different student each week.

story

*n.* 1. A report of something that happened.

A story about the science fair at our school was in the newspaper on Tuesday.

2. A tale that is made up. It is often written down for people to read.

Katha is reading a story about a mouse named Stuart Little.

3. The space or rooms that make up one level of a building.

The Empire State Building in New York has 102 stories.
strand

_n._ One of the threads that are twisted together to make string, yarn, or rope. It is also a single hair. The oriole pulled a **strand** from the brush and flew off to its nest.

_v._ To leave in a difficult or helpless position. The snowstorm **stranded** my aunt and uncle at the airport for twelve hours.

tower

_n._ A building or a part of a building that is taller than it is wide. During our visit to Paris, France, we walked up 360 steps to reach the first level of the Eiffel **Tower**.

_v._ To rise high in the air. At five feet, Theo **towers** over his baby sister.

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**Words and Their Meanings**

Look at the group of words next to the number. Then circle the letter of the word that has the same meaning.

1. a loud noise
   - (a) strand
   - (b) blast
   - (c) girder
   - (d) inventor

2. a metal support
   - (a) girder
   - (b) story
   - (c) tower
   - (d) strand

3. to make for the first time
   - (a) tower
   - (b) rotate
   - (c) blast
   - (d) invent
4 job done for years
   (a) strand (b) career (c) story (d) tower

5 one level of a building
   (a) inventor (b) strand (c) story (d) tower

Look at the word next to the number. Then circle the letter of the group of words that has the same meaning.

6 aboard
   (a) in a helpless state (b) left behind
   (c) going in a circle (d) on a ship

7 cautious
   (a) avoiding mistakes (b) getting hurt
   (c) taking risks (d) speaking loudly

8 rotate
   (a) stay in one place (b) jump into the air
   (c) fall quickly (d) go in a circle

9 tower
   (a) a twisted thread (b) a tall building
   (c) a news report (d) a strong wind

10 strand
   (a) move quickly (b) blow up
   (c) leave in a helpless position (d) send to the wrong place
9B Seeing Connections

Look at each group of words. Three are related in some way. One does not belong. Find the word that does not belong and circle it.

1. girder  road  path  track
2. circle  rotate  turn  wave
3. chimney  roof  boat  tower
4. cautious  careful  watchful  foolish
5. tie  strand  fasten  knot

9C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each question.

1. Which of the following can be a career?
   (a) relaxing  (b) dreaming  (c) sleeping  (d) teaching

2. Which of the following was not invented?
   (a) the ocean  (b) the telephone  (c) the can opener  (d) the light bulb

3. Which of the following can you go aboard?
   (a) a cavern  (b) a sailboat  (c) a school  (d) a shoe

4. Where will you not find a story?
   (a) in a library  (b) in a newspaper  (c) in an orange  (d) in a tall building

5. Which of the following can make a blast?
   (a) a horn  (b) a pillow  (c) a feather  (d) a carrot
Read the passage, then answer the questions that follow it.

**Going Around in Circles**

Do you like to ride Ferris wheels? Let us explore one of the biggest ones in the world. It is in London, England. It was built to mark the year 2000.

This giant wheel stands almost 450 feet high. It is in the center of the city next to the Thames River. From a distance, it looks like a great bicycle wheel. The wheel rotates very slowly. It does not even seem to be moving. There are thirty-two cars. Each one can carry about two-dozen people. The riders have plenty of time to enjoy the views of London. It takes fifteen minutes for each car to go from the ground up to the highest point. At the top, people can see things as far away as twenty-five miles. Maybe that is why this huge wheel is named the London Eye.

The wheel opened in January 2000. More than a million people visited it. Those going aboard were not afraid. People know that these giant wheels are very safe. That was not always the case. When it was invented, the Ferris wheel scared people.

The year was 1893. The place was the Chicago World’s Fair. The people planning the fair wanted something special and surprising to draw a crowd. They chose the design of George Ferris. He had built many bridges in his career. His idea was very different. Ferris planned to make a huge steel wheel supported by two tall towers. The power from two steam engines would turn the wheel. There would be thirty-six cars. Each could hold sixty people. The wheel would slowly carry people high in the air. Then it would return them to the ground. This looked like fun. But was it safe?

At first, people were cautious. The wheel was very high. Chicago already had buildings that were ten stories high. But George Ferris’s wheel was going to be at least two times as high. In addition, Chicago often had very strong winds. Maybe the
powerful winds would shake the wheel. What if it twisted out of shape? Could the people in the cars be stranded if the engines stopped?

George Ferris believed his wheel was safe. He decided to prove this to everyone. Ferris, his wife, and a brave newspaper reporter chose a windy day to take a ride. Winds were blowing at 110 miles per hour. The three riders stepped into one of the cars. They were slowly carried up into the storm. Later, the reporter wrote that the blast from the wind made it impossible to hear. It screamed through the thin girders. It shook the windows. But all three returned safely to the ground.

The first Ferris wheel became a very popular ride. Thousands of people rode it all through that summer. Before long, more wheels were built. And they kept getting bigger. In the year 2000, the London Eye was the tallest wheel in the world.

Answer each of the questions with a sentence.

1. When did George Ferris invent his wheel?

2. Why did people not need to be cautious about riding the London Eye in 2000?

3. Why did people think they might be stranded on Ferris’s wheel?

4. How did George Ferris spend most of his career?
5 How did the **blast** of wind affect Ferris’s ride?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

6 Why is it correct to say that Ferris’s wheel **towered** over Chicago?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

7 How many people went **aboard** the Ferris wheel during the Chicago World’s Fair?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

8 How long does it take for the London Eye to **rotate** once?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

9 What do you think the **girders** of Ferris’s wheel were made of?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

10 How many **stories** taller was Ferris’s wheel than the tallest buildings in Chicago in 1893?

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

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**FUN FACT**

- By moving the *r* in **aboard**, you have a new word—**abroad**. **Abroad** means far away from home in another country. You can go **aboard** a ship to travel **abroad**.
Crossword Puzzle  Solve the puzzle by writing the missing word in each sentence in the boxes with the matching numbers. All the words are from Lesson 9, except 11 ACROSS and 7 and 11 DOWN.

ACROSS
4. Be _____ when you cross this busy street.
6. The _____ tells how Mister Toad got lost in the woods.
9. The wheels on the bus _____ when it moves.
10. A _____ in nursing can be very rewarding.
11. You _____ with your eyes.
12. Three, two, one, _____ off!

DOWN
1. The _____ supports one end of the bridge.
2. Each _____ in this silk cord is a different color.
3. These giant redwoods _____ over the other trees.
5. We went _____ the ship at noon.
7. Mr. Grove wants to _____ second grade.
8. Jon wants to _____ a better mousetrap.
11. Rivers empty into the _____.