

Word List

Study the words below. Then do the exercises for the lesson.

act

n. 1. Something that is done. Giving clothes and food to the family who lost everything in the house fire was a generous act. 2. A show that is put on. One act in the spring festival will be a Guatemalan folk dance. 3. One of the main parts of a play. During the interval between acts one and two, we can walk outside for some fresh air.

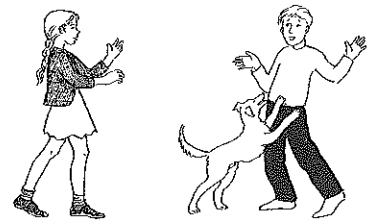
v. 1. To do something. Ellie acted at once when I asked her to help me move the sofa. 2. To play a part in a play, a movie, or on television. In *The Wizard of Oz*, Bert Lahr acted the part of the cowardly lion.

additional

adj. Added or extra. Andres brought an additional bottle of water to the tennis court because the day was quite warm.

advice

n. Ideas or suggestions offered to help someone with a problem or situation. Gary asked Selena for advice about training his frisky dog Peanuts.



crumple

v. To crush together; to bend or press into creases or wrinkles. Sue's shirt was crumpled after she stuffed it into the bottom of her bag and forgot about it.



fan

n. 1. Something that causes air to move in order to cool whatever it blows on. Some fans are made of folded stiff material and can be spread open for use; others are machines with blades that run on electricity. On hot summer days, the ceiling fan keeps the living room very comfortable. 2. Someone who closely follows a group, team, or person. The fans cheered loudly when their soccer team ran onto the field.

v. 1. To move air with an open fan or something similar. As Gracie fanned herself with a folded newspaper, the children built sandcastles at the edge of the water. 2. To spread in the shape of an opened fan. (Often used with *out*.) The students fanned out over the park, picking up any paper trash or empty bottles they found.

memorize

v. To fix in one's memory exactly; to learn by heart. It amazes me how quickly Jerrard can memorize the words of a song he has heard.

mystify

v. To confuse or puzzle someone. How Colleen was able to find the right card mystified all of us.

**pause**

v. To stop for a short time before going on. Ms. Bonnaire paused to see if we had questions and then finished giving us the directions for the game.

n. A short break or rest from what has been going on. After a short pause to catch her breath, Alexis set off for the top of the hill.

transparent *adj.* Allowing light to pass through freely so that one can see clearly. Several kinds of fish swam past us in the transparent waters of the lake.

vanish *v.* To go out of sight; to disappear. As the ship headed out into the channel, the land vanished under a layer of early morning fog.

★ Fun & Fascinating Facts ★

Advice is a noun. It is something that is given. The verb form is *advise*. To *advise* is to offer help or suggestions. When I *advised* Eddie to limit the number of deserts he ate, he did not seem to like my *advice*.

Crumple and *crumble* sound almost the same but have slightly different meanings. To *crumble* is to break something apart into small pieces. I *crumbled* the bread and took the crumbs to the pond to feed the birds. When you *crumple* something, it remains in one piece but a very wrinkled one.

Exercise 1: Words and Their Meanings

Look at the group of words on the left. Then circle the letter of the word on the right that has the same meaning.

① to learn by heart (a) memorize (b) act (c) vanish (d) pause

② to pass out of sight (a) crumple (b) fan (c) mystify (d) vanish

③ to crush into a small space (a) act (b) pause (c) crumple (d) mystify

④ a part of a play (a) advice (b) act (c) pause (d) fan

Now look at the word on the left. Then circle the letter of the group of words on the right that has the same meaning.

⑤ advice (a) weak excuses (b) empty spaces
(c) helpful suggestions (d) broken promises

⑥ pause (a) to move up and down (b) to stop before continuing
(c) to tread lightly (d) to balance two different things

⑦ fan (a) to turn away from (b) to sink lower
(c) to offer support (d) to cool by moving air

⑧ mystify (a) to confuse or puzzle (b) to grasp or understand
(c) to thicken or harden (d) to absorb or soak up

Exercise 2: Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the words in bold and replacing them with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 7.

- ① Elizabeth Taylor was twelve years old when she **played a part** in the movie *National Velvet*.
- ② The glass is **able to let light pass through freely**.
- ③ When a reporter asked how the crocodile escaped from its pen, the zookeeper said she was **unable to understand how it had happened**.
- ④ The bird-watchers **moved away from each other and spread** out when they reached the woods.
- ⑤ The black panther **could no longer be seen when it went** into the night.
- ⑥ When we were buying tickets for the Ice Capades, we learned that there is an **extra and therefore higher than usual** charge for front-row seats.
- ⑦ The speaker **took a short break** for questions before she showed the video.
- ⑧ We found the letter **crushed into a ball** and thrown behind the door.

Exercise 3: Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each question below. Circle one letter only.

- 1 Which of the following is a piece of advice?
(a) "Are you lost?" (b) "Take your time."
(c) "Go to your room at once!" (d) "My coat is blue."
- 2 Why might you crumple a shirt?
(a) to hang it up in a closet (b) to keep it clean
(c) to make it fit in a small space (d) to see if it fits you
- 3 Which of the following do you need to memorize?
(a) your phone number (b) the dictionary
(c) the weather report (d) the telephone book
- 4 Where are you likely to see a fan of the St. Louis Cardinals?
(a) in a train station (b) on a fishing boat
(c) at an art show (d) at a ball game
- 5 Which of the following can be transparent?
(a) gold (b) water
(c) mud (d) blood
- 6 During which of the following can there be a pause?
(a) a sneeze (b) a wink
(c) a song (d) a hiccup
- 7 When is it important to act quickly?
(a) when you choose a book to read (b) when you pick a baby's name
(c) when you decide to take a nap (d) when you smell something burning

Exercise 4: Word Study

You know that a prefix is attached to the beginning of a word and a suffix is attached to the end. The part of a word that comes between the prefix and the suffix is called the **base word**. Sometimes the base word is a **root**.

Let's take apart the word *unsuitable* and look at each of its different parts. *Un-* is the prefix and means "not," while *-able* is the suffix that makes the word an adjective. The base word is "suit." The roots of many English words come from Latin, the language that was spoken by the Romans several thousand years ago. Learning the meanings of roots can help you expand your vocabulary, because whenever you see that root, you will have a strong clue to the meaning of the word.

Fill in the blank spaces below with the correct word. The number gives the lesson from which it is taken.

- ① The Latin *vanus* means "empty." If everything in a room were to _____, the room would look empty. (7)
- ② The Latin *credere* means "to believe." If you find it hard to _____ someone's explanation of what happened, then you really don't believe it. (6)
- ③ The Latin *plattus* means "flat." A _____ is an area of land that is high above sea level and fairly flat. (6)
- ④ The Latin *legere* means "to choose." When we _____ a president, we have chosen that person to move into the Oval Office of the White House. (5)
- ⑤ The Latin *cocum* means "a berry." The _____ of an insect is hard and round like a berry. (4)
- ⑥ The prefix *trans-* means "through" and is joined to the root formed from the Latin word *parere*, which means "to show." If something is _____, then an object on the other side would show through it. (7)

The third and last trick takes practice and a good memory. Begin by asking someone on your left to **crumple** up a dollar bill and to throw it to you. You catch it, and without looking at it you throw what seems to be this bill to a person on your right. You ask them to unfold it so that they can check as you call out the number printed on the dollar bill. When you do this correctly, people are amazed.

Yet the trick is quite simple. You have your own dollar bill, and you have **memorized** the number printed on it. Before you begin the trick, you keep this crushed dollar bill hidden in your hand. You catch the dollar bill thrown to you, but it is your own dollar bill, which was hidden in your hand, that you throw for someone to catch. Be sure to practice the catching and throwing of the dollar bill before you try it in front of other people. You end your trick by saying to the person who threw you the dollar bill, "Thank you for helping me." Then you **pause** and add, "The gentleman (or lady) over there owes you a dollar." This usually gets a laugh.

Take some time to practice these and other magic tricks and soon you will be amazing your friends and family with your own magic **act**. Good luck and remember: Abracadabra!

Answer each of the following questions with a sentence. If a question does not have a vocabulary word, use one in your answer. Use each word only once. All ten words from Word List 7 will then appear either in a question or in an answer.

- ① Why should you **pause** after saying "Thank you for helping me"?

- ② What do you have to be especially careful about when doing the card trick?

- ③ Name two helpful suggestions about doing magic tricks that you learned from the story.

- ④ Why must the glass with the paper glued to it be **transparent**?

- ⑤ Can a magician make any object **vanish** with the glass trick? Explain your answer.

- ⑥ Why do you want to keep the people from asking questions as they watch you?

- ⑦ Why do you think magicians are not likely to tell their **fans** how they do their magic tricks?

- ⑧ What is one skill you must have to do the trick with the dollar bill?

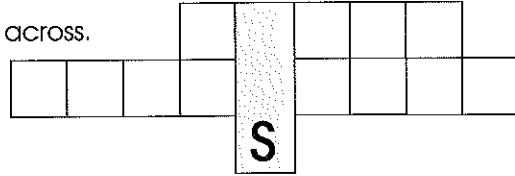
- ⑨ What do you think would be the hardest thing to do in the **crumpled** dollar bill trick?

- ⑩ In your opinion, what is the best thing about watching a magic **act**?

Hidden Message

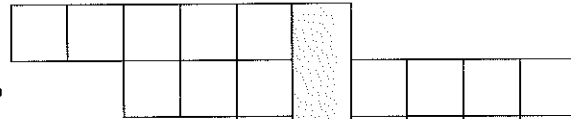
In the boxes next to each sentence, write the word that is missing from the sentence. Put one letter in each box. All the words are from Lessons 6 and 7. If you spell correctly, the shaded boxes will answer the following riddle: Cowboy Tex rode into Tombstone on Friday, stayed two days, and left on Friday. How can that be?

1. The _____ was two hundred feet deep and fifty feet across.



2. The _____ of Africa is made up of many countries.

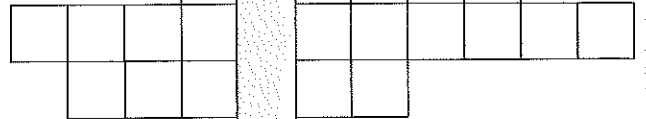
3. These delicious oatmeal cookies seem to _____ as soon as they come out of the oven.



4. Will you _____ your speech or read from notes?

5. Dr. Bert shares the _____ with those who work with her.

6. We could see what was inside the _____ plastic bag.



7. From his hospital bed, the rescued miner told of his _____.

8. When you read aloud, you should _____ when you come to the end of a sentence.

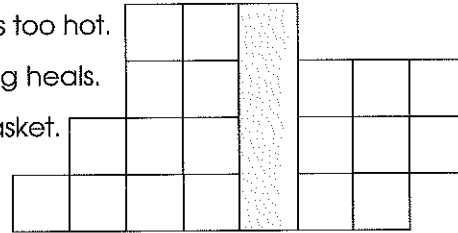


9. This small _____ turns on when the machine becomes too hot.

10. This cane will _____ you to get around while your leg heals.

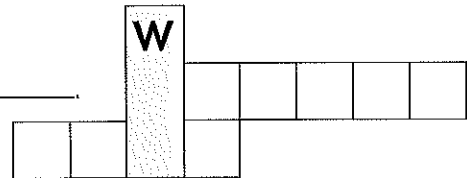
11. I saw him _____ the paper and toss it in the wastebasket.

12. The _____ was ten miles across and as flat as a table.



13. When our cat began to act strangely, we asked our vet for _____.

14. A sudden _____ blew the door open.



15. _____ weather kept the fishing boats from going out.

16. Let's _____ a shelter near these rocks.

17. The tax will be _____.

18. Check the _____ for our flight time.

19. The curtain closed on the first _____ of the play.

20. That riddle will not _____ anyone over six years old.

