UNIT 13: YOU BETTER WORK! THE PROPERTY OF THE



Root Word	Meaning	Origin
labor	work	Latin
oper	work	Latin
techni	skill, artistry	Greek



collaborator

(n) - a person who works with another person or group in order to achieve or do something

We are getting so much more work completed now that Ali has joined our group as a **collaborator**.

laborious (adj) - requiring a lot of time and effort

We spent many **laborious** hours trying to remove the stains from the carpet.

elaborate (adj) - made or done with great care or with much detail; having many parts that are carefully arranged or planned

The mural is so **elaborate** that no matter how many times you study it, there

are still details to discover.

belabor (v) - to talk about something for too long; to repeat or stress something too

much or too often: to attack or criticize someone

If you **belabor** your opinion, people might get tired of listening to you.

cooperative (adj) - willing to be helpful by doing what someone wants or asks for

Because every member was **cooperative**, the group was able to accomplish

many of its goals.

inoperable (adj) - not able to be corrected or removed by surgery; not capable of

being used

My laptop was **inoperable** after my dad spilled coffee on the keyboard.

operative (adj) - ready for use; capable of being used; most important

The new factory must pass an inspection before it is **operative**.

technique (n) - a way of doing something by using special knowledge or skill; the way

that a person performs basic physical movements or skills

The artist had learned a new **technique** for painting realistic trees.

technician (n) - a person whose job relates to the practical use of machines or science in

an industry, medicine, etc.

The computer **technician** was able to repair my computer and save my data.

technicality (n) - a small detail in a rule, law, etc., and especially one that forces an

unwanted or unexpected result; something that is understood by experts but

usually not by other people

Thankfully, our lawyer discovered a **technicality** that helped us win the trial.