

Lesson 3

Word List

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

- abundant**
ə bun' dənt
adj. More than enough; plentiful.
[If good weather continues, farmers can expect an *abundant* harvest.]
- abundance** *n.* A great amount.
[Natural gas supplies an *abundance* of power to the entire country.]
- arid**
âr' id
adj. Having little or no rainfall; very dry.
[Much of North Africa is *arid* land.]
- distinct**
di stin'kt'
adj. 1. Not the same; different or separate.
[Apples come in over two thousand *distinct* varieties.]
2. Unmistakable; definite.
[Chili peppers add a *distinct* flavor to this dish.]
- graze**
grāz
v. 1. To feed on growing grass.
[A small herd of cows *grazed* in the meadow.]
2. To touch lightly in passing.
[The snowball *grazed* my cheek but didn't hurt me.]
- hectic**
hek' tik
adj. Full of feverish activity, haste, or confusion.
[After a *hectic* week of sightseeing, the tourists were glad to go home and relax.]
- horde**
hōrd
n. A large group or crowd, especially one on the move.
[*Hordes* of swimmers head for the pool in summer.]
- humid**
hyōō' mid
adj. Having a large amount of water or moisture in the air.
[Residents escape the hot, *humid* weather by going inside where it is cool and dry.]
- humidity** *n.* (hyōō mid' ə tē) The amount of moisture in the air.
[The *humidity* was so high that the slightest activity made us sweat.]
- incredible**
in kred' ə bəl
adj. Hard or impossible to believe.
[It seems *incredible* that no one was injured in such a bad accident.]
- inhabit**
in hab' it
v. To live in or on.
[Millions of bison once *inhabited* the great plains of America.]
- inhabitant** *n.* (in hab' i tənt) A person or animal that lives in a certain place.
[Most of the *inhabitants* of California were born somewhere else.]
- peninsula**
pə nin' səl
n. A piece of land, connected to a larger land mass, that juts out and is almost completely surrounded by water.
[Bays along the Baja *peninsula* provide shelter for several kinds of whales.]
- rural**
rūr' əl
adj. Of or relating to the country and the people who live there.
[The villagers believe that a shopping mall has no place in a *rural* area.]
- sanctuary**
səŋk' chōō er ē
n. 1. A place of safety or shelter.
[The temple was a *sanctuary* to those who were being persecuted.]
2. Protection offered by such a place.
[The shelter offers *sanctuary* to women fleeing violence in the home.]

splendor
splen' dər

n. Magnificence; brilliance of appearance.
[The *splendor* of the palace at Versailles took our breath away.]

splendid *adj.* Very impressive; magnificent.
[The exhibition of American sculpture includes several *splendid* statues by Harriet Hosmer.]

squalor
skwā' lər

n. Filth; misery.
[People lived in *squalor* after their homes were destroyed by the hurricane.]

squalid *adj.* Dirty and unfit for living, especially as a result of neglect.
[The newly-arrived immigrants worked long hours in *squalid* conditions for very low wages.]

terrain
tə rān'

n. 1. An area of land; a region.
[After hiking for several days we knew the *terrain* quite well.]

2. The surface features of a region.
[The mountainous *terrain* of western Colorado attracts skiers from all parts of the country.]

3A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 3. Write each sentence on the line provided.

1. (a) Squalid areas are those
(b) with little rainfall.
- (c) Rural areas are those
(d) away from large cities.

2. (a) a place where prisoners are held before trial.
(b) land almost completely surrounded by water.
- (c) A sanctuary is
(d) A peninsula is

3. (a) Something that is abundant is
(b) hard to understand.
- (c) Something that is incredible is
(d) hard to believe.

4. (a) dampness in the air.
(b) Terrain is
- (c) Humidity is
(d) the condition of being hot.

5. (a) A squalid building is
(b) A splendid building is
- (c) one that is not lived in.
(d) one that is dirty and neglected.

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6. (a) A horde is
(b) a place where one may find safety.
- (c) An abundance is
(d) a large crowd on the move.
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7. (a) A splendid change is
(b) A distinct change is
- (c) one that goes unnoticed.
(d) one that is unmistakable.
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8. (a) Sanctuary is
(b) the surface features of an area.
- (c) Terrain is
(d) a lack of confidence in oneself.
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3B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the italicized phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 3.

1. The Underground Railroad offered *a place of shelter* to slaves who were escaping to freedom.
2. The first ball from the pitcher *just barely hit* the batter's shoulder.
3. *Large numbers* of fans surrounded the stage door waiting for autographs.
4. Pitcairn Island has fewer than fifty *people who make their homes there*.
5. Her life was *full of feverish activity* because she worked at two full-time jobs.
6. Mark Twain wrote mostly about *life away from the cities and towns* of America.
7. The sounds of a flute and a trombone are quite *different from each other* so you can easily tell them apart.
8. Few crops can be grown where the land is *very dry and gets little rain*.
9. Monet's later paintings capture the *magnificent appearance* of his garden at Giverny.
10. Italy is a large *country that is almost completely surrounded by water*.

11. The rough *surface features of the land* made travel difficult.
12. Crops grow in *quantities that provide more than is needed* in such fertile soil.

3C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below. Each question has from one to four correct answers.

- Which of the following animals *graze*?
(a) crocodiles (c) horses
(b) sheep (d) cats
- Which of the following would you find in an *arid* region?
(a) ponds (c) snow
(b) streams (d) cactus plants
- Which of the following are *abundant*?
(a) fish in the sea (c) food at a feast
(b) water in the desert (d) trees in a forest
- Which of the following might be found in *hordes*?
(a) tourists (c) eagles
(b) ants (d) trees
- Which of the following might live in *splendor*?
(a) a supreme ruler (c) a coal miner
(b) a famous movie star (d) a person in custody
- Which of the following places might be *hectic*?
(a) a restaurant's kitchen (c) an airport over a holiday
(b) backstage on opening night (d) a mall on a day in December
- Which of the following might *inhabit* a tropical island?
(a) Inuits (c) polar bears
(b) penguins (d) monkeys
- Which of the following could cause one to seek *sanctuary*?
(a) fear (c) hunger
(b) danger (d) thirst

3D Word Relationships

Each group of four words below contains two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Circle these two words; then circle the S if they are synonyms, the A if they are antonyms.

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|---|
| 1. HECTIC | DISTINCT | | |
| RURAL | CALM | S | A |
| 2. GRAZE | HORDE | | |
| TERRAIN | SCRATCH | S | A |
| 3. INCREDIBLE | SILENT | | |
| BELIEVABLE | SPLENDID | S | A |
| 4. ABUNDANT | ARROGANT | | |
| PLENTIFUL | HUMID | S | A |
| 5. SQUALOR | REGION | | |
| TERRAIN | SAFETY | S | A |
| 6. MAGNIFICENT | HUMID | | |
| UNEASY | SPLENDID | S | A |
| 7. VAGUE | DISTINCT | | |
| UNOCCUPIED | ARID | S | A |

NOTE: Analogies test ability to understand the relationship between pairs of words.

Example: Select the pair of words that most nearly expresses the relationship of the pair of words in capital letters. Circle the letter in front of the pair you choose.

HOT : COLD ::

- (a) hungry : tired
(b) light : heavy

- (c) soaked : wet
(d) blue : yellow

The relationship between hot and cold is one of opposites; the two words are antonyms. Light and heavy have a similar relationship. When we read the analogy we say, "Hot is to cold as light is to heavy." None of the other pairs of words has this relationship. The correct answer is (b). Examples of other relationships include synonyms, cause and effect, part to whole, and condition: greater or lesser degree of the same condition.

Solve the following analogies the same way as the example above.

8. HUMID : DAMP ::

- (a) hectic : calm
(b) square : round

- (c) conspicuous : obvious
(d) sweet : sour

9. RURAL : COUNTRY ::

(a) urban : city

(c) patriotic : flag

(b) tasty : food

(d) empty : village

10. SQUALOR : SPLENDOR ::

(a) miser : money

(c) speech : eloquence

(b) love : affection

(d) poverty : wealth

3E Narrative*Read the narrative below; then complete the exercise that follows.***LAND OF CONTRASTS**

Thailand is a country about the size of France, with a population of over fifty million people. Nine-tenths of the people live in **rural** areas, away from Bangkok, the nation's capital and its only major city. Every year visitors from all over the world vacation in Bangkok, making tourism the country's number one industry, but most of them leave without seeing the rest of this fascinating country. This is a pity, for Thailand is a land of startling contrasts, made up of four **distinct** regions.

The northwestern region is the least accessible part of the country because of its mountainous **terrain** and many forests. Tigers, leopards, bears, and monkeys **inhabit** the more remote areas, while deer and buffalo **graze** on the grasslands that cover the lower slopes of the mountains. One of the world's great wildlife **sanctuaries** is located near Chiang Mai. This is the country's second largest city, although its population is only one-fiftieth that of Bangkok's. The two most important industries in this part of the country are lumber and tin mining.

The northeastern part of Thailand is vastly different from the northwestern part. It is by far the poorest region. Few crops grow there because of its **arid** climate and barren soil. Poor highways and a lack of railroads add to its problems. This region has little industry, and most of its people live in **poverty**. Many have left the land hoping to find work in Bangkok.

The most prosperous region is the great central plain where the soil is fertile and crops grow in **abundance**. Farmers there produce enough rice to feed the people of Thailand and still have some for export. Other crops include cotton, sugar, corn, tobacco, and peanuts. Bangkok is located on the southern edge of the central plain. It is a modern city with huge luxury hotels that have sprung up in recent years to accommodate the ever-increasing **hordes** of tourists. Many of them visit Bangkok to explore its rich cultural history. Among the city's many attractions are over four hundred Buddhist temples, five universities, and a huge Grand Palace where the rulers of Thailand once lived in **royal splendor**. But not all of the capital is splendid. Tourists seldom stray from the downtown area, with its many expensive shops and fine restaurants, into the more **squalid** parts of Bangkok where the city's poor live in overcrowded conditions.

The fourth distinctive region is the southern part of the country, which reaches to the Malaysian peninsula, within five hundred miles of the equator. This part of Thailand is mostly tropical rain forest with a humid climate and over two hundred inches of rain a year. It has an incredible variety of plant and animal life, including over five hundred different kinds of butterflies! It also has some of the finest beaches in the world to lure those tourists seeking a change from the hectic city life of Bangkok.

Visitors who spend a week or two in Bangkok may go home and tell their families and friends that they have seen Thailand. However, only those who have explored all four regions of the country can truly say, "I have seen Thailand."

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

1. What is the meaning of terrain as it is used in the narrative?

2. Why would most people in Thailand be unaccustomed to city life?

3. Which parts of Bangkok would *not* be shown in tourist brochures?

4. Why have so many large new hotels been built in Bangkok?

5. Why would you expect daily life in Bangkok to be more *hectic* than in Chiang Mai?

6. How can you tell that no one in Malaysia lives far from the sea?

7. What is one of the most splendid sights in Bangkok?

8. Why would Thailand's tropical rain forest be a good place to make a nature film?

9. What is the meaning of **distinct** as it is used in the narrative?

10. Give an example of Thailand's **abundance** of animal life.

11. What is the meaning of **sanctuary** as it is used in the narrative?

12. Which of the four regions of Thailand gets the least amount of rain? How do you know?

13. How many **inhabitants** does Bangkok have?

14. Why would you be likely to sweat a lot in the rain forest?

15. What is the meaning of **graze** as it is used in the narrative?

WORDLY WISE

Horde comes from the Polish word *horda*, which in turn came from the Turkish word *ordu*, meaning "military camp" or "army." Centuries ago, the Turkish Mongols swept across Asia and eastern Europe in vast numbers, conquering the people in those areas. The word *horde* came to mean "a large number [of people] on the move." Don't confuse this word with *hoard*, which is a noun and means "a hidden supply or store." *Hoard* is also a verb that means "to save and store away in a greedy or secret manner." *Horde* and *hoard* are homophones; they sound the same but have different meanings and spellings.



The antonym of *rural* is *urban*. New York City is a large *urban* center; upper New York State, with its many farms and small towns, is mostly *rural*.



In Latin *sanctus* means "holy," and the original meaning of *sanctuary* is "a holy place." Churches, temples, and mosques were considered sanctuaries; people wanted by the law could find protection in such places because officers of the law would not enter them. The word *sanctuary* came to mean "protection offered by being in a holy place," and its meaning was later extended to include any place that offers safety. A bird sanctuary, for example, offers protection to the birds that nest there.

Bonus Words - find the definitions; write a sentence with each word used correctly in context.

industry

climate

modern

barren

distinctive

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)
