

Lesson 10

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



Word List

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

ail
āl
v. To cause sickness, pain, or trouble.
"What **ails** you?" the doctor asked.
ailment *n.* An illness; a disease.
Measles is a common childhood **ailment**.
ailing *adj.* In poor health.
I have been **ailing** all winter.

banish
ba' nish
v. 1. To force someone out of the country.
When the tsars ruled Russia, lawbreakers were **banished** to Siberia.
2. To get rid of completely.
Joe was such a cheerful person, he **banished** gloom wherever he went.

communicate
kə myōō' nī kāt
v. To make known; to give or exchange information.
Since I hate to write letters, we **communicate** mostly by telephone.
communication (kə myōō nī kā' shən) *n.* The exchange of information between people.
The misunderstanding was caused by a lack of **communication** between us.
communicative *adj.* Willing to speak; eager to talk.
When I asked her where she had been, she was not very **communicative**, replying only, "Out."

console
kən sōl'
v. To make less sad; to comfort.
My parents tried to **console** me when my best friend moved away.
consolation (kən sə lā' shən) *n.* Comfort.
I knew I could always turn to my aunt for **consolation** whenever I was upset.

cower
kou' ə
v. To shrink from, as if from fear.
When I saw the poor dog **cower**, I knew its master was cruel.

deliberate
di li' bə rət
adj. Carefully thought out; not hasty.
Although my mother was angry, she spoke in a calm and **deliberate** manner.
v. (di li' bə rət) To think carefully in order to make up one's mind.
We **deliberated** a long time before deciding to move to Arizona.

depth
depth

n. Distance from top to bottom or front to back; deepness.
The floodwaters reached a **depth** of several feet.

depths *n. pl.* The innermost part or the deepest part.
The treasure chest lay buried in the **depths** of the sea.

desire
di zīr'

v. To wish for; to want very much.

A person who is famished **desires** just one thing—food!

n. A strong wish.

Pizarro's **desire** for gold was so great he ordered the Inca king, Atahualpa, to fill three rooms with it.

desirable *adj.* Pleasing, agreeable.

My new school is in a very **desirable** location.

livelihood
līv' lē hood

n. The means of supporting oneself.

The storekeepers in Key West depend on tourists for their **livelihood**.

misfortune
mis fôr' chən

n. 1. Bad luck; trouble.

He had the **misfortune** to break his leg right before the big game.

2. An unlucky event.

The 1992 hurricane was Florida's worst **misfortune** in many years.

orphan
ôr' fən

n. A child whose parents are dead.

Tom Sawyer lived with his Aunt Polly because he was an **orphan**.

precipice
pre' sə pəs

n. A very high and steep cliff.

We stood watchfully on the edge of the **precipice** and looked down.

precipitous (pri si' pə tās) *adj.* 1. Very steep.

The Two-Mile Terror ski trail has many **precipitous** slopes.

2. Hasty; abrupt; done without careful thought.

Joining the Navy so suddenly was a **precipitous** act.

regain
ri gān'

v. To get back.

By following the doctor's orders, I slowly **regained** my health.

slay
slā

v. To kill violently. (**slain**, past participle)

The scene where Saint George **slays** the dragon comes right at the end of the play.

symptom
simp' təm

n. A sign of something.

Headaches can be a **symptom** of eyestrain.

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 10. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) To slay someone is to (c) send that person away.
(b) To banish someone is to (d) tell that person something.

2. (a) One's misfortune is (c) the way one makes a living.
(b) the way one treats other people. (d) One's livelihood is

3. (a) A precipitous drop in price is (c) A gradual drop in price is
(b) one that is steep and sudden. (d) one that is very small.

4. (a) To communicate something is to (c) decide not to take it.
(b) get it back. (d) To regain something is to

5. (a) to be loved. (c) To be ailing is
(b) to be ill. (d) To be deliberate is

6. (a) Consolation is (c) the giving of information.
(b) Communication is (d) a series of unlucky events.

7. (a) A deliberate change (c) is one that is agreeable.
(b) A desirable change (d) is one that is hardly noticed.
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8. (a) To slay someone is to (c) To console someone is to
(b) comfort that person. (d) fear that person.
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-

9. (a) a large sum of money. (c) the distance from top to bottom.
(b) Depth is (d) Misfortune is
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10. (a) a close family member. (c) A symptom is
(b) a sign of something. (d) An orphan is
-
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orphan
precipice
regain
slay
symptom

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 10.

1. The judges **gave a great deal of thought and talked among themselves** for a long time before announcing the winner of the science fair.
2. The worst **bad luck** to hit the town was the closing of the shipyard.
3. The King commanded his warriors to **violently kill** his enemies.
4. "You don't look well. What **is the matter with** you?" asked Jorge.
5. He expressed a **strong wish** to spend more time with his children.
6. It took the climbers an hour to descend the **steep cliff that went straight down**.
7. We used to **shrink back in fear** whenever we heard her voice.
8. When Luisa's pet rabbit died, she began writing in her journal every night for **something to give her comfort**.
9. The **children whose parents had died** were all adopted by families in town.
10. If you want this venture to succeed, you must **get rid of** any thoughts of failure.
11. I was moved to the **very deepest parts** of my soul by the sight of the northern lights flashing across the sky.

Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following can have **depth**?

(a) a drawer	(c) a point
(b) a pond	(d) a shelf

2. Which of the following might an actor **desire**?

(a) perfect teeth	(c) decayed teeth
(b) applause	(d) a good role

3. Which of the following is a way to **communicate**?

(a) watching television	(c) reading a book
(b) talking on the phone	(d) writing a letter

4. Which of the following is an **ailment**?

(a) measles	(c) baldness
(b) anger	(d) hunger

5. Which of the following might be a person's **livelihood**?

(a) attending school	(c) washing cars
(b) mowing lawns	(d) taking out the trash

6. Which of the following might be a **deliberate** act?

(a) stumbling	(c) writing a report
(b) building a house	(d) sneezing

7. Which of the following could be **precipitous**?

(a) a fall in price	(c) a cliff
(b) an action	(d) a road

8. Which of the following could be **regained**?

(a) one's youth	(c) the trust of a friend
(b) one's health	(d) the lead in a race

ail
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Turn to the Word List for this lesson and look up *deliberate*. Notice that it has two different pronunciations. When used as an adjective, the last syllable rhymes with *hit*. When used as a verb, the last syllable rhymes with *late*.

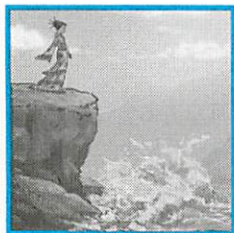
Several other words from earlier lessons are also pronounced differently depending on whether they are used as nouns or verbs. There are two syllables in each word pair below, and we stress (say more forcefully) either the first or the second syllable depending on whether the word is used as a verb or a noun. In the pronunciation guide, an accent mark follows the stressed syllable. The word *banish* is pronounced *ba' nish*, with the stress falling on the first syllable: BA-nish.

For each sentence, underline the syllable that is stressed in the word in bold. To the right of each sentence, write whether the word is a verb or a noun.

1. To **project** your voice, you speak to the back of the room. _____
2. A **project** of this size will take years to complete. _____
3. You can get a parking **permit** at the town hall. _____
4. The town does not **permit** overnight parking on Main Street. _____
5. We expect to sign the **contract** at tomorrow's meeting. _____
6. Metals **contract** as they get colder. _____
7. If the pottery is a factory **reject**, we sell it for half price. _____
8. If you **reject** your friend's offer, you might regret it later. _____
9. We **progress** slowly, one small step at a time. _____
10. Tim's latest school report shows he made **progress** in math and science. _____

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow it.

Tokoyo and the Sea Monster



Folktales are stories passed on from adults to children without ever being written down. Every country has its folktales, and this one comes from Japan. It is the story of a young pearl diver named Tokoyo.

The people of Tokoyo's village made their **livelihood** diving for pearls. They searched for the one oyster in a thousand that contained a precious pearl. Tokoyo was the youngest of the divers. She could stay underwater longer and collect more oysters than anyone. The sea was like a second home to her. She swam easily through its **depths**. She cut oysters from the rocks with her razor-sharp pearling knife.

The other pearl divers were all the family Tokoyo had. Her mother had died when she was a baby. Then, while she was still a child, **misfortune** struck again. Her father had a sense of humor that sometimes got him into trouble. One day he had made a joke about the fact that the emperor was always sick. But making fun of the emperor was a crime. Tokoyo's father was **banished** to the island of Oki, far from the Japanese mainland. To make matters worse, **communication** between Tokoyo and her father was forbidden. Her friends tried to **console** the young girl, but they could not lift her spirits. She felt like an **orphan**. The house that had once been filled with laughter was now filled with sorrow.

Tokoyo's one **desire** was to see her father. On her fifteenth birthday, she left her village and set off for Oki. Soon after landing on the island, Tokoyo saw a group of people standing on the edge of a cliff. With them was a girl about her own age dressed all in white. People explained to Tokoyo that an evil sea god made its home in the waters off the island. This god demanded the life of a young girl once a year. They told Tokoyo that the girl **cowering** before them had been chosen as the sea god's victim. She was about to be thrown into the sea. Then they said that the sea god had also cast a spell on the emperor, causing his many **ailments**. When she heard this, Tokoyo saw a chance to help her father. She begged the people to let her take the girl's place. They began to **deliberate** among themselves while Tokoyo waited anxiously. Finally, to her great relief, they agreed.

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Tokoyo walked to the edge of the **precipice**. She took a deep breath and leaped into the water. She swam deeper and deeper. At the bottom of the sea, she found herself face to face with the evil sea god. Tokoyo attacked with her pearling knife, **slaying** him. The spell he had cast on the emperor was broken. In an instant, all the emperor's **symptoms** disappeared. He was delighted to be rid of the doctors who had attended him. When he learned of Tokoyo's brave deed, he promised the young girl whatever she wanted. As a result of Tokoyo's wish, her father **regained** his freedom and was happily reunited with his daughter.

► Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. Explain why the story of Tokoyo and the evil sea god has a happy ending.

2. Was Tokoyo an **orphan**? Explain your answer.

3. What does "**misfortune** struck" mean as it is used in the passage?

4. Why did the emperor need doctors?

5. How does the passage make clear that Tokoyo's friends were kind to her?

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6. Where did the evil sea god live?

7. Explain why Tokoyo's fight with the sea god was a **deliberate** act.

8. Why didn't Tokoyo's father write to her?

9. Why was Tokoyo's father living on the island of Oki?

10. Why did Tokoyo go to the island of Oki?

11. Why had the girl in white been taken to the **precipice**?

12. How can you tell that the girl in white was afraid?

13. Why did Tokoyo want to take the girl's place?

14. How did the emperor know that the spell had been broken?

15. Why did the people of Tokoyo's village dive for oysters?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

- One of the world's oldest languages is Sanskrit. It was spoken in India thousands of years ago and is the special language of the Hindu religion. Very few people speak it today, but some words in European languages are connected to Sanskrit. **Orphan** is one of them. An *orphan* is a child without parents who therefore can be in a

weak and helpless state. The word comes from the Sanskrit *arbha*, which means "weak; helpless."

- This lesson includes the word **slay**, which is a homophone of *sleigh*. A *sleigh* is a carriage on runners that travels over snow. *Sleigh* and *slay* are pronounced the same way.

Lesson 11

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annual
an' yōō əl

adj. Happening every year.
Somerville's **annual** town meeting is in March.
n. 1. A plant that lives for one year.
Impatiens is my favorite **annual**.
2. A book that comes out once a year.
I save all my NFL football **annuals**.

artificial
är tə fish' əl

adj. Made by human beings and not by nature.
My aunt Rosa says she can taste the difference between **artificial** sweeteners and real sugar.

blend
blend

v. 1. To come or mix together into one.
Make sure you **blend** the butter and sugar before you add the flour.
2. To go together.
The painter chose colors that **blend** well.
n. A mixture.
Mocha is a **blend** of chocolate and coffee.

bore
bôr

v. 1. To make a round hole in by drilling.
If you **bore** a hole in the wood first, you won't split it when you put in the screw.
2. To tire by being dull and uninteresting.
The yawns of my listeners told me I was beginning to **bore** them.
n. A dull and uninteresting person.
He tells that same joke so often that he is becoming a terrible **bore**.
boring *adj.* Dull and uninteresting.
She sometimes stretches the facts a little, but her stories are never **boring**.
boredom *n.* A state of being bored.
When heads began to nod and eyes to close, you could tell **boredom** had set in.

considerable
kən sid' ə r ə b ə l

adj. Great; large.
Although my grandmother's house is a **considerable** distance from town, she walks to the post office there every day.