Lesson 9

Word List  Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

astonish
ə stəˈnɪsh

v. To surprise or amaze.
[It astonished me to find out that we were born in the same town on the same day.]

astonishment  n. Great surprise or amazement.
[When she heard the news, her eyes opened wide in astonishment.]

dainty
dəˈtē

adj. Small and fine in quality or appearance.
[These dainty lace handkerchiefs once belonged to my great-grandmother.]

demonstrate
dəˈmənstrət

v. 1. To show by doing.
[He demonstrated the art of juggling every weekend in the Square.]
2. To explain or prove by using examples.
[The speaker said her chart would demonstrate the harm that smoking does.]
3. To make a public showing of support or protest.
[A crowd gathered outside the room where the school committee was meeting to demonstrate in favor of the teachers.]

demonstration  n. A showing or display of objects or feelings.
[In a demonstration of real courage, the firefighter ran back into the burning building to save a young child.]

devote
da ˈvōt

v. To give one’s complete attention to a purpose or person.
[Florence Nightingale devoted her life to caring for others.]

devotion  n. A strong love or attachment.
[Nathan Hale expressed his devotion to America when he said, “I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.”]

envy
enˈvé

n. 1. A wish for something that someone else has.
[Her amazing soccer skill filled the team with envy.]

v. To wish for what someone else has.
[I envy my sister’s skill at diving.]

envious  adj. Filled with envy.
[Anna’s best friend always does better in English than she does, but Anna is never envious.]

flinch
flinch

v. To move back suddenly in fear.
[I didn’t even flinch when the dentist’s drill approached my tooth.]

grieve
grēv

v. To feel deep sorrow; to be filled with sadness.
[The entire country grieved over the death of President Kennedy.]

grief  n. Deep sorrow.
[People everywhere, in fact, shared the grief at the terrible loss.]

opponent
əˈpənənt

n. A person who is against one in a contest, game, or argument.
[We always shake hands with our opponent after the match.]
organize
õr' gə niz
v. 1. To arrange according to a system.
[The skateboard company is organized into three departments.]
2. To start or form.
[My father organized a group for single parents.]
organization (õr' gə ni' zə' shən) n. The way a group of things or people is put together or arranged; a group of people who are together for a common purpose.
[My favorite after-school organization is the Glee Club.]

perform
per fôrm'
v. 1. To play, recite, or entertain before an audience.
[I'm too shy to perform my piano pieces for my relatives.]
2. To do; to carry out.
[The cleanup crew performed its duties cheerfully and well.]
performance n. Something that is done, especially in front of an audience.
[Elvis Presley's performance on the Ed Sullivan show made him a star.]

propose
pra póz'
v. 1. To suggest.
[The mayor proposed that overnight parking be permitted in the summer.]
2. To intend.
[I propose to leave as soon I have completed my work.]
3. To make an offer of marriage.
[Do I have to get down on my knees when I propose?]
proposal n. Something that is suggested.
[The architect stayed up all night working on her proposal for a new clinic.]

reputation
rep yoo tə' shən
n. What people generally think about a person or thing.
[Abraham Lincoln had a reputation for honesty.]

resent
ri zent'
v. To feel anger or annoyance at.
[I resent the special treatment my brother always gets.]
resentful adj. Feeling angry or annoyed.
[When I have to do all the cleanup by myself I get resentful.]
resentment n. A feeling of anger or annoyance.
[Nick couldn't hide his resentment at having to miss recess.]

scarce
skers
adj. In short supply; not plentiful.
[Gasoline was scarce during World War II.]

surplus
sur' plus
n. The amount that is more than is needed.
[Abdul filled the flower pots with soil and stored the surplus in the shed.]
adj. More than is needed.
[I have quite a big garden, so I always have surplus zucchini.]

9A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 9. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) A company's proposal is
(b) the amount it is worth.
(c) A company's reputation is
(d) the general view that people have of it.
2. (a) something that is begun.  
(b) an extra amount.  
(c) A surplus is  
(d) A performance is

3. (a) who is highly skilled.  
(b) A dainty thing is one  
(c) that is small and finely made.  
(d) A resentful person is one

4. (a) a show put on before an audience.  
(b) A performance is  
(c) Astonishment is  
(d) a shrinking back in fear.

5. (a) a feeling of anger.  
(b) deep sorrow.  
(c) Resentment is  
(d) Organization is

6. (a) suffer in silence.  
(b) To envy is to  
(c) To flinch is to  
(d) shrink back in fear.

7. (a) a public showing of something.  
(b) A demonstration of something is  
(c) the complete absence of something.  
(d) An opponent of something is

8. (a) To envy someone is  
(b) To astonish someone is  
(c) to want what that person has.  
(d) to be afraid of that person.

9. (a) To organize is to  
(b) be filled with sadness.  
(c) To grieve is to  
(d) scatter in all directions.

10. (a) A proposal is  
(b) a suggestion.  
(c) An opponent is  
(d) a show put on before an audience.
9B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the italicized phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 9.

1. Because of last week's storm, fish will be in very short supply for a while.

2. I feel anger and annoyance over the fact that these extra costs were not disclosed when I signed the contract.

3. The cast was not used to putting on a show on such a small stage.

4. The two persons who were playing against each other waited for the umpire to signal the start of the tennis match.

5. City workers gathered to make a public protest against further wage cuts.

6. Ben was filled with surprise when he won the spelling contest.

7. Susan B. Anthony was willing to give all her time and energy to the cause of women's rights.

8. The success of your business ventures fills me with longing for what you have achieved.

9. Can anyone join this new neighborhood group of people who have come together for a common purpose?

10. The first time my father made an offer of marriage to my mother, she turned him down.

9C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might astonish you?
   (a) a flying chicken
   (b) a barking cat
   (c) a ten-pound pumpkin
   (d) a ten-pound tomato

2. Which of the following might be called dainty?
   (a) a thin china teacup
   (b) a pair of size-12 boots
   (c) a pair of ballet slippers
   (d) a thick coffee mug
3. Which of the following might make a person *flinch*?  
   (a) a scary scene in a movie  
   (b) a large rock falling nearby  
   (c) a round of applause  
   (d) a clap of thunder  

4. Which of the following might cause *grief*?  
   (a) being rejected by one’s friends  
   (b) losing all one’s money  
   (c) losing a pet cat  
   (d) winning a prize  

5. Which of the following could be *organized*?  
   (a) a party  
   (b) one’s personal papers  
   (c) the weather  
   (d) a club  

6. In which of the following would someone have an *opponent*?  
   (a) a boxing match  
   (b) a chess game  
   (c) a writing class  
   (d) a walk on the beach  

7. Which of the following could a person *perform*?  
   (a) a change in the weather  
   (b) a card trick  
   (c) a part in a play  
   (d) a piece of music  

8. Which of the following might make a person *resentful*?  
   (a) being praised  
   (b) being ignored  
   (c) being mocked  
   (d) being grounded  

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**9D Completing the Thought**

Read each sentence below and fill in the blank with the correct word (or a form of the word) from the word list.

1. None of his friends knew whether or not to believe Zachary’s story, since he was famous for his tall tales. His __________ was well-known.

2. A few of Mark’s classmates made fun of him for doing well on the English test. Maybe they were __________.

3. Because of the approaching hurricane, everyone rushed out to buy candles; by late afternoon it was impossible to find any in the local stores. Candles were becoming very, very, __________.

4. A reporter for the *Globe* asked the school board chair if there were any plans for dealing with the budget cuts. She wanted to know what the school board __________ to do.
5. The tests on the new engine were a great success. The engine __________ better than expected.

6. The twenty people who signed up with Nala when she offered to arrange a trip to Puerto Rico were very pleased with their travels. They said Nala was a very good ____________.

7. On her first television cooking show, Alicia gave a lesson on sharpening and caring for kitchen knives. It was a very useful ____________.

8. George Washington's feelings for his country were shown clearly by his actions, and no one ever questioned them. There was no doubt of his ____________.

9. The Fallowes had grown far more corn than they needed for their own family, so they decided to share what they didn't need. They offered their neighbors the ____________.

10. Muadi had such a calm and cheerful personality that it didn't even bother him when people teased him about his accent. He never seemed ____________.

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9E Narrative

Read the narrative below, then complete the exercise that follows.

**ANNIE OAKLEY**

In the late 1800s, people all over the world thrilled to the excitement of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Its greatest star was Annie Oakley, a young woman who entertained millions with her sharpshooting skills. She could shoot a hole in a dime tossed in the air. She could hit the thin edge of a playing card at thirty paces. She could even hit a target while riding backward on a horse that was galloping around the ring.

Annie Oakley's real name was Phoebe Anne Oakley Mozee. She grew up in Ohio, just after the Civil War. Her mother was a widow with a large family. Food was scarce, and Annie helped to feed the family by trapping quail. One day she decided to try shooting them instead. She quickly became such an expert shot that she hardly ever missed. Soon her family had more birds than they could eat, and Annie sold the surplus to local store owners. She was then nine years old.

At first people found it hard to believe that Annie could be so good with a rifle because she seemed to be such a dainty person. But when she was fifteen, she entered a shooting contest. Her opponent was a man named Frank Butler. He had the reputation of being the best shot in the county, and the contest was organized to find out whether or not Annie could beat him. It gave her the chance to demonstrate just how good she really was. Frank hit the target twenty-four times and missed only...
on his last shot. The people watching were impressed, but they were **astonished**
when Annie hit the target twenty-five times in a row.

Frank Butler was so impressed that he invited Annie to join his sharpshooting act. He became so fond of her that he **proposed** marriage, and they were married when she was sixteen. She adopted the stage name Annie Oakley, and she and Frank **performed** together in circuses and stage shows as Butler and Oakley. In one part of their act, Frank would stand still while Annie, from across the stage, shot a cigarette out of his mouth. Frank never **flinched**, and Annie never missed.

They joined Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show in 1885, and stayed with it for seventeen years. Annie Oakley became famous all over the world, but Frank was never **envious** of his wife’s skill and did not **resent** her success. They were **devoted** to each other and lived together happily for almost fifty years. When Annie died in 1926, Frank could not **grieve** long. He died just three weeks later.

**Answer each of the following questions in a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word, use a vocabulary word in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words) from this lesson’s word list.**

1. How does the narrative make clear that Annie Oakley and Frank Butler loved each other very much?

2. Where did Annie first meet Frank Butler?

3. Why was the shooting match arranged?

4. Why was the shooting contest between Oakley and Butler of so much interest?

5. How can you tell that Annie Oakley and Frank Butler were probably rarely apart?

6. Why might her husband have **envied** Annie Oakley’s success?

7. Why is it obvious that Frank Butler didn’t **resent** Annie’s beating him in the shooting contest?
8. What is the meaning of proposed as it is used in the narrative?

9. Why did Annie seem an unlikely person to win a shooting contest?

10. Why did Annie start trapping quail?

11. How did Annie earn money when she was nine?

12. How did Annie Oakley demonstrate her skill?

13. What do you think was the most astonishing trick that Annie could do?

14. Why do you think Frank didn't flinch when Annie shot a cigarette out of his mouth?

15. Did Frank grieve very long after Annie's death?

WORDLY WISE

A synonym for astounded, which you learned in Lesson 4, is astonished. A third synonym, thunderstruck, is less common and suggests a much greater degree of surprise. Both astound and astonish are formed from the Latin verb tonare, which means "to thunder."

The word opponent is formed from the Latin prefix ob-, which means "against," together with the root from the Latin verb ponere, which means "to place." Your opponent in a contest or competition is the person who is placed there and is against you.