

Lesson 8

antidote AN•ti•dote NOUN

1. a substance or treatment given to oppose the effects of poison [Raw eggs are used as an *antidote* for certain kinds of poisons.]
2. something that works to correct or cure a bad or evil condition [The concert was the perfect *antidote* for my bad mood.]

bedlam BED•lum NOUN

great confusion and disorder [After someone yelled "Fire!" in the store, there was total *bedlam*.]

designate DEZ•ig•nate VERB

1. to show by a mark, sign, or symbol [Blue lines on a map usually *designate* rivers.]
2. to call by a certain name, term, or title [Egg producers often use "jumbo" to *designate* the very largest eggs.]
3. to select or appoint for a certain purpose or duty; to appoint [The class is supposed to *designate* two students to represent us.]

ethical ETH•uh•kul ADJECTIVE

relating to what is right or wrong in behavior; agreeing with the rules of society or of a particular group; moral [Is it *ethical* for a judge to conduct the trial of a friend?]

extensive ek•STEN•siv ADJECTIVE

large in area, amount, effect, influence, and so on [Research into a cure for the common cold has been both *extensive* and expensive.]

indispensable in•di•SPEN•suh•bul ADJECTIVE
absolutely necessary; essential [Food and water are *indispensable* to animals and plants.]

medieval med•EE•vul ADJECTIVE

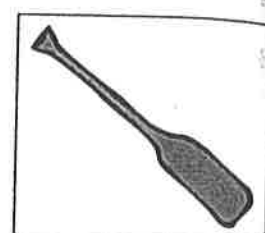
like or having to do with the Middle Ages, the time from about A.D. 500 to 1500 [The *medieval* period began with the collapse of the Roman Empire.]

oust OWST VERB

to force to leave; to drive out [We voted to *oust* our mayor for failing to cut taxes.]

preposterous pri•POSS•tur•us ADJECTIVE

so against truth, reason, or common sense as to be ridiculous [Whose *preposterous* idea was it to get pink uniforms for the football team?]



Please designate your choice for the most preposterous invention.

- Solar-powered flashlight Electric ax Left-handed paddle

seep SEEP VERB

to leak, drip, or flow out slowly; to ooze [After most of the milk had managed to *seep* out, we found a tiny hole in the carton.]

spunk SPUNK NOUN

courage, enthusiasm, and determination [With her *spunk*, Eva will finish the race in spite of her sprained ankle.]

succumb suh•KUM VERB

1. to give in under pressure or force; to yield; often used with *to* ["Do not *succumb* to temptation," the little boy's mother said. "I know exactly how many cookies there are."]
2. to die [Sadly, many more people will *succumb* before the new drugs can reach them.]

vanity VAN•uh•tee NOUN

extreme concern with, or pride in, one's appearance, abilities, possessions, and so on [My *vanity* wouldn't let me wear pants like those even if they came in my size.]

vigilant VIJ•uh•lunt ADJECTIVE

staying watchful for danger or trouble; alert [Shouts from a *vigilant* soldier prepared the other troops for attack.]

witticism WIT•uh•siz•um NOUN

a clever and amusing remark [The class howled at Spencer's *witticism*, and even the teacher cracked a smile.]

Exercise A: What Is It?

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

1. Because peacocks strut around and seem conceited, they have become a symbol of this.
2. If you were bitten by a rattlesnake, this is something that you would try to get right away.
3. This describes the setting of stories and movies about King Arthur and his Round Table.
4. When you are facing danger or hardship or a challenge, this is what you need.
5. This is what your parents would call your request for an allowance of \$500 a week.
6. A person with a good, quick sense of humor is likely to come up with this frequently.
7. This describes a person who refuses to lie, cheat, steal, or take advantage of others.
8. When teachers return to their classrooms after a fifteen-minute absence, they hope they won't find this.
9. This describes a good babysitter as well as a good watchdog.
10. You do this to someone if you kick him or her off a team.

Exercise B: Antonyms

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

11. The children turned the calm and orderly house into ___.
12. Having a low opinion of oneself is not good, but neither is ___.
13. Half of us wanted to keep Gary as the club president, while the other half wanted to ___ him.
14. Tilly used to be known for her shy fearfulness, but lately she has developed some ___.
15. Don't pack extra or unimportant items; bring along only the things that are ___.
16. Some parents are able to resist their children's pleading and begging, but others ___.
17. Our library once had a small, very limited supply of books, but now the collection is ___.

Exercise C: Rhyme Time

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

18. That tent is just a blanket, so it won't be good to sleep in.
If the night is stormy, rain will quickly start to ___ in.
19. My insult wasn't meant to be a criticism.
I thought you'd see that it was just a ___!
20. The map reveals the capitals of each and every state.
That is what the stars that you see on it ___.

Exercise D: Matching

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ___ 21. mean medieval military man | A. superb spirit |
| ___ 22. indispensable investigation | B. choose chiefs |
| ___ 23. preposterous presidents | C. close to a cure |
| ___ 24. extensive experience | D. not-nice knight |
| ___ 25. designate directors | E. required research |
| ___ 26. almost an antidote | F. laughable leaders |
| ___ 27. seep into the soil | G. broad background |
| ___ 28. bedlam of battle | H. dribble into the dirt |
| ___ 29. splendid spunk | I. sorrowfully surrender |
| ___ 30. sadly succumb | J. commotion of combat |

A Jantidote for Danity

Two students near the library
DAN: Look out! There's bedlam in the library!

JAN: What do you mean?

DAN: I mean I found *bedlam* in the dictionary! Ha!

Two dictionaries in the reference section inside

WEBSTER: That boy is a bit too proud of his little witticism.

SCRIBNER: Yes, does Jan have an antidote for his vanity?

Back in the hall

JAN: Dan, I'm amazed that you even found the library! Did it take extensive research?

Exercise E: Analogies

Write the letter of the word pair that completes the analogy. This exercise continues on the next page.

- ___ 31. **antidote** : remedy ::
A. finger : hand C. doctor : nurse
B. puppy : kitten D. barrel : container
- ___ 32. **ethical** : wicked ::
A. tall : strong C. sensible : foolish
B. sad : lonely D. brave : courageous
- ___ 33. **seep** : gush ::
A. crawl : dash C. notice : observe
B. awaken : arise D. enjoy : experience

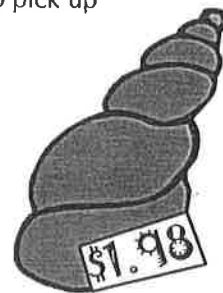
Quick LIST

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| antidote N. | oust V. |
| bedlam N. | preposterous ADJ. |
| designate V. | seep V. |
| ethical ADJ. | spunk N. |
| extensive ADJ. | succumb V. |
| indispensable ADJ. | vanity N. |
| medieval ADJ. | vigilant ADJ. |
| | witticism N. |

34. *guard* : *vigilant* ::
 A. judge : fair C. worker : tired
 B. thief : honest D. driver : elderly
35. *succumb* : *survive* ::
 A. eat : drink C. want : desire
 B. leave : stay D. annoy : outrage

Sally Sells Seashells by the Seashore

What sort of fools succumb to Sally's sales pitch by the sea?
 Are they tourists who are dumb enough to pay the old girl's fee?
 Buying shells? Preposterous! It's silliness to me,
 Like kissing a rhinoceros or lassoing a bee!
 It doesn't take much spunk to pick up shells yourself for free!



Exercise F: Fill-in

Write the **Word** that best completes each sentence.
 Use each word only once.

36. A good _____ to ignorance and boredom is reading.
37. The nurse kept a _____ eye on the seriously ill patient.
38. An up-to-date hospital is _____ to the welfare of this city.
39. As the tub overflowed, water began to _____ into the basement.
40. The tornado damage was _____; dozens of people lost their homes and businesses.
41. With one _____ after another, my grandpa could always make us roar with laughter.
42. I think we voters should _____ the entire city council and elect new members.
43. My dog is small, but she has so much _____ that bigger dogs don't challenge her.
44. Additional food supplies are needed before more people _____ to starvation.
45. The castle, which was built during _____ times, is about a thousand years old.
46. My mom's shop uses _____ business practices, so customers know they will be treated fairly.
47. The city will _____ the new playground "Kelly Field" to honor the former mayor.
48. Virgil's _____ makes him assume that everyone notices and admires him.
49. Marilyn had a _____ plan to buy a pony and hide it in the garage so her parents wouldn't know.
50. During the riot, there was _____ in the streets, and hundreds of police officers were needed to restore peace.