

# Scenes from Medieval Life



LESSON

**10**

## The Apprentice

*A boy writes about his parents' decision to make him a blacksmith's apprentice.*

accompany	gender	novice
apprentice	labor	offspring
commune	minor	scenario
expert		

LESSON

**11**

## Abolish Serfdom Now!

*A man demands that all people be granted equal rights.*

hierarchy	medieval	pursuit
hovel	medium	tax
intermediate	peasant	tenant
makeshift		

LESSON

**12**

## A Great Lady Is Dead

*An obituary describes the life and death of Eleanor of Aquitaine.*

allegiance	flaunt	squire
chivalry	monarchy	stabilize
court	rationalize	succulent
estate		



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**Listen** to this passage at [vocabularyforsuccess.com](http://vocabularyforsuccess.com).

# The Apprentice

<diary>

**January 11, 1234** Today I turn 12 and I'm scared. Yesterday, I was a **minor**, just a boy, but now my parents say I'm old enough to leave home. Today, they told me that they've already paid Master Brooke money so I can become his **apprentice**. He's the village blacksmith and an expert at his craft. I don't know how I'll live without my family, but I have no choice, as I am the oldest of my parents' **offspring** and it is the duty of the male gender to find work to help the family.

**January 12, 1234** My mother cried all day. Father looked sad and quiet. He wanted to assure me that Master Brooke is a kind man and would be a good teacher. Father said

that even though I am a novice, if I do well, in four years I can begin to earn money for my labor and possibly open my own shop! If my ironwork is good, I may be able to join the Blacksmith Guild and call myself a master craftsman just like Master Brooke. That is a very nice **scenario**, but I've never been away from home. How will I survive? I will be alone for the first time in my life.

**January 14, 1234** This morning, I was told to **accompany** Master Brooke to his shop. My job was to keep the fire hot with the bellows while he hammered and bent the hot metal for the farm tools. Afterward, I was so tired, and hotter than I've ever been in my life.



## VOCABULARY

minor  
apprentice  
expert  
offspring  
gender

novice  
labor  
scenario  
accompany  
commune

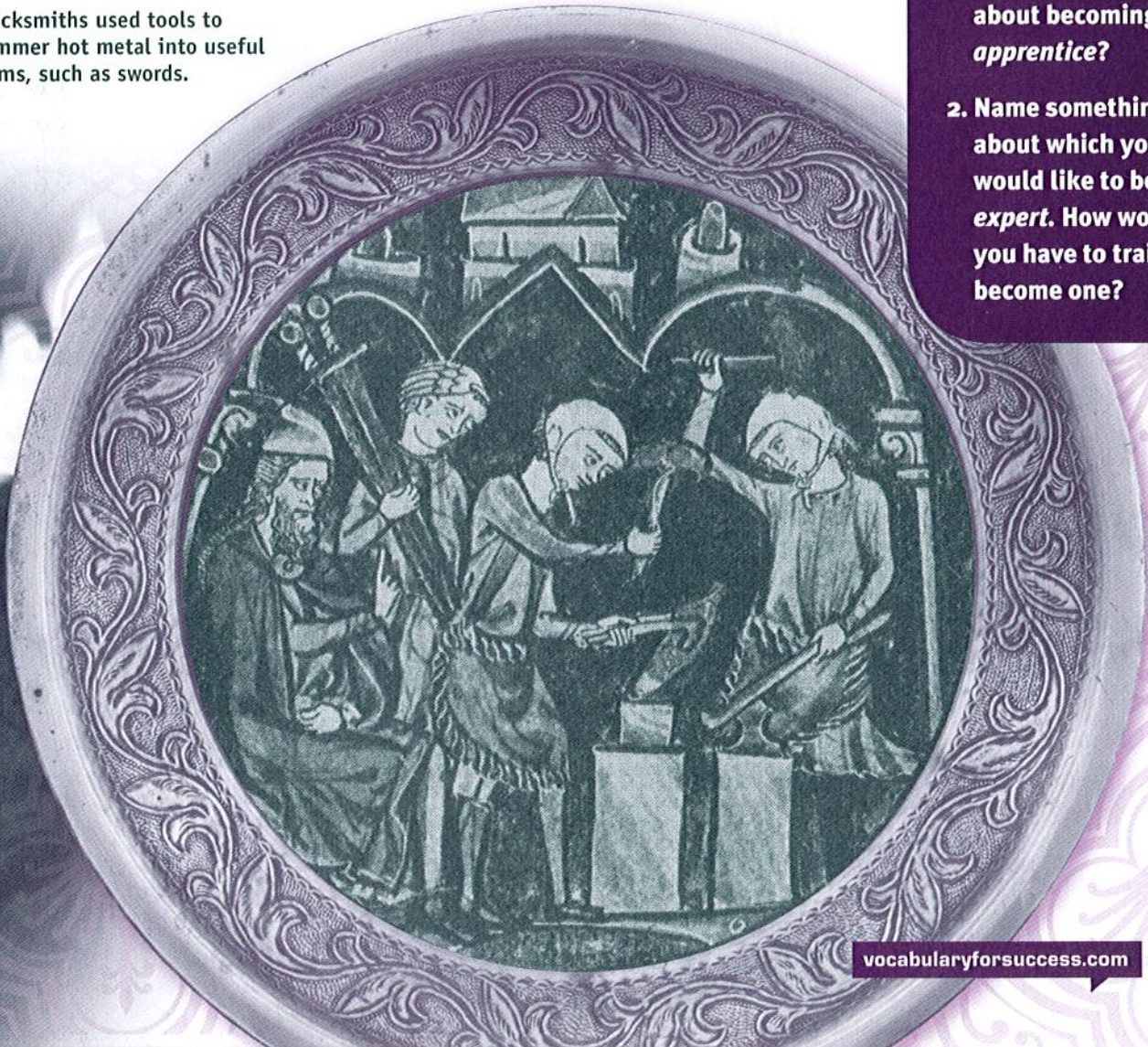
However, this evening, Mistress Brooke served potato soup that was hearty, and Master Brooke said I did a very good job. Maybe this life won't be so bad. The work *was* hard and the heat *was* an annoyance, but these were only little irritations. My father was right. The Brookes are very kind. I still miss my family very much and I wish I could commune with them. However, I also want to make my family proud, and with Master Brooke's help, I will.

Blacksmiths used tools to hammer hot metal into useful items, such as swords.

### TALK ABOUT IT

With a partner, answer the questions below. Use as many of the highlighted words in the selection as you can.

1. What are some positive things about becoming an apprentice?
2. Name something about which you would like to be an expert. How would you have to train to become one?



## Word Meanings

For each highlighted word on pages 104–105, the meaning is given below. For practice with other meanings, see pages 109–111. For synonyms and antonyms, see page 134.

1. **minor**  
(MYE-nur)  
(n.) A *minor* is someone who is under age 18, not yet an adult.  
(adj.) Something is considered *minor* when it is not important or at all serious.
2. **apprentice**  
(uh-PREN-tiss)  
(n.) An *apprentice* is someone who learns a trade or skill, such as carpentry or computer repair, through experience. An *apprentice* works under the direction of a skilled professional.
3. **expert**  
(EK-spurt)  
(n.) Someone who has mastered a particular subject or has special skill or knowledge is an *expert*.  
(adj.) An *expert* opinion comes from someone who has special skill in or knowledge of the subject.
4. **offspring**  
(OFF-spring)  
(n.) *Offspring* are the children of humans or animals.
5. **gender**  
(JEN-dur)  
(n.) The *gender* of people and animals is either male or female.
6. **novice**  
(NO-viss)  
(n.) Someone who is a *novice* is beginning to learn a skill or trade.
7. **labor**  
(LAY-bur)  
(n.) *Labor* is the work performed to make goods or provide services.  
(v.) When you work very hard and make a great effort to do something, you *labor* at it.
8. **scenario**  
(suh-NAH-ree-oh)  
(n.) A *scenario* is a sequence of events, especially an account of what could or might happen in the future.
9. **accompany**  
(uh-KUM-puh-nee)  
(v.) When you *accompany* someone, you go somewhere with that person.
10. **commune**  
v. (kuh-MYOON)  
n. (KOM-yoon)  
(v.) When you relate to someone or something in a very personal way, you *commune* with that person.  
(n.) A *commune* is a community of people who live together and share the common ownership and use of property.



## Word Talk

Each lesson word has been placed in a category. With a partner, discuss and list items that belong in each category. Compare your results with those of another pair of students.

Tasks Completed  
Using *Labor*

Names for *Offspring*  
of Animals

Subjects on Which  
You Are an *Expert*

Famous Literary  
Characters Who  
Are *Minors*

Activities  
Traditionally  
Separated by *Gender*

Jobs for Which  
You Might Be an  
*Apprentice*

Places or Events  
Where You Might  
*Accompany* a Friend

Activities Too  
Difficult for a *Novice*

Topics About Which  
You Might *Commune*  
with a Friend

*Scenarios* You  
Imagine Might  
Happen While You  
Are Performing

## Check for Understanding

Choose the lesson word that completes each sentence. Write the word on the line provided. Some words will be used twice.

accompany

expert

novice

apprentice

gender

offspring

commune

labor

scenario

minor

- Nobody in the room knew how to fix the computer, so we decided to hire a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
- The questionnaire asks students to indicate basic personal information, such as age, address, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Parents often make sacrifices for their \_\_\_\_\_.
- In the United States, you are a/an \_\_\_\_\_ until you turn 18 years old.
- An experienced player never likes losing to a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
- A well-maintained garden requires a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_ and attention.
- The baker hoped to teach the \_\_\_\_\_ the art of making fine pastries.
- My friends asked me to \_\_\_\_\_ them to the beach on Saturday.
- I expected to win the game, but my opponent imagined a very different \_\_\_\_\_.
- Waiting for the train, Mom and I used the time to \_\_\_\_\_ about my plans for the summer.
- A mother cat knows instinctively how to care for her \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our English teacher is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ on grammar and correct usage.



## Expand Word Meanings

Read the paragraph below to learn other meanings for some of the lesson words.

Some medieval villages were independent, self-sustaining communities, not unlike a modern-day commune. One such village was Siena, Italy. Every person had a duty in Siena and no job was minor. Some workers would labor by making woolen cloth or by gathering the water that the community needed. Others were artists or religious figures. Although everyone shared responsibilities, some were expert in their occupations, such as Lorenzo di Maitani, who worked as an architect in his village and in cities abroad.

! Four lesson words are used in a different way in this passage. Look at *commune*. Here it means a community that is self-sustaining and where people own things in common. Look at the other highlighted words. Can you figure out what they mean in this context? Refer to page 106 to confirm their meanings.

### Apply Other Meanings

Complete each sentence with a highlighted word from the paragraph above.

1. My mother's best friend grew up in a/an \_\_\_\_\_ in Oregon where everyone contributed equally.
2. To prepare a big holiday meal, the cook must \_\_\_\_\_ in the kitchen for hours.
3. It's a good idea to get some \_\_\_\_\_ advice before making a decision of great importance.
4. My friend has such a/an \_\_\_\_\_ role in that movie that she doesn't even speak.
5. In the \_\_\_\_\_, the whole society shares the money and property.
6. We agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ over our art project until we were certain it was the best it could be.
7. Janelle's older brother, a/an \_\_\_\_\_ pitcher, is helping her perfect her curveball.
8. A person who is determined to succeed is not discouraged by a/an \_\_\_\_\_ setback.
9. A well-known hydrologist provided \_\_\_\_\_ testimony at the public hearing about building houses near the river.
10. The car was seriously damaged in the crash, but fortunately the driver suffered only \_\_\_\_\_ injuries.

## Word Associations

Use what you know about the lesson word in italics to answer each question. Circle the letter next to the phrase that best answers the question. Be prepared to explain your answers.

- What is the word for the *offspring* of a bear?
  - growl
  - cub
  - hibernation
- What might a *novice* need most?
  - evidence
  - honesty
  - practice
- Which task would involve the most physical *labor*?
  - building a bridge
  - writing a book report
  - painting a mural
- Which public area do you enter depending on your *gender*?
  - auditorium
  - bathroom
  - sports arena
- With whom are you most likely NOT to *commune*?
  - a trusted friend
  - a pet dog
  - a total stranger
- For which of these tasks would you most need an *expert* to help you?
  - hanging a heavy picture frame
  - making a delicious breakfast
  - putting a cast on a broken foot
- For which profession might being an *apprentice* be the only training?
  - chef
  - surgeon
  - teacher
- When might you present a positive *scenario*?
  - to get someone to adopt a plan
  - to discourage someone from seeing a movie
  - to tell what a book is about
- Where would you most likely *accompany* a friend?
  - into the doctor's exam room for a physical exam
  - to a favorite pizzeria
  - into a private meeting
- Which can a *minor* NOT do?
  - attend school
  - vote for United States President
  - use a cell phone





## Check Again

Use what you know about the lesson word in italics to complete each sentence. Be sure your sentences make sense.

1. Because he was a *novice*, he didn't \_\_\_\_\_
2. The questionnaire asked for the *gender* of the person filling it out because \_\_\_\_\_
3. He outlined a *scenario* that ended with \_\_\_\_\_
4. The young man became an *apprentice* in order to \_\_\_\_\_
5. Our team never gets upset over *minor* problems because \_\_\_\_\_
6. Because I knew he was an *expert* chess player, \_\_\_\_\_
7. If you're going to live on a *commune*, you \_\_\_\_\_
8. I was excited when my aunt asked me to *accompany* her \_\_\_\_\_
9. After two days of hard *labor*, we finished \_\_\_\_\_
10. Both animal and human parents take care of their *offspring* by \_\_\_\_\_

## Challenge Yourself

Follow the directions to write sentences with the lesson words in italics. Be sure your sentences make sense both grammatically and in meaning.

1. Write a sentence with the word *apprentice* in the fourth position.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Write a sentence exactly twelve words in length using the word *novice*.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Write a question with the word *accompany* in the third position.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Write  
Your Own

# Word-Solving Strategies: Context Clues

## Synonyms

Sometimes synonyms can help you understand meanings of unfamiliar words. Reread this sentence from “The Apprentice.”

Yesterday, I was a minor, just a boy, but now my parents say I’m old enough to leave home.

Note that *boy* is a synonym of **minor**. It helps you understand that a minor is not yet an adult. Sometimes a synonym can be part of a phrase set off by commas, as “just a boy” is here, but that’s not always the case.

A synonym or a phrase containing a synonym sometimes follows a word and is set off by commas. But not every phrase set off by commas contains a synonym.

*His early efforts, though awkward, soon led to skill.*

There is no synonym for *efforts* in the phrase “though awkward.” That is a misdirective clue, or a clue that seems to be of help but really is not.

**BE CAREFUL!**

### Practice

**A.** Write the highlighted word and its synonym in the first two boxes. Using the context clues, write the word’s meaning in the third box.

In the Middle Ages, blacksmiths were afforded **prestige** and respect. The blacksmith was critical to medieval life. Virtually every handmade item of importance was made of metal. Smiths did everyday tasks like making nails and horseshoes, but much of their work was anything but **prosaic**. They made and repaired weapons and armor. Working iron into a **supple** form bendable enough to create a sword or a knight’s body armor was a difficult task.

WORD	SYNONYM	WORD MEANING

**B.** Write a sentence for each of the highlighted words from the paragraph above. Use synonym context clues. You’ll use one word twice.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Practice for Tests

Fill in the bubble next to the answer that best completes the sentence or answers the question.

1. Read this sentence.

He played the game remarkably well for a *novice*.

*Novice* means:

- A professional
- B master
- C child
- D beginner

2. A person who is an *apprentice* is:

- A highly skilled
- B uninterested in learning
- C learning a trade
- D applying for a job

3. A *minor* is someone:

- A of little importance
- B who works in a mine
- C under the age of 18
- D with a small role

4. If someone asks your *gender*, they want to know:

- A if you're male or female
- B where you were born
- C your ethnic background
- D your nationality

5. If you are an *expert* on a topic, you:

- A are not knowledgeable about it
- B are learning about it
- C know it extremely well
- D don't like talking about it

6. Read this sentence:

The plan's supporters predicted everyone would benefit, but the opponents offered another *scenario*.

*Scenario* means:

- A proposed screenplay
- B solution to a problem
- C setting for a play
- D series of events

7. A word closely associated with *labor* is:

- A hardship
- B work
- C difficulty
- D pain

8. When you *commune* with someone, you:

- A talk things over
- B share a ride
- C move apart
- D collaborate

9. When you *accompany* a friend, you

- A take up all his or her time
- B help him or her do a chore
- C go somewhere with him or her
- D teach him or her something new

10. A person with no *offspring* has no:

- A free time
- B children
- C authority
- D influence

# Abolish Serfdom Now!

<persuasive essay>

Friends:

It's 1360 and events of recent years still shock me. I cannot accept the fact that in England, the black plague killed at least one-third of our people. This terrible disease paid no attention to class or social hierarchy, and because of that, it has taught me a basic truth that I wish to share with you.

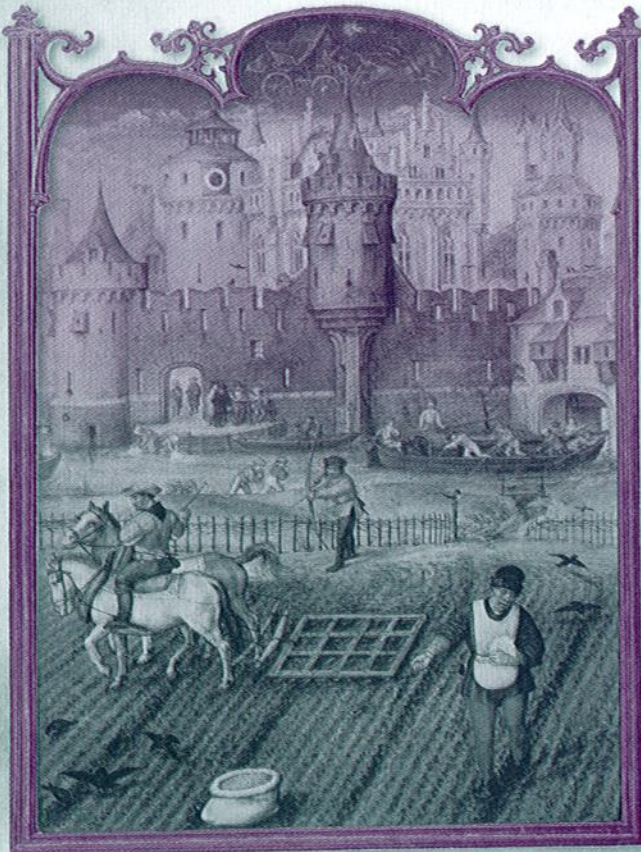
While some rich people were able to avoid the dreaded disease by fleeing to the countryside, the majority of the people weren't as lucky. In every class—royalty, landowner, merchant,

craftsman, teacher, peasant, and serf—people died. From this tragedy, I've learned this: we are all equal. If the plague can kill equally, why can't we live equally? Everyone deserves basic freedoms and rights. That is why I firmly believe that we must abolish serfdom.

What person does not know how terrible the life of a serf is? A serf has no rights. It's as if the serf is a slave and is owned by the wealthy landowner for whom he works. The landowner not only requires the serf to work his land, but he also demands that the serf work it forever.

Now, the landowner will say that the serf could not live without his help. He will say that he is being generous by providing land for the serf to farm. Well, he ignores the fact that a serf has only a hovel or a makeshift place to call home. The landlord will not admit that the serf has no time or energy left to farm the land he's been given for his own use. Plus, the serf has to pay a tax on this land, even if nothing grows! He's not only a tenant, living on the landowner's property, but also a prisoner.

There is no happy medium here—no intermediate option. Let us work in pursuit of freedom for all. If we do not correct this injustice soon, be warned: the serfs will rise up and revolt. We must stop the medieval practice of serfdom before it is too late!



## VOCABULARY

hierarchy

peasant

hovel

makeshift

tax

tenant

medium

intermediate

pursuit

medieval

Below: Beynac-et-Cazenac, town and chateau, in Aquitaine, France.

Left: Serfs farmed the land of the wealthy.

### TALK ABOUT IT

With a partner, answer the questions below. Use as many of the highlighted words in the selection as you can.

1. If you were a wealthy landowner in *medieval* Europe, how would you have treated your serfs?
2. How did the social *hierarchy* keep people in a particular position?

## Word Meanings

For each highlighted word on pages 114–115, the meaning is given below. For practice with other meanings, see pages 119–121. For synonyms and antonyms, see page 134.

1. **hierarchy**  
(HEYE-uh-rar-kee)

(n.) *Hierarchy* is the classification of people according to their social, professional, or economic standing.

2. **peasant**  
(PE-zuhnt)

(n.) A *peasant* was a small landowner or laborer who worked the land to grow crops. In medieval Europe, a *peasant* worked as a farmer or laborer.



3. **hovel**  
(HUH-vuhl)

(n.) A *hovel* is a small house or hut that is usually dirty and run-down.

4. **makeshift**  
(MAYK-shift)

(adj.) Something that is *makeshift* is roughly built and intended to last for only a short time.

5. **tax**  
(taks)

(n.) A *tax* is a fee that is collected by an authority, such as the government, and used for a public purpose.

(v.) When you *tax* your strength, you make demands on it.

6. **tenant**  
(TEN-uhnt)

(n.) A *tenant* rents a house or apartment from the person who owns it.

7. **medium**  
(MEE-dee-uhm)

(n.) *Medium* is in the middle.

(n.) An artist's *medium* is the material or means used to create art. A *medium* is also a source through which information or entertainment is communicated, such as radio.

8. **intermediate**  
(in-tur-MEE-dee-it)

(adj.) A position that is in the middle, between two extremes, is an *intermediate* position.

(adj.) An *intermediate* step comes in the middle of a process, between the beginning and the end.

9. **pursuit**  
(pur-SOOT)

(n.) When you are in *pursuit* of something, you are chasing or trying to get it.

(n.) A *pursuit* is an activity or an occupation.

10. **medieval**  
(mee-DEE-vuhl)

(adj.) Something that is *medieval* is from the Middle Ages, which lasted from the fifth to the fifteenth centuries in Europe. *Medieval* can also refer to anything that is old-fashioned or unenlightened.

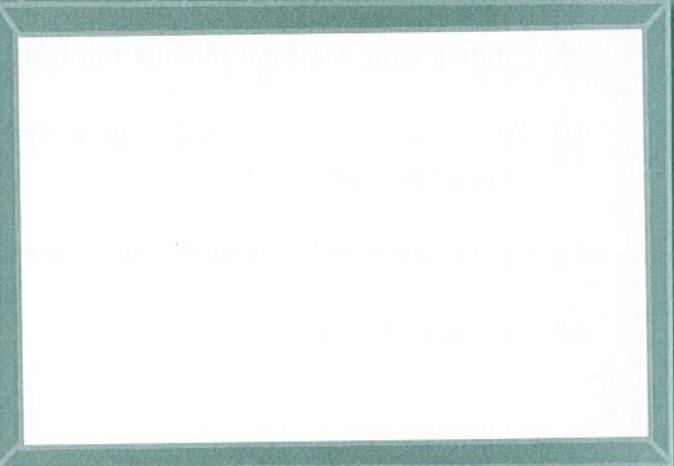
## Word Talk

Each lesson word is listed here. With a partner, take turns drawing a picture to illustrate the meaning of six of the words. As one partner draws, the other partner identifies the vocabulary word.

hierarchy  
hovel  
intermediate  
makeshift  
medieval  
medium  
peasant  
pursuit  
tax (n.)  
tenant



hovel



## Check for Understanding

Choose the lesson word that completes each sentence. Write the word on the line provided. Some words will be used twice.



hierarchy	makeshift	pursuit
hovel	medieval	tax
intermediate	medium	tenant
	peasant	

- The Senate candidate told her opponent that his attitudes about women were \_\_\_\_\_ and out of date.
- Abigail grabbed her binoculars and backpack and left with the other bird watchers in \_\_\_\_\_ of the white-faced ibis.
- The federal \_\_\_\_\_ on gasoline is used to build highways and transit systems.
- The hikers put up a/an \_\_\_\_\_ tent to protect them from the rain.
- The so-called country cottage turned out to be a wretched \_\_\_\_\_.
- We live in different parts of town, so let's meet at a/an \_\_\_\_\_ place.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ paid rent to the owner for the right to live in the house.
- Student Council President is at the top of the school government \_\_\_\_\_.
- I didn't want the food to cook too fast, so I set the heat on \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ had to give a portion of all his crops to the lord who owned the land.
- People dress up like knights and maidens to attend \_\_\_\_\_ festivals.
- The reporter was in \_\_\_\_\_ of an interview that was the key to writing an award-winning story.





## Expand Word Meanings

Read the paragraph below to learn other meanings for some of the lesson words.

In the Middle Ages, tapestry was a popular **medium** for art. Medieval tapestries were woven, so it took trained artists and skilled craftsmen to make one. The artist would create the design, making a "cartoon" that showed exactly how the finished tapestry would look. In an **intermediate** stage, the weaver would put the cartoon on the loom and trace the design onto the warp threads. A large tapestry could **tax** a weaver's patience. Several weavers might work together for months to complete one. But this medieval **pursuit** has given us much beautiful artwork.

In this passage, some of the lesson words are used in a different way. Look at *medium*. Here it refers to the means and material an artist uses to create art. Look at the other highlighted words. Can you figure out what each of them means in this context? Refer to page 116 to confirm their meanings.

### Apply Other Meanings

Complete each sentence with a highlighted word from the paragraph above.

1. Carrying a heavy backpack to school can \_\_\_\_\_ your strength.
2. After getting an A in beginning algebra, she was sure she was ready for the \_\_\_\_\_ level.
3. Marble was the sculptor Bernini's favorite \_\_\_\_\_ to work in.
4. His latest \_\_\_\_\_ is learning to play the banjo.
5. Acrylic paint has become a popular \_\_\_\_\_ for artists to work in.
6. Our chemistry experiment was a disaster because we left out one of the \_\_\_\_\_ steps.
7. Trying to study in a noisy room will \_\_\_\_\_ your powers of concentration.
8. My parents have always encouraged me in each new \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Although the director had made movies, television was his favorite \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Training a puppy requires time and effort, so you should never let a puppy's mistakes \_\_\_\_\_ your patience.

## Word Associations

Use what you know about the lesson word in italics to answer each question. Circle the letter next to the phrase that best answers the question. Be prepared to explain your answers.



- Where would a *hierarchy* be LEAST likely to exist?
  - in a corporation
  - in a commune
  - in a school
- Which job would be the work of a *peasant* in the Middle Ages?
  - fighting on horseback
  - keeping the queen company
  - harvesting crops
- Which people are least likely to have to pay a *tax*?
  - property owners
  - office workers
  - schoolchildren
- Which of these things would be okay if it were *makeshift*?
  - the car you're riding in
  - the plane you're flying in
  - the tent you're resting in
- Which of these words would NOT be another word for *hovel*?
  - mansion
  - hut
  - shack
- Which increase would affect a *tenant* most directly?
  - food prices
  - rent prices
  - gasoline prices
- What *medium* would a speaker use to get his or her message heard?
  - newspaper
  - billboard
  - television
- Which group might be expected to take an *intermediate* position?
  - supporters of an idea
  - people with no strong opinion
  - opponents of an idea
- What might someone be in *pursuit* of?
  - an injury
  - unhappiness
  - a good grade
- Which instruments would likely be used to perform *medieval* music?
  - a wooden lute and a harp
  - an electric keyboard and a saxophone
  - drums and an electric guitar



## Check Again

Use what you know about the lesson word in italics to complete each sentence. Be sure your sentences make sense.

1. The life of a *peasant* might be hard because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Many clubs have a *hierarchy* of members to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In my free time, my favorite *pursuit* is \_\_\_\_\_
4. I set the blender speed on *medium* because \_\_\_\_\_
5. The teenagers created a *makeshift* bench using \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The landlord asked the *tenant* to \_\_\_\_\_
7. It's insulting to call my house a *hovel* because \_\_\_\_\_
8. People associated with the *medieval* period of history include \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. You can *tax* someone's patience by \_\_\_\_\_
10. You can enroll in the *intermediate* swimming class if \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Challenge Yourself

Follow the directions to write sentences with the lesson words in italics. Be sure your sentences make sense both grammatically and in meaning.

Write  
Your Owns

1. Write a sentence with the word *makeshift* in the fourth position.  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Write a sentence exactly ten words in length using the word *pursuit*.  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Write a question with the word *tax* in the fifth position.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Word-Solving Strategies: Roots

### Root word **med-**: “middle”

Three of the lesson words share the Latin root *med-*, from the word *medius*, which means “middle.” These lesson words are *intermediate*, *medieval*, and *medium*.

Consider how the meaning “middle” is part of the meaning of each of the lesson words. A step or position that is *intermediate* is in the middle—between the beginning and the end, or between two different extremes. *Medieval* is an adjective used to describe people, objects, and behaviors related to the Middle Ages, a period between ancient and enlightenment times. *Medium* describes something in the middle.

Thinking about root words gives you a better understanding of word meanings and helps you see how words are connected in meaning.

For example, if you can recall the meaning you already know for *medium* and remember that *medius* means “middle,” it will help you understand what *medium* means in this sentence: *When the medium of television was first introduced, some people thought it would never catch on.* Here, *medium* refers to television, which acts as a go-between for information and people.

#### Examples

Study these words and their definitions and think about how the root word *med-* affects their meanings.

mediate → act as a go-between

medial → in the middle

There are several English words with the letters *med* that are not related to the Latin word for “middle.” Such words as *medical*, *medicine*, *remedy*, and *remedial* share a different Latin root. They are derived from the Latin verb *mederi*, which means “to remedy or heal.”

### BE CAREFUL!

#### Practice

Use what you know about the root word *med-* to write a sentence using these words or phrases. Consult a dictionary if you need to.

1. mediocre \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. media \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. immediate \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. median \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Mediterranean \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. intermediary \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Practice for Tests

Fill in the bubble next to the answer that best completes the sentence or answers the question.

1. Read this sentence.

The two groups couldn't agree and had to find an *intermediate* position.

*Intermediate* means:

- A extremely urgent
- B not very popular
- C between two extremes
- D completely different

2. Which is not a *medium*?

- A clay
- B magazine
- C online newspaper
- D paintbrush

3. Someone in *pursuit* of a dream is:

- A trying to fall asleep
- B working to attain it
- C analyzing its meaning
- D hoping it doesn't come true

4. A *medieval* form of punishment is:

- A out of date
- B European
- C royal
- D knightly

5. A *tenant* lives on property that is:

- A able to be farmed
- B free from property taxes
- C owned by someone else
- D in a major urban area

6. Read this sentence.

They built a *makeshift* shelter for the cat next to the back porch.

*Makeshift* means:

- A sturdy
- B permanent
- C waterproof
- D temporary

7. A person pays a *tax* with:

- A food
- B money
- C a house
- D clothes

8. *Hierarchy* would NOT classify people by:

- A social standing
- B economic status
- C professional rank
- D height and weight

9. A word closely related to *peasant* is:

- A land
- B bird
- C assistant
- D queen

10. Which adjectives could ALL describe a *hovel*?

- A quaint, country, comfortable
- B small, dirty, tumbledown
- C quaint, small, comfortable
- D large, country, tumbledown



Watch a video introduction to this passage at [vocabularyforsuccess.com](http://vocabularyforsuccess.com).



Listen to this passage at [vocabularyforsuccess.com](http://vocabularyforsuccess.com).

## A Great Lady Is Dead

<obituary>

**Eleanor of Aquitaine** (1122–1204) — It is with extreme sadness that we report the death yesterday of an extraordinary woman. Eleanor of Aquitaine, age 82, will be remembered as one of the most remarkable queens of any European monarchy.

Eleanor of Aquitaine was larger than life. She was an orphan, wife, mother of ten, traitor, prisoner, world traveler, and Queen of France and England. By the age of 15, she'd been orphaned, inherited her father's large and valuable estate, and married Louis VII, heir to the French throne. Born into the age of chivalry, Eleanor loved to flaunt her power. When she became queen, she brought along 300 servants, succulent foods, and a squire to carry armor on trips with Louis VII. Ultimately, Eleanor and Louis VII ended their marriage because they had not produced an heir.

Just weeks later, Eleanor married a younger Englishman, Henry II. Within two years, the couple were crowned King and Queen of England. Together they raised eight children and shared many interests. In time, however, King Henry II tired of his wife, and Eleanor fled the royal court. She returned to France, determined to destroy Henry II. Confident that she had the allegiance of her sons, Eleanor urged them to seize power. When Henry II discovered the plot, he had Eleanor captured. Since Eleanor had become his enemy, Henry II could rationalize putting his former wife in prison. She remained a prisoner until Henry II's death. When her favorite son, Richard, ascended to the throne, his first act as king was to release Eleanor. She lived long enough to see her second son, John, become king as well.



## VOCABULARY

monarchy	squire
estate	court
chivalry	allegiance
flaunt	rationalize
succulent	stabilize

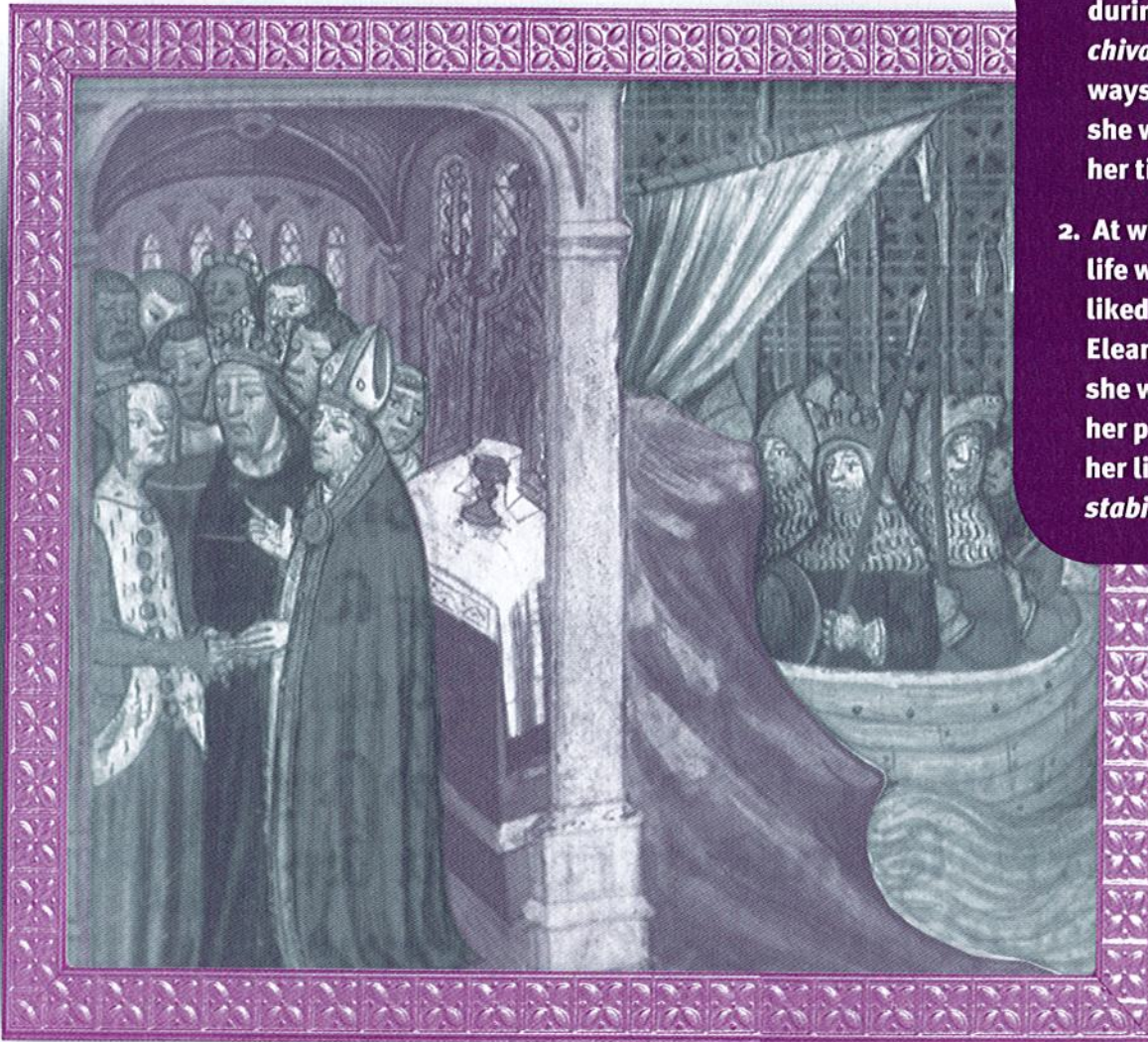
As Eleanor grew old, her life began to stabilize and was much calmer. Her final days were spent quietly at Fontevrault Abbey in France. She will be remembered as an extraordinary woman who was ahead of her time. Eleanor will be buried in Fontevrault, next to her first husband, Louis VII, and her son Richard.

Left: Eleanor of Aquitaine  
Below: Eleanor married Louis VII when she was 15 years old.

### TALK ABOUT IT

With a partner, answer the questions below. Use as many of the highlighted words in the selection as you can.

1. Since Eleanor lived during the age of chivalry, in what ways do you think she was ahead of her time?
2. At what time in her life would you have liked to have known Eleanor—when she would flaunt her power or when her life began to stabilize? Explain.



## Word Meanings

For each highlighted word on pages 124–125, the meaning is given below. For practice with other meanings, see pages 129–131. For synonyms and antonyms, see page 134.

1. **monarchy**  
(MO-nur-kee) (n.) A nation or state is a *monarchy* when its government is headed by a king, queen, or other ruler who has inherited the position.
2. **estate**  
(ess-TAYT) (n.) An *estate* is all the money, property, and other valuable items that a person leaves when he or she dies.  
(n.) An *estate* is a social class. In medieval times, the three *estates* were religious leaders, nobles, and peasants.
3. **chivalry**  
(SHI-vuhl-ree) (n.) *Chivalry* was a code of conduct for knights in the Middle Ages characterized by gracious and courteous conduct, especially toward women.
4. **flaunt**  
(flawnt) (v.) People *flaunt* their possessions or abilities when they show off and try to impress others with them.
5. **succulent**  
(SUHK-yuh-luhnt) (adj.) A *succulent* meal tastes delicious and has a moist and pleasing texture.  
(n.) A *succulent* is a plant, such as a cactus or an aloe, with fleshy tissues that store moisture.
6. **squire**  
(skwire) (n.) In the Middle Ages, a *squire* was a young nobleman who tended to a knight's needs.  
(v.) When you *squire* people, you escort them and attend to their needs, as a medieval squire would tend to a knight.
7. **court**  
(kort) (n.) A *court* is the place where a king or other ruler resides with his family, advisers, and servants, and these people working together also is called a *court*.  
(v.) When you *court* someone, you seek the person's attention and favor, sometimes with the goal of marriage.
8. **allegiance**  
(uh-LEE-junss) (n.) *Allegiance* is loyalty and devotion to a person, a group, a country, or a cause.
9. **rationalize**  
(RASH-nuh-lize) (v.) When you *rationalize* something, you create an excuse or an explanation for your feelings, desires, or actions to make them appear better than they are.
10. **stabilize**  
(STAY-buh-lize) (v.) When situations *stabilize*, they stop changing and become more regular and constant.





## Word Talk

Each lesson word has been placed in a category. With a partner, discuss and list items that belong in each category. Compare your results with those of another pair of students.

Things to Which You  
Have *Allegiance*

Members of a  
Royal *Court*

Countries That Are  
*Monarchies*

Items in an *Estate*

Behaviors You Might  
*Rationalize*

People Who Have  
Responsibilities  
Similar to a *Squire's*

Foods That Are  
*Succulent*

Things People Might  
*Flaunt*

Situations or Places  
That Can *Stabilize*

Qualities Associated  
with *Chivalry*

## Check for Understanding

Choose the lesson word that completes each sentence. Write the word on the line provided. Some words will be used twice.

allegiance

estate

squire

chivalry

flaunt

stabilize

court

monarchy

succulent

rationalize

- How can you \_\_\_\_\_ forgetting your best friend's birthday?
- The Netherlands is a constitutional \_\_\_\_\_ with a queen.
- A medieval \_\_\_\_\_ was destined to become a knight.
- During the reign of Queen Mary I—also known as Bloody Mary—England's royal \_\_\_\_\_ was a place of dishonesty and trickery.
- The code of \_\_\_\_\_ guided the conduct of knights in the Middle Ages.
- When the businesswoman died, her \_\_\_\_\_ was estimated at more than four million dollars.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to one's country is important to most people because they are loyal to their homeland.
- The freshly picked peaches were very fragrant and \_\_\_\_\_.
- If you \_\_\_\_\_ your wealth, you might make people jealous and angry.
- Greta held the door for Jacob and declared, "\_\_\_\_\_ isn't just for boys!"
- After a year of change and uncertainty, we hope the situation will \_\_\_\_\_ and we can resume our happy lives.
- To \_\_\_\_\_ what happened is to make excuses for your own mistakes.



## Expand Word Meanings

Read the paragraph below to learn other meanings for some of the lesson words.

When I visited England, I wanted to tour its stately homes. My English friend agreed to **squire** me around. First, we visited Arundel Castle, which is nearly one thousand years old. King Henry II built much of the oldest part of the castle in the twelfth century. The garden outside the home is spectacular and gave me an idea. After the tour, I bought my friend a **succulent**. I knew aloe was his favorite plant, and I was also hoping to **court** his favor. You see, I wanted him to take me to see more historic sites. I still hoped to see where other members of the noble, or second, **estate** had lived.

Some of the lesson words are used in a different way on this page. Look at **squire**. Here it means "to escort," as opposed to "a young nobleman who tends to a knight's needs." Look at the other highlighted words. Can you figure out the meaning of the words as they are used here? Refer to page 126 to confirm meanings.

### Apply Other Meanings

Complete each sentence with a highlighted word from the paragraph above.

1. Before an election, politicians work hard to \_\_\_\_\_ voters.
2. Because he did not have a car, Donald had to \_\_\_\_\_ his date to the movies on foot.
3. In medieval Europe, peasants were part of the third \_\_\_\_\_ and were at the bottom of the social order.
4. The cactus plant is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ that grows well in the desert.
5. The first \_\_\_\_\_, the clergy, held the greatest political power during the Middle Ages.
6. A/An \_\_\_\_\_ called sour fig is planted as a ground cover to prevent soil erosion.
7. The members of the City Council must \_\_\_\_\_ their colleagues to win support for their favorite issues.
8. A/An \_\_\_\_\_ can grow very well in drought conditions because it stores water.
9. Yalcin knew that if he wanted to marry Emma, he would need to \_\_\_\_\_ her parents as well as her.
10. Since we did not know the city, we were grateful that someone was willing to \_\_\_\_\_ us around.

## Word Associations

Use what you know about the lesson word in *italics* to answer each question. Circle the letter next to the phrase that best answers the question. Be prepared to explain your answers.

- Which person would be the head of state in a *monarchy*?
  - prime minister
  - king
  - president
- Which of these fruits is usually the most *succulent*?
  - watermelon
  - banana
  - apple
- When might you have to *squire* your sister to a dance?
  - if she were a beginner
  - if she missed it
  - if she had no date
- Which circumstance might you *flaunt*?
  - being the victim of a prank
  - winning a prestigious award
  - getting unexpected bad news
- Who usually inherits an *estate*?
  - grandparents
  - wealthy people
  - members of the family
- Which is an example of *chivalry*?
  - a man boards the bus first
  - a woman hires a male secretary
  - a man lends his raincoat to a woman
- Which is an example of someone trying to *rationalize*?
  - "No one told me I had to do it."
  - "Let's go after school."
  - "That sounds like a good idea."
- If your life is frantic, what daily routine might help *stabilize* it?
  - skipping lunch sometimes
  - exercising at the same time each day
  - going to sleep at different hours
- Which of these groups would NOT be part of a medieval *court*?
  - knights
  - ladies-in-waiting
  - peasants
- To which of these groups would you show *allegiance*?
  - your friends
  - your enemies
  - strangers



## Check Again

Use what you know about the lesson word in italics to complete each sentence. Be sure your sentences make sense.



1. The *estate* of most people is made up of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. I might be tempted to *flaunt* the fact that I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. It was the duty of a *squire* to \_\_\_\_\_
4. I like *succulent* fruits because \_\_\_\_\_
5. In a *monarchy*, a person usually becomes head of state \_\_\_\_\_
6. He tried very hard to *rationalize* why \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. People are usually happy when situations *stabilize* because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. The idea of *chivalry* is appealing to some people because \_\_\_\_\_
9. We show *allegiance* to our school by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. At *court*, the king was surrounded by \_\_\_\_\_

## Challenge Yourself

Follow the directions to write sentences with the lesson words in italics. Be sure your sentences make sense both grammatically and in meaning.

Write  
Your Own

1. Write a sentence with the word *estate* in the fourth position.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Write a sentence exactly seven words in length using the word *succulent*.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Write a question with the word *flaunt* in the sixth position  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Word-Solving Strategies: Suffixes

### Suffix **-ize**: “to cause to be,” “to become”

Suffixes are added to the ends of words and change their parts of speech. The suffix *-ize*, which means “to cause to be” or “to become,” turns adjectives and nouns into verbs.

Two of the lesson words end with *-ize*: *rationalize* and *stabilize*. Both are formed by adding the suffix *-ize* to an adjective. The adjective *rational*—meaning “based on reason”—becomes the verb *rationalize* by simply adding *-ize*. So the verb means “to cause to be based on reason.” The adjective *stable*—meaning “staying the same”—is also turned into a verb by adding *-ize*, but this time there are spelling changes. The final *le* is changed to *il* before *-ize* is added. The verb *stabilize* means “to cause to stay the same.”

Many new words are created by adding *-ize* to existing words.

Think of *Americanize* (to become American) and *digitize* (to become digital). You could even use *-ize* to make up new words of your own. If you had a friend named Jason who often changed plans to suit himself, you might tell another friend that your weekend plans had been “Jasonized”!

#### Examples

Study these examples of adjectives and nouns that become verbs when *-ize* is added. Note how the spelling can change when the suffix is added.

final → finalize  
 symbol → symbolize  
 mobile → mobilize  
 energy → energize  
 public → publicize  
 authority → authorize

Although thinking about the meaning of the base word can help you understand the meaning of a verb that ends with *-ize*, you have to be sure you’ve identified the right base word. For example, the base word for *authorize* is not *author* but *authority*. When you are *authorized* to do something, you have the *authority* to do it.

### BE CAREFUL!

#### Practice

Use what you’ve learned about the suffix *-ize* to create verbs from the following adjectives and nouns.

- popular \_\_\_\_\_
- standard \_\_\_\_\_
- category \_\_\_\_\_
- alphabet \_\_\_\_\_
- personal \_\_\_\_\_

- normal \_\_\_\_\_
- human \_\_\_\_\_
- capital \_\_\_\_\_
- formal \_\_\_\_\_
- sterile \_\_\_\_\_

## Practice for Tests

Fill in the bubble next to the answer that best completes the sentence or answers the question.

1. Read this sentence.

If you win the contest, try not to *flaunt* your good fortune.

*Flaunt* means:

- A enjoy
- B ignore
- C show off
- D belittle

2. A word associated with *monarchy* is:

- A democracy
- B tyranny
- C president
- D kingdom

3. A *squire* today would most likely be similar to a:

- A president or king
- B servant or maid
- C trainee or assistant
- D brother or friend

4. You would be most likely to *rationalize* something that:

- A troubles you
- B you're proud of
- C you didn't do
- D helped you

5. When things *stabilize*, they:

- A become stale
- B stop changing
- C react to pressure
- D go faster

6. Read this sentence.

*Allegiance* to friends keeps me from saying anything unkind about them.

*Allegiance* means:

- A tolerance
- B indifference
- C reluctance
- D loyalty

7. Who would a person NOT *court*?

- A a boss
- B an enemy
- C a girlfriend
- D a parent

8. Food that is *succulent* is:

- A moist and delicious
- B crisp and salty
- C chewy and tasty
- D dry and tasteless

9. *Chivalry* dictated that a knight behave:

- A brutally
- B weakly
- C courteously
- D disdainfully

10. What is something a person would NOT give to someone as part of an *estate*?

- A a home
- B goodwill
- C money
- D a car

## Synonyms and Antonyms

In the following Word Bank, you will find synonyms and antonyms for some of the words in Lessons 10–12. (Remember: Some words have both synonyms and antonyms.) Study these words; then complete the exercises below.

disloyalty      abandon      effort      parade      escort      hide  
shanty      veteran      relate      following      renter      unappetizing

**A.** For each sentence, fill in the blank with a **SYNONYM** for the word in boldface.

1. Although they jokingly referred to their weekend cottage as a **hovel**, it was more like a country cabin than a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The **tenant** bought a house and moved out of the apartment because she didn't want to be a/an \_\_\_\_\_ anymore.
3. Lucy's father couldn't **accompany** her to the father-daughter dinner, so her uncle agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ her instead.
4. The volunteers weren't paid for their **labor**. They were donating their \_\_\_\_\_ to a good cause.
5. The amateur detective took off in **pursuit** of the suspect, but the suspect soon got away because the detective was not very good at \_\_\_\_\_.

**B.** For each sentence, fill in the blank with an **ANTONYM** for the word in boldface.

6. The doctor was new in town, but he was hardly a **novice**. He was a/an \_\_\_\_\_ with ten years' experience.
7. They were looking forward to a **succulent** meal and were disappointed when the food they were served was cold and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Some people think you should **flaunt** your achievements and not \_\_\_\_\_ them or pretend that they are not important to you.
9. We wanted to **accompany** Ricardito onto the plane, but the flight attendants made us say good-bye and \_\_\_\_\_ him at the gate.
10. The player felt such strong **allegiance** to her team, it felt like \_\_\_\_\_ to continue watching other teams play in the tournament after her own had lost.



## Word Study: Denotation and Connotation

You know that the literal meaning of a word is its denotation. Some words can have a connotation that gives the word a positive or negative feeling or tone. Sometimes words that are similar in denotation have different connotations.

POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	NEUTRAL
fragrant	smelly	scented
valuable	overpriced	costly
guest	intruder	visitor

Look at the noun **labor** in Lesson 10 and some of its synonyms:

<b>labor</b>	<b>work</b>	<b>employment</b>	<b>career</b>
<b>profession</b>	<b>drudgery</b>	<b>exertion</b>	<b>grind</b>

The noun *labor* and its synonyms *work* and *employment* are neutral. They have neither a positive nor a negative connotation. The nouns *career* and *profession* suggest a choice and have a positive connotation. The nouns *drudgery*, *exertion*, and *grind* all have negative connotations that suggest an activity that is difficult or boring.

### Practice

**A.** Circle the word in parentheses that has the connotation (positive, negative, or neutral) given at the beginning of the sentence.

- negative** 1. Dad's small business began in a (**makeshift**, temporary) office.
- positive** 2. The city block is lined with many (**old**, historic) brick buildings
- negative** 3. The girl went to the party to (**display**, flaunt) her new dress.
- neutral** 4. A tree branch tore a (**large**, gaping) hole in the child's kite.
- negative** 5. A lot of tiny ants (**invaded**, entered) the kitchen this spring.
- neutral** 6. My aunt has been (**toiling**, working) most of her life.
- positive** 7. (**Devoted**, Interested) volunteers often help out at the animal shelter.

**B.** Work with a partner. Write a plus sign (+) if the word has a positive connotation; write a minus sign (-) if the word has a negative connotation. Put a zero (0) if the word is neutral.

- |                                       |                                      |  |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. dreaded <input type="checkbox"/>   | 3. chivalry <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. allegiance <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. gender <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. injustice <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. medium <input type="checkbox"/>   | 6. hovel <input type="checkbox"/>      | 8. hearty <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Vocabulary for Comprehension

Read the following passage, in which some of the words you have studied in Lessons 10–12 appear in boldface type. Then answer questions 1–6.

### “I Hereby Dub Thee Knight”

If you wanted to be a knight in the Middle Ages, you would have to be the **offspring** of a knight. At the age of seven, you would be sent to a neighboring castle to be trained as a page.

- 5 There you would learn to ride and fight with a spear and sword. The lady of the castle would teach you to sing and dance—essential skills for life in the king’s **court**. A schoolmaster would teach you to read and write. He would also
- 10 teach you French and Latin. After seven years of being a page, you would hardly be a **novice** in knighthood, but you would still have seven years to go.

At the age of fourteen, you would take the

- 15 **intermediate** step to knighthood. You would

1. In sentence 1, **offspring** means

- A protégé
- B servant
- C child
- D slave

2. Someone who is NOT a *novice* (line 11) would be

- A experienced
- B naive
- C innocent
- D bored

3. An *intermediate* (line 15) step is

- A at the end
- B taken quickly
- C straight ahead
- D in the middle

become a **squire**, the **apprentice** to a knight. You would give your service and your **allegiance**

- 20 to your knight. You would dress him in the morning, serve him his meals, care for his horse, and clean his armor and weapons. While serving him, you would continue your own **pursuit** of knighthood, learning the art of **chivalry** and
- 25 developing the skills and refinements required of a knight. The expected **scenario** would be that, after seven more years of service, if you proved yourself worthy, you would become a knight yourself at age 21.

4. Another word for *allegiance* (line 19) is

- A benefit
- B counsel
- C loyalty
- D enthusiasm

5. If you are in *pursuit* (line 23) of something, you want to

- A drive it away
- B achieve it
- C purchase it
- D escape it

6. A *scenario* (line 26) describes

- A a promise
- B a landscape
- C scenes in a play
- D future events

