

Lesson 20

Word List

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

bogus

bō gəs

adj. 1. Counterfeit or fake.

The art historian discovered a **bogus** Rembrandt hanging in the museum.

2. False and artificial in tone.

Although the letter sounded as if it was from my long-lost grandfather, my mother suspected right away that it was **bogus**.

demise

dē mīz'

n. The end of existence or activity; death.

Mark Twain wryly observed that reports of his **demise** were greatly exaggerated.

devise

dē vīz'

v. To form or arrange in the mind.

The personnel manager had to **devise** a training program for all the new workers.

enshrine

ən shrīn'

v. To cherish as precious or sacred.

The Vietnam Memorial, in Washington, D.C., helps **enshrine** the memory of those who died in the Vietnam War.

evince

ē vins'

v. 1. To show clearly; to express.

Julio **evinces** his talent for baking with his delicious cookies.

2. To provoke.

The comedian's zany antics failed to **evince** a laugh from his audience.

irrevocable

ir rev' ə kə bəl

adj. Impossible to change.

Your birthday is an **irrevocable** fact of life.

martial

mār' shəl

adj. Having to do with war, armies, or fighting.

Karate and judo are two of the **martial** arts.

memorabilia

mem' ə r ə bil' ē ə

n. pl. Objects collected over a period of time that recall particular events.

Thomas Edison's **memorabilia** can be seen at his winter home in Fort Myers, Florida.

mundane

mun' dān

adj. Of or relating to ordinary, everyday matters.

Checking a report for spelling errors is a **mundane** but necessary task.

patronize

pā' trə nīz

v. 1. To be a supporter or regular customer of.

I **patronize** the downtown stores rather than the ones at the new mall.

2. To treat in a condescending way.

"I am not your dear young lady," she remonstrated, "and please don't **patronize** me by addressing me that way."

querulous

kwər' ə ləs

adj. Apt to find fault; complaining.

I commiserated with him for having to put up with his visiting uncle's **querulous** demands.

quirk

kwɜrk

n. 1. A peculiar or eccentric mannerism.

Signing his letters "Your obedient servant" is one of his **quirks**.

2. An odd or sudden turn of events.

A **quirk** of fate brought us both to the spot where we had first met ten years earlier.

refute
rē fyoot'

v. To prove to be false; to disprove.
I **refuted** her claim that taking vitamins was a waste of time by showing her the latest research from the medical group.

sanction
san'k' shən

n. 1. Approval or permission from an authority.
The principal gave her **sanction** for the establishment of a student council.
2. An action taken by one nation against another.
Economic **sanctions** against South Africa were lifted when it ended its policy of apartheid.
v. To approve or allow.
The United States government refused to **sanction** travel to Cuba as long as Castro was in power.

tome
tōm

n. A book, especially one that is large.
I admired the **tome's** sumptuous satiny jacket, but had trouble wading through its twelve-hundred pages.

20A Understanding Meanings

Read the sentences below. If a sentence correctly uses the word in bold, write C on the line below it. If a sentence is incorrect, rewrite it so that the vocabulary word in bold is used correctly.

1. **Memorabilia** are reminders of events that occurred long before.

2. A **martial** song is peaceful and soothing.

3. A **querulous** customer is difficult to satisfy.

4. **Mundane** matters are those one has difficulty understanding.

5. To **sanction** an activity is to permit it.

6. A **bogus** report is one that is not genuine.

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7. An **irrevocable** agreement is one that cannot be terminated.

8. A person's **demise** is the property left after her or his death.

9. To **devise** a solution is to pass it off falsely as one's own.

10. A **quirk** is an odd way of doing something.

11. A **tome** is a large stone marking a burial place.

12. To **evince** pleasure is to show that one is feeling it.

13. To **enshrine** a deed is to honor it as something worthy of remembering.

14. To **patronize** someone is to fail to show respect for that person.

15. To **refute** something is to accept it on another person's behalf.

ZOB Using Words

If the word (or a form of the word) in bold fits in a sentence in the group below it, write the word in the blank. If the word does not fit, leave the space empty.

I. **evince**

- (a) Fernando _____ no sign that he had heard my whispered remark.
- (b) Her revised proposal _____ a change of attitude on her part.
- (c) My repeated attempts at conversation _____ no response from my partner.

2. quirk

- (a) It was a _____ of his not to step on the cracks between the tiles.
- (b) Gail couldn't hide the _____ on her face after fooling us so completely.
- (c) By a _____ of nature, lightning did strike twice in the same spot.

3. patronize

- (a) When China resumed nuclear testing, we refused to _____ Chinese goods.
- (b) We _____ this fruit and vegetable store because we have known the owner for many years.
- (c) "I'm just as adept at this as you are, so don't _____ me," asserted Luisa.

4. mundane

- (a) His thoughts are on a higher plane and he does not dwell on _____ matters.
- (b) Being a test pilot is hardly a _____ occupation.
- (c) The monks spend part of each day on such _____ tasks as pulling up weeds.

5. devise

- (a) Is it possible to _____ a test to measure a person's artistic ability?
- (b) This _____ detects carbon monoxide poisoning.
- (c) The author has managed to _____ a most ingenious plot for her new novel.

6. sanction

- (a) By remaining silent, you appear to _____ teenage drinking.
- (b) Libya sought ways to get around the _____ against its export of oil.
- (c) Although these customs seem foolish, they have the _____ of long tradition.

7. martial

- (a) The Spartans of ancient Greece were a _____ people.
- (b) A local Olympic gold medal winner was chosen as the parade _____.
- (c) The people's _____ spirit was wearing thin after four years of war.

8. querulous

- (a) In a _____ voice, he scolded her for not visiting him more often.
- (b) The speaker reminded us that these are _____ times for our country.
- (c) The poet writes of the _____ boredom of a child with too many toys.

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20C Word Study

Fill in the missing word in each of the sentences below. Then write a brief definition of the word. The number in parenthesis shows the lesson in which the word appears.

1. The prefix *ad-* (to) combines with the Latin verb *haerere* (to stick) to form the word _____ (18).

Definition: _____

2. The prefix *re-* (back) combines with the Latin verb *scindere* (to split) to form the word _____ (19).

Definition: _____

3. The Latin *multus* (many) gives us the word _____ (19).

Definition: _____

4. The prefixes *ir-* (not) and *re-* (back) combine with the Latin verb *vocare* to form the word _____ (20).

Definition: _____

5. The Latin *suavis* (sweet; delightful) gives us the word _____ (19).

Definition: _____

6. The Latin *nomen* (name) gives us the word _____ (17).

Definition: _____

7. The prefix *extra-* (beyond) combines with the Latin verb *vagari* (to wander) to form the word _____ (18).

Definition: _____

8. The Latin *tenere* (to hold) gives us the word _____ (18).

Definition: _____

9. The Latin *queri* (to complain) gives us the word _____ (20).

Definition: _____

10. The prefix *col-* (together) combines with the Latin *ludere* (to play) to form the word _____ (19).

Definition: _____

ZOD Images of Words

Circle the letter of each sentence that suggests the numbered bold vocabulary word. In each group, you may circle more than one letter or none at all.

1. tome

- (a) Kimy took the book from the back pocket of her jeans and began reading.
- (b) Cynthia dropped Volume 3 on her foot, almost breaking her big toe.
- (c) The book was unreadable but made a good doorstop.

2. enshrine

- (a) The names of all those who made a contribution are kept in a book of remembrance.
- (b) The United States Constitution is memorialized in a special display case in Washington, D.C.
- (c) Sammy keeps his collection of sea shells in a keepsake box.

3. patronize

- (a) The Blue Parrot is my favorite restaurant in town.
- (b) Emily Hurst set up a fund to help struggling artists.
- (c) I enjoyed my first visit to Seattle.

4. refute

- (a) He didn't expect that I'd score any points, but I made two field goals.
- (b) After Magellan had sailed around the world, most people no longer thought it was flat.
- (c) I was offered a job as a law clerk, but I turned it down.

5. bogus

- (a) News reporter Elizabeth Cochran Seaman wrote under the pseudonym Nellie Bly.
- (b) I want you to make an exact copy of this document.
- (c) I became suspicious when the customer handed me a three-dollar bill.

6. sanction

- (a) It's no longer illegal to park on this city's streets overnight.
- (b) NATO members are debating whether or not to expand the organization.
- (c) The area was divided into four parts of roughly equal size.

7. memorabilia

- (a) She writes herself notes so she won't forget what she has to do.
- (b) Reggie can tell you the names of every major league player since 1900.
- (c) Looking through these old postcards brought back happy memories.

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8. demise

- (a) Juanita finished the last page and closed the book with a sigh of relief.
- (b) Critics had been predicting the end of the British film industry for years.
- (c) The company is expected to shut down within three to four weeks.

9. irrevocable

- (a) There is no one who could take Marion's place in our book group.
- (b) It is hard to play against a team with a sixteen-game winning streak.
- (c) Once Grandpa makes a decision there's no changing it.

10. evince

- (a) Joe might be willing to buy the car if we can agree on a price.
- (b) A look of fear came into her eyes when she saw the tornado approaching.
- (c) The headline said "Record High Temperatures Set."

ZOE Passage

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

Who Invented Baseball?

Popular legend tells us that baseball was invented in 1839 by Abner Doubleday. When Doubleday died on January 26, 1893, he might reasonably have been expected to be remembered, if at all, for his **martial** exploits as a Union general during the Civil War or as the author of two substantial **tomes** on that conflict, written in the years of his retirement. But in a curious **quirk** of history, Abner Doubleday is today remembered by most people for neither of these accomplishments. He is famous for having invented baseball.

The story goes that one day in the summer of 1839, Doubleday, then a youth living in Cooperstown, New York, **devised** the rules of the game that grew to be America's national pastime. The truth is almost certainly quite different. At that time, Doubleday was spending his second year as a cadet at West Point. And although he attended school in Cooperstown, there is no reliable evidence that he was there that particular year. Nor is there any evidence that he ever **evinced** the slightest interest in baseball. How, then, did his name become **irrevocably** associated with the game?

The formation of the National League in 1876 began the era of major league baseball. The addition of the American League in 1901 led to the first World Series two years later. Interest in the game soared, and fans **patronized** the game in ever-increasing numbers. It was natural that people began to wonder about its origins, and in 1905 baseball's ruling commission **sanctioned** the creation of a seven-member panel to inquire into the matter.

Among the many pieces of "evidence" the panel received was a letter from a retired mining engineer named Abner Graves. He claimed that at Cooperstown in 1839 Doubleday showed him a diagram for the game and explained its rules. The claim was almost certainly **bogus**, but that did not trouble the panel. Doubleday was a genuine American hero, just the sort of person needed to fill the role assigned to him. Furthermore, his **demise**, ten years before, made it impossible for him to **refute** the story.

Although a few **querulous** voices were raised in dissent, they were drowned out in the general chorus of approval of the panel's findings. The contention that baseball had evolved from the ancient English game of rounders was deemed erroneous. Baseball, it could confidently be asserted, was a thoroughly American creation.

In 1939, to mark the occasion of baseball's one-hundredth birthday, the Baseball Hall of Fame was inaugurated. Located in Cooperstown, halfway between Schenectady and Utica, New York, it occupies the original site of the cow patch on which, according to legend, the very first game of baseball was played. Included in its collection of baseball **memorabilia** is a scuffed and misshapen baseball. It was found in the attic of a nearby farmhouse in 1866 and the claim was made that it was the actual ball used in the historic 1839 game.

Abner Doubleday almost certainly had nothing to do with the invention of baseball. The game did not have its birthplace in Cooperstown, and the ball **enshrined** in its Hall of Fame is highly unlikely to have had anything to do with the game's origins. But these considerations are all irrelevant. **Mundane** facts have little appeal, but myths, especially those with heroes, exert a powerful pull on the imagination. That is why the story of Abner Doubleday endures.

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.

1. Why might the Abner Doubleday myth be **enshrined** in the hearts of baseball fans?

2. How did the public respond to the panel's findings?

3. What kind of evidence could have challenged the claim that Doubleday invented baseball?

4. Why wasn't Greaves's testimony **refuted** by the panel?

5. When did fans start **patronizing** baseball games?

6. What kinds of **memorabilia** do you suppose are housed in the National Baseball Hall of Fame?

7. Why might Doubleday find fault with the way he is remembered?

8. How might Doubleday be more accurately remembered?

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9. Why do you think **mundane** facts have little appeal?

10. Why is it a **quirk** of history that Doubleday is today remembered for having invented baseball?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

Several planets in our solar system have the names of ancient Roman gods. Some words that indicate particular human characteristics are derived from these names. For example, Jupiter, also called Jove, was the supreme deity of the Romans and is the name of the fifth planet from the sun, which is also the largest. A *jovial* person is believed to be under its influence, as indicated by this person's cheerful disposition.

The messenger of the gods was Mercury, the name of the planet closest to the sun. A *mercurial* person has the qualities of swiftness and cleverness associated with this god.

The fourth planet, lying between Earth and Jupiter, is Mars, named after the Roman god of war. A person showing a *martial* spirit is one ready to fight, one who exhibits the qualities of a warrior.