

Lesson 2

Word List

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

abrasion
ə brā' zhən

n. 1. A wearing away or rubbing away by friction.

This protective coating helps to prevent **abrasion** of the floor tiles.

2. A scraped or worn area.

Natalie's fall during the basketball game resulted in an **abrasion** on her knee.

abrasive *adj.* 1. Causing wear by rubbing.

Don't use this **abrasive** cleaner on the vinyl bathtub because it will scratch the surface.

2. Harsh or rough in manner; irritating.

The bus driver's **abrasive** tone made the excited children settle down in their seats.

clad
klad

adj. Clothed or covered.

Clad in a black rubber suit, the diver jumped from the side of the rescue boat.

corroborate
kə rāb' ə rāt

v. To provide evidence to make more certain; to confirm.

Because he was standing at the stoplight when the accident occurred, Harry could

corroborate the driver's statement.

cursory
kʌr' sə rē

adj. Done in a hurry and with little attention to detail.

Sherlock Holmes made a **cursory** search of the bedroom before going into the dining room to question the family.

dehydrate
dē hī' drāt

v. 1. To remove the water from.

The processing plant **dehydrates** vegetables that are used in the popular soups sold in our grocery store.

2. To become dry; to lose water from.

During a marathon, runners will **dehydrate** unless they drink the water offered them along the route.

dehydration *n.* The state of being dehydrated.

Dehydration from the drought has caused the plants to wilt.

derive
dī rīv'

v. 1. To take or receive from a source.

After practicing so diligently, Hugh **derived** great satisfaction from the enthusiastic applause following his performance.

2. To obtain through reasoning.

We **derived** the answer to the question by applying Ohm's law.

electrify
ē lek' trə fī

v. 1. To wire or equip with electric power.

We no longer used oil lamps in our summer cottage once it had been **electrified**.

2. To thrill or shock.

Brian Boitano's performance, which included a layback spin and several perfectly executed triple axels, **electrified** the audience.

endeavor
en dev' ə r

v. To attempt earnestly.

The person we spoke to at the embassy said she would **endeavor** to find the papers we needed.

n. A serious, earnest effort toward a goal.

Arthur's **endeavor** to score twenty points a game throughout the season was a success.

gingerly

jin' jər lē

adj. Cautious; very careful.Mr. Wu made a **gingerly** attempt to bring the disputing parties together.*adv.* With extreme care or concern.Ella ran her tongue **gingerly** over where her wisdom tooth had been extracted and winced.**grimace**

grim' əs

v. To make a face expressing feelings of pain, disgust, or contempt.While the doctor described the series of painful tests she would need, Cheryl **grimaced** only once.*n.* A facial expression that seems to express pain, contempt, or disgust.A **grimace** crossed her face as she watched the old film clips showing the destruction of Sarajevo.**gruesome**

gruːsəm

adj. Causing shock or horror.The book told the **gruesome** details of living in Europe during the time of the Black Plague.**inventory**

in' vən tɔr ē

n. 1. A list of possessions or goods on hand.Before we could get renters' insurance, we had to make an **inventory** of everything of value in the apartment.

2. The stock of goods on hand.

The store's **inventory** of sheets and blankets was very low after the winter sale.*v.* To make a complete list of.At least once a year, the pharmacist **inventories** the stock.**simulate**

sim' yoo lāt

v. 1. To take on the qualities of another; to imitate.AstroTurf **simulates** real grass.

2. To pretend.

Although Iago **simulated** concern for Othello, he was carefully planning his destruction.**simulated** *adj.* Made to look genuine while being artificial.**Simulated** leather looks and feels like the real thing.**simulation** *n.* An imitation of a possible situation.The **simulation** of a natural gas explosion gave the local emergency crews a chance to practice rescue procedures.**succumb**

sə kʊm'

v. 1. To give up or give in to; to yield.After twenty-four hours on their feet, the relief workers **succumbed** to exhaustion, falling soundly to sleep on their cots.

2. To cease to exist; to die.

Smallpox was so pervasive in the eighteenth century that many people **succumbed**.**surmise**

sər mīz'

v. To suppose something without sufficient evidence.Heloise **surmised** that her visitors were late because of the traffic from the airport.*n.* A guess.My **surmise** is that the thief had been watching our house for weeks before breaking in.

2A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 2. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) To surmise something
(b) To electrify something

- (c) is to put it to death.
(d) is to suppose it to be true.

2. (a) is to be covered.
(b) To be dehydrated

- (c) is to feel faint from hunger.
(d) To be clad

3. (a) a change in attitude.
(b) An abrasion is

- (c) a wearing away of the surface.
(d) A grimace is

4. (a) supply it with electric power.
(b) prove it didn't take place.

- (c) To derive something is to
(d) To electrify something is to

5. (a) a facial expression of dislike.
(b) A grimace is

- (c) An endeavor is
(d) a failure to do what is required.

6. (a) cause it to become active.
(b) To dehydrate something is to

- (c) remove the water from it.
(d) To simulate something is to

7. (a) an earnest attempt.
(b) An endeavor is

- (c) An inventory is
(d) an educated guess.

8. (a) is to recover from it.
(b) is to imitate it.

- (c) To simulate something
(d) To corroborate something

9. (a) To inventory something
(b) To succumb to something

- (c) is to carefully avoid it.
(d) is to give in to it.

10. (a) To corroborate something
(b) is to end it abruptly.

- (c) is to obtain it through reasoning.
(d) To derive something

2B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 2.

1. Your friend has **told us things that lead us to believe** your story.
2. The newspaper photographs of the automobile accident were **shocking and horrible**.
3. Although I planned to avoid dessert, when the waitress showed me the chocolate mousse, I **gave in** to my desire for sweets.
4. Katia will **make a serious effort** to improve her score on the next biology test.
5. Mario's running shoes were just a little too tight, so that after the race he had **scraped areas** on his heel.
6. Griswold's Hardware Store carries a complete **stock of everything** for painting your house.
7. Monica **made a face expressing disgust** when she learned she had to work the holiday weekend.
8. Many American legal principles **were taken** from English common law.
9. The German border guard searched the car in a **hurried and inattentive** manner before waving us through the checkpoint.
10. Detective Jones lifted the knife **with extreme care** from the desk drawer.

abrasion
clad
corroborate
cursory
dehydrate
derive
electrify
endeavor
gingerly
grimace
gruesome
inventory
simulate
succumb
surmise

2C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below. Questions may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following can be **simulated**?

(a) fur	(c) anger
(b) surprise	(d) sleep
2. Which of the following can be **abrasive**?

(a) a bright light	(c) a surface
(b) a bad headache	(d) a person's manner

3. Which of the following can be **dehydrated**?
- (a) food (c) steam
(b) water (d) milk
4. Which of the following might be included in an **inventory**?
- (a) grocery items (c) parts of a country
(b) articles of clothing (d) parts of an automobile
5. Which of the following can be **cursory**?
- (a) a search (c) a smile
(b) a discovery (d) an examination
6. Which of the following might need to be **corroborated**?
- (a) an explanation (c) an account
(b) an accusation (d) a joke
7. Which of the following should be done **gingerly**?
- (a) chewing on a new filling (c) handling fragile papers
(b) disarming a bomb (d) running a 100-meter race
8. Which of the following can be **clad**?
- (a) Arctic explorers (c) house plants
(b) horses (d) swimsuits

2D Word Study

In each group below, circle the two words that are synonyms.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. copy | emulate | adjust | rebuff |
| 2. avid | cursory | stormy | turbulent |
| 3. succumb | grimace | increase | die |
| 4. electrify | reject | evoke | rebuff |
| 5. attempt | endeavor | derive | decide |

In each group below, circle the two words that are antonyms.

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 6. brusque | gentle | resilient | gruesome |
| 7. simulate | demand | praise | demean |
| 8. admirable | despicable | turbulent | pervasive |
| 9. rebuff | pervade | surmise | welcome |
| 10. concise | cursory | calm | turbulent |

ZE Passage

Read the passage below; then complete the exercise that follows.

The Iceman

On September 19, 1991, a German couple, returning from a day of hiking in the ten-thousand-foot high Otztaler region of the Alps made a **gruesome** discovery. The head and shoulders of a body protruded from the glacial ice in a shallow trench in the rock. With the nose and upper lip twisted up to the side, the face was set in a terrible **grimace**. Believing that they had discovered some unfortunate hiker, the couple reported their find at the mountain lodge where they were spending the night.

The first **endeavors** by mountain rescuers to free the body were unsuccessful because the location was remote and winter weather was beginning. A day or two later, the police asked medical experts from Innsbruck to assist in the recovery. Flying by helicopter to the site, they proceeded in a **gingerly** manner to chip away the ice until the body was free. Quickly placing it in a plastic body bag, they had it transported to Innsbruck for examination.

There it was stored in a freezer that **simulated** the conditions on the mountain. At the same time, an **inventory** of the objects found with or near the body was taken. Because some of these items appeared to be at least a hundred years old and to have historical significance, scientists at the University of Innsbruck were consulted. When they estimated that the find was 4,000 years old, everyone was astounded. Further tests established that the remains were actually 5,200 years old, an age later **corroborated** by tests at several independent institutions.

Scientists were **electrified** by the discovery. Not only would they be able to study the man's body, but also they would be able to **derive** information from his clothing and equipment about the age in which he had lived, the Late Neolithic period or Late Stone Age. A **cursory** examination of the body showed it to be in a remarkable state of preservation. Scientists believed that soon after the man **succumbed** to the cold, his body was **dehydrated** by the dry, icy winds of the high Alps. Subsequently, it was buried in snow, which filled the trench. As time passed this turned into packed ice, sealing the body and protecting it from harmful exposure to the air.

Further investigation revealed several interesting details. From the **abrasion** of his front teeth and the wear on his joints, scientists estimated the man's age at death to have been somewhere between thirty and forty years. His height was just over five feet. He had been **clad** in neatly sewn deerskin garments, with a grass cape to keep out the cold. With him were an ax with a long wooden handle, an unfinished bow and a leather quiver filled with arrows, a small leather pouch containing a flint scraper and some arrow tips, and a small knife.

At first, scientists were puzzled by several tattoos on the man's body—a blue cross on the back of one knee and a number of small parallel lines grouped together on his back and ankles. But when examinations showed that in each of these places the man's joints and bones showed wear or injury, they **surmised** that the markings may have been associated with some kind of primitive medical treatment.

In March, 2003, Eduard Egarter Vigl, official caretaker of the 5,300-year-old mummy at the Archaeological Museum in Bolzano, Italy, announced that he had found a deep knife wound on the mummy's right hand. "It is a severe, painful wound, certainly caused during a struggle," Vigl said. He believes the man died following a violent encounter with one or more people. The startling announcement followed the discovery a year earlier of an arrowhead wound in the man's left shoulder.

The exact details of what happened on that day more than 5,000 years ago will never be known. However, the Iceman has provided us with a revealing glimpse of life in the Late Stone

abrasion

clad

corroborate

cursory

dehydrate

derive

electrify

endeavor

gingerly

grimace

gruesome

inventory

simulate

succumb

surmise

Age. Both his well-preserved body and the clothing and tools that were with him are unique remains of a time before writing or cities had come into existence.

Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from this lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words).

1. How do we know that the Iceman had been prepared for cold weather?

2. What is the meaning of **succumb** as it is used in the passage?

3. What did the German climbers **surmise** about their discovery?

4. What kind of **abrasion** did scientists examine on the Iceman?

5. Would you describe this story of the Iceman as **gruesome**? Explain your answer.

6. Why was it necessary to remove the body from the ice in a **gingerly** manner?

7. Why do you think it was important to place the body in conditions that **simulated** those on the mountain?

8. From the **inventory** of items found with his body, what conclusions would you draw about the Iceman's life?

9. What is one thing the scientists learned about the Iceman that could not be determined by a **cursory** examination?

10. How can we be certain that the body was 5,200 years old?

11. Why do you think the Iceman's face looked as it did?

12. How did weather conditions in the Alps preserve the body?

13. What was the first step after the body was discovered?

14. What information could the scientists **derive** from the amount of wear on the Iceman's teeth?

15. Why would it be inaccurate to say that scientists were not interested in the Iceman?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

The prefix *de-* has a number of meanings, including "to remove." To *dehorn* cattle is to remove their horns; to *dethrone* a monarch is to remove that person from the throne. This prefix is combined with the Greek root *hydro*, "water," to form the verb **dehydrate**. To *dehydrate* something is to remove the water from it. Other words formed from this Greek root include: *hydrogen*, "a gas that combines with oxygen to form water"; *hydrant*, "a closed pipe at a street curb with a spout from which water can be drawn to fight fires"; and *hydraulics*, "the science of the behavior of liquids, as water, at rest, or in motion."

An adjective is normally changed into an adverb by adding the *-ly* suffix; a *slow* driver is someone

who drives *slowly*. But what if the adjective itself ends in *-ly*, as is the case with **gingerly**? Faced with writing *gingerlyly* as the adverbial form, users of the English language wisely decided that the adjective and adverb forms would be the same.

Simulate means "to imitate." (An animal will sometimes prevent an attack by *simulating* death.) Don't confuse this word with *stimulate*, which means "to make active." (Light *stimulates* growth in plants.) A word related to *simulate* is *dissimulate*, which means "to hide one's true feelings" or "to put up a false appearance." (The judge's penetrating questions made it very difficult for the witness to *dissimulate*.)