The Latin *abruptus* means "broken" and forms the root of the adjective *abrupt*. If there is an *abrupt* end to something—a speech, for example—it means it was *broken* off suddenly and unexpectedly.

Other words formed from this root include *interrupt* (When you *interrupt* a conversation, you *break* into it) and *disrupt* (If you *disrupt* a meeting, you *break* it up).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>applaud</strong></td>
<td>v. To show approval, especially by clapping hands. The audience <strong>applauded</strong> until the actors came back on stage to take another bow.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>applause</strong></td>
<td>n. The showing of approval or enjoyment by cheering or clapping. The theater lights came on after the <strong>applause</strong> had died down.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>crafty</strong></td>
<td>adj. Skilled at tricking others. Templeton, the <strong>crafty</strong> and mean-spirited rat in <em>Charlotte’s Web</em>, adds humor to the book.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>disclose</strong></td>
<td>v. To make known. The judge told the reporter she must <strong>disclose</strong> the names of those who attended the meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>drab</strong></td>
<td>adj. Dull and without color; not cheerful or colorful. A sparrow is a <strong>drab</strong> little bird compared to a male cardinal.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>entire</strong></td>
<td>adj. Having nothing left out; whole; complete. I recited the <strong>entire</strong> Robert Frost poem from memory.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>exclaim</strong></td>
<td>v. To speak suddenly and with strong feeling. “Today was the worst day of my life!” she exclaimed. <strong>exclamation</strong> (eks klámm’ sháhn) n. A sharp cry of strong feeling. Grandpa’s <strong>exclamation</strong> of pain sent me rushing to his side.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>exquisite</strong></td>
<td>adj. Finely done or made; very beautiful. The <strong>exquisite</strong> wood carvings on the museum door came from the island of Bali.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>intend</strong></td>
<td>v. To plan; to have in mind. I <strong>intend</strong> to give a piano recital on Monday. <strong>intention</strong> n. An aim, plan, or purpose. It was Thea’s <strong>intention</strong> to open a bookstore, but she decided to go to engineering school instead.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**jeer**  
v. To speak or cry out in scorn; to mock.  
My brother told me to ignore the older boys if they **jeered** when I sang.  

*n.* Something said that is meant to hurt or insult.  
An umpire soon learns to ignore the **jeers** of the crowd.

**peer**  
v. To look closely; to stare, especially at something that is hard to see or to understand.  
Ahmed **peered** at the sign, trying to read what it said.

**progress**  
*n.* 1. Moving toward a goal.  
The stormy sea slowed the small boat's **progress**.  

2. An improvement.  
I am finally making some **progress** mastering the new computer program.  

*v.* (prə grəs′) 1. To move forward.  
Work on the new bridge **progressed** at a faster pace when the weather improved.  

2. To advance to a higher stage; to improve.  
Manuel **progressed** so fast on the tuba that he got into the school band.

**refine**  
v. To make pure by removing all unwanted matter.  
We take oil from deep inside the earth and **refine** it into gasoline.  

**refined**  
adj. 1. In a pure state.  
**Refined** flour has a lot of the wheat germ removed.  

2. Having good manners and good taste.  
He was a noisy and rude boy, but as a young man he is gentle and **refined**.

**scoundrel**  
n. A mean or wicked person.  
Thank heavens the police caught the **scoundrel** who stole my wallet.

**uneasy**  
adj. Not comfortable; worried or nervous.  
I felt **uneasy** walking down the dark street until I observed a police officer on the corner.

**vain**  
adj. 1. Having too high an opinion of one's looks or achievements.  
Charlie is so **vain** he has a full-length mirror in every room.  

2. Without success.  
The firefighters made a **vain** attempt to keep the fire from spreading.  

**in vain**  
adv. Without success or result; useless.  
All my hand-waving was **in vain**—the teacher never called on me.
Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 6. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) one that is complete. (c) one that is not broken. (b) An entire set is (d) An exquisite set is

2. (a) Crafty persons are those who (c) Vain persons are those who (b) think too highly of themselves. (d) do not think well of themselves.

3. (a) beautiful to look at. (c) An exquisite fabric is one that is (b) A drab fabric is one that is (d) hidden from view.

4. (a) A jeer is (c) a small hand tool. (b) A scoundrel is (d) a dishonest person.

5. (a) easily hurt or upset. (c) Refined people are (b) dull and uninteresting. (d) Drab colors are

6. (a) A crafty person is one who (c) refuses to give up easily. (b) An uneasy person is one who (d) is skilled at tricking people.

7. (a) An exclamation is (c) something said with strong feeling. (b) An intention is (d) a feeling of not being wanted.
8. (a) take it back.  
(b) To disclose something is to 
(c) To refine something is to  
(d) make it pure.

9. (a) An intention is something  
(b) one plans to do.  
(c) one denies having done.  
(d) A jeer is something

10. (a) come into view.  
(b) To peer is to  
(c) To progress is to  
(d) move forward.

11. (a) be hard to get along with.  
(b) To be applauded is to  
(c) To be uneasy is to  
(d) be worried or nervous.
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 6.

1. Josh looked closely at the faded sign but was unable to make out what it said.

2. Remi was eager to renew the contract, but all her efforts were not met with success.

3. A well-mannered person does not try to talk with his mouth full.

4. The cruel and insensitive remarks of his classmates did not dismay Carlos at all.

5. Icy road conditions slowed our forward movement through town.

6. “Now I understand!” Einstein said suddenly, with strong feeling, as he jumped up.

7. He was so good at tricking people that those he fooled did not even know it.

8. The inspector did not let anyone know the reason for her visit to the factory.

9. There was loud cheering and clapping when the members of the band came on stage.
Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might look **drab**?
   (a) a dirty suit  (c) a colorfully painted room
   (b) a rainbow  (d) a clown with orange hair

2. Which of the following are **entire** words?
   (a) father  (c) s me b dy
   (b) m th r  (d) l

3. Which of the following might be called **exquisite**?
   (a) a wedding dress  (c) a grease spot
   (b) a diamond necklace  (d) a trash can

4. What might cause **jeers** from the crowd at a baseball game?
   (a) an umpire’s bad call  (c) a home run
   (b) a great catch  (d) a dropped catch

5. Which of the following might someone **peer** at?
   (a) a hard-to-read letter  (c) a loud noise
   (b) a quaintly dressed person  (d) an unpleasant smell

6. Which of the following might make a person **uneasy**?
   (a) winning first prize  (c) climbing a tall ladder
   (b) hearing strange noises  (d) being left alone at night

7. Which of the following would it be **vain** to attempt?
   (a) unscrewing an egg  (c) traveling backward in time
   (b) learning Chinese  (d) climbing Mount Everest

8. Which of the following would a person be likely to **applaud**?
   (a) a great achievement  (c) an entertaining show
   (b) a pessimistic remark  (d) a patriotic speech
### Word Study

**Circle the two synonyms in each group of words.**

1. recall  
   - recite
   - reduce
   - remember

2. honest  
   - uneasy
   - nervous
   - quaint

3. disclose  
   - persuade
   - glimpse
   - reveal

4. hail  
   - jeer
   - lack
   - mock

5. abrupt  
   - sudden
   - severe
   - certain

**Circle the two antonyms in each group of words.**

6. complete  
   - vain
   - modest
   - sufficient

7. crafty  
   - exquisite
   - drab
   - forbidden

8. drowsy  
   - crafty
   - honest
   - destructive

9. ease  
   - contempt
   - respect
   - preparation

10. disclose  
    - applaud
    - intend
    - jeer
The Emperor’s New Clothes*

Once there was an emperor who was very vain. He spent hour after hour peering at himself in the mirror. Whenever he got new clothes, he would gather his ministers around him so that they could tell him how wonderful he looked.

One day, two men came to see the emperor. They said they were master tailors. They told the emperor they could make him a suit of clothes so magnificent that everything else he owned would seem drab. The cloth would be so unusual that only those with the most refined taste would be able to see it. The emperor was foolish enough to believe them. He agreed to pay whatever they asked.

The “tailors” started work at once. Every day the emperor sent his ministers to check on their progress. Of course, they could see perfectly well that the crafty pair were only pretending to weave the cloth, and cut it, and stitch it. But they didn’t dare disclose the truth to the emperor. Disagreeing with the emperor would be like confessing that they had poor taste. They felt uneasy about lying, but they believed they had no choice. They told the emperor only what he wanted to hear: that his new clothes were the most exquisite they had ever seen.

Finally the two scoundrels told the emperor that their work was complete. Excited by the news, the emperor announced that the next day would be a public holiday. He intended to walk through the streets of the town in his new clothes so that everyone could admire him. The next morning, the “tailors” carefully laid out the emperor’s new clothes and helped him dress. The ministers gathered around to watch. And when at last the emperor stood proudly before them, turning this way and that, they forced out loud exclamations of delight. But of course the emperor was wearing only his underwear.

Meanwhile, officers of the palace guard had been up since before dawn. They were busy making sure that the townspeople turned out to applaud the emperor as he went by. Now the entire town lined the streets to see him. Under the watchful eyes of the officers, the people cheered and waved flags. The emperor loved every minute of it. But then something unexpected

* This passage is a retelling of the popular fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen.
happened. Above the roar of the crowd, the emperor heard a child’s voice. A little boy shouted, “Look! The emperor has no clothes!” The cry was at once taken up by the crowd. “THE EMPEROR HAS NO CLOTHES! THE EMPEROR HAS NO CLOTHES!”

The emperor looked down at himself and saw that it was true. He knew that he had been tricked. Feeling very foolish, he ran back to the palace as fast as he could, the jeers of the crowd ringing in his ears.

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. What did the emperor do with his time?

2. Why might the emperor have been tempted to get rid of all his old clothes after he talked to his tailors?

3. How would you describe refined taste?

4. Why was it impossible to judge how the tailors’ work was progressing?

5. Why does the passage refer to the two tailors as scoundrels?

6. Who finally disclosed the truth to the emperor?
7. Why were the ministers *uneasy*?

8. What did the ministers tell the emperor?

9. What do you think the ministers thought of the two tailors?

10. What do you think was the tailors' *intention* in tricking the emperor?

11. Why did the ministers *exclaim* in delight?

12. Why do you think the child might have deserved the crowd's *applause*?

13. Why did the *entire* town show up to see the emperor?

14. Why did the emperor run back to the palace?

15. What vocabulary word describes the emperor perfectly? Why?
FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

- The adjective **drab** is also the name of a color—a light, green-brown. (U.S. soldiers wear olive-drab clothing.) **Drab** is also a noun meaning "a small amount," but it is found only in the phrase "in dribs and drabs," meaning a little bit at a time. (Instead of paying me the money all at once, they gave it to me in dribs and drabs.)

- **Vain** and **vein** are homophones. They sound alike but have different meanings and spellings. A **vein** is a blood vessel that carries blood to the heart.

- As well as being a verb, **peer** is also a noun. It means "an equal; a person of the same rank or position as another." For example, "Those sixth graders are my peers. We all are in the same class." Or, to say that Daniel Webster had no peer as a public speaker is to say that no one could equal him in the art of public speaking. A **peer** is also the name for a member of the British House of Lords. Like **vain** and **vein**, note that **peer** and **pier** are homophones.