

# Lesson 4 Advanced

**affluence** AF•loo•unce NOUN

wealth [George's huge home and fancy car are signs of his *affluence*.]

**contaminate** kun•TAM•uh•nate VERB

to make impure by adding something harmful or unwanted [If that chemical gets into the water supply, it will *contaminate* it.]

**empathy** EM•puh•thee NOUN

the ability to imagine what someone else is feeling [Having misplaced my own wallet, I had *empathy* for Darla when she lost hers.]

**fallible** FAL•uh•bul ADJECTIVE

capable of being mistaken; not perfect [Mr. Helm is usually right, but even he is *fallible*.]

**infer** in•FUR VERB

to understand or figure out, based on evidence; to conclude by the use of reasoning [No one came right out and said it, but I could *infer* from my classmates' remarks that they didn't like my short story.]

**NOTE:** What a person infers may or may not be correct. The more solid the evidence is and the better one's reasoning is, the greater are a person's chances of inferring correctly.

**NEIGHBOR:** Why did you infer that your new farm hand doesn't know anything about farming?

**FARMER:** Well, for one thing, he found some old milk bottles under the porch and told me he'd spotted a cow's nest.



"Well, don't have a cow!  
Everyone's fallible."

**measly** MEEZ•lee VERB

very small or inferior; not enough [I think two dry little crackers is a *measly* snack.]

**passive** PASS•iv ADJECTIVE

acted upon without taking action in return; not resisting; taking no active part [The boy was surprisingly *passive* as the others teased him.]

**proximity** prox•IM•uh•tee NOUN

nearness [The Samuelsons didn't buy the house because of its *proximity* to a noisy airport.]

**recoil** ri•KOIL VERB

to draw back or shrink back in surprise, fear, or disgust [The sight of a spider on my pillow made me *recoil*.]

**reputable** REP•yuh•tuh•bul ADJECTIVE

having a good reputation; worthy of respect [A *reputable* plumber won't cut corners or overcharge you.]

**scrounge** SKROUNJ VERB

1. to get or find by hunting around; to scrape together [We went up to the attic to *scrounge* costumes for the play.]
2. to get by begging [He's hoping to *scrounge* some change from people passing by.]

**sodden** SOD•un NOUN

filled with moisture; soaked [My clothes were *sodden* after I got caught in that rainstorm.]

**stench** STENCH NOUN

a disgusting smell [Even closing the windows didn't protect us from the hog farm's *stench*.]

**tirade** TY•rade NOUN

a long and angry speech [The angry customer let loose with a *tirade* about the poor service.]

**unprovoked** un•pruh•VOKED ADJECTIVE

without cause; without having been brought about by an action [The man told the police that he had not said or done anything, that the attack on him was *unprovoked*.]

## Exercise A: Put It Briefly

USE A WORD ONLY ONE TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence.

1. A good detective doesn't depend only on stated information but also uses clues, interprets behavior, "reads between the lines," and "puts two and two together." *Briefly*, a detective is able to \_\_\_ things.
2. No one had made dinner, and we were hungry; we found crackers in the pantry, located some cheese in the fridge, and discovered a few apples in a basket. *Briefly*, to eat, we needed to \_\_\_.
3. Opening her three presents, Gina found a plastic necklace with a broken clasp, a check for one dollar, and a mitten (yes, just one). *Briefly*, all of Gina's gifts were \_\_\_.
4. I have friends, but Juanita is new to our school and doesn't know anyone; I think that would be scary, and I sense her loneliness and can relate to her situation. *Briefly*, what I'm experiencing is \_\_\_.
5. Dee's Dog Walking Service has been doing a good job for a long time; everyone who has used it knows that it's honest, responsible, dependable, and worth the cost. *Briefly*, the company is \_\_\_.
6. At the back of the theater, you can't hear the actors; at the middle, you hear better; and in front of the stage, you hear perfectly. *Briefly*, your ability to hear the actors is based on your \_\_\_ to them.
7. No matter how smart and careful people are, they're sure to make errors at one time or another because they're human, and all humans are wrong or inaccurate sometimes. *Briefly*, people are \_\_\_.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Exercise B: Synonyms

Write the **Word** that could be used in place of each underlined word or phrase.

8. Ricardo wrung out his sopping wet socks.
9. Dad delivered a furious scolding about my study habits.
10. Many people envied the man's riches.
11. Renee was surprised by Curt's uncalled for insults.
12. We were suddenly aware of a horrible odor.
13. Can't you react with understanding to my problem?
14. An oil spill can pollute miles of shoreline.
15. That source of information is not always reliable.
16. I need a trustworthy mechanic to work on my car.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Exercise F: Fill-in**

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence.

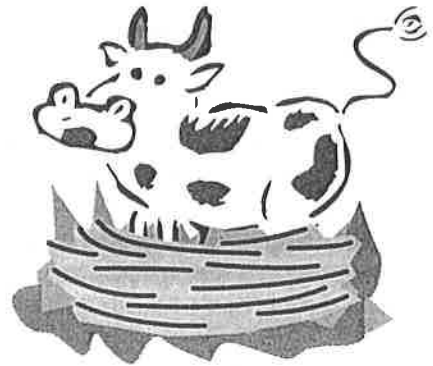
36. I doubt that my answer is wrong, but I'm \_\_\_\_\_, so it's possible that it is.
37. Hospitals must be careful not to let germs \_\_\_\_\_ the operating rooms.
38. The hotel is right downtown, and its \_\_\_\_\_ to stores and restaurants makes it a good place to stay.
39. My parents are searching for a \_\_\_\_\_ construction company to build an addition to our house.
40. Claudia's anger seemed \_\_\_\_\_ since I hadn't seen anything happen to make her so mad.
41. The guinea pig would \_\_\_\_\_ when I came near its cage; it wasn't eager to be picked up.
42. The front yard was \_\_\_\_\_ this morning because I forgot to turn off the sprinkler last night.
43. Flora showed her \_\_\_\_\_ by patting Anton's hand and asking if she could help.
44. We were able to \_\_\_\_\_ up some driftwood from the beach to make a campfire.
45. During Vance's \_\_\_\_\_, he banged his fist on the table and got quite red in the face.
46. Our neighbor's \_\_\_\_\_ is due to her having inherited several million dollars.
47. Don't be so \_\_\_\_\_ about life; get out there and do something to make things better!
48. You might \_\_\_\_\_ from the old clothes Mrs. Chen wears that she's poor, but she isn't.
49. Wally's \_\_\_\_\_ salary doesn't provide enough income to pay his rent.
50. A \_\_\_\_\_ coming from the henhouse made people hold their noses as they walked by.

**FRIEND:** How's your uncle doing with his dairy farm?

**NIECE:** Well, from what I can infer, he is a long way from affluence. Milk prices are so measly that it isn't worth milking the cows. And egg prices are worse; he can't afford to feed the chickens. He has to scrounge for every penny.

**FRIEND:** What's he doing about it?

**NIECE:** I don't know, but if it were my farm, I'd try to find something else for the cows and chickens to do!



*NIECE: I think he ought to move the cows into the henhouse and send the chickens across the road.*

**Quick LIST**

affluence <del>N.</del>	fallible <del>ADJ.</del>	passive <del>ADJ.</del>	reputable <del>ADJ.</del>	stench <del>N.</del>
contaminate <del>V.</del>	infer <del>V.</del>	proximity <del>N.</del>	scrounge <del>V.</del>	tirade <del>N.</del>
empathy <del>N.</del>	measly <del>V.</del>	recoil <del>V.</del>	sodden <del>N.</del>	unprovoked <del>ADJ.</del>

### Exercise C: True or False

Circle TRUE or FALSE for each statement.

17. Dropping a sandwich in a puddle would make it **sodden**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
18. Frosting on a cake **contaminates** it. . . . . TRUE FALSE
19. Rotten eggs and sour milk create a **stench**. . . . . TRUE FALSE
20. Watching TV is a **passive** way to spend time. . . . . TRUE FALSE
21. An affectionate cat will **recoil** when you pet it. . . . . TRUE FALSE
22. When you **infer** something, you are always right. . . . . TRUE FALSE

STUDENT 1: My parents are sure to go into a tirade about my report card! Will yours?

STUDENT 2: Nah. My folks have too much on their minds to get upset about your grades.

### Exercise D: Analogies

Write the letter of the word that completes the analogy.

- \_\_\_ 23. *damp* : **sodden** :: *attractive* :  
A. ugly                      C. beautiful  
B. pleasant                D. memorable
- \_\_\_ 24. *skunk* : **stench** :: *rose* :  
A. thorn                     C. blossom  
B. petal                      D. fragrance
- \_\_\_ 25. *spirited* : **passive** :: *rude* :  
A. sassy                     C. loud  
B. polite                     D. apologetic
- \_\_\_ 26. *sob* : **sorrow** :: *tirade* :  
A. praise                    C. displeasure  
B. surprise                  D. amusement

### Exercise E: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that means the opposite of each underlined word or phrase.

27. I'd be more comfortable with distance between us instead of such \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
28. They never provide a ride home but are always ready to \_\_\_\_ one. \_\_\_\_\_
29. Francesca's fear that the dog would pounce made her \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
30. One customer left a generous tip; the other left a \_\_\_\_ one. \_\_\_\_\_
31. Was Bernadette's response justified or \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_
32. What good does it do to hint if you can't \_\_\_\_ what I'm getting at? \_\_\_\_\_
33. I expected an active response to the news, but everyone was \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
34. In the city, there was evidence of both poverty and \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
35. First, disinfect the wound; then be careful not to \_\_\_\_ it again. \_\_\_\_\_