### Word List

**acquire**

*verb.* To gain ownership of something; to get by one’s own efforts or actions. Most tourists *acquire* souvenirs from the places they visit.

**acquisition**

*noun.* (ak wə zish'an) Something that is acquired. We left the store with our shopping bags filled with our *acquisitions*.

**antagonize**

*verb.* To make an enemy of; to stir up anger or dislike. You will *antagonize* your classmates if you make derogatory comments about them.

**competent**

*adjective.* Having the ability to do what is needed. The mechanic is *competent* to work on the car’s brakes.

**competence**

*noun.* The ability to do what is needed. This examination tests the student’s *competence* to drive safely.

**comprise**

*verb.*
1. To form; to make up. Six states *comprise* New England.
2. To consist of or include. A baseball team *comprises* nine players.

**correspond**

*verb.*
1. To match; to be equal to. The two handwriting samples *correspond* in every way.
2. To exchange letters with another person. Although the friends hadn’t seen each other for several years, they *corresponded* regularly.

**correspondence**

*noun.* The act of exchanging letters; the letters that are exchanged. The *correspondence* of famous people is often published after their death.

**dilapidated**

*adjective.* In poor condition from neglect or age. The shed was so *dilapidated* that it wasn’t worth repairing.

**illustrious**

*adjective.* Very famous; outstanding. V. S. Naipaul, the *illustrious* West Indian writer, received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2001.

**incident**

*noun.* Something that happens in real life or in a story; an event, often of little importance. My car was struck from behind, but I thought no more about the *incident* until my neck began to hurt.
**inherit**
v. 1. To receive something from someone after that person's death.

I inherited this house from my grandparents.

2. To receive, as part of one's physical or mental make-up, from one's parents.

The baby inherited his mother's red hair.

**latitude**
*n.* 1. The distance north or south of the equator, measured in degrees.

The latitude of New Orleans is 30 degrees north.

2. A region as marked by its distance from the equator.

Tropical plants cannot survive in northern latitudes.

3. Freedom from strict rules.

Students in high school are allowed some latitude in choosing their courses.

**loath**
*adj.* Unwilling; reluctant.

I was loath to put my trust in such a devious person.

**maintain**
v. 1. To declare something to be true.

Although the evidence against her is strong, she continues to maintain her innocence.

2. To continue in the same way or condition.

The walkers try to maintain an even pace as they exercise.

3. To keep in good condition.

The state of New York maintains this highway.

**renovate**
v. To make like new again.

We intend to renovate the apartment completely before we move in.

**renovation** *n.* (ren a va' shan) The act of renovating; the thing renovated.

A group of concerned parents was responsible for the renovation of the playground.

**reprimand**
v. To scold in a harsh or formal manner.

The manager reprimanded us for being late for work.

*n.* A strong scolding from someone in authority.

The teacher gave us a reprimand for being absent without permission.

**supervise**
v. To direct or manage activities.

Ms. Agostino will supervise the students in the study hall.

**supervision** *n.* (söö' par vizh' an) The act of managing or directing.

A lack of proper supervision resulted in yesterday's accident at the playground.

**supervisor** *n.* A person who manages or directs activities.

The supervisor reminded the worker to wear a hardhat at the construction site.
Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 4. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) something caused by carelessness.  
   (b) An incident is  
   (c) A renovation is  
   (d) something made like new again.

2. (a) To supervise someone is to  
   (b) To antagonize someone is to  
   (c) make that person angry.  
   (d) pay no heed to that person.

3. (a) receive it after another person's death.  
   (b) allow it to fall into neglect.  
   (c) To maintain property is to  
   (d) To inherit property is to

4. (a) keep them in good condition.  
   (b) consist of them.  
   (c) To comprise several buildings is to  
   (d) To acquire several buildings is to

5. (a) distance from the equator.  
   (b) letters exchanged between people.  
   (c) Latitude is  
   (d) Competence is

6. (a) To be illustrious is to be  
   (b) heavily decorated.  
   (c) To be dilapidated is to be  
   (d) in a poor state of repair.

7. (a) something that takes place.  
   (b) an unwitting insult or injury.  
   (c) A reprimand is  
   (d) An incident is
8. (a) Correspondence is
(b) letters exchanged
between people.
(c) failure to do what is required.
(d) Competence is

9. (a) a severe scolding.
(b) a speech of praise.
(c) A supervisor is
(d) A reprimand is

10. (a) To acquire a positive attitude
(b) To maintain a positive attitude
(c) is to question its value.
(d) is to continue to have it.

4B 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 4.

1. I was told that I would on the death of my mother become the new owner of the property.

2. In what year did the museum become the owner of this painting?

3. I was having such a good time that I was not quite willing to leave.

4. Joe is too young to play outside without someone watching over him.

5. A pen and paper form or make up this writer’s basic equipment.

6. We feel it is important to write letters to each other now that we live so far apart.

7. The owner never doubted the manager’s ability to do the job properly.

8. Maya Angelou is one of America’s most brilliant and highly respected poets.
9. Students in that school are given plenty of **freedom from strict rules** but are expected to act responsibly.

10. A crew of sixty workers is needed to **take proper care of** the town's parks during the summer.

### 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 might be **inherited**?
   - (a) brown eyes
   - (b) bad luck
   - (c) money
   - (d) time

2. Which of the following can be **maintained**?
   - (a) a point of view
   - (b) a friendship
   - (c) a building
   - (d) a custom

3. Which of the following might be **supervised**?
   - (a) a work crew
   - (b) a play group
   - (c) the building of a house
   - (d) solitude

4. Which of the following might result in a **reprimand**?
   - (a) behaving selfishly
   - (b) telling a lie
   - (c) getting sick
   - (d) getting an "A" on a test

5. Which of the following could be **renovated**?
   - (a) a house
   - (b) a tree
   - (c) a pet
   - (d) a disease

6. Which of the following could be an **acquisition**?
   - (a) intelligence
   - (b) old age
   - (c) a painting
   - (d) a quarrel

7. The word **latitude** could be applied to which of the following?
   - (a) 45 degrees south
   - (b) 10 degrees east
   - (c) North America
   - (d) the North Star
8. Which of the following could be dilapidated?
   (a) a building
   (b) a truck
   (c) a haircut
   (d) an injury

**Word Study**

A suffix is a word part that comes at the end of a word. One of the things a suffix can do is change a word from one part of speech to another.

Change each of the verbs into a noun by changing or adding a suffix: -ence, -er, -ion, -tion, or -ment. Write the new word on the line. All words are from this or earlier lessons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. correspond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. renovate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. admonish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. scavenge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. acquire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now change the adjectives into nouns by changing, adding, or removing a suffix. Write the new word on the line. All words are from this or earlier lessons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. precise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. wrathful</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. competent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. devastating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. authentic</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Mount Vernon

No visit to Washington, D.C., is complete without a trip to Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, our nation’s illustrious first president. It is located just a few miles south of our nation’s capital. Its fine views, spacious lawns, shaded walks, and carefully tended gardens make it one of the most popular tourist attractions in the nation. More than a million people a year visit Mount Vernon. There they may pay their respects to the memory of our first president and his wife, the first lady; both are buried there.

Mount Vernon had been in the Washington family for almost a hundred years when George Washington inherited the property in 1761. It comprised five separate farms as well as the house overlooking the Potomac River in which he lived with his wife and her two children from a former marriage. Because the house was too small for their needs, Washington added rooms and outbuildings. He hired the best workers he could find and supervised their work closely; by the time he had finished, Mount Vernon was the fine mansion visitors see today.

Washington was loath to leave his beautiful home. But his duty to his country required him to be absent from Mount Vernon from 1775 until 1783. During that time he led the Continental army in the war against the British. In his absence, a distant cousin, Lund Washington, managed the property for him. We know a great deal about this period in the history of Mount Vernon because the correspondence between the two men has survived.

Washington gave his cousin considerable latitude in looking after the estate, and Lund was a competent manager. However, one incident aroused Washington’s wrath. Lund wrote to him saying that a British warship had come up the river and that the crew had asked for food. Lund had not wanted to antagonize them. He had complied with their request. Washington reprimanded his cousin, telling him that he should have refused “even if they had burnt my house and laid the Plantation in ruins.”

In 1789, Washington reluctantly left Mount Vernon once again to serve as the country’s first president. After eight years he retired from public life and returned for the last time to his beloved home. Two years later he died. The property remained in the Washington family until 1858. By then the house was in a sadly dilapidated state. In that year, the Mount Vernon
Ladies Association, a group of private citizens, acquired the property. The association carefully renovated the house. It now looks as it did when George Washington lived there. The Mount Vernon Ladies Association has maintained it ever since and opens it to the public every day of the year.

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

2. Who supervised the workers at Mount Vernon between 1775 and 1783?

3. Was George Washington eager to leave Mount Vernon in 1789?

4. Why does Washington have a secure place in United States history?

5. Why did George Washington, on the whole, have reason to be satisfied with his cousin's management?

6. Was George Washington at Mount Vernon when the British warship arrived?

7. Was George Washington pleased when his cousin helped the British?
8. What is the meaning of **comprised** as it is used in the passage?

_________________________________________________________________________

9. How did George Washington know what was going on at Mount Vernon while he was away?

_________________________________________________________________________

10. Why did Lund give the British what they asked for?

_________________________________________________________________________

11. What is the meaning of **inherited** as it is used in the passage?

_________________________________________________________________________

12. Had the Washington family taken good care of Mount Vernon prior to its purchase by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association?

_________________________________________________________________________

13. What was Mount Vernon in need of in 1858?

_________________________________________________________________________

14. In what year did George Washington become the owner of Mount Vernon?

_________________________________________________________________________

15. What is the meaning of **maintained** as it is used in the passage?

_________________________________________________________________________
Lesson 4 Review Exercise

1. George Washington was a multi-talented person. It was his _____________ as an army general that helped achieve victory over the British.

2. George Washington served his country in peace and war. His ______________ war record made him the natural choice for the nation's presidency.

3. Following his victory, Washington became the nation's first president. At that time the country was ______________ of just thirteen states.

4. Mount Vernon belonged to the Washington family for almost two hundred years. The family ______________ the property in the 1660s.

5. George Washington was heedful of Mount Vernon during his prolonged absences. He ______________ regularly with his cousin Lund, who managed the estate.

6. George Washington depended on Lund to manage the affairs of Mount Vernon. He was lucky to have such a capable person as ______________ of the property.

7. In the 1700s, weeks could pass before a reply to a letter was received. Because of this, Washington allowed his manager much ______________ in running the estate.

8. From the letters, we learn of a visit by a British warship to Mount Vernon. Lund was probably surprised that the ______________ provoked Washington's wrath.
9. Lund Washington got along well with George Washington. However, Lund Washington _____________ his cousin when he gave the British too friendly a welcome.

10. Washington had bitter feelings toward the British. He _________________ that he'd see his house burned down before he helped them.

11. We know that Washington had a sharp tongue. It must have stung Lund when he was _________________ for aiding the British.

12. After Washington’s death, his stepchildren became the new owners of Mount Vernon. He had no children of his own to _________________ the property.

13. The property deteriorated over the years. Perhaps because of the cost, the family had been _________________ to make the necessary repairs to the house.

14. Before 1858, there was little interest in Mount Vernon. The house by then was so _________________ that it probably would soon have been torn down.

15. Work on restoring Mount Vernon began in 1858. The _________________ was planned so that the house would seem unchanged since the 1790s.