

Word List

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

<p>besech bē sēch'</p>	<p>v. To ask earnestly; to beg. I besech you to stay just one more day.</p>
<p>consternation kən ster na' shən</p>	<p>n. Amazement or fear that makes one feel confused. We were filled with consternation when we saw that our car had been towed.</p>
<p>delectable dē lek' ta bal</p>	<p>adj. Pleasing to the senses, especially to the sense of taste; delicious. My grandfather's homemade apple pie is delectable.</p>
<p>garland gār' land</p>	<p>n. A wreath or chain of leaves and flowers. The islanders greet new arrivals with garlands of fresh flowers to put around their necks.</p>
<p>gratify grat' i fi</p>	<p>v. 1. To please or satisfy. The Red Cross was gratified by the response to its appeal for blood donors. 2. To give in to what is wanted or requested. My parents were unable to gratify my wish for a pony. adj. Pleasing. It is gratifying to see one's hard work in math rewarded with higher grades.</p>
<p>haughty hōt' ē</p>	<p>adj. Showing too much pride in oneself and scorn or contempt for others. The supervisor's haughty manner made her unpopular in the office. n. The state or quality of being haughty. His haughtiness seemed absurd for one who had accomplished so little.</p>
<p>impetuous im ped' ū os</p>	<p>adj. Inclined to act without thinking; hasty. I regretted my impetuous decision to invite everyone at Marcello's party to come over to my place.</p>
<p>lavish lav' ish</p>	<p>adj. 1. Much more than enough. The Chinese New Year's celebration included a lavish fifteen-course meal. 2. Very costly. The tribal chiefs at the ceremony bestowed lavish gifts on each other as signs of respect. v. To give freely or generously. Critics lavished praise on the new Broadway musical.</p>



pluck
pluk

v. 1. To pull off or out; to pick.

I was tempted to **pluck** a rose from the bush, but the sight of the thorns stopped me.

2. To remove the feathers from.

This machine can **pluck** a chicken in less than eight seconds.

3. To pull at and let go.

You play the harp by **plucking** the strings gently.

n. Courage; bravery.

It took a lot of **pluck** for Rico to learn to walk again.

plucky *adj.* Brave; courageous.

After a **plucky** attempt to rescue the kitten stuck in the tree, Monique had to call the fire department.

ponder
pän' dər

v. To think about; to consider carefully.

Lost in thought, the chess player **pondered** her next move.

privilege
priv' ə lij

n. A special favor, right, or advantage given to a person or group.

Free parking at Reagan National Airport is one of the **privileges** enjoyed by members of Congress.

privileged *adj.* Given favors or advantages denied to others.

You should feel **privileged** that you were able to attend an Ivy League school.

prostrate
präs' trät

adj. 1. Lying flat.

Having fainted, he lay **prostrate** on the floor.

2. Lying facedown, especially to show respect.

The worshippers in the temple lay **prostrate** before the high priest.

3. Completely overcome; weak and helpless.

People were **prostrate** with terror as the tornado approached.

rapture
rap' chər

n. A state of great joy, delight, or love.

The Scot was filled with **rapture** at the sound of bagpipes.

revelry
rev' ə l rē

n. Noisy merrymaking.

Sounds of **revelry** came from the locker room after the game.

whim
wim

n. A sudden wish to do something without a particular reason; a fanciful idea.

Purchasing a puppy is not something to be done on a **whim**.