

Lesson 8

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



Word List

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

accompany

ə kum' pə nē

- v.* 1. To go along with; to be together.
Thunder often **accompanies** lightning.
2. To play a musical instrument for or with.
The pianist offered to **accompany** the singer.

beneficial

ben ə fish' əl

- adj.* Being of use; helpful; favorable.
A balanced diet is **beneficial** to one's health.

captive

kap' tiv

- n.* One that is held prisoner.
The **captives** were closely guarded.
- adj.* Unable to escape or get away.
The hospital patients provided a **captive** audience for the mediocre comic.
- captivity** *n.* (kap tiv' i tē) The state of being held against one's will; loss of freedom.
The giant panda rarely breeds in **captivity**.

convenient

kən vən' yənt

- adj.* Suitable for one's needs; making life easier or more comfortable.
The bus stop is **convenient** because it's close to my house.
- convenience** *n.* Anything that makes life easier or more comfortable.
The new tenants appreciated the central air-conditioning and other **conveniences** of the apartment.

ecstasy

ek' stə sē

- n.* A strong feeling of emotion, especially joy.
Fans screamed in **ecstasy** when their idol appeared on stage.
- ecstatic** *adj.* (ek stat' ik) Full of or causing ecstasy.
The winners were **ecstatic** when the judges read the names.

expanse

ek spans'

- n.* A wide, open area or surface; a stretch.
Wheat grows on the broad **expanse** of the Kansas prairie.

expedition

ek spə dish' ən

- n.* 1. A long journey by a group to explore or do battle.
The **expedition** into the Brazilian rain forest lasted nearly a year.
2. A group that makes such a journey.
The **expedition** was attempting to find the origin of the Nile.

inept

in ept'

- adj.* 1. Clumsily or awkwardly expressed; not suitable for the occasion.
That **inept** remark you made at the funeral upset those who overheard it.
2. Lacking in skill or ability.
An **inept** handler damaged the contents of the crate.

interpret

in tər' prət

v. 1. To translate into another language.

A native Parisian was hired to **interpret** the French minister's remarks for the audience.

2. To explain the meaning of.

Joseph offered to **interpret** the dream.

3. To understand in one's own way.

I **interpreted** your absence from the meeting as disapproval of what we were trying to do.**invaluable**

in val' yōō ə bəl

adj. Too valuable to measure; priceless.

The students' help in organizing the boycott was **invaluable**.**linger**

lin' gər

v. To be slow in leaving or going away.

The guests **lingered** in the hall, reluctant to go out into the cold.**retrieve**

rē trēv'

v. 1. To get back; to recover.

Owners can **retrieve** their lost articles from the lost and found.

2. To find and bring back.

The puppy **retrieves** sticks the children throw in the pond.**skirmish**

skər' mish

n. A minor fight or battle.

Apart from a few **skirmishes**, both sides kept the cease-fire that had been agreed to.

v. To take part in such a fight.

The two sides began to **skirmish** before the major battle.**supplement**

sup' lə mənt

n. Something added to make up for something missing.

Those who eat a well-balanced diet do not need vitamin **supplements**.

v. To add to.

I **supplement** my allowance with earnings from a paper route.**territory**

ter' ə tōr ē

n. 1. A particular area of land.

A dog will defend its **territory**.

2. A land area under control of a particular group or government.

The island of Guam is a **territory** of the United States.