## Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>abandon</strong></td>
<td>v. 1. To give up by leaving in time of danger. The captain gave the order to abandon the ship when it began to sink. 2. To lose or give up completely. The trapped miners refused to abandon hope of rescue. 3. To withdraw help or support from one in need. The city had to abandon its plan for low-income housing because people in the neighborhoods objected.</td>
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<td><strong>adversary</strong></td>
<td>n. An enemy or opponent. France and Germany were adversaries in two world wars but now enjoy friendly relations.</td>
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<td><strong>baffle</strong></td>
<td>v. To confuse; to prevent from understanding. Alice was baffled by their inappropriate behavior and didn't know how to respond.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>blunder</strong></td>
<td>n. A stupid or careless mistake. The campaign manager's prejudiced comment was a major blunder that cost him his job. v. 1. To make such a mistake. The chess champion blundered when she failed to protect her knight from her opponent's bishop. 2. To move in a clumsy or careless way. The Sheriff of Nottingham blundered into the trap Robin Hood had set for him.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>colossal</strong></td>
<td>adj. Very big; enormous. The colossal size of the Great Wall is what impressed the tourists most.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>detect</strong></td>
<td>v. To discover something not easily noticed. The witness did not detect anything unusual that day.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>haul</strong></td>
<td>v. To pull or carry with effort. We haul the boat out of the water every winter. n. 1. The amount caught or taken at one time. The crew was delighted with the large haul of fish today. 2. The distance traveled or to be traveled. It's a long haul into town.</td>
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| **overpower**  
| o vər pō′ər  
| v. To get the better of; to defeat.  
| The thieves **overpowered** the guards and left them tied up in the hall. |
| **rejoice**  
| rē jōis′  
| v. To be very happy.  
| Family members **rejoiced** when they heard that members of the Mount Everest expedition had returned safely. |
| **scorn**  
| skōf  
| v. To mock; to ridicule.  
| People once **scorned** at the idea of space travel. |
| **sentinel**  
| sen′ ti nəl  
| n. One who keeps watch or guards a point of entry.  
| **Sentinels** were posted to warn of the enemy’s approach. |
| **siege**  
| séj  
| n. The surrounding of a place in order to force it to surrender.  
| The **siege** of Leningrad by the German army lasted from 1941 to 1944. |
| **sinister**  
| sin′ is tar′  
| adj. Suggesting or leading to evil or harm.  
| The villain’s **sinister** words, “I’ll be back!” sent shivers down our spines. |
| **victor**  
| vik′ tar′  
| n. The winner in a contest or struggle.  
| The **victors** of the semifinal competition will meet in the finals tomorrow. |
| **victorious**  
| (vik tɔr′ ē as)  
| adj. Successful in a contest or battle.  
| The **victorious** debate team was honored at a ceremony attended by the mayor. |
| **woe**  
| wō  
| n. 1. Deep distress or misery.  
| The slaves’ **woe** was evident as they were led off to captivity.  
| 2. Trouble; misfortune.  
| The country’s **woes** cannot be cured overnight. |
| **woeful**  
| adj. 1. Full of woe; unhappy.  
| Those fleeing the country told a **woeful** tale of persecution by its rulers.  
| 2. Very bad; wretched.  
| The pilot made a **woeful** error in judgment by trying to land in dense fog. |
Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 12. Write each sentence on the line provided.

1. (a) A long haul is (b) a story that seems to have no end. (c) a great distance to be traveled. (d) A long siege is

2. (a) give that person full support. (b) To overpower someone is to (c) To abandon someone is to (d) reduce that person to a helpless state.

3. (a) someone who opposes one in a struggle or contest. (b) someone who assists one in a struggle or contest. (c) A victor is (d) An adversary is

4. (a) is very serious. (b) will not be repeated. (c) A sinister error is one that (d) A woeful error is one that

5. (a) be filled with happiness. (b) To rejoice is to (c) To scoff is to (d) move in a clumsy way.

6. (a) To abandon someone is to (b) withdraw one’s support from that person. (c) To baffle someone is to (d) defeat that person in a contest.

7. (a) To scoff is (b) to stand guard. (c) To blunder is (d) to make a careless mistake.
8. (a) left alone by that person.  
(b) To be detected by someone is to be  
(c) puzzled or confused by that person.  
(d) To be baffled by someone is to be

9. (a) is successful in a contest.  
(b) is taken into captivity.  
(c) A victor is one who  
(d) A sentinel is one who

12B Just the Right Word

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 12.

1. The robot made its way clumsily across the room, knocking over the chairs in its way.

2. The junior team expects to be successful in the contest even though no one else expects it to win.

3. We managed, with considerable effort, to move the buffet into the dining room.

4. A person standing guard must not fall asleep while on duty.

5. People once thought it ridiculous and laughed at the idea of women wearing men's attire.

6. The children gave up completely their idea of opening a lemonade stand.

7. The Mars landings failed to find any sign of life on that planet.

8. The surrounding of the town in an effort to force it to surrender lasted eighty days.

9. The very great size of the national debt worried the nation's leaders.
10. My tale of **great unhappiness** had my friends almost in tears.

11. There was something **that threatened harm** in the way the stranger swiveled around to look at me.

12. The old bull moose was quickly **reduced to a helpless state** by its hardy rival.

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**Applying Meanings**

Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following can be **colossal**?
   - (a) a ship
   - (b) a whale
   - (c) a statue
   - (d) a debt

2. Which of the following might make a person **woeful**?
   - (a) winning some money
   - (b) becoming bankrupt
   - (c) aggravating an injury
   - (d) being offered sanctuary

3. Which of the following can be **abandoned**?
   - (a) a ship
   - (b) hope
   - (c) a plan
   - (d) a friend

4. Which of the following might **baffle** a person?
   - (a) a riddle
   - (b) a greeting from an old friend
   - (c) a math problem
   - (d) a clue to a crossword puzzle

5. Which of the following would a **sentinel** be expected to do?
   - (a) keep a constant watch
   - (b) stay alert
   - (c) stay on guard
   - (d) set off on an expedition

6. Which of the following might be seen as **sinister**?
   - (a) an evil smile
   - (b) an unruly child
   - (c) a hooded figure
   - (d) a casual remark
7. Which of the following could be the object of a siege? 
   (a) a castle 
   (b) a town 
   (c) a lake 
   (d) a horde 

8. Which of the following could be detected? 
   (a) a slight movement 
   (b) the approach of enemy planes 
   (c) signs of life 
   (d) a change in the wind's direction 

**12D Word Study**

Write a word from this or a previous lesson to complete each sentence. Use the explanation in parentheses to help you.

1. To __________________ someone is to shut out that person. (The word comes from the Latin claudere, meaning "to shut.")

2. __________________ refers to the earth's surface features. (The word comes from the Latin terra, meaning "earth.")

3. To __________________ something is to give up control over it. (The word comes from the Latin bandon, meaning "control.")

4. To be __________________ is to be full of life. (The word comes from the Latin vita, meaning "life.")

5. To __________________ something is to make it worse. (The word comes from the Latin gravis, meaning "heavy.")

6. A(n) __________________ answer is one that is incorrect. (The word comes from the Latin errare, meaning "mistake.")

7. A(n) __________________ is a particular area of land. (The word comes from the Latin terra, meaning "earth.")

8. To __________________ something is to shorten it. (The word comes from the Latin brevis, meaning "short.")

9. Something that is __________________ lasts for just a short time. (The word comes from the Latin brevis, meaning "short.")

10. A person keeping watch who feels danger and gives warning is called a(n) __________________. (The word comes from the Latin sentire, meaning "to feel.")
Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow it.

The Trojan Horse

Many captivating tales have come down to us from ancient Greece. They tell of great heroes, of goddesses and gods, and of stirring adventures. One of the best-known stories concerns the Trojan Horse. It began when Helen, wife of the Greek king Menelaus, was kidnapped and taken to the city of Troy.

The Greeks assembled a mighty fleet and sailed across the Aegean Sea in pursuit. After landing their army near Troy, they began laying siege to the city, the home of the Trojans. Although many battles were fought outside the city’s thick, high walls, the Trojans kept their adversaries at bay, so the Greeks were unable to force their way inside.

The war dragged on for ten long years. Then one day the Trojan sentinels saw the Greeks sail away! Further investigation revealed that the Greeks had abandoned their camp. The delighted Trojans at once declared the war over and themselves victorious. One thing baffled them, though. The Greeks had left behind an enormous wooden horse. What was it for? The Trojans finally decided that their enemies had left it as a gift to the gods.

Cassandra, a member of the Trojan royal family, warned the citizens of Troy that the wooden horse was a trick intended to bring about the destruction of their city. The Trojans, however, scoffed at her warning. They saw nothing sinister in the “gift” left by the Greeks, and they joyfully hauled the wooden horse through the gates and into the city. It could not have been otherwise. Some years before, Apollo, one of the gods of Mount Olympus, had fallen in love with Cassandra and had given her the ability to predict the future. But when she failed to return his love, Apollo spitefully declared that when she made a prediction, no one would believe her.

The people of Troy rejoiced far into the night. They were too busy enjoying themselves to pay close attention to the colossal wooden horse in their midst. They failed to examine it closely enough to detect the heavily armed Greek soldiers huddled inside, waiting for the right moment. At last the celebrations came to an end as the Trojans grew sleepy and one by one began to slumber. A stillness fell over the city. All seemed tranquil within Troy’s walls.

Then a concealed hatch in the wooden horse opened, and the Greek soldiers emerged, dropping silently to the ground. They quickly overpowered
the Trojan guards and opened the city gates to admit the rest of the Greek soldiers, who had only pretended to sail away and were now hiding outside. The Trojans paid a terrible price for their blunder. Their city was destroyed and many of its people perished; the rest of the woeful inhabitants, including Cassandra, were taken into captivity. As for Helen, according to the most popular version of the story, she returned to Greece with Menelaus, and they lived happily ever after.

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. Why were the Greeks and the Trojans adversaries?

2. What is the meaning of woeful as it is used in the passage?

3. What were two ways in which the siege could have ended?

4. What is the meaning of abandoned as it is used in the passage?

5. What did the Trojans think when they first saw the large wooden horse?

6. What blunder did the Trojans make?

7. How were the Greek soldiers able to hide inside the wooden horse?
8. Why was it necessary for the Greeks inside the horse to remain quiet?

__________________________

9. How might the Trojans have **hauling** the wooden horse into the city?

__________________________

10. Might the Trojans have seen anything **sinister** if they had looked more closely at the wooden horse?

__________________________

11. Why did the Trojans **scoff** at Cassandra’s warning?

__________________________

12. What might have happened if the Trojans had **overpowered** the Greek soldiers as they emerged from the wooden horse?

__________________________

13. Who should have been keeping watch on the wooden horse?

__________________________

14. Why was the Trojans’ **rejoicing** premature?

__________________________

15. What was the outcome of the Trojan War?

__________________________
Lesson 12

Review Exercise

1. The Trojan War was fought over a captive princess named Helen. The _____________ in that war were the Greeks and the Trojans.

2. The Trojan War went on for ten long years. During all those years, neither side _____________ hope of victory.

3. The Iliad is a long poem about the Trojan War written by a Greek poet named Homer. But just who Homer was is a question that _____________ the experts.

4. The Greeks surrounded the city of Troy but could not break in. The _____________ ended when the Greeks played a trick on the Trojans.

5. The Trojans lost the war because they were careless. Their failure to check out the wooden horse left behind by the Greeks was a _____________ mistake.

6. The Trojans wanted to believe that the Greeks had given up. They _____________ by not giving the wooden horse a closer examination.

7. It must have been hard for the Greeks inside the wooden horse to remain silent. Had the Trojans listened, they might have _____________ sounds coming from inside.

8. The Trojan king believed he had won the war. He ordered the city gates opened, and the great wooden horse was _____________ into the city.
9. Cassandra was believed to have the gift of telling the future. She was ________________ at when she warned against bringing the horse into the city, and no one believed her.

10. The Trojans believed what they wanted to believe. They saw nothing ________________ in the “gift” left behind by the Greeks.

11. The Greek soldiers left the wooden horse through a concealed hatch. The Trojan ________________ were caught off guard when attacked from behind.

12. The last thing the Trojans were expecting was an attack by the Greeks. The Greeks ________________ the Trojan guards because they took them by surprise.

13. The city of Troy was left in ruins. The Greeks, the ________________ in the Trojan War, showed the defeated Trojans no mercy.

14. Cassandra is a central character in the story. *The Iliad* ends on a note of ________________ as she is led off into slavery.

15. We don't know what Helen's feelings were when she was retrieved by her husband.
Perhaps she ________________ or perhaps she was unhappy at her fate.