

Lesson 1

OK

Word List

Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

abate

ə bāi'

v. To become weaker; to decrease.

The speaker waited until the applause had **abated** before continuing.

unabated *adj.* Showing no sign of weakening; showing no decrease.

Representative Millet showed **unabated** enthusiasm for campaigning for the senate seat, even though he had been twice defeated for that office.

acknowledge

ak nāl' ij

v. 1. To admit the existence of.

Did the police officer **acknowledge** your right to remain silent?

2. To express recognition or thanks for.

The new Wimbledon singles champion raised her hand to **acknowledge** the cheers of the crowd.

acknowledged *adj.* Commonly accepted or recognized.

Bill James is an **acknowledged** expert on baseball statistics.

agent

ā' jənt

n. 1. A person who acts or does business for another.

The author's **agent** found a company to publish his latest mystery story.

2. Something that brings about a result.

A new principal can be a powerful **agent** for change in a school.

authority

ə thōr' ə tē

n. 1. The right to give orders, make decisions, or take action.

Only the Congress of the United States has the **authority** to declare war.

2. An expert source of information.

The researcher Jane Goodall is a world **authority** on chimpanzees.

authorities *n.* A group of people who have the right to enforce laws.

The **authorities** closed the restaurant because it did not meet the proper standards for cleanliness.

devastate

dev' ə stāt

v. To ruin or destroy completely.

Farmers in the Midwest fear that lack of rain will **devastate** the wheat crop.

devastating *adj.* Causing destruction.

A **devastating** hurricane destroyed hundreds of homes in southern Florida.

devastation *n.* Great destruction.

The earthquake in Japan created a scene of massive **devastation**.

epidemic

ep ə dem' ik

n. The rapid spreading of a disease to many people at one time.

The flu **epidemic** of 1918 killed over twenty million people in the Northern Hemisphere.

adj. Spreading rapidly as a disease over a wide area.

AIDS became **epidemic** in central Africa in the 1980s.

estimate

es' tə mēt

n. A number that is not exact; a careful guess.

The mechanic's **estimate** for repairing the car is \$1000.

v. (es' tə māt) To figure out roughly; to make an approximate calculation.

We **estimate** that it will take us an hour to drive to the airport.

evict

ē vikt

v. To force out of property by taking legal action.

The landlord threatened to **evict** the tenants for not paying the rent.

impartial
im pār' shəl

adj. Not favoring one side more than another; fair.
A judge should be **impartial** in the courtroom.

industrious
in dus' trē əs

adj. Hardworking; not lazy.
The more **industrious** workers in the clothing factory were rewarded with pay raises at the end of the year.

infuriate
in fyoor' ē āt

v. To make very angry.
Cruelty to animals **infuriates** me.

irrelevant
ir rel' ə vənt

adj. Having nothing to do with the subject.
The candidate's personal wealth is **irrelevant** to our discussion about his qualifications for the job.

precise
prē sīs'

adj. Exact; accurate.
Do you know the **precise** time that your plane arrives?
precision *n.* (prē sizh' ən) Exactness.
An eye surgeon's work requires great **precision**.

sham
sham

n. Something fake or false.
Their offer to make us rich turned out to be a **sham**.
adj. Not genuine; fake.
Although he tried to appear sorry, his **sham** apology fooled no one.
v. To pretend.
We **shammed** illness so we could stay home.

trek
trek

n. A long, slow, and difficult journey.
The hikers were exhausted after their **trek** over the mountain.
v. To travel slowly and with difficulty.
Sam **trekked** ten miles into town after his car broke down.

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1A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 1. Write each sentence in the space provided.

CA

1. (a) you make that person very angry. (c) If you infuriate someone,
(b) you act in that person's place. (d) If you evict someone,

DT

2. (a) something that is not genuine. (c) An estimate is
(b) a decrease in size or amount. (d) A sham is

CA

3. (a) a disease that spreads rapidly. (c) An epidemic is
(b) a number that is not exact. (d) An agent is