

# Lesson 1

For more practice and games, go to [www.WordlyWise3000.com](http://www.WordlyWise3000.com).



## Word List

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

**benefit**  
be' nə fit

- v.* To help or be helpful to; to be useful to.  
That preschool program **benefits** young children.
- n.* 1. Something that is useful or helpful, that does good.  
One of the **benefits** of my exercise program is that I sleep better.
2. An event held to raise money for a cause.  
The library's **benefit** raised enough money for a new children's room.

**complete**  
kəm plēt'

- adj.* 1. Having no missing parts; whole.  
She bought a **complete** set of woodworking tools at a yard sale.
2. Finished.  
The new wing on the high school is now **complete**.
- v.* To finish.  
Schubert did not **complete** his eighth symphony, so it's nicknamed "The Unfinished."

**develop**  
di vel' əp

- v.* 1. To go through a process of growth.  
Running regularly **develops** strong leg muscles.
2. To bring or come into being.  
The day after I brushed against the poison ivy, a rash **developed** on my leg.
3. To apply chemicals to photographic film to bring out the picture.  
I want to learn to **develop** my own pictures.

**dismay**  
dis mā'

- v.* To cause feelings of fear, worry, or surprise.  
A large crack in the ceiling of our newly painted kitchen **dismayed** my parents.
- n.* A sudden loss of courage because of fear or worry.  
Just after we began hiking, we were filled with **dismay** when we heard the rumble of a rockslide.

**ease**  
ēz

- n.* A state of being comfortable—without worry, pain, or trouble.  
Since I took a course in public speaking, I feel much more at **ease** when I give a speech.
- v.* To make less worried, pained, or troubled.  
It **eased** my mind to hear you were safe.



**hail**  
hāl  
*n.* Small lumps of frozen rain.  
The **hail** bouncing off the metal roof of the garage made a terrible racket.  
*v.* 1. To fall as frozen rain.  
My father's corn plants suffered a lot of damage when it **hailed** yesterday.  
2. To greet or welcome, usually with admiration.  
The band played "**Hail** to the Chief" as the president came in.

**lack**  
lak  
*v.* To be without.  
He never sees the funny side of things because he **lacks** a sense of humor.  
*n.* A shortage.  
A **lack** of money to pay the staff forced our library to close on weekends.

**master**  
mas' tər  
*adj.* 1. Chief; main.  
Throw the **master** switch to turn on the power.  
2. Having or showing great skill.  
Rick is a **master** carpenter.  
*v.* To become skilled at.  
My mother **mastered** the new computer program in just a few weeks.

**patriot**  
pā' trē ət  
*n.* One who loves, supports, and is loyal to his or her country.  
Giuseppe Garibaldi was an Italian **patriot** who fought tirelessly to unite his country.  
**patriotic** (pā trē ä tik) *adj.* Having or showing love of one's country.  
"America the Beautiful" is a **patriotic** song that was written by Katherine Lee Bates.  
**patriotism** *n.* Love of one's country.  
Some people show their **patriotism** by proudly flying their country's flag.

**project**  
prā' jekt  
*n.* A plan or idea for doing something.  
My science **project** is going to show what acid rain does to plants.  
*v.* (prə jekt') 1. To stick out.  
Nails are still **projecting** out of the new floor, so be careful where you walk.  
2. To cause an image to be shown on a screen.  
This machine **projects** color slides but not movies.

**recommend**  
rə kə mend'  
*v.* 1. To make a statement of praise.  
I loved *The Secret Garden* and I highly **recommend** it.  
2. To give advice; to suggest.  
Dentists usually **recommend** that you have a checkup twice a year.



**remark**  
ri märk

v. To say; to make a comment.

My grandmother **remarked** on how well I looked.

n. Something said; a comment.

When no one else could think of anything to say, I made a **remark** about how badly we needed rain.

**remarkable** *adj.* Deserving of being noticed; unusual.

For such a young child, he had **remarkable** strength.

**represent**  
re pri zent'

v. 1. To stand for or in place of.

Three dots **represent** the letter "S" in the Morse code.

2. To act in place of.

Each state in the U.S. elects two senators to **represent** it in Congress.

**sufficient**  
sə fish' ənt

*adj.* Enough to fill a need.

Ten lessons on the oboe were **sufficient** to earn me a place in the school band.

**utter**  
u' tər

v. To make sounds with the voice; to speak.

Please don't **utter** another word.

1A

## Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 1. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) a useful aid.  
(b) Hail is

- (c) Dismay is  
(d) frozen rain.

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2. (a) A remarkable plan is  
(b) the main one.

- (c) one that will probably fail.  
(d) A master plan is

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3. (a) a place to relax. (c) A benefit is  
(b) an event that raises money. (d) A patriot is
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4. (a) A complete picture is one that is (c) very unusual.  
(b) A remarkable picture is one that is (d) not easy to see.
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5. (a) to bring it to an end. (c) to make it grow.  
(b) To develop something is (d) To ease something is
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6. (a) to control it. (c) To utter something is  
(b) To complete something is (d) to say it.
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7. (a) stand in for him or her. (c) To represent someone is to  
(b) invite him or her. (d) To recommend someone is to
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8. (a) To lack food (c) is to have more than enough.  
(b) To have sufficient food (d) is to have enough.
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9. (a) to show it on a screen. (c) To recommend a picture is  
(b) to change it slightly. (d) To project a picture is
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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 1.

1. I sensed a **total absence** of enthusiasm when I suggested that we climb Mount Monadnock.
2. Martha Graham **brought into being** a new style of dance in America.
3. The bookshelf **sticks out** too far into the room and has to be made narrower.
4. I took a hot bath to help to **take away the pain in** my aching muscles.
5. Olga Ramirez expects her novel to be **at a point where no further work is necessary** by the end of the week.
6. My uncle **became very skilled at speaking** French after spending a year in France.
7. In English, the letter "c" **stands for** two different sounds.
8. Young children **are helped** a great deal from being read to every day.
9. The article ended with a reminder that there is more to showing **love of one's country** than flying your country's flag.
10. The news that the last train had just left **worried and distressed** us.
11. The track coach **gave me the suggestion** that I warm up before starting my run.

## 1c

## Applying Meanings

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

- Which of the following might fill someone with **dismay**?
  - losing ten dollars
  - finding ten dollars
  - finding a staple in a tuna sandwich
  - finding celery in a tuna sandwich
- Which of the following might put someone at **ease**?
  - a friendly smile
  - a "Keep Out" sign
  - a warm welcome
  - a promise to help
- Which of the following might be **hailed** by people?
  - a train crash
  - a cure for a disease
  - a popular president
  - rain after a long dry spell
- Which of the following is a **complete** sentence and needs a period?
  - I'm cold
  - Let's go
  - The bus for Toledo
  - My hockey puck
- A rich person could **lack** which of the following?
  - money
  - freedom
  - time
  - good health
- Which of the following could mean a person is **patriotic**?
  - making money
  - having a hobby
  - voting in elections
  - serving one's country
- Which of the following is a **remark**?
  - You look tired.
  - $2 + 2 = 4$
  - What on earth are you doing?
  - A B C D
- Which of the following **represent** other people?
  - state senators
  - taxi drivers
  - storekeepers
  - lawyers

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Synonyms are words that have the same or similar meanings. *Big* and *large* are synonyms. Both words have to do with great size.

Circle the two synonyms in each group of four words.

- |             |         |             |         |
|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 1. harm     | hail    | benefit     | help    |
| 2. rush     | finish  | complete    | lack    |
| 3. dismay   | develop | grow        | need    |
| 4. alarm    | joy     | hunger      | dismay  |
| 5. ease     | growth  | comfort     | project |
| 6. remark   | hail    | forget      | greet   |
| 7. shortage | lack    | promise     | return  |
| 8. suggest  | satisfy | recommend   | promise |
| 9. comment  | remark  | disturbance | pause   |
| 10. repeat  | utter   | represent   | say     |



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

## Sequoya's Gift



Sequoya was a **remarkable** man in many ways. He was a skilled silversmith and painter. He also served as a soldier. But he is remembered today for inventing a written language.

Sequoya was a member of the Cherokee nation, the son of a Native American mother and a British father. A **patriotic** person, he was **dismayed** that white people were taking over more and more of the Cherokee lands.

There was no easy way for Cherokees to be in touch with each other because they **lacked** a written language. Words spoken in Cherokee were lost as soon as they were **uttered**. Sequoya believed that the Cherokee people would **benefit** greatly if they had a written language and could read and write. Newspapers could spread the word of what was happening to people. Books could record their history. He made up his mind that he would try to **develop** a written language for his people.

The **project**, which he began in 1809, took twelve years to **complete**. He and his daughter worked together. She carefully sounded out each syllable. Then Sequoya **represented** each one with a letter that he chose from the English, Greek, and Hebrew alphabets. Eighty-six letters were **sufficient** to cover all the sounds of the Cherokee language.

Sequoya used this new written language in a message he sent to the leaders of the Cherokee nation. The leaders were impressed with how simple the system was. They **recommended** that the new written language be taught to everyone who wanted to learn to read and write. People liked it because it could be learned quickly and with **ease**. Those who **mastered** it went on to teach others. The Cherokees set up schools to teach Sequoya's alphabet and began to publish books and newspapers in their new language. The first Native American newspaper, the *Cherokee Phoenix*, was published on February 21, 1828. It was followed by a flood of other newspapers and books.

In his later years, Sequoya travelled throughout North America studying other Native American languages. Everywhere he went he was **hailed** for his invention, which played such an important part in uniting the Cherokee people. He died in 1843. His memory is honored in California's giant sequoia trees, and its beautiful Sequoia National Park.

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- 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. How can we tell that Sequoya was **patriotic**?

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2. What is the meaning of **utter** as used in the passage?

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3. Why weren't any books written in Cherokee before 1821?

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4. How did Sequoya feel about what the white settlers were doing?

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5. What is the meaning of **develop** as it is used in the passage?

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6. How did Sequoya use the English, Greek, and Hebrew alphabets?

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7. Why weren't 26 letters **sufficient** for the Cherokee alphabet?

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8. How long did Sequoya's work take?

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9. Did Sequoya work on his **project** alone or did he have help?

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10. Why was the new language popular with the people?

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11. How can we tell that the Cherokee leaders liked the new system?

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12. What is the meaning of **hailed** as it is used in the passage?

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13. How did the Cherokees help each other learn the new language?

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14. What was **remarkable** about Sequoya?

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15. How does a written language **benefit** friends living far apart?

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### FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

• The Latin *bene* means "good" and forms a root of the word **benefit**. A *benefit* is something that is good for a person. Other words formed from this root include *benevolent*, which means "having a wish to do good," and *beneficial*, which means "doing good."

• In addition to its meaning as a verb, **utter** is also an adjective and means "total" or "absolute." (When the cellar door slammed shut behind us, we were left in *utter* darkness.); (I felt like an *utter* fool when the bike I reported stolen was found just where I left it.)