

**BARRON'S**

# 1100 WORDS

## You Need to Know

A  
BEST-SELLER  
FOR  
FIVE  
DECADES!

MURRAY BROMBERG AND MELVIN GORDON

**SEVENTH EDITION**



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## INTRODUCTION

The study of the English language has spread all over the world, and high school and college students everywhere have come to realize that language mastery depends on the possession of a comprehensive vocabulary. This is just what *1100 Words You Need to Know* has been offering through the six earlier editions and continuing on this seventh one.

We are proud that Amazon.com has rated this book as a bestseller in its category. In addition to the various exercises that help readers learn challenging vocabulary, take a look at the section called “The Lighter Touch 100,” which shows that vocabulary can be taught with a sense of humor. By investing a mere 15 minutes a day with this new book, you will soon see a dramatic improvement in your vocabulary.

Special thanks to Ellis Bromberg and Kyra Bromberg for their assistance in editing the Seventh Edition of *1100 Words You Need to Know*.

Murray Bromberg  
Melvin Gordon

## FULL PRONUNCIATION KEY

a	<b>a</b> pple, ba <b>t</b>	j	ju <b>s</b> t, enj <b>oy</b>	u	bu <b>ll</b> , foo <b>t</b>
ā	a <b>g</b> e, la <b>ce</b>	k	<b>k</b> in, ta <b>k</b>	ur	<b>s</b> ure, pu <b>r</b> e
ä	a <b>l</b> ms, fa <b>th</b> er	l	lo <b>s</b> e, hu <b>r</b> l	ū	<b>oo</b> ze, cu <b>t</b> e
är	a <b>r</b> m, ja <b>r</b>	m	<b>m</b> ice, cra <b>m</b>	û	<b>u</b> p, mo <b>n</b> th
b	<b>b</b> ag, so <b>b</b>	n	<b>n</b> ot, in <b>t</b> o	v	<b>v</b> ast, ha <b>v</b> e
ch	<b>ch</b> ill, su <b>ch</b>	ŋ	so <b>ng</b> , ri <b>ng</b>	w	<b>w</b> ish, squ <b>ea</b> k
d	<b>d</b> one, sa <b>id</b>	o	<b>o</b> x, ro <b>t</b>	y	<b>y</b> outh, fe <b>w</b>
ə	<b>a</b> round, wa <b>k</b> en, pen <b>c</b> il, dem <b>on</b>	ō	<b>o</b> pen, blo <b>w</b>	z	<b>z</b> oo, bu <b>zz</b>
e	<b>e</b> lk, me <b>t</b>	ô	<b>o</b> ll, bou <b>gh</b> t	zh	<b>g</b> enre, plea <b>s</b> ure
ē	<b>e</b> ase, <b>s</b> ee	ôi	<b>o</b> il, bo <b>y</b>	-	denotes separate syllables
er	<b>a</b> ir, wea <b>r</b>	ôr	<b>o</b> re, co <b>rd</b>		denotes that the following syllable is the stressed syllable
ër	<b>u</b> rn, wo <b>r</b> th	ou	<b>o</b> wl, mo <b>u</b> se	(y)	parentheses denote an optional sound in pronunciation
f	<b>f</b> eel, sti <b>ff</b>	p	<b>p</b> est, ca <b>p</b>		
g	<b>g</b> one, bi <b>g</b>	r	<b>r</b> ed, tre <b>e</b>		
h	<b>h</b> im, be <b>h</b> ind	s	<b>s</b> pell, be <b>s</b> t		
hw	<b>w</b> hich, <b>w</b> hale	sh	<b>sh</b> rug, cra <b>sh</b>		
i	<b>i</b> ch, pi <b>n</b>	t	<b>t</b> ime, ac <b>t</b>		
ir	<b>e</b> ar, che <b>er</b>	th	<b>th</b> ink, tee <b>th</b>		
ī	<b>i</b> vy, hi <b>d</b> e	<u>th</u>	<b>t</b> his, brea <b>th</b> e		



# WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 1

## READING WISELY

The youngster who reads *voraciously*, though *indiscriminately*, does not necessarily gain in wisdom over the teenager who is more selective in his reading choices. A student who has read the life story of every *eminent* athlete of the twentieth century, or one who has *steeped* herself in every social-protest novel she can get her hands on, may very well be learning all there is to know in a narrow area. But books are *replete with* so many wonders that it is often discouraging to see bright young people limit their own experiences.

**voracious**

və - 'rā - shəs

**indiscriminate**

in - di - 'skri - mə - nə

**eminent**

'e - mə - nənt

**steeped**

'stēpt

**replete**

ri - 'plēt

**Sample Sentences** On the basis of the above paragraph, try to use your new words in the following sentences. Occasionally it may be necessary to change the ending of a word; e.g., *indiscriminate* to *indiscriminately*.

1. The football game was \_\_\_\_\_ with excitement and great plays.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ author received the Nobel Prize for literature.
3. My cousin is so \_\_\_\_\_ in schoolwork that his friends call him a bookworm.
4. After skiing, I find that I have a \_\_\_\_\_ appetite.
5. Modern warfare often results in the \_\_\_\_\_ killing of combatants and innocent civilians alike.

**Definitions** Now that you have seen and used the new words in sentences, and have the definitions "on the tip of your tongue," try to pair the words with their meanings.

- |                   |       |   |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| 6. voracious      | _____ | a. of high reputation, outstanding              |
| 7. indiscriminate | _____ | b. completely filled or supplied with           |
| 8. eminent        | _____ | c. choosing at random without careful selection |
| 9. steeped        | _____ | d. desiring or consuming great quantities       |
| 10. replete       | _____ | e. soaked, drenched, saturated                  |

## TODAY'S IDIOM

**eat humble pie—to admit your error and apologize**

After his candidate had lost the election, the boastful campaign manager had to *eat humble pie*.

## NEW WORDS

abound

ə - 'bound

technology

tek - 'no - lə - jē

prognosticate

prog - 'no - stə - kât

abode

ə - bōd

automaton

ô - 'to - mə - ton

## WEEK 1 ♦ DAY 2

## SOLVING THE SERVANT PROBLEM

The worlds of science fiction *abound* with wonders. Yet modern *technology* progresses so rapidly that what is today's wild dream may be next year's kitchen appliance. A British scientist has *prognosticated* that within ten years every suburban *abode* will have its own robot servant. One task this domesticated *automaton* will not have to contend with will be scouring the oven because even today the newest ranges can be programmed to reduce their own baked-on grime to easily disposed of ash.

**Sample Sentences** Now that you've seen the words used in context, and—hopefully—have an idea of their meanings, try to use them in the following sentences. Remember that a word-ending may have to be changed.

1. The mayor refused to \_\_\_\_\_ as to his margin of victory in the election.
2. The time is approaching when human workers may be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Mel's new two-bedroom \_\_\_\_\_ overlooks a lake where many birds nest.
4. The western plains used to \_\_\_\_\_ with bison before those animals were slaughtered by settlers.
5. Man may be freed from backbreaking labor by the products of scientific \_\_\_\_\_.

**Definitions** Test yourself now by matching the new words with the definitions. If you are not sure of yourself, cover the top half of this page before you begin.

- |                  |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| 6. abound        | _____ | a. a place where one lives   |
| 7. technology    | _____ | b. branch of knowledge dealing with engineering, applied science, etc. |
| 8. prognosticate | _____ | c. a robot; a mechanical "person"                                      |
| 9. abode         | _____ | d. to exist in great numbers   |
| 10. automaton    | _____ | e. to predict or foretell a future event                               |

## TODAY'S IDIOM

**a pig in a poke**—an item you purchase without having seen; a disappointment

The mail order bicycle that my nephew bought turned out to be a pig in a poke, and he is now trying to get his money back.

## NEW WORDS

**paradox**

ˈpa - rə - doks

**realm**

ˈrelm

**annals**

ˈa - nəlz

**compound (v.)**

kəm - ˈpound

**tinge (n.)**

ˈtɪŋ

## A LUCKY FIND ON THE SUBWAY?

Sylvia regularly took a crowded subway train to work during rush hour, so she found it to be a **paradox** one hot, steamy Tuesday to easily find a seat in a car that was nearly empty. She wondered how, in the **realm** of possibilities, this could be; how often in the **annals** of subway history had there been such a fortunate occurrence? To **compound** the puzzle, looking out the window she could see many commuters busily racing on the platform to fill other cars. It was not until she saw the sign on the door that she realized, with a **tinge** of resignation, why she had been so "lucky" this morning: "We apologize, but the air conditioning is not working in this car."

**Sample Sentences** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. His gloom was now \_\_\_\_\_ by the failing mark on his geometry test.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of sports are filled with great athletes of color.
3. One of the great \_\_\_\_\_ of American life is that though minority groups have suffered injustices, nowhere in the world have so many varied groups lived together so harmoniously.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ of garlic is all that's necessary in most recipes.
5. The cruel king would not allow the prince to enter his \_\_\_\_\_, restricting him to the forest, which abounded\* with wild animals.

(\*abounded—studied previously, see page 2. *Each review word studied previously will be followed by an asterisk—you will find the first use of the word by consulting the index at the back of the book.*)

**Definitions** If you are having trouble in picking the right definitions, it may be best *not* to do them in the order given, but to do the ones you are surest of first.

- |                  |       |   |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 6. paradox       | _____ | a. a trace, smattering, or slight degree  |
| 7. realm         | _____ | b. a statement that at first seems to be absurd or self-contradictory but which may in fact turn out to be true |
| 8. annals        | _____ | c. to increase or add to  |
| 9. compound (v.) | _____ | d. historical records   |
| 10. tinge (n.)   | _____ | e. special field of something or someone; kingdom   |

## TODAY'S IDIOM

***a flash in the pan*—promising at the start, but then disappointing**

The rookie hit many home runs in spring training, but once the season began he proved to be *a flash in the pan*.



## THE NEWSPAPER UMBRELLA

Our neighbor is an *affluent* inventor whose latest brainstorm, a *feasible* umbrella substitute, has been featured in many magazines. As simply as the eye can *discern*, it is a hard plastic strip, about the size of a ruler, which fits comfortably into a woman's handbag or a man's suit jacket. If a person is caught in a sudden rainstorm, he swings the plastic open in the shape of a cross. Attached to each arm is a clip-like device. Next, he takes the newspaper he is carrying and slides it under each of the four clips. Now, equipped with a rigid head covering he can *sally* forth to face the elements. To the *consternation* of the umbrella manufacturers, it has been enjoying a brisk sale, especially among commuters. If it continues to do well, it could have a pernicious\* effect upon the umbrella industry.

**affluent**

ˈa - flū - ənt

**feasible**

ˈfē - zə - bəl

**discern**

di - ˈsɜrn

**sally (v.)**

ˈsa - lē

**consternation**

kon - stər - ˈnā - shən

**Sample Sentences** Fit the new words into the proper blanks.

1. Some prisoners planned a disturbance while others would \_\_\_\_\_ toward the gate.
2. Under duress\* from the tax officer, the beggar admitted that he was truly \_\_\_\_\_.
3. To the \_\_\_\_\_ of the sergeant, there was a paucity\* of volunteers for the dangerous mission.
4. It's now \_\_\_\_\_ to build an electric car, and shopping malls have begun to add charging stations for them.
5. When we could \_\_\_\_\_ the city lights, we knew we were safe at last.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- |                   |       |                     |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 6. affluent       | _____ | a. to suddenly rush |
| 7. feasible       | _____ | b. possible         |
| 8. discern        | _____ | c. dismay           |
| 9. sally (v.)     | _____ | d. rich             |
| 10. consternation | _____ | e. to perceive*     |

### TODAY'S IDIOM

*meat and potatoes*—the most important or basic elements

The staff paid close attention when the boss began to explain the *meat and potatoes* of his plan.



## NEW WORDS

extant

ˈek - stənt OR

ex - ˈstant

vicissitudes

vi - ˈsi - si - t(y)ūdʒ

edifice

ˈe - de - fis

sultry

ˈsʊl - trē

trenchant

ˈtren - chənt

## WEEK 20 ❖ DAY 3

### THE ROACH LIVES ON

Cockroaches are the oldest *extant* winged insects, having been traced back over 350 million years. They have endured the *vicissitudes* of weather, natural disasters, war, and planned liquidation.\* They reside comfortably in caves in South America, in transcontinental airplanes, on mountain tops, in Park Avenue *edifices*, and in television sets. The climate may be *sultry* or frigid but roaches persevere.\* In the words of one writer, "The miraculous survival of the roach is explained by its inherent\* adaptability." In fact, a *trenchant* analysis made the point that roaches can survive a nuclear war.

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Hundreds of \_\_\_\_\_ copies of Shakespeare's signature came from the same prolific\* forger.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of life in the Medical Corps are not for the squeamish.\*
3. We originally planned on a skyscraper but had to settle for a truncated\* \_\_\_\_\_.
4. When he learned that the movie was to be replete\* with \_\_\_\_\_ scenes, the cautious banker refused to underwrite\* its cost.
5. General Fox submitted a \_\_\_\_\_ report on the enemy's latent\* strength.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- |                 |       |                                    |
|-----------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 6. extant       | _____ | a. keen, incisive*                 |
| 7. vicissitudes | _____ | b. difficulties                    |
| 8. edifice      | _____ | c. extremely hot and moist, torrid |
| 9. sultry       | _____ | d. still existing                  |
| 10. trenchant   | _____ | e. a building                      |

### TODAY'S IDIOM

*tongue in cheek*—insincerely

Speaking *tongue in cheek*, the parsimonious\* employer promised to double everyone's wages.

## WORDSEARCH 21

- ❖ Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

### *History's Most Extraordinary Person?*

In a celebrated essay about Joan of Arc, Mark Twain wrote movingly of her brief moment in the spotlight—two short years in which she made an indelible mark on world history. At age 16 she was illiterate, had never strayed from her sleepy little village, knew nothing of military combat, or courts of law. But at age 17, in a complete ① \_\_\_\_\_ she was named commander-in-chief of the French army, vowing to restore her king to his throne. Joan attracted many fervent followers, and a ② \_\_\_\_\_ called her "France's ③ \_\_\_\_\_."

After much gallantry in battle, this ④ \_\_\_\_\_ heroine was brought low by treachery at the French court and captured by the enemy. Joan defended herself brilliantly at a court trial, although she could neither read nor write. She was able to forecast future events with remarkable accuracy, correctly predicting her own martyrdom.

Mark Twain understood how geniuses such as Napoleon and Edison could develop, but one could ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_ the facts for a lifetime without being able to explain how this humble peasant girl could display the qualities of a mature statesman, a learned jurist, and a military wizard. He concluded:

"Taking into account her origin, youth, sex, illiteracy, early environment, and the obstructing conditions under which she exploited her high gifts and made her conquests in the field and before the courts that tried her for her life—she is easily and by far the most extraordinary person the human race has ever produced."

#### Clues

- ① 3rd Day
- ② 3rd Day
- ③ 4th Day
- ④ 4th Day
- ⑤ 2nd Day

## NEW WORDS

perpetuate

per - 'pe - chū - āt

mandate (n.)

'man - dāt

compensatory

kəm - 'pen - sə - tō - rē

neutralize

'n(y)ū - trə - līz

catastrophic

ka - tə - 'stro - fik

## WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 4

### IN THE NATURE OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Mr. Sloane did not want to *perpetuate* the disorders that stemmed from the alphabetical arrangement. Not only did he reverse the seating in his other classes, but he began to badger\* the school's administration for a *mandate* to bring about such changes throughout the building. He called it a *compensatory* factor to *neutralize* the *catastrophic* effects of the traditional policy. Soon, Mr. Sloane earned the appellation\* of "Mr. Backwards."

**Sample Sentences** Use the new words in the following sentences.

1. Don Ricardo hoped that his son would \_\_\_\_\_ the family business, but Manuel was too involved with chimerical\* schemes to want to run a restaurant.
2. If the draconian\* regulations are to continue unabated,\* they will have \_\_\_\_\_ results.
3. Dr. Meyers prescribed medication to \_\_\_\_\_ the acid condition that had incapacitated\* my uncle.
4. As a prelude\* to his victory speech, the mayor announced that he considered the large vote to be a \_\_\_\_\_ from the people.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ education may help at-risk students to cope\* with challenges.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- |                  |       |                                   |
|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 6. perpetuate    | _____ | a. making up for a loss           |
| 7. mandate (n.)  | _____ | b. authoritative order or command |
| 8. compensatory  | _____ | c. to counteract                  |
| 9. neutralize    | _____ | d. to cause to continue           |
| 10. catastrophic | _____ | e. disastrous                     |

### TODAY'S IDIOM

*bring home the bacon*—to earn a living, succeed

The man's inability to *bring home the bacon* was the actual reason for the couple's incompatibility.\*



## WEEK 23 ❖ DAY 5

## REVIEW

You may not know the alphabet from *aardvark* to *zymurgy*, but you can certainly cope\* with *analogous* to *susceptible*.

Match the twenty words with their meanings. Write the letter that stands for the definition in the appropriate answer space.

### REVIEW WORDS

- \_\_\_ 1. analogous
- \_\_\_ 2. catastrophic
- \_\_\_ 3. compensatory
- \_\_\_ 4. decade
- \_\_\_ 5. enunciate
- \_\_\_ 6. gamut
- \_\_\_ 7. heterogeneous
- \_\_\_ 8. inordinate
- \_\_\_ 9. introspective
- \_\_\_ 10. irascible
- \_\_\_ 11. maladjusted
- \_\_\_ 12. mandate (n.)
- \_\_\_ 13. mortality
- \_\_\_ 14. neurotic
- \_\_\_ 15. neutralize
- \_\_\_ 16. pedagogue
- \_\_\_ 17. perpetuate
- \_\_\_ 18. perspicacious
- \_\_\_ 19. phenomenon
- \_\_\_ 20. susceptible

### DEFINITIONS

- a. disastrous
- b. irritable
- c. teacher
- d. dysfunctional
- e. to cause to continue
- f. comparable, similar
- g. shrewd
- h. authoritative command
- i. dissimilar
- j. range
- k. to counteract
- l. having a nervous disorder
- m. excessive
- n. looking into one's own feelings
- o. unusual occurrence
- p. death
- q. easily affected
- r. making up for a loss
- s. ten years
- t. to express, proclaim

### IDIOMS

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| ___ 21. cut the mustard      | u. to meet expectations                       |
| ___ 22. bite the bullet      | v. to endure an unavoidably painful situation |
| ___ 23. get one's back up    | w. to become angry                            |
| ___ 24. bring home the bacon | x. to earn a living                           |

### WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY

### MEANINGS

Now check your answers on page 302. Make a record of those words you missed.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |

YOU ARE NOW AT THE MID-POINT OF THE BOOK, AND YOU SHOULD PLAN TO DEVOTE SOME ADDITIONAL TIME TO A REVIEW OF THOSE WORDS THAT YOU MISSED DURING THE PAST TWENTY-THREE WEEKS.

## NEW WORDS

**constrict**  
kən - 'strikt

**prodigy**  
'pro - də - jē

**bereft**  
bi - 'reft

**falter**  
'fōl - tər

**exultation**  
eg - zūl - 'tā - shən

## A GIANT COMPOSER

Beethoven was able to free music from the traditions\* that had tended to *constrict* it. He was a child *prodigy* who held an important musical post at the age of 14. He was a successful concert pianist, but when his health began to fail, he turned to composing. Even though *bereft* of hearing at the age of 49, he did not *falter* in his work. Some of his later compositions reflect his sadness with his physical condition, but they also evince\* an *exultation* about man and life.

**Sample Sentences** Place the new words in these sentences.

1. The catastrophe\* left him \_\_\_\_\_ of all his possessions.
2. She was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ when she learned her SAT score was near the maximum.
3. It is imprudent\* for a youngster to \_\_\_\_\_ her circle of friends so that there is no opportunity to meet new people.
4. There is universal\* wonder when some \_\_\_\_\_ appears on the stage to perform at the age of 4 or 5.
5. Though he knew well the danger involved, the knight did not \_\_\_\_\_ as he entered the dragon's cave.

**Definitions** Your personal test follows through matching.

- |                |       |                                |
|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 6. constrict   | _____ | a. triumphant joy              |
| 7. prodigy     | _____ | b. to stumble, hesitate, waver |
| 8. bereft      | _____ | c. deprived of                 |
| 9. falter      | _____ | d. to limit, bind, squeeze     |
| 10. exultation | _____ | e. marvel, phenomenon          |

## TODAY'S IDIOM

**loaded for bear—to be well prepared**

When the enemy finally attacked the positions, the defenders were *loaded for bear*.

1. hoard
2. doddering
3. transient
4. tussle
5. initiate
6. sedate
7. sage
8. rebuke
9. array
10. obscure
11. exploit

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



## NEW WORDS

### pathological

pa - thə - 'lo - jə - kəl

### articulate (adj.)

ār - 'tik - ju - lət

### grandeur

'gran - d(y)ər OR  
'gran - jər

### polemic

pə - 'le - mik

### impasse

'im - pas

## BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 3

### THE ASSASSINS MAKE READY

The *pathological* yet *articulate* Booth had rounded up several co-conspirators and shared his delusions of *grandeur* with them. He had produced a *polemic* that convinced his crew that it would be a patriotic thing to capture the President. One of them was assigned to shut off the master gas valve at Ford's Theatre when Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln were seated there at the play. With all the lights out, Booth would bind and gag the President. Two men would lower Lincoln onto the stage, and then carry him out the rear door to a covered wagon waiting in the alley. They would head for Port Tobacco and then ferry across the Potomac to their ultimate\* destination, Richmond, Virginia. Several dry runs\* had not worked out for the cabalists\* who were about to reach an *impasse* when Booth learned that Lincoln would be celebrating General Grant's victories with a party at Ford's Theatre on the night of April 14. He promised the small group that destiny was at hand; their bold act, he said, would make their names famous forever in the annals of U.S. history. In the late afternoon of April 14, Booth watched a rehearsal of the play that would be performed that evening. He had reviewed his action plan and the escape route, and he believed it to be foolproof. He mouthed the phrase he would use after killing Lincoln, "Sic Semper Tyrannis" ("Thus always to tyrants"). The curtain was about to go up on one of the darkest days in the country's history.

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ was broken when the union agreed to management's offer.
2. In history class, we studied the \_\_\_\_\_ of Greece and the glory of Rome.
3. Hal was surprisingly \_\_\_\_\_ for a high school freshman.
4. The defense lawyer admitted that his client was a \_\_\_\_\_ liar.
5. The team captain's \_\_\_\_\_ led to a fist fight in the locker room.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- |                      |       |                           |
|----------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 6. pathological      | _____ | a. well-spoken            |
| 7. articulate (adj.) | _____ | b. magnificence           |
| 8. grandeur          | _____ | c. disordered in behavior |
| 9. polemic           | _____ | d. deadlock               |
| 10. impasse          | _____ | e. controversial argument |

### TODAY'S IDIOM

**for the birds**—unimportant, not worth consideration

Jared's concept of opening a string of fast-food joints in the middle of the desert was *for the birds*.

## BONUS WEEK B ❖ DAY 4

### NEW WORDS

**regimen**

ˈre - ji - mən

**denigrated**

ˈde - ni - grā - təd

**guile**

ˈgīl

**mortal (adj.)**

ˈmôr - təl

**inflicted**

in - ˈflik - təd

### “NOW HE BELONGS TO THE AGES”

At 8:25 P.M. the Lincolns arrived at the theater. When they entered boxes 7 & 8, as **regimen** dictated, the band played “Hail to the Chief.” The 1675 members of the audience stood to honor the great man, and then the play commenced. It is reported that Booth said to a drunk who had **denigrated** his acting skill, “When I leave the stage, I will be the most famous man in America.” At about 10 P.M., with extreme **guile**, Booth had managed to be behind box 7 in the darkness of the hallway. He saw the silhouette of a head above the horsehair rocker. Derringer in his hand, he aimed it between the President’s left ear and his spine. The shot was drowned out by laughter on the stage. Shouting “Revenge for the South,” Booth climbed over the ledge of the box and jumped onto the stage, breaking his leg in the process. In pain, Booth limped out the stage door where his horse was waiting and made his getaway. Days later, however, he was cornered in a Virginia barn and shot. Three of the cabal\* members were arrested and hanged. At the theater, a 23-year-old doctor attended to the wounded President. He found that the lead shot had lodged in Lincoln’s brain, a bad sign. Several soldiers carried Mr. Lincoln across the street to a private house. His family physician came and so did the Surgeon General. The President struggled throughout the long night, but it was apparent that a **mortal** wound had been **inflicted**, and he could not be saved. At 7:22 A.M. it was over; two silver coins were placed on the assassinated President’s eyes. Then Secretary of War Edwin Stanton uttered the famous words, “Now he belongs to the ages.”

**Sample Sentences** Insert the new words in the following sentences.

1. The blow to the boxer’s head turned out to be a \_\_\_\_\_ one.
2. Using \_\_\_\_\_, the magician pulled the wool over the spectators’ eyes.\*
3. Aunt Ethel’s morning \_\_\_\_\_ called for three cups of coffee.
4. When her boss \_\_\_\_\_ Martha’s stenographic ability, she quit.
5. The prison guards \_\_\_\_\_ torture on some of the inmates.

**Definitions** Match the new words with their meanings.

- |                  |       |                      |
|------------------|-------|----------------------|
| 6. regimen       | _____ | a. leading to death  |
| 7. denigrated    | _____ | b. defamed           |
| 8. guile         | _____ | c. system of control |
| 9. mortal (adj.) | _____ | d. trickery          |
| 10. inflicted    | _____ | e. imposed upon      |

### TODAY’S IDIOM

**throw one’s hat in the ring—to run for political office**

Before a gathering of the party’s faithful, the local congressman *threw his hat in the ring* for the position of senator.

## VOC/QUOTE

33. "Most quarrels are \_\_\_\_\_ at the time, incredible afterwards."  
—E. M. Forster  
a. rash      b. salient      c. trenchant      d. inevitable      e. whimsical
34. "We live at the mercy of a \_\_\_\_\_ word. A sound, a mere disturbance of the air sinks into our very soul sometimes."  
—Joseph Conrad  
a. reviled      b. malevolent      c. vexatious      d. innocuous      e. evanescent
35. "There must be some good in the cocktail party to account for its immense \_\_\_\_\_ among otherwise sane people."  
—Evelyn Waugh  
a. vogue      b. cupidity      c. calumny      d. audacity      e. asperity
36. "One drifting yellow leaf on a windowsill can be a city dweller's fall, \_\_\_\_\_ and melancholy as any hillside in New England."  
—E. B. White  
a. somber      b. cryptic      c. pungent      d. aloof      e. doleful
37. "For generations of German plutocrats, duelling was a bastion against weakness, effeminacy, and \_\_\_\_\_."  
—Arthur Krystal  
a. redress      b. sophistry      c. decadence      d. temerity      e. vituperation
38. "No one weeps more \_\_\_\_\_ than the hardened scoundrel as was proved when a sentimental play was performed before an audience of gangsters whose eyes were seen to be red and swollen."  
—Hesketh Pearson  
a. copiously      b. vapidly      c. raucously      d. nominally      e. laudably
39. "My greatest problem is my dislike of \_\_\_\_\_, of battle. I do not like wrestling matches or arguments. I seek harmony. If it is not there, I move away."  
—Anais Nin  
a. artifice      b. avarice      c. celerity      d. belligerence      e. diversity
40. "The only agreeable existence is one of idleness, and that is not, unfortunately, always \_\_\_\_\_ with continuing to exist at all."  
—Rose Macauley  
a. bogus      b. compatible      c. culpable      d. felicitous      e. inviolable



# ANSWERS

## ❖ WEEK A

Day 1		Day 2		Day 3		Day 4	
1. toxic	6. c	1. circuitous	6. c	1. rapacious	6. e	1. denouement	6. c
2. extenuating	7. a	2. foreboding	7. e	2. insurgent	7. c	2. dilatory	7. b
3. neophyte	8. b	3. emanating	8. a	3. knell	8. a	3. specious	8. a
4. impregnable	9. d	4. miscreant	9. b	4. macabre	9. b	4. risible	9. d
5. patriarch	10. e	5. protocol	10. d	5. ramifications	10. d	5. glut	10. e

  

Day 5		
REVIEW	SENSIBLE SENTENCES?	WORDSEARCH A
1. e	1. ramifications	1. emanating
2. t	2. toxic	2. toxic
3. g	3. protocol	3. rapacious
4. a	4. miscreant	4. glut
5. i	5. circuitous	5. ramifications
6. k	6. risible	
7. n	7. insurgent	
8. p	8. denouement	
9. b	9. emanating	
10. j	10. macabre	
11. d		
12. r		
13. s		
14. c		
15. h		
16. f		
17. l		
18. q		
19. o		
20. m		
21. v		
22. w		
23. u		
24. x		

## ❖ WEEK B

Day 1		Day 2		Day 3		Day 4	
1. suffrage	6. d	1. thespian	6. c	1. impasse	6. c	1. mortal	6. c
2. dolorous	7. c	2. despot	7. d	2. grandeur	7. a	2. guile	7. b
3. cabal	8. a	3. prescient	8. a	3. articulate	8. b	3. regimen	8. d
4. odious	9. b	4. verbatim	9. b	4. pathological	9. e	4. denigrated	9. a
5. enervated	10. e	5. reverie	10. e	5. polemic	10. d	5. inflicted	10. e

  

Day 5		
REVIEW	WORDSEARCH B	SENTENCE COMPLETION
1. h	1. articulate	1. a
2. c	2. enervated	2. c
3. f	3. reverie	3. b
4. a	4. guile	4. a
5. s	5. prescient	5. b
6. l		
7. j		
8. t		
9. o		
10. n		
11. q		
12. b		
13. e		
14. g		
15. i		
16. m		
17. p		
18. r		
19. d		
20. k		
21. v		
22. u		
23. w		
24. x		

## ❖ VOC/QUOTES

1. b	6. c	11. e	16. b	21. a	26. b	31. d	36. c	41. c	46. a
2. e	7. a	12. b	17. e	22. b	27. c	32. a	37. c	42. b	47. d
3. b	8. a	13. b	18. a	23. d	28. e	33. d	38. a	43. a	48. a
4. a	9. e	14. c	19. b	24. b	29. c	34. b	39. d	44. e	49. e
5. b	10. b	15. a	20. a	25. c	30. a	35. a	40. b	45. b	50. b

## BONUS PANORAMA OF WORDS

**articulate** "The senator's supporters were upset by the adjectives used to describe him: clean and *articulate*." Editorial, *The New York Times*

**cabal** "If a *cabal*'s secrets are revealed to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees." Kahlil Gibran

**circuitous** "Although it took a *circuitous* route, the curveball finally reached the catcher's mitt." Red Smith

**denigrated** "Napoleon's henchmen *denigrated* the memory of Voltaire whose name the Emperor abhorred." Christopher Morley

**denouement** "We all sat awaiting the *denouement* of the play in silence." Mayne Reid

**despot** "The universe is not freindly to *despots*, and they all perish sooner or later." Don Marquis, *The Almost Perfect State*

**dilatory** "Between *dilatory* payment and bankruptcy there is a great distance." Samuel Johnson

**dolorous** "Diabetic patients are constantly tormented by *dolorous* sensations." William Roberts

**emanating** "The feudal idea viewed all rights as *emanating* from a head landlord." John Stuart Mill

**enervated** "I have had one of my many spasms which has almost *enervated* me." Lord Nelson, *Letters*

**extenuating** "In Clive's case there were many *extenuating* circumstances." Dame Rose Macaulay

**foreboding** "We are more disurbed by *forebodings* of a calamity which threatens us than by one which has befallen us." John Lancaster Spalding

**glut** "The world in that age had a *glut* rather than a famine of saints." R. S. Fuller, *Holy War*

**grandeur** "I have studied the glories of Greece but am more impressed by the *grandeur* of Rome." Rainer Maria Rilke

**guile** "Oh, that deceit should steal such gentle shapes, And with a virtuous vizard hide foul *guile*." Shakespeare, *Richard III*

**impasse** "We expect the *impasse* between Britain and Iran to be resolved this weekend." United Nations Press Release

**impregnable** "The Maginot Line, a French system of fortifications, was considered *impregnable* at the start of World War II." *The Columbia Encyclopedia*

**inflicted** "Many of the cares that we are *inflicted* with are but a morbid way of looking at our privileges." Sir Walter Scott

**insurgent** "The *insurgents*' improvised explosive devices killed six more American soldiers yesterday." Michael Ware, CNN TV Broadcast

**knell** "Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a *knell* / That summons thee to heaven or to hell." Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

**macabre** "The Mardi Gras parade featured rowdy celebrants wearing *macabre* masks and colorful costumes." Eliza Berman, *Let the Good Times Roll*

**miscreant** "This is the basic measure of damages, and it's owed by the *miscreants* to the company and shareholders." Ben Stein, *State of the Union*

**mortal** "All is *mortal* in nature, so is all nature in love mortal in folly." Shakespeare, *As You Like It*



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