

Word List

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

anticipate *v.* 1. To look forward to; to expect.
 an tis' ə pāt We **anticipated** having a good time at the party.
 2. To be aware of and to provide for beforehand.
 The speaker **anticipated** their questions by explaining the plan thoroughly.

bankrupt *adj.* 1. Unable to pay one's debts and freed by law from doing so.
 ban' krupt The store owner was **bankrupt** after the business failed.
 2. Left without any worth or value.
 The opposition party was **bankrupt** of ideas and received few votes.
v. To leave without worth or value.
 His extravagances **bankrupted** him.

brief *adj.* Short; not long-lasting.
 brēf The guests had time for just a **brief** visit, so they did not linger when it was time to leave.
v. To give a short explanation or set of instructions to.
 An assistant **briefed** the mayor before the debate.
n. A statement giving the main points in a case, for use in a court of law.
 The attorney glanced at her **brief** before addressing the judge.

brisk *adj.* 1. Quick; active.
 brisk The runners kept up a **brisk** pace at the start of the race.
 2. Stimulating; refreshing.
 The **brisk** wind blowing off the ocean felt good.

budget *n.* A plan for spending money during a certain period.
 buj' ət The extravagant dinner caused the tourists to overspend their weekly food **budget**.
v. To plan the use of carefully.
 A part-time job may affect your schoolwork unless you **budget** your time.

compete *v.* To try to win against others.
 kəm pēt' Five students **competed** for first prize.
competition *n.* (kəm pə tish' ən) 1. The act of trying to win against others.
Competition to get into a good college is keen.
 2. A contest.
 The team entered the **competition** even though it had little chance of winning.
competitor *n.* (kəm pet' i tər) One who competes against others.
 Six **competitors** entered the race.

complicate *v.* To make difficult.
 kəm' pli kāt An extra guest may **complicate** the seating for a formal dinner.
complicated *adj.* Not easy or simple; having many different parts.
 The instructions are so **complicated** that no one could figure them out.

effect v. To make happen.
ə fekt' The new manager will **effect** many changes.

n. A result.
The aspirin I took for my headache had no **effect**.

effective adj. (ə fek' tiv) 1. Bringing about the desired result.
Gargling with salt water is an **effective** treatment for a minor sore throat.

2. In operation; active.
A new dress code was **effective** the day school opened.

3. Making a strong and favorable impression.
People are likely to remember what an **effective** speaker says.

err v. To be wrong or to do wrong.
er I **erred** when I accused you of lying.

error n. (er' ə) A mistake.
Errors in punctuation are easily corrected.

erroneous adj. (ə rō' nē əs) Mistaken; wrong.
The facts are correct, but the conclusion is **erroneous**.

factor n. Something that contributes to a result.
fak' tər Paying attention and studying diligently are two **factors** in getting good grades.

fad n. Something that is very popular for a short time, then forgotten.
fad Ankle bracelets were the **fad** one summer.

gripe v. 1. To complain.
grīp The children always **gripe** about having to get up early.

2. To annoy or irritate.
Crowded airports **gripe** the traveling public.

n. A complaint.
Squalid living conditions and contaminated drinking water were two of the captives' **gripes**.

knack n. A special talent or skill; ability to do something easily.
nak My mother has a **knack** for making friends wherever she goes.

leisure n. Free time not taken up with work.
lē' zhər A sixty-hour work week allows little **leisure**.

leisurely adj. Slow; relaxed.
The couple strolled at a **leisurely** pace through the park.

unique adj. The only one of its kind.
yūō nēk' The platypus, a mammal that lays eggs, is **unique** among animals.