

Lesson 6 Advanced

abrasive uh•BRAY•siv

ADJECTIVE 1. able to scrape or wear away by rubbing; rough; coarse [Falling on the *abrasive* surface of the sidewalk skinned Luke's knee.]

ADJECTIVE 2. harsh or rough in quality [Her *abrasive* personality offends many people.]

NOUN a substance used to rub, scrape, grind, or polish [Toothpaste contains a mild *abrasive* that helps clean and polish teeth.]

benevolent buh•NEV•uh•lunt ADJECTIVE

inclined to do good; kind; generous [All over town, *benevolent* people donated canned goods for the food drive.]

compulsory kum•PUL•sur•ee ADJECTIVE

required; necessary [We have a system of *compulsory* education in this country.]

deft DEFT ADJECTIVE

neat and quick; skillful [Lester scooped up the ball with a *deft* motion, making it look easy.]

frustrate FRUSS•trate VERB

1. to block an effort to reach a goal; to defeat or make useless [Rain would *frustrate* our efforts to have the party outside.]

2. to cause to feel discouraged and unable to succeed [Trying to tie your shoes while wearing mittens will just *frustrate* you, so take the mittens off!]

impetuous im•PECH•oo•us ADJECTIVE

acting hastily and with sudden feeling rather than with thought or planning [Don't lose your temper and do something *impetuous*.]

outgrowth OUT•growth NOUN

something that grows out of something else, either physically or as a result [My friendship with Debra was an *outgrowth* of our working together on the play last spring.]

precarious pri•KAIR•ee•us ADJECTIVE

not safe or secure; dangerous [The roof's slippery surface made it a *precarious* place for anyone to try to work.]

priority pry•OR•uh•tee NOUN

1. the state or fact of being earlier in time [The settler put markers on the land to establish the *priority* of his claim.]

2. something that is given, or is worthy of being given, more or earlier attention [Mom says my safety and happiness are both important, but her main *priority* is my safety.]

reimburse ree•im•BURCE VERB

to pay back money spent or to repay for loss, damage, or expenses [Ben says if I lend him five dollars, he'll *reimburse* me Monday.]

saunter SAWN•tur VERB

to walk in a casual and unhurried way [I watched Sharon *saunter* away as if she didn't have a care in the world.]

subside sub•SIDE VERB

1. to sink to a lower level or become less [The flood waters slowly began to *subside*.]

2. to quiet down or become less active [Lou let his anger *subside* before he gave a reply.]

tumult TOO•mult NOUN

1. the noise and confusion of a crowd [The *tumult* in the gym meant the game had begun.]

2. a feeling of confusion and disturbance [Mary couldn't make a decision while her mind was in such *tumult*.]

veer VEER VERB

to change direction; to turn [Leo had to *veer* suddenly to avoid an oncoming car.]

vivacious vi•VAY•shus ADJECTIVE

full of energy; lively [Wesley's *vivacious* storytelling kept us all interested.]

PRIORITIES

Deep inside a great, magical forest, a lever stuck up from the earth. At first glance, one might have thought it was some peculiar outgrowth of a root, for many mighty trees grew up close around it.

But this was a magic lever. Pushing it would trigger the end of the world.



Exercise A: Put It Briefly

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

USE A WORD ONLY ONE TIME IN EACH EXERCISE.

1. In a busy emergency room, the quickest and most dramatic efforts are made for patients most in need of treatment, who receive care first. *Briefly*, these patients have
2. The increase, over time, in the height of the average person is a natural development that is due to healthier food and more of it. *Briefly*, it's an ___ of better nutrition.
3. Harriet was extremely upset; her feelings were in such a jumble of anger, fear, and annoyance that she simply couldn't think straight. *Briefly*, her mind was in a
4. When you're riding your bike and someone gets in your way, you can't keep going straight; you need to steer to one side or the other. *Briefly*, you must
5. Math problems that I don't understand upset and irritate me because I think that I will never get them right, and I just want to quit trying. *Briefly*, they ___ me.
6. Chandler was impatient and unwilling to think things through, so he made a quick, reckless decision without considering the consequences. *Briefly*, his decision was
7. The picnickers were spirited and bouncy and cheerful and busy and bright and full of motion and activity. *Briefly*, they were
8. My mom said if I buy milk, she'll give me back what it cost so the expense isn't really mine. *Briefly*, she will ___ me.
9. The doctor put a breathing tube down the patient's throat rapidly and without any awkwardness. *Briefly*, the action was

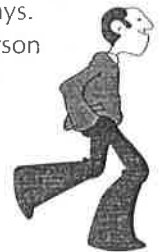
Exercise B: What Is It?

Write the **Word** that each clue describes.

10. An example of this is sandpaper. _____
11. A branch or twig is this, and so is a wart. _____
12. This is what the earliest request for something has. _____
13. This describes something you have no choice about doing. _____
14. An inability to find a mailbox would do this to your efforts to mail a letter. _____

One day a wandering foreigner sauntered down the seemingly abandoned road that curved through the forest. Nathan was a person who took "scenic" routes to avoid the tumult of the busier highways.

He was also a person who could never let his curiosity be frustrated. So when he saw the odd lever, he had to find out what it did.



Exercise C: Synonyms

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

15. The trapped animal's struggles began to decrease as it became exhausted. _____
16. My balance on the narrow beam was unsteady, so I was quite nervous. _____
17. The boys made the car wait for them to stroll lazily across the intersection. _____
18. Many big-hearted people contributed to the earthquake survivors' fund. _____
19. Increased sales of fans is a predictable consequence of hot weather. _____

Quick LIST

- abrasive** ADJ., N.
- benevolent** ADJ.
- compulsory** ADJ.
- deft** ADJ.
- frustrate** V.
- impetuous** ADJ.
- outgrowth** N.
- precarious** ADJ.
- priority** N.
- reimburse** V.
- saunter** V.
- subside** V.
- tumult** N.
- veer** V.
- vivacious** ADJ.

Exercise D: Matching

Match each phrase on the left to the phrase on the right that means the same, or nearly the same, thing.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ___ 20. / very vivacious | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. considerable commotion |
| ___ 21. benevolent boss | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. positively peppy |
| ___ 22. readily reimburse | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. swerve sharply |
| ___ 23. / tremendous tumult | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. risky route |
| ___ 24. abnormally abrasive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. rapidly refund |
| ___ 25. certainly subside | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F. charitable chief |
| ___ 26. / precarious path | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G. strangely scratchy |
| ___ 27. veer violently | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H. definitely decrease |

Of course, Nate didn't know the world's fate hung precariously on one impetuous push of a lever.

Suddenly a car zipped around a curve. The driver quickly saw that she must make a terrible decision: (a) run over the man in the middle of the road; (b) veer to the left, hit the lever, and end the world; or (c) veer to the right, crash into a tree without hitting the man or the lever but likely killing herself!

In an instant, she recognized her priorities and ran over Nate.

Question:

Was it the right decision?
Why?



Exercise E: Antonyms

Write the **Word** that means the opposite of each underlined word or phrase. This exercise continues on the next page.

28. Is our attendance at practices voluntary or ___? _____
29. One singer's voice was smooth; another's was _____. _____
30. I'm so clumsy at this; how did you get to be so ___ at it? _____
31. Wendy is usually cautious, so her ___ action totally surprised us. _____

32. The wind and rain will intensify before the storm begins to ____.
33. When I'm in a hurry, I run, but when I just want to enjoy the outdoors, I ____.
34. Ramps help people in wheelchairs get around, but curbs tend to ____ their efforts.
35. The calm of the country road contrasted with the ____ of rush hour that I was used to.

Exercise F: Fill-in

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

36. _____ to the right when you come to the fork in the road.
37. Brian likes to _____ around town and see what's going on.
38. The theater erupted in _____ when someone yelled "Fire!"
39. Felipa used her allowance to _____ the library for the book she had lost.
40. Len's anxiety about the exam began to _____ as his studying showed how well he knew the material.
41. Coretta's interest in becoming a vet is a logical _____ of her love of both animals and science.
42. Kendra was shy and quiet at first but became more _____ as she got to know us.
43. "Look before you leap" is good advice, but Tod is too _____ to follow it.
44. Studying three years of a foreign language is _____, but we can choose which language to take.
45. A puzzle that is too difficult will just _____ a five-year-old instead of being fun.
46. Homework is considered a _____ at our house, and I can't watch TV until it's done.
47. I need something _____, such as scouring powder, to really get the sink clean.
48. With one _____ flick of the wrist, Dad sent his fishing line sailing into the stream right where he wanted it.
49. The king, a _____ ruler, did his best to increase his people's happiness and well-being.
50. The ladder's _____ position on the porch step made me more than a little nervous.



Answer: Yes, because better Nate than lever!