

Lesson 6

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

abolish ə bəl' ish	<i>v.</i> To bring to an end; to do away with. [Most people would support a plan to <i>abolish</i> weapons of mass destruction.]
agony əg' ə nē	<i>n.</i> Great pain of mind or body; suffering. [The pinched nerve caused him <i>agony</i> for several weeks.] agonizing <i>adj.</i> (əg' ə niz in) Very painful. [Watching their sick child in the hospital bed was <i>agonizing</i> to the parents.]
catapult kat' ə pult	<i>n.</i> A machine used in ancient wars that threw objects with great force. [Roman <i>catapults</i> could throw six-pound objects almost a third of a mile.] <i>v.</i> To move or be moved suddenly and with great force, as if by a catapult. [The Groaners' latest song <i>catapulted</i> them to the top of the country music charts.]
character kə'r ək tər	<i>n.</i> 1. The qualities that make a person or place different or special. [Your friend's support during your long illness demonstrates her true <i>character</i> .] 2. A person in a story, movie, or play. [Madame Defarge and Sydney Carton are the two <i>characters</i> I remember most clearly from <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .] 3. A letter or symbol used in writing or printing. [The license plate number NKT605 contains six <i>characters</i> .]
denounce də nouns'	<i>v.</i> 1. To speak out against something; to criticize. [The president <i>denounced</i> Congress for failing to approve the budget.] 2. To accuse someone of doing wrong. [Carla <i>denounced</i> Victor, who sat next to her, for cheating on the test.]
escalate es' kə lāt	<i>v.</i> To go up or increase in size or scope. [House prices <i>escalated</i> so much in the 1980s that many people could no longer afford to buy a home.]
grim grim	<i>adj.</i> 1. Cruel; fierce. [There were many <i>grim</i> battles during the Civil War.] 2. Unfriendly or threatening; stern. [The coach's <i>grim</i> face expressed his displeasure at our team's poor performance.] 3. Unpleasant; disturbing. [We heard the <i>grim</i> news that no one had survived the plane crash.]
harbor hār' bər	<i>n.</i> A protected place along a seacoast where ships can find shelter. [In the summer the <i>harbor</i> is busy with sailboats going in and out.] <i>v.</i> 1. To give shelter to; to take care of by hiding. [In most states, it is a crime to <i>harbor</i> someone wanted by the police.] 2. To hold and nourish a thought or feeling in the mind. [Try not to <i>harbor</i> anger against the person who stole your bike.]
inflict in flikt'	<i>v.</i> To cause something painful to be felt. [The hurricane <i>inflicted</i> severe damage on coastal areas.]

loathe loath	<p>1. To hate or dislike greatly. [Mahatma Gandhi, the great Indian leader, <i>loathed</i> violence.]</p> <p>loathing <i>n.</i> A feeling of hatred. [Their <i>loathing</i> of cruelty to animals led them to set up a shelter for unwanted pets.]</p>
meddle med' əl	<p>1. To involve oneself in other people's affairs without being asked. [When my grandparents retired, they could have <i>meddled</i> in my parents' lives, but they didn't.]</p> <p>meddlesome <i>adj.</i> Given to taking part in others' affairs without being asked. [If you think I am being <i>meddlesome</i>, just tell me to mind my own business.]</p>
monstrous mən' strəs	<p><i>adj.</i> 1. Causing shock; horrible; wicked. [Hitler's <i>monstrous</i> plan to murder the Jews of Europe was carried out in concentration camps in Germany and Poland.]</p> <p>2. Extremely large. [A <i>monstrous</i> statue of the Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, three times life-size, stood in the town square.]</p>
rouse ru:z	<p>1. 1. To awaken, to wake up. [The children were sleeping so soundly that it was difficult to <i>rouse</i> them.]</p> <p>2. To stir up; to excite. [Martin Luther King, Jr., <i>roused</i> the American people with his 1963 speech at the Lincoln Memorial, in Washington, D.C.]</p>
steadfast sted' fast	<p><i>adj.</i> Unchanging; steady; loyal. [Rigo and Moni remained <i>steadfast</i> friends throughout their school years.]</p>
translate trans' lāi	<p>1. To put into a different language. [<i>The Little Prince</i>, which was written in French, was <i>translated</i> into English by Katherine Woods.]</p>

6A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 6. Write each sentence in the space provided.

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| 1. (a) involve oneself in the affairs of others. | (c) To translate is to |
| (b) hold certain thoughts in the mind. | (d) To meddle is to |
| _____ | |
| 2. (a) A harbor is something that | (c) hurls objects with great force. |
| (b) is expressed in another language. | (d) A catapult is something that |
| _____ | |
| 3. (a) feels resentment against others. | (c) A monstrous person is one who |
| (b) is not easily changed by others. | (d) A steadfast person is one who |
| _____ | |

4. (a) To loathe something is to
(b) To translate something is to
_____ (c) express it in a different language.
(d) present it for the first time.
5. (a) one that is very wicked.
(b) An agonizing decision is
_____ (c) one that keeps getting put off.
(d) A monstrous decision is
6. (a) a protected place for boats.
(b) anything that shocks or horrifies.
_____ (c) A harbor is
(d) A character is
7. (a) To rouse someone is to
(b) say that person's name out loud.
_____ (c) wake up that person.
(d) To denounce someone is to
8. (a) a person's special qualities.
(b) Character is
_____ (c) deliberate rudeness.
(d) Agony is
9. (a) find its causes.
(b) To denounce a quarrel is to
_____ (c) say that it is wrong.
(d) To escalate a quarrel is to
10. (a) To loathe something is to
(b) have an understanding of it.
_____ (c) To abolish something is to
(d) feel hatred for it.

6B 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 6.

- Overnight, someone had put up a *gigantic and very unattractive* billboard across the street.
- Americans in 1776 were *stirred into action* by Thomas Paine's writings.
- I was in *very great pain* after I fell and twisted my ankle.