

Lesson 1

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



Word List

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

affection *n.* A fond or tender feeling.
ə fek' shən Hugging is one way to show **affection**.

affectionate *adj.* Gentle and loving.
My cousin took my hand and gave it an **affectionate** squeeze.

appeal *v.* 1. To make an earnest request; to ask.
ə pēl' Three students **appealed** for more time to finish the work.

2. To be of interest to; to be attractive to.
This very funny movie will **appeal** to children of all ages.

n. 1. An earnest request for help.
The letter contained an **appeal** for money to provide shelters for the homeless.

2. The power to attract or be of interest.
Neither the liver and onions nor the meatloaf had much **appeal**.

clasp *v.* To grasp or hold tightly.
klasp The dancers **clasped** hands and circled the maypole.

n. 1. A strong grasp or hold.
The nurse gently removed the doll from the toddler's **clasp**.
2. Something, such as a hook or fastener, that holds two parts together.
The necklace has a **clasp** in the shape of a snake biting its tail.

conspicuous *adj.* Easily or plainly seen.
kən spik' yōō əs His great height made him **conspicuous** in any crowd.

contribute *v.* 1. To give along with others who are giving.
kən trib' yōōt I **contributed** a spinach salad to the potluck supper.

2. To have a part in bringing about.
Exercise **contributes** greatly to good health.

contribution *n.* (kən tri byōō 'shən) That which is given.
The museum sent a thank-you note for the fifty-dollar **contribution**.

contributor *n.* (kən trib' yə tər) One who gives.
Contributors to the new theater received free tickets for opening night.

declare *v.* To make known; to state openly.
dē klâr' "I will not seek reelection," she **declared**.

declaration *n.* (dek lə rā' shən) A public statement.
The **declaration** read by the mayor stated that November was bicycle safety month.

eloquent *adj.* Skilled at speaking or writing; having the power to move people.
el' ə kwənt Anne Frank's **eloquent** diary often moves readers to tears.

eloquence *n.* Skill at speaking or writing; the power to move people.
Dr. Martin Luther King's **eloquence** made him the obvious choice to lead the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.

exhibit *v.* To show in public.
eg zib' it Local artists **exhibited** their paintings at the library.

n. An item or collection of items in a public show.
The most interesting **exhibit** in the museum was the dinosaur skeleton.

exhibition *n.* (ek sə bish' ən) A large-scale public show.
Tickets for the **exhibition** of early automobiles go on sale next week.

ferry *n.* A boat that carries people and goods back and forth across a stretch of water.
fer' ē The **ferry** will go out of service when the new bridge opens.

v. To move people or goods by boat across a stretch of water.
The boat owner who **ferried** us across the lake would not accept any payment.

immigrant *n.* A person who comes into a country to live there.
im' ə grənt Many Polish **immigrants** settled in Chicago.

lofty *adj.* 1. Very tall or high.
lōf' tē **Lofty** elm trees provided welcome shade on many American streets.

2. Noble in feeling or high in ideals.
Ending world hunger in our lifetime is a **lofty** goal.

3. Showing a too-proud or superior attitude.
The **lofty** way the diner spoke to the waiter made me feel uncomfortable.

pedestal *n.* A base or support on which something stands.
ped' ə səl After communism collapsed in Russia, hardly a statue of Stalin was left standing on its **pedestal**.

persecute *v.* To treat cruelly or harshly because of political, religious, or other differences.
pə' sə kyōt The Kurds of northern Iraq were **persecuted** by the Iraqi rulers for wanting their own state.

persecution *n.* (pə sə kyōt' shən) The state or condition of being persecuted.
Hitler's **persecution** of the Jews led to the murder of millions of innocent people.

poverty *n.* The state of being poor.
pəv' ə rē The food stamp program was started to help feed American families living in **poverty**.

unveil *v.* 1. To remove a covering from.
un vāl' The president of the American Red Cross **unveiled** the portrait of its founder, Clara Barton.

2. To make known or reveal for the first time.
The police chief will **unveil** a plan to reduce street crime at today's meeting.