

# Lesson 14

For more practice and games, go to [www.WordlyWise3000.com](http://www.WordlyWise3000.com).



## Word List

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

**benevolent** *adj.* Wanting to do good; kind.  
bə nev' ə lənt A **benevolent** employee paid for the team's Little League uniforms.

**consent** *v.* To agree; to allow to happen.  
kən sent' The judges **consented** to hear the case.  
*n.* Permission; approval.  
Students need a parent's **consent** to go on the field trip.

**discreet** *adj.* Showing care or wisdom in what one says or does.  
di skrēt' The committee made **discreet** inquiries into the candidate's past.  
**discretion** *n.* (di skresh' ən) The ability to handle matters wisely.  
The English teacher left the choice of books to our **discretion**.

**engross** *v.* To take up one's complete attention.  
en grōs' The puzzle so **engrossed** me that I lost track of time.  
**engrossing** *adj.* Taking up one's complete attention.  
The **engrossing** conversation made everyone oblivious to the ringing doorbell.

**esteem** *v.* To think highly of; to respect.  
e stēm' Historians **esteem** Eleanor Roosevelt for her work on human rights.  
*n.* Respect; high regard.  
The players credit their success to the great **esteem** they feel for their coach.  
**esteemed** *adj.* Highly regarded.  
An **esteemed** member of the scientific community was the unanimous choice to head the task force on air pollution.

**exaggerate** *v.* To describe something as larger or greater than it really is.  
eg zəj' ə r āt Some donors **exaggerate** the value of their contributions to the campaign.  
**exaggeration** *n.* (eg zəj' ə r ā' shən) Something that is exaggerated.  
Saying that your baseball card collection is worth thousands of dollars is quite an **exaggeration**.

**extensive** *adj.* 1. Covering a large area.  
ek sten' sɪv Central Park is an **extensive** green expanse in the middle of Manhattan.  
2. Ambitious; far-reaching.  
The team made **extensive** preparations for the Himalayan expedition.

**fantastic** *adj.* 1. Almost unbelievable.

fan tas' tik

The guests on the talk show told a **fantastic** tale of being followed by creatures from outer space.

2. Unusual; odd.

Spectators saw the most **fantastic** costumes at the Mardi Gras parade.

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**intrigue** *v.* 1. To fascinate.

in trēg'

The way stage magicians do their tricks **intrigues** me.

2. To plot in a secret way; to scheme.

Benedict Arnold **intrigued** against his own country to help the British.

*n.* (in' trēg) A secret plot or scheme.

Mary, Queen of Scots, was beheaded when Elizabeth I learned of her **intrigues** against the throne.

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**marvel** *n.* A wonderful or amazing thing.

mār' vəl

The Amazon River is one of the great **marvels** of nature.

*v.* To be filled with wonder or amazement.

The world **marveled** at the pictures of astronauts walking on the moon.

**marvelous** *adj.* 1. Causing wonder; astonishing.

It would be **marvelous** if we made contact with intelligent life elsewhere in the universe.

2. Of the highest quality; splendid.

The school play has a **marvelous** part for a versatile actor.

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**mission** *n.* 1. A special or important task or assignment.

mish' ən

The ambassador's **mission** was to arrange a meeting with the prime minister.

2. A group sent on an important assignment.

The **mission** from Israel agreed to resume the peace talks.

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**opportunity** *n.* 1. A time that is right for doing something.

öp ər tōō' nə tē

The captives looked for an **opportunity** to escape.

2. A chance for getting ahead.

This job offers plenty of **opportunity** for a diligent young person.

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**relinquish** *v.* To let go; to give up.

rē lij' kwish

The little boy who found the lost puppy didn't want to **relinquish** it.

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**tyrant** *n.* A ruler or person who has complete power and uses it in cruel or unjust ways.

tī' rənt

The **tyrant** lived in splendor while his people lived in squalor.

**tyranny** *n.* (tir' ə nē) Rule by a tyrant.

Joseph Stalin's **tyranny** over the people of the Soviet Union did not end until his death in 1953.

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**vanquish** *v.* To defeat utterly and completely; to overcome.

van' kwish

Success quickly **vanquishes** fear.