



Word List

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

dumbfound
dum' found

v. To make speechless with amazement.

The announcement that my cat Patch had won "best of show"

dumbfounded me.**dumbfounded** *adj.* Speechless with amazement.The **dumbfounded** tenants stared at the eviction notice in disbelief.**ensue**
en sōō'

v. To follow; to come as a result of or at a later time.

When the headmaster declared the next day a holiday, shouting and clapping

ensued.**era**
er' ə

n. A particular period in history.

The **era** of space exploration began in the 1950s.**flourish**
flūr' ish

v. 1. To thrive or prosper.

Plants **flourish** in a greenhouse.

2. To wave in the air.

The softball player **flourished** her hat above her head to acknowledge the crowd's cheers.

n. 1. A sweeping motion.

The star of the show made her first entrance with a **flourish**.

2. A showy burst of music.

The opera begins with a **flourish** of trumpets.

3. A fancy line or curve added to something written.

His artistic nature was expressed in the **flourish** with which he signed his name.**garrison**
gar' ə sən

n. 1. Soldiers stationed in a place to protect it.

The **garrison** held off the enemy for four days before capitulating.

2. A military place of protection, together with its soldiers and weapons.

The **garrison** controlled the only passage through the mountain range.

v. To provide soldiers with a place to live.

The commander had to **garrison** the troops in an old schoolhouse.**grievous**
grē' vəs*adj.* Causing grief or pain; hard to bear.It was a **grievous** loss to the entire family when our pet dog Tiny died.

hoard

hôrd

v. To save and put away, especially secretly.

Squirrels **hoard** acorns for the winter.

n. Anything put away in such a manner.

My **hoard** of comic books includes several authentic 1930s Superman comics.**inundate**

in' ən dāt

v. 1. To cover, as with water from a flood.

The valley was **inundated** when the dam burst.

2. To load with an excessive amount or number of something.

Fans **inundated** radio stations with requests to play the Wailers' new album.**invincible**

in vin' sə bəl

adj. Impossible to defeat.

When the Yankees had a fifteen-game winning streak, we began to think they were **invincible**.**nomad**

nō' mad

n. A member of a group that settles briefly in one place and then moves on to another.

The Bedouins of the Sahara and Arabian deserts were **nomads**.**nomadic** adj. (nō mad' ik) Having the characteristics of a nomad.After acquiring horses in the 1760s, the Cheyenne became **nomadic** buffalo hunters on the Great Plains.**placate**

plā' kāt

v. To stop from being angry; to calm.

I was able to **placate** my friend when I explained my reason for being late.**principal**

prin' sə pəl

adj. Most important.

The administration's **principal** objective is to reduce the school dropout rate.

n. 1. A person or thing that is of the greatest importance.

The club owners and the players' agent are the **principals** in the dispute over baseball players' salaries.

2. The head of a school.

The **principal** has the authority to hire extra teachers if student enrollment increases.

3. The sum of money owed, not including the interest.

You would need \$8,479 to pay off the **principal** on the car loan.**recede**

ri sēd'

v. 1. To move back or to drop to a lower level.

The tide **receded** and exposed the rocks near the shore.

2. To become fainter.

The blare of the music from the car's radio **receded** as it disappeared into the night.**ruthless**

rōōth' ləs

adj. Showing no mercy; pitiless.

Disease and inadequate supplies finally terminated the **ruthless** invader Attila the Hun in fifth-century Europe.