

 SCHOLASTIC

GRADE 4

**AMAZING**

**WORD  
POWER**

**100 Words Every**

**4<sup>th</sup> GRADER**

**Should Know**

by B. Smart and L.O. Quent

AMAZING

**WORD  
POWER**

100 Words Every

**4<sup>th</sup> GRADER**

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# AMAZING WORD POWER

Ace the tests!

Delight your parents!

## Welcome to Amazing Word Power!

By picking up this book you've entered the world of Amazing Words. And you're on your way to building your own Amazing Word Power.

There are 100 great words in this book. Some you may know already. Some may look familiar. But many of them are meant to challenge you! The illustrations and easy-to-understand definitions will help you to learn and remember them.

Ready? Before you get started, you may want to do the following:

1. Use the Checklist that starts on page 125 along with the back cover flap to see what words you know and don't know. (Be sure to use a dry-erase marker.) Do this again in a couple of weeks. This will help you keep track of your growing word power.
2. Check out the Word Power Tips on page 124. Following these tips will help you boost your word learning.
3. Learn more about the words. Many words have several definitions. We didn't include all these definitions, but you can find them—as well as information about the origins of the words—by looking in a dictionary or searching in an online dictionary.
4. Have fun!



# Contents

## **Word Categories**

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| What's the Temp?.....             | 4   |
| At the Mall.....                  | 10  |
| Latin Root: Med.....              | 16  |
| Personality Words.....            | 22  |
| Architecture.....                 | 28  |
| All About Food.....               | 34  |
| The Nose Knows.....               | 40  |
| Latin Root: Fract/Frag/Fring..... | 46  |
| Kickin' Back.....                 | 52  |
| Fighting Words.....               | 58  |
| Thumbs Up or Down.....            | 64  |
| Latin Root: Pend.....             | 70  |
| Love It/Hate It.....              | 76  |
| What a Mess!.....                 | 82  |
| Good & Bad.....                   | 88  |
| Get Moving.....                   | 94  |
| Feelings.....                     | 100 |
| Greek Prefix: Mono.....           | 106 |
| At the Movies.....                | 112 |
| Place in Time.....                | 118 |

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Word Power Tips.....</b> | <b>124</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------|

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| <b>Checklist.....</b> | <b>125</b> |
|-----------------------|------------|

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Quiz Yourself!..... | 128 |
|---------------------|-----|

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Pronunciation Guide..... | 128 |
|--------------------------|-----|

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Answer Key.....</b> | <b>130</b> |
|------------------------|------------|

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| <b>Index.....</b> | <b>131</b> |
|-------------------|------------|



1

What's the Temp?

# tepid

(**tep-id**) adjective

## What It Means

Just slightly warm

## How to Use It

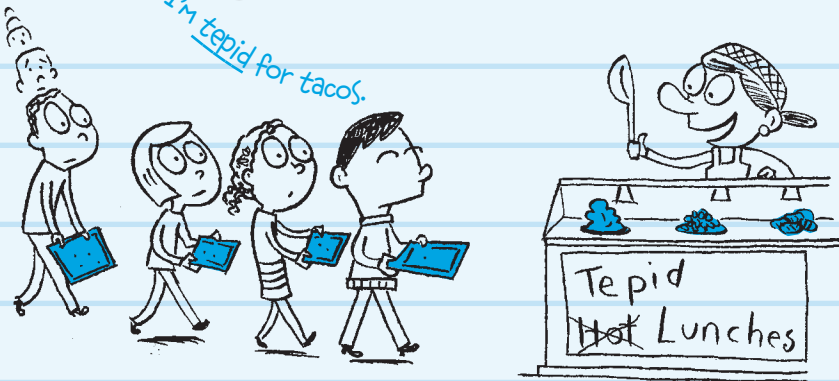
Sophia's cocoa was *tepid* by the time she drank it.

## More About It



*Synonym* lukewarm

I'm hot for hot dogs. I'm *tepid* for tacos.



# sweltering

(swel-tur-ing) adjective

## What It Means

Very hot

## How to Use It

The beach is crowded during *sweltering* weather.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* frigid



Ah, it's *sweltering*! I'm melting!



# balmy

(bah-mee) adjective

## What It Means

Pleasantly warm weather

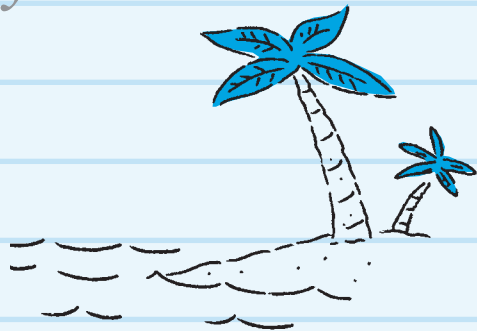
## How to Use It

The island weather was so *balmy* that we never needed jackets.

I like to play ball when it's balmy outside. I call it Balmy Ball!

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* mild





# brisk

(**brisk**) adjective


## What It Means

Cold and energizing

## How to Use It

The *brisk* weather was perfect for hiking.

## More About It

 *Brisk* can also mean active and lively.



# humid

(hyoo-mid) adjective

## What It Means

Damp and moist

My mom has big hair when it is humid.

## How to Use It

The *humid* weather helped the plants stay green.

## More About It

≡ *Synonym* muggy



# Activity Sheet

Who's who? Draw a line to match the names to the correct pictures.

1. Sweltering Sam

A.



2. Brisk Bonnie

B.



3. Balmy Ben

C.



4. Humid Harry

D.



5. Tepid Tina

E.



Now put everyone in order, from coldest to hottest.

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

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

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

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

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



# thrifty

(thrif-tee) adjective

## What It Means

Careful about wasting money, food, or supplies

## How to Use It

*Thrifty* shoppers are always looking for bargains.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* frugal



Being thrifty is nifty. I don't spend, but I lend.

# negotiate

(ni-goh-shee-ate) verb

## What It Means

To bargain or discuss something so that you can come to an agreement

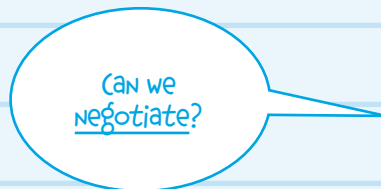
## How to Use It

Ella *negotiated* a good price for the baseball cap.

Kids unite! Negotiate later bedtimes! (unless you're too tired...)

## More About It

 *Related word* negotiation



# warranty

(*wor-uhn-tee*) noun

## What It Means

A guarantee

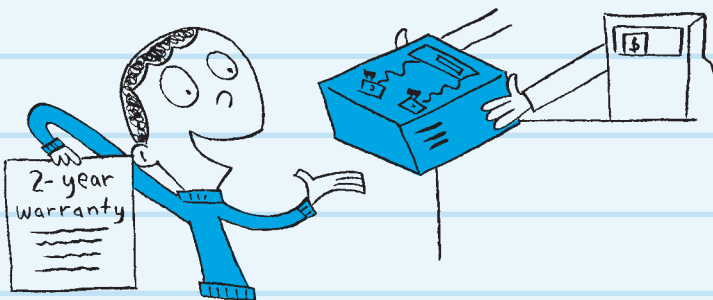
I ♥ U 4ever. (That's a lifetime warranty!)

## How to Use It

The video-game player came with a two-year *warranty*.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* warrant





# redeem

(ri-deem) verb

## What It Means

To exchange something for money or merchandise

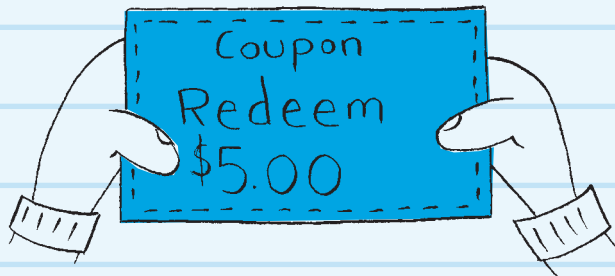
## How to Use It

My mom always redeems coupons.

Charlie *redeemed* the coupon for a new video game.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* redemption



# rebate

(ree-bayt) noun


## What It Means

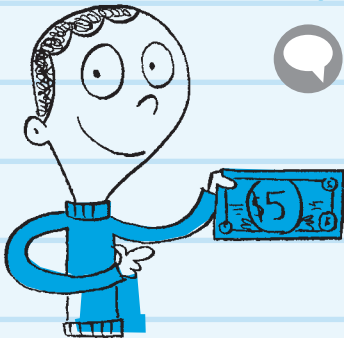
A refund you receive for part of the money you paid for something

## How to Use It

Charlie got a \$5 *rebate* on his video game.

## More About It

 *rebate* can also be used as a verb.



A \$15 rebate on a \$14 item? Now *that's* a good deal!

# Activity Sheet

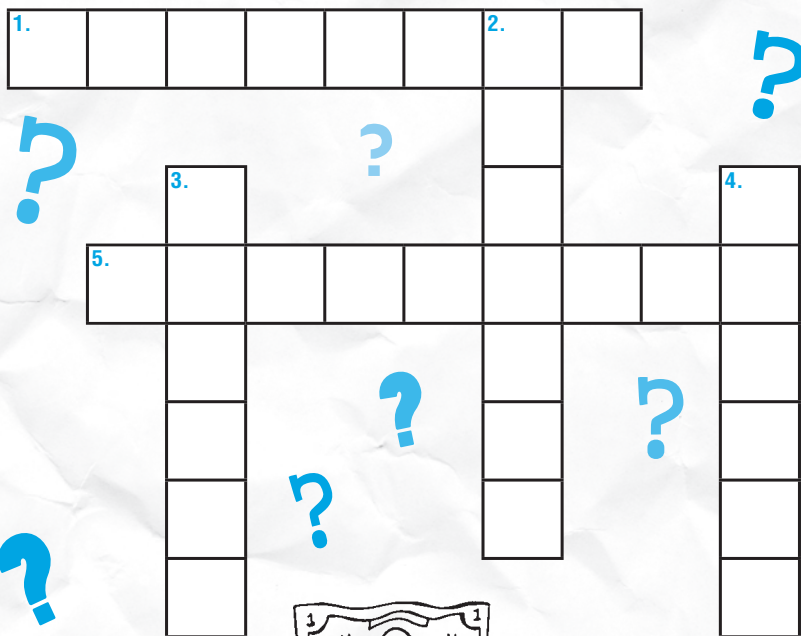
Use the clues to complete the puzzle.

## ACROSS

1. A guarantee
5. To bargain or to discuss something so that you can come to an agreement

## DOWN

2. To be careful about spending money
3. To exchange something for money or merchandise
4. A refund you receive for part of the money you paid for something



# mediate

(mee-dee-ate)<sub>verb</sub>

## What It Means

To help two people or groups settle their differences

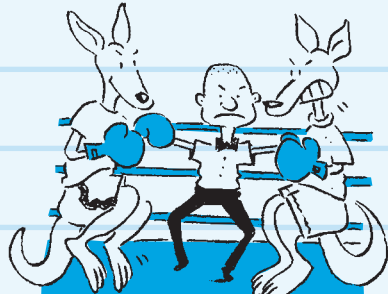
## How to Use It

Naima helped *mediate* a solution between the two people.

*I want chocolate. My brother wants vanilla. Who will mediate?*

## More About It

↔ **Antonym** interfere



# mediocre

(mee-dee-oh-kur) adjective

## What It Means

Neither good nor bad;  
ordinary

*My violin playing isn't mediocre. It's extraordinary!*

## How to Use It

The *mediocre* movie didn't attract a large audience.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* mediocrity



Blah. This  
oatmeal is  
mediocre.

# medieval

(mee-dee-vuhl) adjective

Oh, I get it. Med means middle or between.

## What It Means

Having to do with  
the Middle Ages

## How to Use It

Josie spent two hours in  
the *medieval* exhibit at  
the museum.

## More About It



People also use *medieval*  
to mean out of date.

# media

(mee-dee-uh) noun

TV and the Internet are my favorite media.


## What It Means

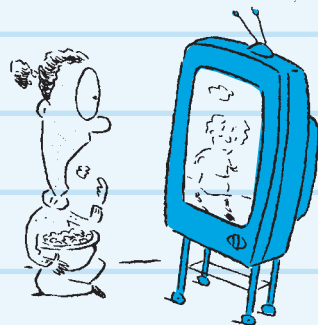
Means for communicating information to many people; radio, TV, and newspapers are examples of media

## How to Use It

We rely on the *media* to report the news fairly.

## More About It

 The singular of *media* is *medium*.





# intermediate

(*in-tur-mee-dee-it*) adjective

*Intermediate is not for beginners!*

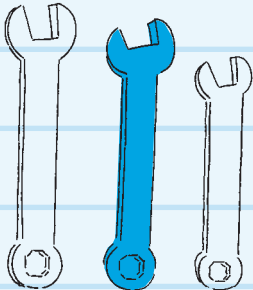
## What It Means

In between two things

## How to Use It

Since Alyssa had played piano for two years, she was ready for an *intermediate* class.

Intermediate



## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* middle

# Activity Sheet

What word can help you remember the meaning of the Latin root *med*? Use the clues to fill in the correct words below. Then, write the boxed letters at the bottom of the page.

1. Something that is between two things
2. Having to do with the Middle Ages
3. Really ordinary
4. A way to communicate to lots of people
5. Another name for the medieval time period
6. When you \_\_\_\_\_, you help two people come to an agreement.

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

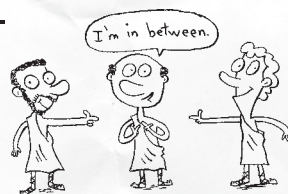
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



When you see the Latin Root *med*,  
think of something in the

1 2 3 4 5 6

# ebullient

(i-bool-yint) adjective

## What It Means

Lively and full  
of enthusiasm

## How to Use It

Dominic was the most  
*ebullient* student in his class.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* enthusiastic



Yippee! Hooray! Fantastic! Terrific! I'm ebullient today!

# arrogant

(a-ruh-guhnt) adjective

## What It Means

Conceited or too proud

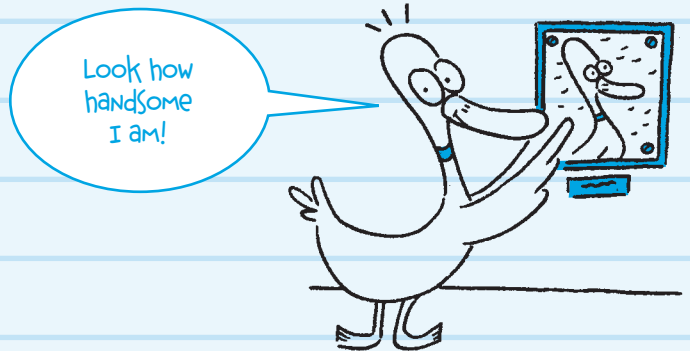
*I'm not arrogant. I'm just better than you. Just kidding...*

## How to Use It

After winning just one game, Jasmine became very *arrogant*.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* humble



# meticulous

(muh-tik-yuh-luhss) adjective

## What It Means

Neat and careful  
about small details

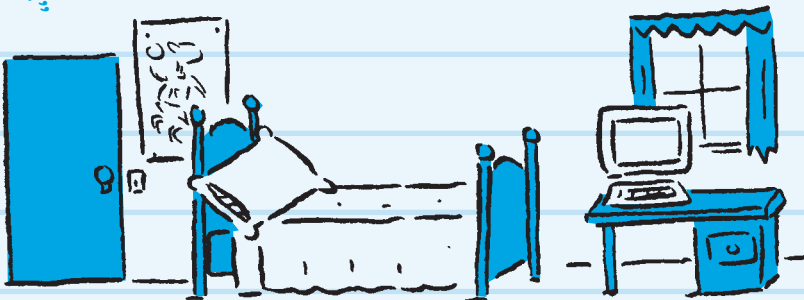
## How to Use It

Lara was *meticulous* about organizing her desk.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* careless

you have to be meticulous about spelling "meticulous."



# impetuous

(im-pech-oo-uhss) adjective

## What It Means

Acting suddenly,  
without thinking first

## How to Use It

Quitting the swim team  
was an *impetuous* decision.

For me, joining the swim team was an impetuous decision!

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* hasty



# presumptuous

(pri-zuhm-choo-uhss) adjective

## What It Means

Tending to believe something is true without checking that you have all the facts

## How to Use It

It was *presumptuous* of Aidan to eat all the ice cream.

## More About It

✕ *Related word* presume

Of course, I did my homework. Don't be presumptuous!





# Activity Sheet

How would your friends describe you? Answer the questions and follow the arrows to find out! Some of the words come from earlier sections of this book.



# edifice

(ed-uh-fiss) noun

## What It Means

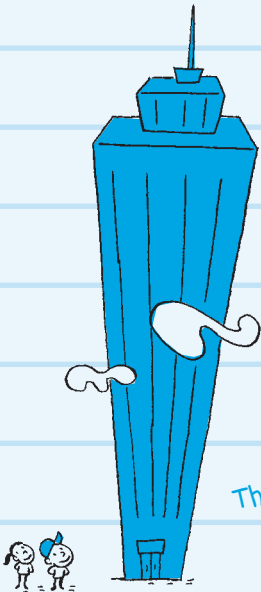
A large and  
impressive building

## How to Use It

The new office building  
became the city's  
largest *edifice*.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* building



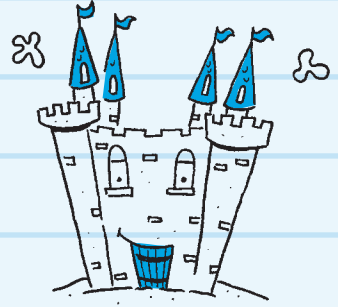
The Empire State Building is my favorite edifice.

# turret

(tur-it) noun

## What It Means

A small narrow tower




## How to Use It

The castle had a *turret* at each of its four corners.

Ahoy! Climb to the turret. I see a ship coming.

## More About It

 The structure on ships, planes, and tanks that holds a gun is also called a *turret*.

# spire

(spire) noun


## What It Means

A structure on a building that comes to a point

## How to Use It

The church's *spire* reached 80 feet into the air.

## More About It

 *Spire* comes from a German word meaning “spear.”

*I aspire to build a Spire.*

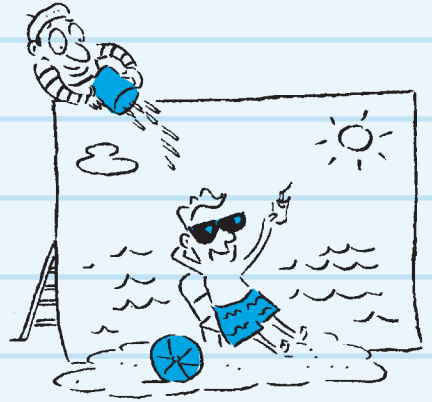


# facade

(fuh-sahd) noun

## What It Means

The front part of a building; a fake front




## How to Use It

The *facade* of our school is made of brick.

My house has an aluminum facade.

## More About It

 *Facade* comes from an old French word meaning “face.”

# plaza

(plaz-uh) noun

No skateboarding in the plaza? Darn!

## What It Means

A public square in a town or city

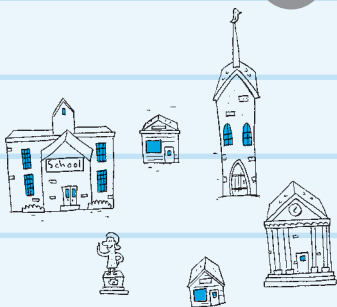
## How to Use It

Our town festivals are always held in the *plaza*.

## More About It



The English language borrowed the word *plaza* from Spanish.



# Activity Sheet

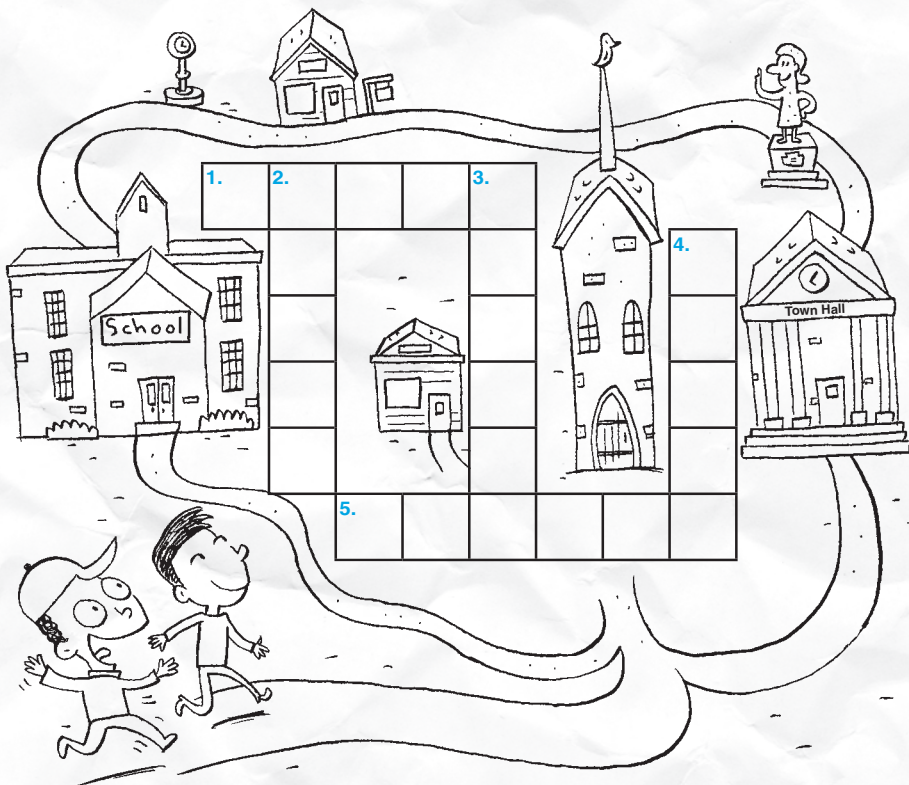
Use the clues to complete the puzzle.

## ACROSS

1. A bird is sitting on the church's \_\_\_\_\_.
5. There are four columns on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Town Hall.

## DOWN

2. Public square in a town or city
3. A synonym for *building*
4. The school has a \_\_\_\_\_ on top of it.





# palatable

(pal-i-tuh-buhl) adjective

## What It Means

Agreeable or pleasant-tasting.

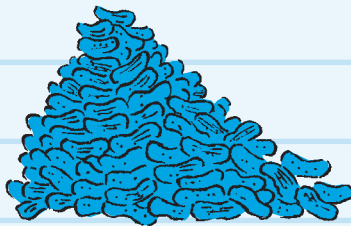
My pizza is palatable but tepid. I need to reheat it.

## How to Use It

Squirrels find nuts very *palatable*.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* tasty



# inedible

(in-ed-uh-buhl) adjective

## What It Means

Not fit to be eaten

If dog food is inedible, then why does Ruffles eat it?

## How to Use It

The food on the plane was *inedible*.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* edible



# culinary

(kuh-luh-ner-ee) adjective

## What It Means

Anything having to do with cooking

*My culinary skills are mediocre.*

## How to Use It

My father has great *culinary* skills.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* gastronomic



# delectable

(duh-**lek**-tuh-buhl) adjective

## What It Means

Very delicious

## How to Use It

The ice cream at the party was truly *delectable*.

## More About It

≡ *Synonym* yummy

I hereby decree that these desserts are delectable.



# savory

(say-vuh-ree) adjective

## What It Means

Pleasing to the taste or smell

## How to Use It

Ana couldn't wait to taste all the *savory* foods on the table.

## More About It

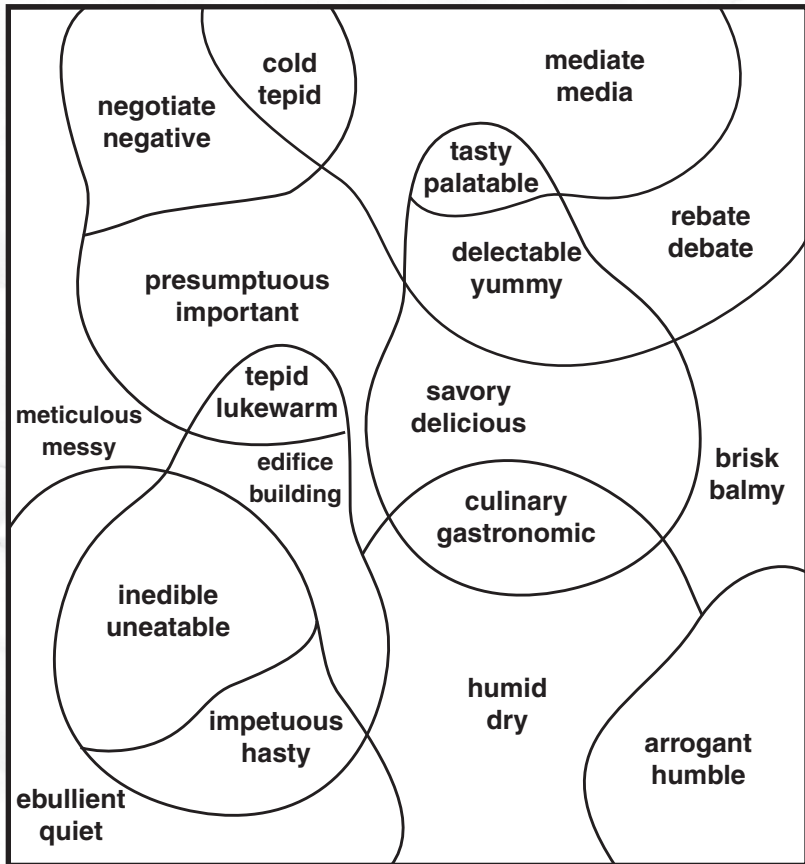
↔ *Related word* savor

Savory Soup provides Satisfying Sustenance.



# Activity Sheet

What delectable fruits always travel in groups of two? To find the answer to this riddle, color in any space that contains two words that are synonyms. Some of the words are from earlier sections of this book.



# stench

(**stench**)<sub>noun</sub>


## What It Means

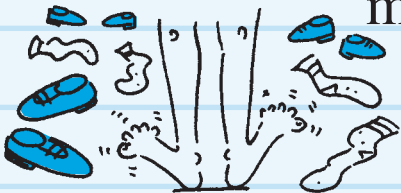
A strong and unpleasant smell

## How to Use It

The *stench* from the garbage can was overwhelming.

## More About It

 *Stench* comes from a German word meaning “stink.”



Clench your nose. There's a terrible stench.



# putrid

(pyoo-trid) adjective


## What It Means

Rotten and smelly

## How to Use It

The fish left on the dock filled the air with a *putrid* odor.

## More About It

 *Putrid* comes from the Latin word that means “to rot.”



# rancid

(ran-sid) adjective

## What It Means

Spoiled or gone bad

## How to Use It

The chicken gave off a *rancid* smell.

## More About It

✕ *Related word* rancidness



Note to Self: Stay away from refrigerator—Rancid cheese inside.

# fragrance

(fray-gruhnss) noun

## What It Means

A pleasing smell

## How to Use It

The *fragrance* of the baking cookies filled the house.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* fragrant

I love the fragrance of flowers.



# aromatic

(a-roh-ma-tik) adjective

## What It Means

Having a very pleasant smell

## How to Use It

The *aromatic* candle filled the air with a sweet smell.

## More About It

⊗ *Related word* aroma

Mom overlooks the candle thing: way too aromatic in here.



# Activity Sheet

What always smells, but has no odor? Write the correct word for each clue. Then write the boxed letters on the lines at the bottom of the page to answer the riddle.

1. Spoiled or gone bad
2. A pleasing smell, like cookies baking
3. Pleasant smelling, like a pine tree
4. Stink
5. Putrid means smelly and \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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



\_\_\_\_\_ always smells, but has no odor.

  1       2       3       4       5

# fracture

(frak-chur)<sub>verb</sub>


## What It Means

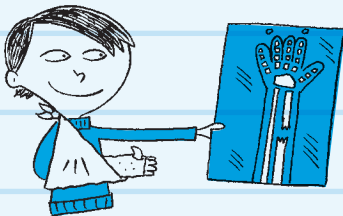
To break or crack something, especially a bone

## How to Use It

The X-ray showed that Adam had *fractured* his arm.

## More About It

 *Fracture* can also be used as a noun.



Ow! I think I fractured my finger in the fridge door!

# fragment

(frag-muhnt) noun

My dog ate my homework, but I managed to save a fragment.


## What It Means

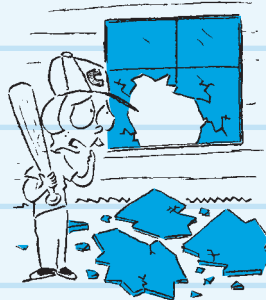
A small piece or a part that is broken off

## How to Use It

When the dish fell, it broke into *fragments*.

## More About It

 *Fragment* can also be used as a verb.



# fragile

(**fraj-il**) adjective

Don't tease me. My feelings are fragile.

## What It Means

Delicate or easily broken

## How to Use It

Rebecca carefully placed the *fragile* vase in the box.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* sturdy





# infraction

(in-frak-shuhn) noun

## What It Means

An action that breaks a rule or law

Passing notes in class is a minor infraction, right?

## How to Use It

Any *infraction* of the rules means detention.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* violation



# infringe

(in-frinj) verb



## What It Means

To overstep a boundary or do something that affects someone else's rights

## How to Use It

The loud noise at the party *infringed* on the neighbors' right to peace and quiet.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* trespass



# Activity Sheet

What is so fragile, that even saying its name can break it? Write the correct word for each clue. Then write the boxed letters on the lines at the bottom of the page to answer the riddle.

1. An antonym for *fragile*
2. To overstep a boundary
3. Easily broken
4. A small, broken off piece of something
5. An action that breaks a rule or law
6. To break or crack something
7. A synonym for *fracture*

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. \_ \_  \_ \_ \_



1 2 3 4 5 6 7

# banter

(ban-tur) verb


## What It Means

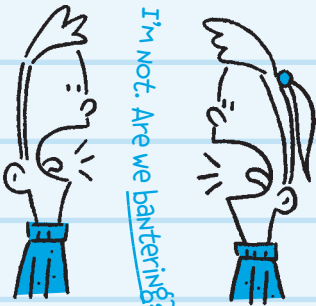
To tease someone  
in a friendly way

## How to Use It

My brother likes  
to *banter* with me.

## More About It

 *Banter* can also  
be a noun.



yes, you are. No, I'm not. Yes, you are. No, I'm not. Are we bantering?

# indulge

(in-duhlj) verb

## What It Means

To give in to something

## How to Use It

Nick's mother always *indulges* his sweet tooth.

Yum! I'd like to indulge in some delectable pie right now.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* indulgent



# relish

(rel-ish) verb


## What It Means

To enjoy something greatly

## How to Use It

I *relish* my free time on weekends.

## More About It

 *Relish* can also be used as a noun.



Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, relish: I relish them all!

# revel

(rev-uhl) verb

## What It Means

To take great satisfaction  
in something

## How to Use It

Seong *reveled* in his new  
role as the band's drummer.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* enjoy

Shockingly, I would revel in a week with no school!



# excursion

(ek-skur-zhuhn) noun

## What It Means

A short journey, often to a place of interest

## How to Use It

My grandfather took us on an *excursion*.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* outing



Yippee! A class excursion to the aquarium! I'm ebullient!



# Activity Sheet

What's your favorite thing to do on a Saturday morning? Keep choosing between pairs to find out! Write your choice for each pair in the box to the right until you get to the last box. Some of the words come from earlier sections of this book.



# relinquish

(ruh-ling-kwish) verb

## What It Means

To leave something behind or give up control of something

## How to Use It

The king *relinquished* his throne to his son.

## More About It



**Antonym** keep



I hereby relinquish the title of messiest person in the house.

# brawl

(brawl) noun

## What It Means

A noisy fight

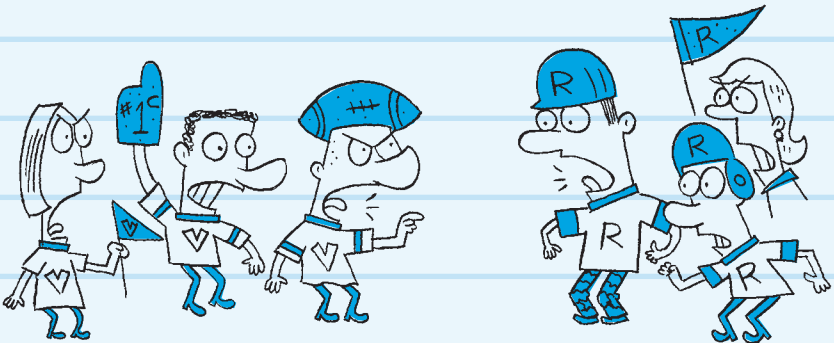
Keep the peace. No brawls allowed.

## How to Use It

A *brawl* broke out among the fans watching the football game.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* quarrel



# assail

(uh-sayl) verb

## What It Means

To attack violently, either physically or with words

## How to Use It

Being *assailed* by a bully is always scary.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* assault



You can't just sail in here and assail me like that!

# dispute

(diss-pyoot) verb

## What It Means

To say you think someone is wrong about something

## How to Use It

I *disputed* whether my room was clean or not.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* argue



Hey, that's my apple. Do you dispute that this is my fruit, you brutes?

# skirmish

(skur-mish) noun

## What It Means

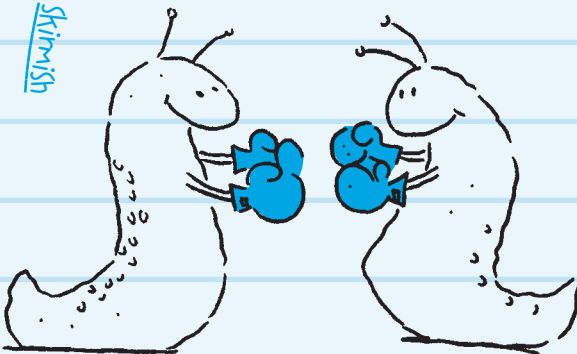
A minor fight

## How to Use It

The *skirmish* for control of the football ended quickly.

## More About It

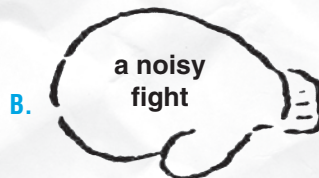
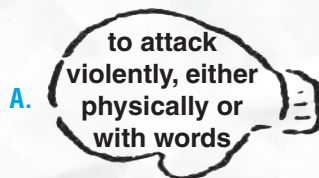
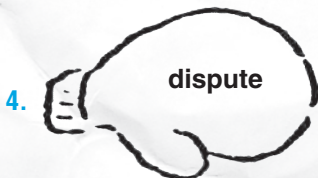
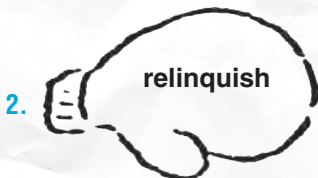
⊞ *Synonym* clash



war > battle > riot > brawl > fight > Skirmish

# Activity Sheet

Ready for a boxing match? Draw a line from a glove in the left column to the glove in the right column with the correct definition.

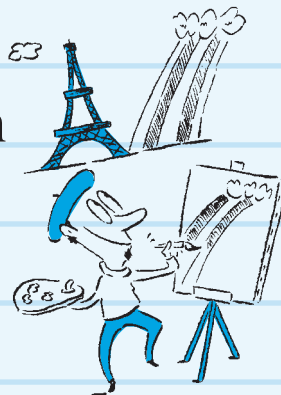


# inspired

(in-spye-urd) adjective

## What It Means

Filling people with a strong emotion



## How to Use It

The *inspired* artist painted the scene.

## More About It



*Related words* inspire

IBY = Inspired by You



# insipid

(in-sip-id) adjective

## What It Means

Dull or flat

## How to Use It

The *insipid* play put everyone to sleep.

My favorite put-down: This is insipid!

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* boring



# intriguing

(in-treeg-ing) adjective

## What It Means

Exciting and engaging

## How to Use It

I found the book's title *intriguing*.

## More About It

⊞ *Synonym* interesting



Dad is making a culinary surprise in the kitchen. Intriguing...

# provocative

(pruh-vok-uh-tiv) adjective

## What It Means

Intended to get a reaction from people



## How to Use It

The *provocative* magazine headline made me want to read it.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* provoke

Title of provocative book I'd like to write: *Sleeping Makes You Smarter.*

# tedious

(tee-dee-uhss) adjective

## What It Means

Boring and unchanging

## How to Use It

Nina found it *tedious* to have to fill out so many forms.

## More About It

≡ *Synonym* boring



Reading the phone book = totally tedious.  
Reading my journal = incredibly intriguing!

# Activity Sheet

The critics have written their movie reviews. But they need some help with the headlines. Read each movie description. Then circle the headline that best fits it.

1. This movie will make you want to change your life.

- A An Inspired Must-See!                       B A Tedious Must-See!

2. The boring characters and plodding plot in this movie will leave you wishing you'd stayed home and watched TV.

- A What an Insipid Movie!                       B What a Provocative Movie!

3. Seeing the same prank over and over in this movie will put you to sleep.

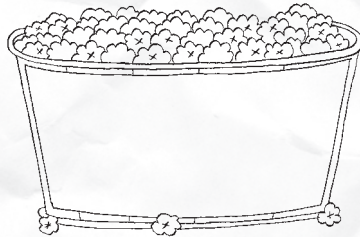
- A Year's Most Intriguing Film                       B Year's Most Tedious Film

4. You'll be talking to friends about this movie for weeks!

- A Provocative & Powerful                       B Insipid & Powerful

5. This mystery will keep you guessing long after you leave the theater.

- A What an Insipid Movie!                       B What an Intriguing Movie!



# suspend

(suh-spend) verb

waiting for my report card is like time suspended.

## What It Means

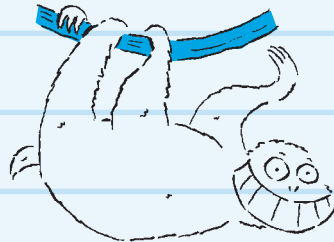
To hang something. It also means to delay or stop something from happening.

## How to Use It

The sloth *suspended* itself from a tree branch.

## More About It

⊗ *Related word* suspense



# depend

(di-pend) verb

## What It Means

To need or rely on something or someone

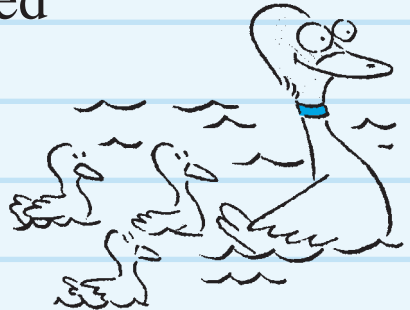
## How to Use It

The ducklings *depend* on their mother.

I depend on my mom, too!

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* need



# pendant

(pen-duhnt) noun

My grandmother's pendant has a picture in it.

## What It Means

A hanging ornament, especially one on a necklace.

## How to Use It

The ruby *pendant* around her neck caught everyone's attention.

## More About It



*Pendant* is also used to describe light fixtures that hang down.





# append

(uh-pend) verb

## What It Means

To add a part  
on to something

Did you notice I'm appending this book with my doodles?

## How to Use It

The principal decided to *append* the newsletter with a chart.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* appendix



# pending

(pen-ding) adjective

## What It Means

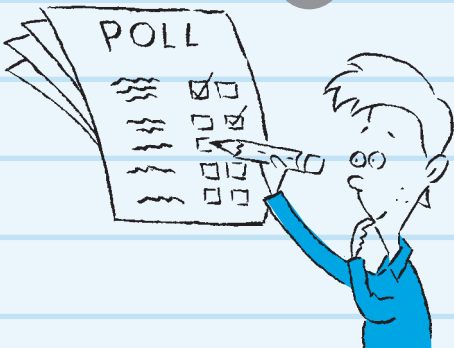
When something is still being decided upon

## How to Use It

Our class poll results are still *pending*.

## More About It

⊗ *Related word* impending



The patent for my new invention is still pending.

PENDING

# Activity Sheet

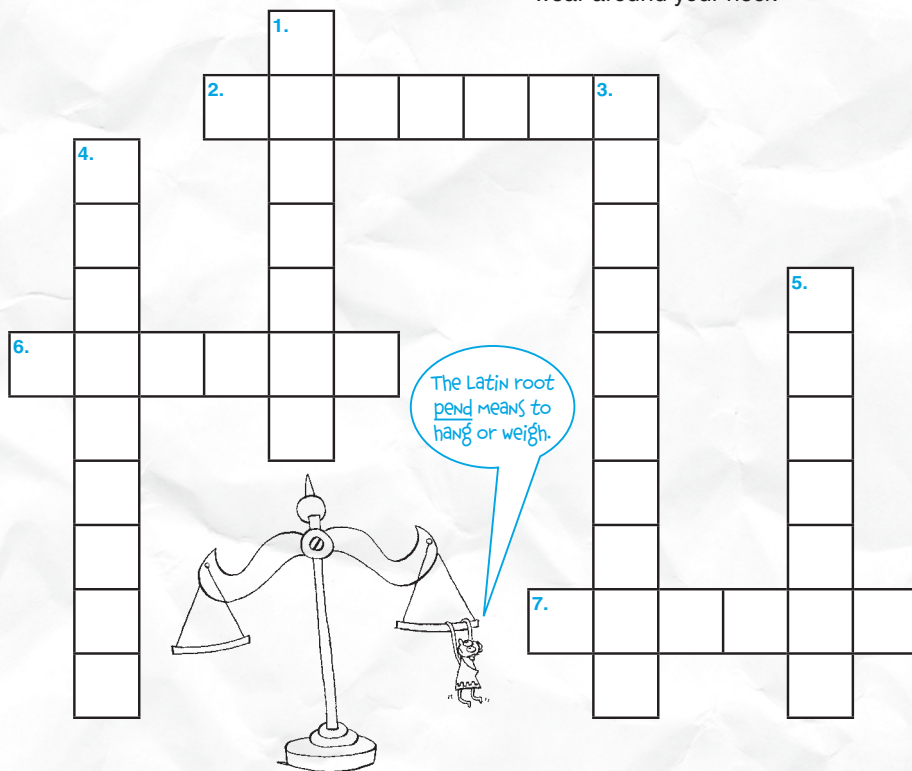
Use the clues to complete the puzzle. Some of the words come from earlier sections of this book.

## ACROSS

2. A word that means boring and unchanging
6. To add a part on to something
7. To need something to survive

## DOWN

1. When something is still being decided upon
3. Minor fights or clashes
4. The blizzard caused train service to be \_\_\_\_\_.
5. An ornament on a chain that you wear around your neck



# taunt

(**tawnt**)<sub>verb</sub>

## What It Means

To try to upset someone by teasing him or her

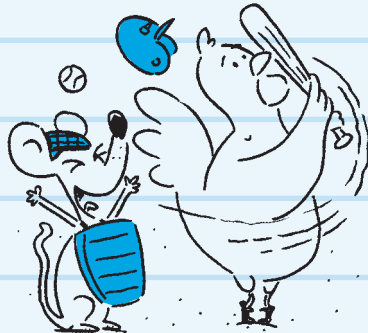
## How to Use It

Alex *taunted* June because she didn't run fast in the race.

## More About It



*Taunt* can also be a noun.



Please don't taunt the turtles. They get terribly traumatized.

# disdain

(dis-dayn) verb

## What It Means

To dislike something or someone and look down on it or them

I disdain spiders. They're creepy!

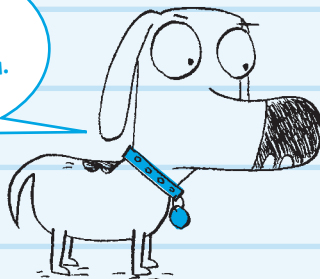
## How to Use It

My dog *disdains* my cat.

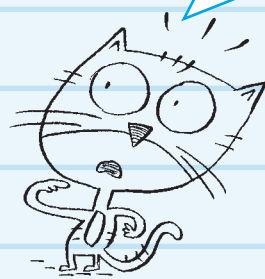
## More About It

↔ *Antonym* admire

You know  
I disdain you.



well, I've always  
admired you.



# laud

(lawd) verb

## What It Means

To praise someone

## How to Use It

Everyone *lauded* Eduardo for his high score.



## More About It



*Related word* laudable

*My dad lauded me for cleaning the garage.*

# acclaim

(uh-klaym) noun

## What It Means


Enthusiastic approval

I sure could use some acclaim.

## How to Use It

The actor was used to receiving *acclaim* from his fans.

## More About It

 *Acclaim* can also be used as a verb.



# esteem

(ess-teem) noun

I have a lot of esteem for firefighters.

## What It Means

Respect and admiration

## How to Use It

The team held the coach in high *esteem*.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* esteemed






# Activity Sheet

Read each clue. Then write the answers in the spiral puzzle.  
The first one is done for you.

1. A synonym for *tease*
2. To look down on someone
3. To praise
4. Enthusiastic approval
5. I have great respect and \_\_\_\_\_ for my father.
6. A synonym for *laud*
7. A synonym for *disdain*
8. If you have esteem for someone, you \_\_\_\_\_ them.

|         |    |    |   |  |    |    |
|---------|----|----|---|--|----|----|
|         |    |    |   |  |    | 3. |
| 2.      |    | 6. |   |  |    |    |
| T       |    | 8. |   |  |    |    |
| N       |    |    |  |  |    |    |
| U       |    |    |   |  | 7. | 4. |
| A       |    |    |   |  |    |    |
| 1.<br>T | 5. |    |   |  |    |    |

START

# tarnish

(tar-nish) verb

## What It Means

To become duller  
and less bright

## How to Use It

After sitting in the closet  
for many years, the silver  
became *tarnished*.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* dull



Hey, tell the truth. Don't tarnish my reputation.

# sully

(suhl-ee) verb

## What It Means

To make something dirty

## How to Use It

Gina *sullied* her jeans when she fell during recess.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* soil



# debris

(duh-bree) noun

## What It Means

Pieces of garbage or unwanted material spread about

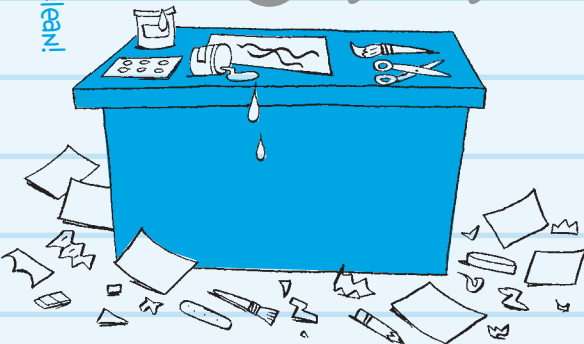
## How to Use It

*Debris* from the art project covered the classroom floor.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* litter

Let's pick up debris and help keep the beach clean!



# decrepit

(di-krep-it) adjective

## What It Means

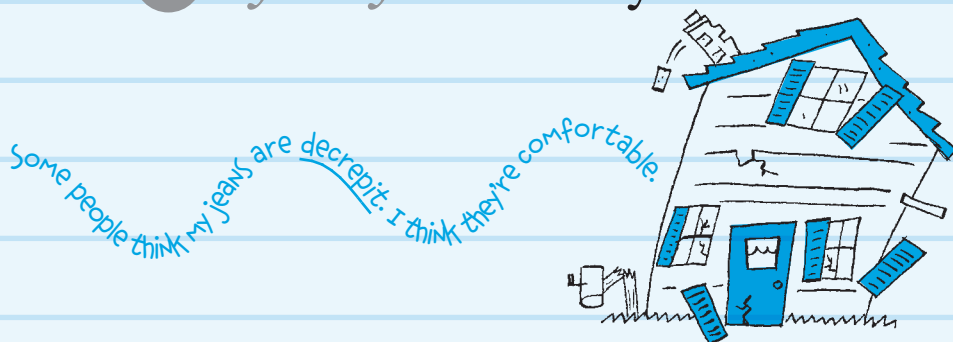
Weakened by being old or overused

## How to Use It

The *decrepit* building looked as if it were about to fall down.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* shabby



# unkempt

(uhn-kempt) adjective

## What It Means

Untidy and messy  
in appearance

## How to Use It

The *unkempt* puppy  
was in need of a bath.

## More About It



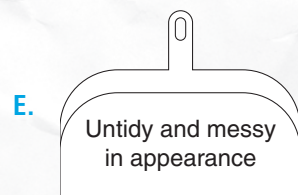
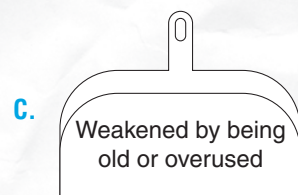
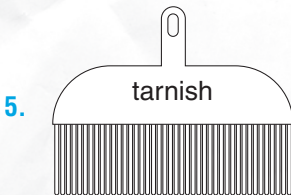
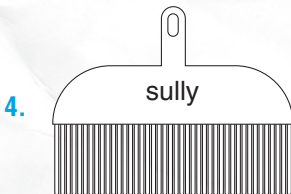
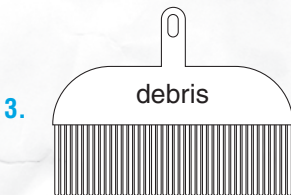
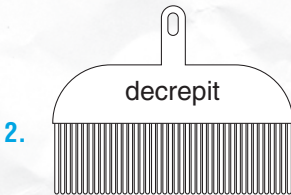
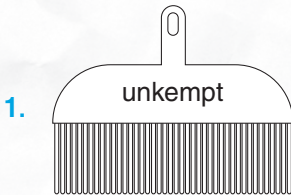
**Antonym** kempt



You call it unkempt. I call it a hairstyle.

# Activity Sheet

Time to clean up! Match each broom to the correct dustpan.



# malevolent

(muh-lev-uh-lent) adjective

## What It Means

Hateful or evil

## How to Use It

The *malevolent* king was feared by his subjects.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* benevolent





# vile

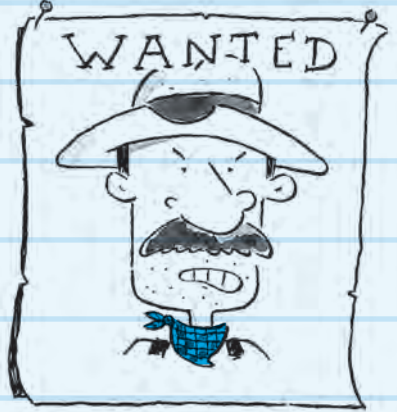
(vile) adjective

## What It Means

Very unpleasant

## How to Use It

Lucas thinks brussels sprouts are *vile*.



## More About It

☰ *Synonym* nasty

Movie villains are often vile.

# intrepid

(in-trep-id) adjective

## What It Means

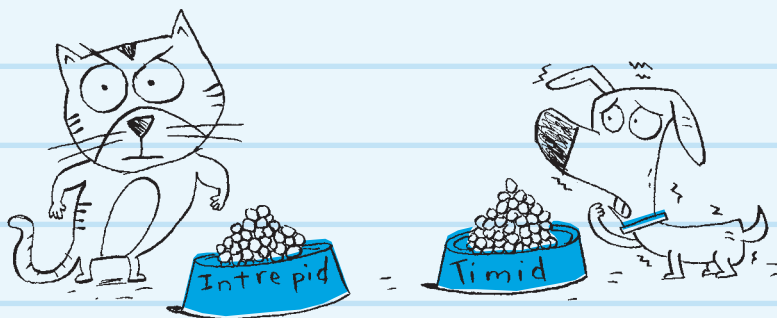
Bold and courageous

## How to Use It

The *intrepid* firefighter smashed down the door and rescued the child.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* timid



# valor

(val-ur) noun

## What It Means

Great bravery or courage, especially in battle

## How to Use It

The soldier received a medal for his *valor*.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* heroism



Shall we display our valor on the basketball court?

# illustrious

(i-luh-stree-uhss) adjective

## What It Means

Famous for outstanding achievements

## How to Use It

The *illustrious* inventor received great acclaim.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* celebrated



*My illustrious career as a pet-sitter has come to an end.*

# Activity Sheet

Play the game of Out and Over. Find a word in Box 1 that does not have the same meaning as the other three words. Move that word to Box 2 by writing it on the blank line. Continue to the next box until you reach Box 8. Then complete the sentence in that box.

1

intrepid  
malevolent  
fearless  
brave

2

heroism  
\_\_\_\_\_  
vicious  
evil

3

famous  
bravery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
valor

4

illustrious  
noted  
vile  
\_\_\_\_\_

5

nasty  
unpleasant  
\_\_\_\_\_  
distinguished

6

celebrated  
malevolent  
illustrious

7

mean  
intrepid  
hateful  
\_\_\_\_\_

8

Always  
be an  
\_\_\_\_\_  
word learner!

# saunter

(saw-n-ter) verb

## What It Means

To walk in a slow and relaxed way

## How to Use It

The pitcher *sauntered* out to the pitcher's mound.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* stroll

Think I'll saunter into the kitchen for some savory sandwiches.

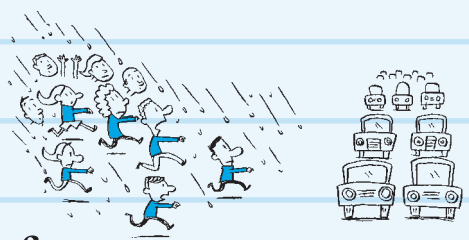


# stampede

(stam-peed) verb

## What It Means


To run in a very fast and uncontrolled way



## How to Use It

The people in the park *stampeded* toward their cars when it started to rain.

## More About It

 *Stampede* comes from the Spanish word *estampida*, which means “crash.”

Beware of everyone stampeding to the cafeteria on pizza day.

# bound

(bound) verb

## What It Means

To move forward quickly,  
in leaps and jumps

## How to Use It

The dog *bounded* across  
the room when he heard  
the doorbell ring.

*I bound to the door when the pizza is delivered.*

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* leap





# vault

(vawlt) verb

Let's play leapfrog. I mean, vault-toad.


## What It Means

To leap over something using your hands to support you

## How to Use It

Liana *vaulted* over the wall to get away from the barking dog.

## More About It

 *Vault* is also used to mean a room where things can be safely stored.



# mosey

(moh-zee) verb

## What It Means


To walk slowly  
or aimlessly



## How to Use It

Mr. Cortez spent an hour  
*moseying* through the town.

## More About It

 *Mosey* comes from the Spanish word *vamos*, which means “let’s go.”

Hey, Rosie, let's mosey over to the Cozy Café.

# Activity Sheet

Use the clues to complete the puzzle.

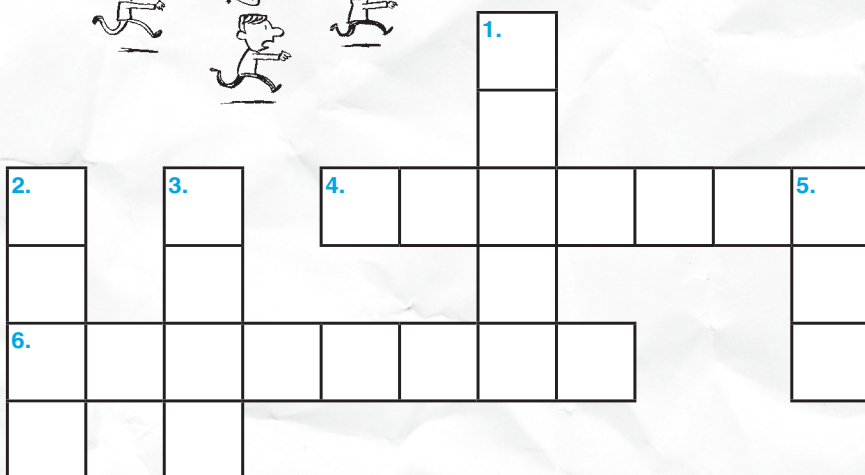
## ACROSS

4. Unhurried hikers often \_\_\_\_\_ along the park's trail.
6. Cows often \_\_\_\_\_ when they are scared.



## DOWN

1. My little brothers \_\_\_\_\_ down our stairs when the doorbell rings.
2. On Saturdays, I like to \_\_\_\_\_ around the mall.
3. *Stampede* comes from the Spanish word *estampida* meaning \_\_\_\_\_.
5. When people stampede, they \_\_\_\_\_ very quickly.



# serene

(suh-reen) adjective

## What It Means

Calm and peaceful

## How to Use It

Jesse enjoys listening to *serene* music.

## More About It

≡ *Synonym* placid



# melancholy

(mel-uhn-kol-ee) adjective

## What It Means

Very sad

## How to Use It

The *melancholy* song made everyone sad.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* unhappy



What makes me melancholy? Being assailed by taunts, insipid TV shows, and putrid veggies.

# perturbed

(pur-turbd) adjective

Mrs. Paulson was perturbed at us for talking in class.

## What It Means

To be upset by something  
or anxious about something

## How to Use It

The class was *perturbed*  
to hear there would be no  
recess.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* calm



I'm perturbed by  
these infractions!

# irate

(eye-rate) adjective

## What It Means

Very angry about something

Irate = annoyed x 10

## How to Use It

Getting a speeding ticket made my father *irate*.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* ire

What do you mean, "Not palatable?"  
I'm irate!



# buoyant

(boi-uhnt) adjective

## What It Means

Cheerful and upbeat

## How to Use It

In spite of losing the first race, Jeremy remained *buoyant* about the track meet.

## More About It

✕ *Related word* buoy



My "what-makes-me-buoyant" list: moseying in the mall • sleeping late • indulging in chocolate cake



# Activity Sheet

Play the game of Out and Over. Find a word in Box 1 that does not have the same meaning as the other three words. Move that word to Box 2 by writing it on the blank line. Continue to the next box until you reach Box 8. Then complete the sentence in that box.

1 serene  
peaceful  
calm  
irate

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
angry  
melancholy  
furious

3 blue  
sad

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
buoyant

5 serene  
\_\_\_\_\_  
frustrated  
anxious

6 \_\_\_\_\_  
relaxed  
worried  
carefree

7 buoyant  
nervous  
perturbed

8 Knowing all these words will make you feel very \_\_\_\_\_!

# monocle

(mon-uh-kuhl) noun

## What It Means

An eyeglass for one eye

## How to Use It

Mr. Albert had no trouble keeping his *monocle* on.

## More About It



The root in *monocle* comes from *oculus*, which means “eye” in Latin.



Do two MONOCLES equal a pair?

# monarch

(**mon-urk**)<sub>noun</sub>

## What It Means

A ruler who reigns over a kingdom or an empire



## How to Use It

Queen Elizabeth has been England's *monarch* since 1952.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* monarchy

*Serene monarch butterflies rule!*

# monologue

(mon-uh-log) noun


## What It Means

A speech given  
by one person

## How to Use It

The actor's *monologue* was  
the longest in the play.

## More About It

 The root in *monologue*  
is *logue*, which  
means “speak.”

Mom has a famous monologue about finishing dinner.



# monotone

(**mon**-uh-tohn) adjective

## What It Means

An unchanging tone of voice,  
having little expression

## How to Use It

Aubrey's *monotone* speech  
put everyone to sleep.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* monotonous



Oh, I get it. MONO means one. Monotone = one tone.

# monopoly

(muh-nop-uh-lee) noun

## What It Means

To have a monopoly on something means to have complete control of it

I have a MONOPOLY on Grandpa's affections.

## How to Use It

Since there was only one store in town, it had a *monopoly* on all sales.

## More About It



*Related word* monopolize



# Activity Sheet

What word can help you remember the meaning of the Greek prefix *mono*? Write the correct word for each clue. Then write the boxed letters on the lines at the bottom of the page.

1. A ruler of a kingdom or empire
2. A speech given by one person
3. Complete control of something
4. An unchanging tone of voice
5. An eyeglass for one eye



1. \_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_

When you see the Greek prefix *mono*, think of something or someone that is

1 2 3 4 5

# plausible

(plaw-zuh-buhl) adjective

## What It Means

Believable

## How to Use It

The teacher didn't think  
Tod's excuse was *plausible*.

## More About It

⊕ *Related word* plausibly

we as class president = plausible.  
we as class clown = likely.





# droll

(**drohl**) adjective

## What It Means

Amusing, sometimes  
in an expected way

## How to Use It

The school assembly speaker  
had a *droll* sense of humor.

## More About It

☰ *Synonym* laughable

I'm not just droll. I am hilarious.



# whimsical

(wim-zuh-kuhl) adjective

## What It Means

Playful and unpredictable



## How to Use It

The *whimsical* show made us smile.

## More About It

⊗ *Related word* whim

I love *whimsical* books and movies.

# ponder

(pon-dur) verb

## What It Means

To think about something very carefully

## How to Use It

I'm *pondering* whether to join the chess club.

## More About It

⊞ *Synonym* consider



When I do puzzles, I ponder for a long, long, long time.

# lampoon

(lam-poon) verb

## What It Means

To make fun of something in a humorous way

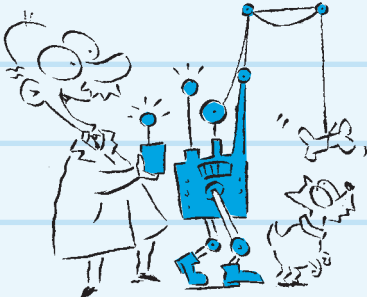
## How to Use It

The book *lampoons* silly inventions.

New Rule: Don't lampoon anyone.

## More About It

⊖ *Synonym* ridicule



# Activity Sheet

It's silly riddle time. Complete each silly riddle using one of the words in the box below.

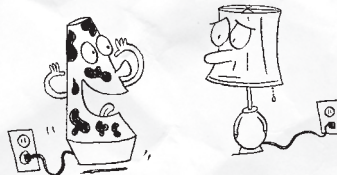
droll whimsical lampoon ponder plausible

1. What do you call a troll who's funny?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. What does a critical light like to do? \_\_\_\_\_



4. What do you call buying an icy treat on an impulse?



\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did the writer do when she sat by a small lake?

\_\_\_\_\_



5. Why did the bull always tell the truth? He was \_\_\_\_\_.



# latter

(lat-ur) noun


## What It Means

The second of two things

## How to Use It

Ignacio played basketball and soccer but preferred the *latter* because it is played outdoors.

## More About It

 *Latter* comes from an Old English word meaning “late.”



# anachronism

(uh-nak-ruh-niz-uhm) noun

## What It Means

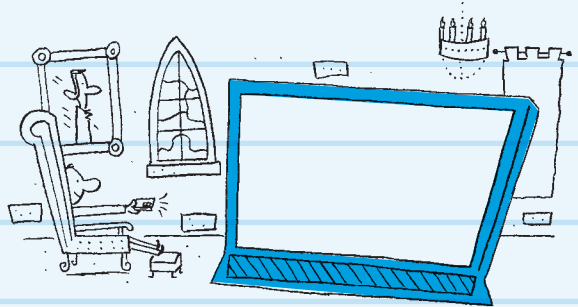
Something that is out of its proper time

## How to Use It

The big-screen TV seemed like an *anachronism* in the old castle.

## More About It

↔ *Related word* anachronistic



READS (Really Funny Anachronisms): A cowboy with an iPod... George Washington on a skateboard...

# novel

(**nov**-uhl) adjective


## What It Means

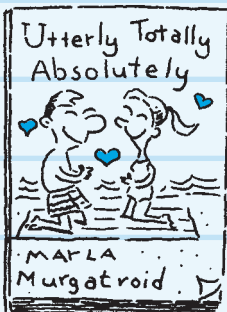
New and unusual

## How to Use It

It's hard to believe that surfing the Internet was once considered *novel*.

## More About It

 *Novel* can also be used to mean a book of fiction.



Read a *novel* aloud? What a *novel* idea!



# former

(for-mur) noun

Jason and Adrian carpool with us. The former lives next door, and Adrian lives two blocks away.

## What It Means

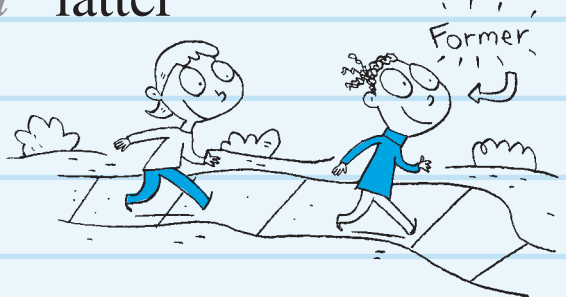
The first of two things that you have been talking about

## How to Use It

If I have a choice between brownies and pie, I always get the *former* because I love chocolate.

## More About It

↔ *Antonym* latter

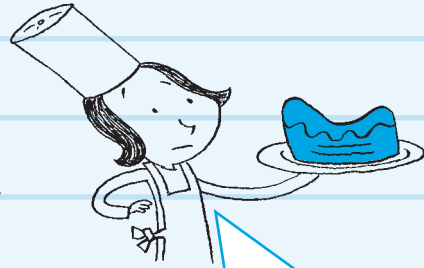


# sequential

(see-kwen-shuhl) adjective

## What It Means

Following in  
a fixed order



## How to Use It

The recipe stressed the importance of completing the steps in *sequential* order.

## More About It

⊗ *Related word* sequence

Abcdefghijklk... Hey, these letters are not sequential. Abcdefghijkl... That's better.

# Activity Sheet

Read each clue. Then write the answers in the spiral puzzle.

1. If directions must be followed in a fixed order, they are \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A typewriter is now considered an \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Something new and unusual is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The first of two things you've been talking about.
5. The second of two things you've been talking about.
6. *Former* means the \_\_\_\_\_ of two things.
7. *Latter* means the \_\_\_\_\_ of two things.

|    |    |  |    |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|----|----|----|--|
|    |    |  |    | 2. |    |  |
|    |    |  |    |    | 5. |  |
|    |    |  | 7. |    |    |  |
|    | 4. |  |    |    |    |  |
|    |    |  |    |    |    |  |
|    |    |  | 6. |    |    |  |
| 1. |    |  | 3. |    |    |  |

START

# Word Power Tips

**Are you ready to add 100 words to your vocabulary? Check out the 10 tips below. They're a great way to help boost your Amazing Word Power!**

- 1. Keep Track of Your Progress.** Use the Checklist that starts on page 125 with the back cover flap to keep track of your growing vocabulary. Cover the definitions with the flap and quiz yourself. (Be sure to use a dry-erase marker.) Test yourself every few weeks to see how many new words you have learned.
- 2. Say the Word Aloud.** A pronunciation is given for every word, and you'll also find a pronunciation guide on the inside of the back cover flap. Saying the word will help you remember it better. And the more you say it, the better chance you have of remembering it!
- 3. Look at the Illustrations.** Some people remember better when they see a picture, so be sure you look at the illustration included for each word. The illustration may be the key to helping you remember the word's meaning.
- 4. Read Each Section of the Word Page.** The more times you encounter a word, the more likely you are to remember it. Each page is designed to give you lots of opportunities to see the word and understand how it is used. The More About It sections include additional information about the words (see the key on the inside back cover flap).
- 5. Think About the Word Groups.** How are the words in each group related? Do they share a Latin or Greek root? Are they all ways to describe something? If you can remember what group a word is in, it will help you figure out its meaning the next time you see it.
- 6. Do the Activity.** At the end of each group of words, there is an activity page. Doing the activity will help you use and remember the words. Plus, they're fun!
- 7. Write Your Own Sentence.** It's true: Using a new word in a sentence helps you to remember it. Try writing your own sentence for each word.
- 8. Listen for the Words.** See how often these words come up in conversations, in school, on TV, or in movies.
- 9. Look for the Words.** Look for these words online or as you're reading your favorite books or magazines. Make it a game to find them as often as possible.
- 10. Use the Words Whenever You Can.** Don't be afraid to exercise your word power! Use your new words as much as you can when you are speaking and writing. You'll amaze your friends, your parents, and your teachers!





- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 34. <b>fragrance</b>   | fragrance: a pleasing smell                         |
| 35. <b>aromatic</b>    | aromatic: having a very pleasant smell              |
| 36. <b>fracture</b>    | fracture: to break something                        |
| 37. <b>fragment</b>    | fragment: a small piece that is broken off          |
| 38. <b>fragile</b>     | fragile: delicate or easily broken                  |
| 39. <b>infraction</b>  | infraction: an action that breaks a rule            |
| 40. <b>infringe</b>    | infringe: to overstep a boundary                    |
| 41. <b>banter</b>      | banter: to tease someone in a friendly way          |
| 42. <b>indulge</b>     | indulge: to give in to something                    |
| 43. <b>relish</b>      | relish: to enjoy something greatly                  |
| 44. <b>revel</b>       | revel: to take great satisfaction in something      |
| 45. <b>excursion</b>   | excursion: a short journey                          |
| 46. <b>relinquish</b>  | relinquish: to give up control of something         |
| 47. <b>brawl</b>       | brawl: a noisy fight                                |
| 48. <b>assail</b>      | assail: to attack someone with words or actions     |
| 49. <b>dispute</b>     | dispute: to argue                                   |
| 50. <b>skirmish</b>    | skirmish: a small fight                             |
| 51. <b>inspired</b>    | inspired: filling people with strong emotion        |
| 52. <b>insipid</b>     | insipid: dull or flat                               |
| 53. <b>intriguing</b>  | intriguing: exciting and engaging                   |
| 54. <b>provocative</b> | provocative: intended to get a reaction             |
| 55. <b>tedious</b>     | tedious: boring and unchanging                      |
| 56. <b>suspend</b>     | suspend: to delay or stop something                 |
| 57. <b>depend</b>      | depend: to rely                                     |
| 58. <b>pendant</b>     | pendant: an object that hangs                       |
| 59. <b>append</b>      | append: to add a part onto something                |
| 60. <b>pending</b>     | pending: when something is still to be decided upon |
| 61. <b>taunt</b>       | taunt: to tease                                     |
| 62. <b>disdain</b>     | disdain: to dislike or look down on something       |
| 63. <b>laud</b>        | laud: to praise                                     |
| 64. <b>acclaim</b>     | acclaim: enthusiastic approval                      |
| 65. <b>esteem</b>      | esteem: respect and admiration                      |
| 66. <b>tarnish</b>     | tarnish: to become duller and less bright           |







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# Index

- acclaim . . . . . 79, 81, 92  
anachronism . . . . . 119, 123  
append . . . . . 73, 75  
aromatic . . . . . 44, 45  
arrogant . . . . . 23, 27, 39  
assail . . . . . 60, 63, 101  
balmy . . . . . 6, 9, 39  
banter . . . . . 52, 57  
bound . . . . . 96, 99  
brawl . . . . . 59, 62, 63  
brisk . . . . . 7, 9, 39, 57  
buoyant . . . . . 104, 105  
culinary . . . . . 36, 39, 66  
debris . . . . . 84, 87  
decrepit . . . . . 85, 87  
delectable . . . . . 37, 39, 53, 57  
depend . . . . . 71, 75  
disdain . . . . . 77, 81  
dispute . . . . . 61, 63  
droll . . . . . 113, 117  
ebullient . . . . . 22, 27, 39, 56  
edifice . . . . . 28, 33, 39  
esteem . . . . . 80, 81  
excursion . . . . . 56, 57  
facade . . . . . 31, 33  
former . . . . . 121, 123  
fracture . . . . . 46, 51  
fragile . . . . . 48, 51  
fragment . . . . . 47, 51  
fragrance . . . . . 43, 45  
humid . . . . . 8, 9, 39  
illustrious . . . . . 92, 93  
impetuous . . . . . 25, 27, 39  
indulge . . . . . 53, 57, 104  
inedible . . . . . 35, 39, 123  
infraction . . . . . 49, 51, 102  
infringe . . . . . 50, 51  
insipid . . . . . 65, 69, 101  
inspired . . . . . 64, 69  
intermediate . . . . . 20, 21  
intrepid . . . . . 90, 93  
intriguing . . . . . 66, 68, 69  
irate . . . . . 103, 105  
lampoon . . . . . 116, 117  
latter . . . . . 118, 123  
laud . . . . . 78, 81  
malevolent . . . . . 88, 93  
media . . . . . 19, 21, 39  
mediate . . . . . 16, 21, 39  
medieval . . . . . 18, 21  
mediocre . . . . . 17, 21, 27, 36  
melancholy . . . . . 101, 105  
meticulous . . . . . 24, 27, 39  
monarch . . . . . 107, 111  
monocle . . . . . 106, 111  
monologue . . . . . 108, 111  
monopoly . . . . . 110, 111  
monotone . . . . . 109, 111  
mosey . . . . . 98, 99, 104  
negotiate . . . . . 11, 15, 39  
novel . . . . . 120, 123  
palatable . . . . . 34, 39, 103  
pendant . . . . . 72, 75  
pending . . . . . 74, 75  
perturbed . . . . . 102, 105  
plausible . . . . . 112, 117  
plaza . . . . . 32, 33  
ponder . . . . . 115, 117  
presumptuous . . . . . 26, 27, 39  
provocative . . . . . 67, 69  
putrid . . . . . 41, 45  
rancid . . . . . 42, 45, 101  
rebate . . . . . 14, 15, 39  
redeem . . . . . 13, 15  
relinquish . . . . . 58, 63  
relish . . . . . 54, 57, 77  
revel . . . . . 55, 57  
saunter . . . . . 94, 99  
savory . . . . . 38, 39, 57, 94  
sequential . . . . . 122, 123  
serene . . . . . 100, 105, 107  
skirmish . . . . . 62, 63, 75  
spire . . . . . 30, 33  
stampede . . . . . 95, 99  
stench . . . . . 40, 45  
sully . . . . . 83, 87  
suspend . . . . . 70, 75  
sweltering . . . . . 5, 9, 27  
tarnish . . . . . 82, 87  
taunt . . . . . 76, 81, 101  
tedious . . . . . 68, 69, 75  
tepid . . . . . 4, 9, 34, 39  
thrifty . . . . . 10, 15, 27  
turret . . . . . 29, 33  
unkempt . . . . . 86, 87  
valor . . . . . 91, 93  
vault . . . . . 97, 99  
vile . . . . . 89, 93  
warranty . . . . . 12, 15  
whimsical . . . . . 114, 117