



# Vocabulary Power



## Lesson 1 Using Synonyms

Home is a place that contains many kinds of memories—some good, some painful, some humorous, some sad. Different kinds of memories help make up our idea of home. In this lesson, you'll learn some words to use when you want to talk about what home means to you.

### Word List

<b>anonymous</b>	<b>hysteria</b>	<b>tranquillity</b>	<b>wholesome</b>
<b>awed</b>	<b>lurch</b>	<b>valid</b>	<b>woe</b>
<b>humility</b>	<b>perish</b>		

### EXERCISE A Synonyms

**Synonyms are words with similar meanings. Each boldfaced word below is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. Think of other words related to the synonym and write them on the line provided. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its meaning.**

1. **perish** : die \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
2. **woe** : sadness \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
3. **tranquillity** : peacefulness \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
4. **lurch** : stagger \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
5. **hysteria** : uncontrollable emotion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
6. **humility** : lack of pride \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
7. **anonymous** : unknown \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
8. **awed** : admiring \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

9. **wholesome** : healthy \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

10. **valid** : proper \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXERCISE B** Sentence Completion

Write the vocabulary word that best completes each sentence.

1. Despite her impressive accomplishments, the scientist kept her attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We were definitely \_\_\_\_\_ the first time we visited the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.
3. "My heart is broken," sighed the heroine of the drama, "and I know I shall \_\_\_\_\_ before the sun rises."
4. Anyone who wishes to try out for the soccer team must have a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ certificate of good health from a doctor.
5. The Bosnian people suffered much \_\_\_\_\_ in the brutal war.
6. As the asteroid approached Earth, the people's \_\_\_\_\_ grew.
7. The engine started at last and the moped began to \_\_\_\_\_ forward.
8. The person who donated \$10,000 wished to remain \_\_\_\_\_.
9. It's important that the food you eat is \_\_\_\_\_ and fresh.
10. After an especially busy day, I enjoy the \_\_\_\_\_ of lying on my bed listening to some quiet music.

# Vocabulary Power



## Lesson 2 Using Synonyms

As Dorothy learned in *The Wizard of Oz*, there really is no place like home. One of the reasons each home is unique is that each person who helps create a home is unique. The words in this lesson relate to the special place we call home.

### Word List

<b>alliance</b>	<b>indifference</b>	<b>simultaneous</b>	<b>urban</b>
<b>alternative</b>	<b>meager</b>	<b>taunt</b>	<b>varied</b>
<b>commence</b>	<b>portray</b>		

### EXERCISE A Synonyms

Each boldfaced word below is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. Think of other words related to the synonym and write them on the line provided. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its meaning.

1. **taunt** : tease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
2. **indifference** : lack of preference \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
3. **commence** : begin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
4. **meager** : thin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
5. **simultaneous** : at the same time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
6. **urban** : city \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
7. **varied** : different \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_
8. **alliance** : association \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

9. **alternative** : choice \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

10. **portray** : picture \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXERCISE B** Sentence Completion

Write the vocabulary word that best completes the sentence.

1. Because the two soccer games were \_\_\_\_\_, we could not watch them both.
2. "What time does the movie \_\_\_\_\_?" Jason asked, worried about being late.
3. Whether Shawna comes to the party is a matter of complete \_\_\_\_\_ to most of the club members.
4. The two countries formed a secret \_\_\_\_\_ to defend each other in case of military attack.
5. The menu choices were extremely \_\_\_\_\_. I found several things I wanted to order.

### **EXERCISE C** Usage

Answer the questions based on your understanding of the boldfaced word.

1. Do you think a **meager** meal would satisfy you if you were very hungry? Why or why not?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are some advantages to living in an **urban** setting? What are some disadvantages?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How would you respond if someone were to **taunt** you at school? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name a film, TV show, or book that you feel accurately **portrays** teenage life. Why did you choose this particular film, TV show, or book? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What do you feel is a good **alternative** to settling disputes with violence? Explain your answer.  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Power



## Lesson 3 Word Parts

The main meaning of a word is contained in its root or base word. Base words are roots that are complete words. Prefixes can be affixed to the beginning and suffixes to the end of the root to change its meaning. Knowing the meanings of word roots, prefixes, and suffixes can help you make an educated guess about the meaning of a new word. In this lesson, you'll identify some common roots, prefixes, and suffixes and learn how they work together to give meaning to words.

### Word List

**adjourn**

**dramatize**

**mutation**

**precedence**

**anthropology**

**monotonous**

**perception**

**secluded**

**circumnavigate**

**mutate**

### EXERCISE A Word Association

Read the clues. Then, answer the question.

- The root of **mutation** comes from *mutare*, the Latin word for "change." If you add the noun suffix *-ion* to this root, what might be the word's meaning? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Certain suffixes can change the part of speech of a word root. For example, *-ate* placed at the end of a root forms a verb. How would you define **mutate**? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The suffix *-ion* makes a root a noun. To perceive is "to observe." If you add the suffix *-ion*, what might **perception** mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Prefixes can be affixed to the beginning of roots to change their meanings. The root *jour/journ* means "day." Adding the Latin prefix *ad-*, meaning "to" or "toward," creates the word **adjourn**, which probably means \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Some words are formed without prefixes or suffixes by combining two roots. The Greek root *anthrop/anthropo* means "human being." The root *logy* comes from the Greek word for "word" and now means "study" or "science." What is **anthropology**? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

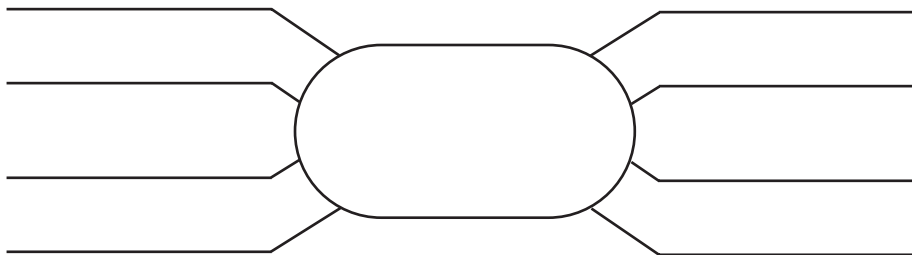


## Vocabulary Power *continued*

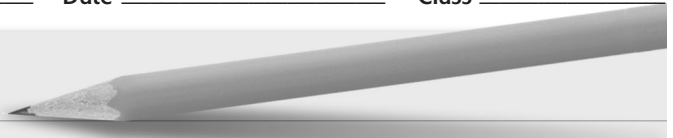
6. The prefix *mono-* means "one." The Greek root *ton* means "tone" or "sound." The suffix *-ous* forms an adjective. If someone's speech is **monotonous**, how might you describe it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The Latin word for boat is *navis*. Adding a verb suffix to this root forms the word *navigate*. If the Latin prefix *circum-* means "around," what might you be doing if you **circumnavigate** the world?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Some words have both prefixes and suffixes added to roots. The root *cede/cess* comes from the Latin for "go." *Pre-* is a prefix meaning "before," while *-ence* is a noun suffix. What might the word **precedence** mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Another verb suffix is *-ize*. Our word root *drama* means the same as the Greek word *drama*, which comes from the word for "do" or "act." What would you do if you were to **dramatize** a story?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The root *clude* comes from the Latin word for "close." The prefix *se-* means "apart" or "away from." If a cabin is **secluded**, what other words could you use to describe it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **EXERCISE B** Word Webs

Choose a root, prefix, and suffix from those you learned about in this lesson. On a separate sheet of paper, draw three word webs like the one shown below. In the first, write the root. In the next two webs, write the prefix and suffix. Fill in the "rays" with as many words as you can that contain that root, prefix, or suffix. Then, exchange webs with a partner and discuss the meanings of the words you have listed.



# Vocabulary Power



## Lesson 4 Word Families

Word families are groups of words that contain the same roots or base words. Base words are roots that are complete words. The root or base word gives a word its main meaning. A prefix or suffix combined with the root or base word gives it a different meaning. In this lesson, you'll learn words in the same word families.

### Word List

<b>belligerent</b>	<b>document</b>	<b>itinerary</b>	<b>levity</b>
<b>compel</b>	<b>impulsive</b>	<b>levitate</b>	<b>rebellious</b>
<b>doctrine</b>	<b>initiative</b>		

### EXERCISE A Base Words and Word Roots

Look up each boldfaced word in a dictionary and write its meaning. Then, use the information in the dictionary entry to underline the root or base word.

1. rebellious \_\_\_\_\_
2. belligerent \_\_\_\_\_
3. doctrine \_\_\_\_\_
4. document \_\_\_\_\_
5. levity \_\_\_\_\_
6. levitate \_\_\_\_\_
7. initiative \_\_\_\_\_
8. itinerary \_\_\_\_\_
9. impulsive \_\_\_\_\_
10. compel \_\_\_\_\_

### EXERCISE B Sentence Completion

Write the vocabulary word that best completes the sentence.

1. Ms. Jackson said she was proud of the class for taking the \_\_\_\_\_ in solving the problem of litter around the school building and sports fields.
2. The clowns' performance ended the evening on a note of \_\_\_\_\_, very different from the show's sober beginning.



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

- The television program was about the Truman \_\_\_\_\_, President Harry Truman's belief that the United States had to oppose the Soviet Union following World War II.
- You can lead a horse to water, but you certainly can't \_\_\_\_\_ it to drink!
- The government soldiers had a difficult time defeating the \_\_\_\_\_ forces in battle because they often disappeared into the jungle.
- "For my final trick, I shall make my assistant \_\_\_\_\_ in the air above the audience!" announced the magician.
- You will never convince the judge unless you are able to \_\_\_\_\_ your charges, proving that they are true.
- Will the Grand Canyon be on your \_\_\_\_\_ for your camping trip?
- We all felt that Rebecca was \_\_\_\_\_ when she volunteered for the committee without even knowing what she would have to do.
- I could tell the dog was very \_\_\_\_\_ by the way it barked viciously at everyone who walked by its yard.

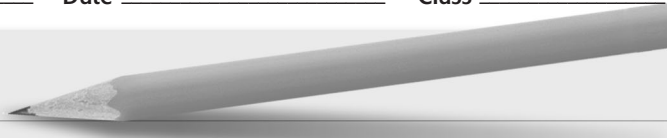
### **EXERCISE C**

Answer each question based on your understanding of the boldfaced vocabulary word.

- What are some situations when **levity** is out of place? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What places would be on the **itinerary** for your dream vacation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What might be a reason some people are **belligerent**? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Describe the last time you did something **impulsive**. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What steps would you take to **document** a case against a factory for polluting a nearby stream?  
\_\_\_\_\_



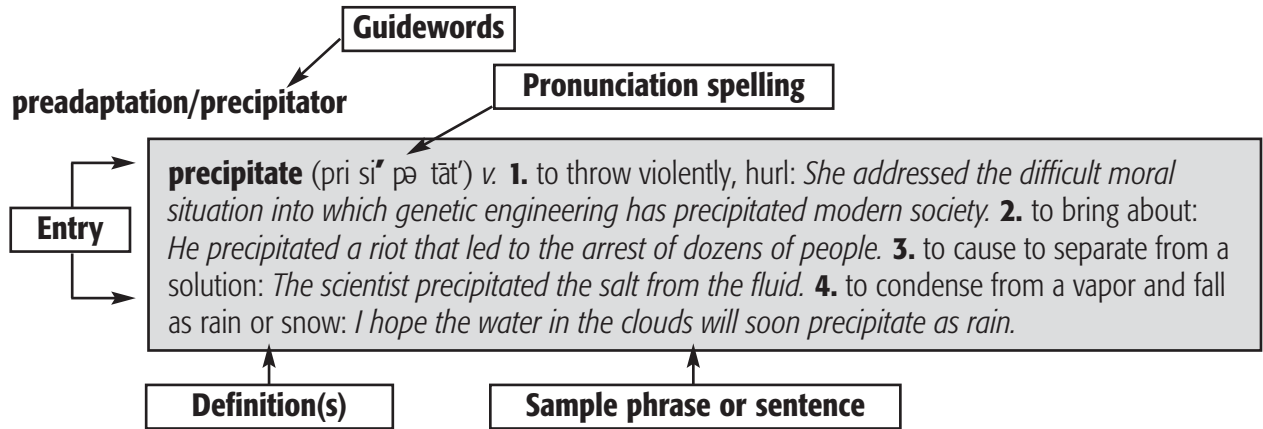
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## Lesson 5 Using Reference Skills

### Using a Dictionary Entry

A word and the information given in a dictionary about the word is called an *entry*. Look at the sample entry below.



### EXERCISE

Use the sample entry to answer each question.

- Which entry would you find on this page—*preach*, *precious*, or *precisely*? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Which meaning of *precipitate* is being used in the following sentence?  
The fiery speech of the rebel leader precipitated the attack on the palace. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- On which syllable does the primary accent fall in the word *precipitate*? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Use the first meaning of *precipitate* in a sentence of your own. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Use the fourth meaning of *precipitate* in a sentence of your own. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Vocabulary Power



## Review: Unit 1

### EXERCISE

Circle the letter of the word that best completes each sentence.

- The committee voted to \_\_\_\_\_ the meeting until after the tornado alert had passed.  
a. adjourn      b. perish      c. taunt      d. lurch
- The need to rebuild some of the nation's \_\_\_\_\_ slums will be an important part of the candidate's election campaign.  
a. anonymous      b. secluded      c. urban      d. belligerent
- Kristin's \_\_\_\_\_ for Washington, D.C., included the White House, the Capitol, and the Supreme Court Building.  
a. precedence      b. itinerary      c. humility      d. alliance
- It's a shame this poem is \_\_\_\_\_ because I would love to know who wrote it.  
a. secluded      b. anonymous      c. urban      d. belligerent
- "The needs of my children take \_\_\_\_\_ over every other demand on my time," explained the employee.  
a. humility      b. document      c. indifference      d. precedence
- No matter how much they \_\_\_\_\_ Brian about his project, they cannot make him angry.  
a. portray      b. circumnavigate      c. taunt      d. compel
- Although the businessman has been very successful, his complete lack of \_\_\_\_\_ has made many people dislike him.  
a. indifference      b. perception      c. humility      d. initiative
- Ms. Dean had to \_\_\_\_\_ many of her successes in her application for the Master Teacher Award.  
a. document      b. compel      c. adjourn      d. commence
- Watch how the opossums \_\_\_\_\_ forward and then fall when they are pretending to be dead.  
a. perish      b. lurch      c. adjourn      d. levitate
- "I predict that the cells of the insect will \_\_\_\_\_ after its exposure to radiation," said the scientist in the film.  
a. adjourn      b. dramatize      c. levitate      d. mutate



# Vocabulary Power



## Test: Unit 1

### PART A

Circle the letter of the word that best completes each sentence.

- After the Civil War, the \_\_\_\_\_ Southern states were welcomed back into the Union.  
a. alternative    b. rebellious    c. varied    d. simultaneous
- Do you know which actor will \_\_\_\_\_ President Lincoln in the new film biography?  
a. portray    b. document    c. commence    d. compel
- Although Woodbridge Middle School's players were much taller than we were, our volleyball team was not \_\_\_\_\_ by them.  
a. secluded    b. awed    c. varied    d. valid
- The novelist had been asked to \_\_\_\_\_ her most recent best-seller, *Hope in the Dawn*, for a television movie.  
a. adjourn    b. taunt    c. dramatize    d. lurch
- I found the speeches so \_\_\_\_\_ that I couldn't help yawning every two minutes!  
a. impulsive    b. mutant    c. wholesome    d. monotonous
- Ola expressed \_\_\_\_\_ when we asked her which ride we should go on first, so we decided without her.  
a. humility    b. initiative    c. indifference    d. tranquillity
- Because the two comments were \_\_\_\_\_, I couldn't understand either one.  
a. simultaneous    b. anonymous    c. monotonous    d. impulsive
- After the young children giggled during the ceremony, their parents spoke to them about their inappropriate moment of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. hysteria    b. precedence    c. humility    d. levity
- "There's no way you can \_\_\_\_\_ me to reveal the location of the secret meeting place," thundered the hero to his captors.  
a. perish    b. compel    c. taunt    d. commence
- The commission wrote that no \_\_\_\_\_ to the automobile was likely to be developed over the next twenty-five years.  
a. alternative    b. itinerary    c. alliance    d. precedence



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

### **PART B**

For each group of words, circle the letter of the vocabulary word that best fits.

1. slim, insufficient, sparse, \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. varied            b. meager            c. secluded            d. impulsive
2. rise, float, lift, \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. levitate            b. portray            c. compel            d. perish
3. good, official, approved, \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. simultaneous    b. belligerent        c. valid                d. meager
4. calm, peacefulness, order, \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. doctrine            b. alliance            c. hysteria            d. tranquillity
5. transformation, change, alteration, \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. initiative            b. mutation            c. precedence        d. itinerary

### **PART C**

Circle the number of the word that is most nearly the *opposite* of the boldfaced word.

1. **thoughtful**  
 a. rebellious        b. anonymous        c. meager            d. impulsive
2. **happiness**  
 a. woe                b. tranquillity        c. humility            d. levity
3. **laziness**  
 a. initiative        b. alternative        c. indifference        d. levity
4. **identical**  
 a. monotonous    b. varied            c. secluded            d. meager
5. **finish**  
 a. mutate            b. taunt              c. commence        d. compel