



Word List

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

adapt
ə dapt'

v. 1. To change to fit new conditions.

Whales were once land animals but **adapted** well to life in the ocean.

2. To make changes in something to make it useful.

The students **adapted** a coat hanger for use as a radio antenna.**adaptation** n. (ad ap tā' shən) 1. A changing to fit new conditions.**Adaptation** to a full school day takes a while for some first graders.

2. Something that is changed from something else.

My Fair Lady is an **adaptation** of the play *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw.**deplete**
dē plēt'

v. To use up.

Unless we are frugal, we will **deplete** our savings by the end of March.**efficient**
ə fish' ənt

adj. Producing results without waste.

Tube lights are more **efficient** than light bulbs.**fatigue**
fə tēg'

n. A feeling of tiredness from work or exercise.

Although overcome with **fatigue**, the runner persevered to the finish line.

v. To make or become tired.

Since my illness, even light work **fatigues** me.**gait**
gāt

n. The way a person or animal moves on foot.

A horse's **gait** changes as it goes from a walk to a trot.**glare**
glār

v. 1. To shine with a strong, harsh light.

The bright sun **glared** off the icy snowbanks, making it difficult to see.

2. To stare angrily at.

"The store manager **glared** at me when I toppled the stack of books.

n. 1. A strong, blinding light.

The **glare** from oncoming cars is diminished if drivers dim their headlights.

2. An angry stare.

I ignored my adversary's **glare**, which I interpreted as an attempt to scare me.**glaring** adj. 1. Shining with a harsh, brilliant light.There was no shade from the **glaring** summer sun in the open fields.

2. Very obvious.

The manager detected a **glaring** error in the figures.**habitat**
hab' i tat

n. The place or type of place where a plant or animal is normally found.

The **habitat** of the saguaro cactus is the desert of southwest Arizona.

oblivious *adj.* Not aware of.
ə bliv' ē əs The audience was **oblivious** to everything except the actor's inspired performance.

oblivion *n.* A state of forgetting or being forgotten.
These tunes sank into **oblivion** after the new Broadway show closed.

outmoded *adj.* No longer needed or fashionable.
out mōd' əd The coming of the railroad made the stagecoach an **outmoded** way to travel.

prominent *adj.* 1. Projecting; standing out.
präm' ə nənt Mount Rushmore is a **prominent** feature of the Black Hills in South Dakota.
2. Very easy to see; easily noticed.
Pinocchio's **prominent** nose grew even longer every time he told a lie.
3. Famous; well-known.
The accident victim asked a **prominent** lawyer for advice.

quench *v.* 1. To put out; to extinguish.
kwench Not even reading three books on the subject could **quench** his interest in the mysterious stories about the haunted house.
2. To satisfy with a liquid.
Water **quenches** a thirst better than a sweetened soda drink.

rigor *n.* (often plural) 1. A condition that makes life difficult.
rig' ər The orange tree couldn't survive the **rigors** of a Canadian winter.
2. Strictness or severity.
The police chief enforced the law with **rigor**.
rigorous *adj.* 1. Severe; extreme.
The team was put through a **rigorous** exercise program that included a daily eight-mile run.
2. Thorough; complete.
This **rigorous** thirty-day course of study has students speaking Italian effortlessly.

sear *v.* 1. To wither; to dry up.
sēr A long drought, as well as heat, can **sear** grass.
2. To burn the surface of with sudden heat.
Cooks **sear** steak to help retain the juices.

transport *v.* To carry or move from one place to another.
trans pōrt' A large truck **transports** sets and costumes for the company touring with the play.
n. (trans' pōrt) The act of carrying from one place to another.
The company will arrange for the **transport** of the goods by rail.

wend *v.* To travel; to go on one's way.
wend It took two weeks to **wend** our way over the mountain pass.