

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

accede

ak sēd'

v. To agree to; to consent to, often after urging from another.

Nasri **acceded** to the wishes of his classmates and stopped tapping his fingers on the table during study hall.



.....
Convince your partner to accede to your wish to stand up for a minute.

affluent

af' lōō ənt

adj. Generously supplied with money or possessions; wealthy.

Although Cicely was not from an **affluent** family, she could attend an expensive school because of the scholarship she had won.

affluence n. Wealth.

Mrs. Winn's **affluence** is due to oil being discovered on her land.



.....
Talk with your partner about how you would handle sudden affluence if you won the lottery.

arbitrary

är' bi trer ē

adj. Determined by chance or whim rather than by reason or necessity.

Even though our choice of restaurant was **arbitrary**, the food was delicious.

artisan

ärt' ə zən

n. One able to do skilled work with the hands; a craftsperson.

Artisans working with leather, yarn, and clay displayed their products at the local crafts fair.

dismantle

dis mant' l

v. To take apart.

Wong helped Matt **dismantle** the engine so they could begin work on the repair.

immerse

i mɜrs'

v. 1. To cover with liquid.

To prepare the salad, Eva first blanched the vegetables by **immersing** them in boiling water.

2. To completely engage the attention of.

Sophie, **immersed** in her book, did not notice when Jay boarded the bus and sat down beside her.



.....
Discuss with your partner a time when you were so immersed in something that you did not notice anything else.

irksome

ɜrk' səm

adj. Annoying; tedious.

All the steps preliminary to painting the ceiling—scraping, patching, and sanding—were **irksome** to Nevaeh, who wanted to finish the job quickly.

legacy
leg' ə sē

n. 1. Money or property left to another in a will.
This silver pocket watch is my **legacy** from Grandfather Gomez.
2. Something passed on to those who come after.
Catholicism and the Spanish language are **legacies** of Spanish rule in Guatemala.

ostentatious
äs tən tə' shəs

adj. Extravagantly showy or ornate.
My grandmother favors **ostentatious** furnishings, but my dad prefers simple furniture and decorations.

panorama
pan ə ram' ə

n. 1. A complete view of a surrounding area.
We took the elevator up to the observation deck so we could view the **panorama** of New York City and all its suburbs.
2. A thorough presentation of a subject.
One course my aunt teaches at the university is a **panorama** of civil-rights law in the United States.



.....
Explain to your partner why you would or would not be interested in a panorama of algebra.

philanthropy
fi lan' thrə pē

n. The attempt to improve the well-being of those in need by donating money or aid.
The **philanthropy** of the Tan family has provided the money for this cancer research center.

philanthropist *n.* One who makes substantial contributions to those in need.
Andrew Carnegie, a renowned **philanthropist**, established many public libraries in the early 1900s.



.....
Tell your partner what kind of philanthropy you would like to be involved in.

prestige
pres tēzh'

n. High standing; respect earned by accomplishments.
Winning the Nobel Prize brings much **prestige**.
prestigious *adj.* (pres teej' əs) Honored; esteemed.
An Oscar is the most **prestigious** award in the movie industry.

prolific
prō lif' ik

adj. Abundantly productive.
Although Maya Angelou was a **prolific** poet, she is known primarily for her series of autobiographies.



.....
Share with your partner a topic you have prolific thoughts about.

reticent
ret' ə sənt

adj. Inclined to keep one's thoughts and feelings to oneself; quiet and reserved.
When we asked her about her parents, Adriana grew **reticent**.

reticence *n.* Silence or reserve.

Liao's **reticence** about his plans for the summer made us even more curious.



.....
Have your partner ask you a question, and then be reticent in your answer.

tycoon
tī kōon'

n. A wealthy and powerful businessperson.

Sam Walton, the business **tycoon** who founded Walmart, worked at many different jobs while he was in school, including milking cows and waiting tables.

12A

Using Words in Context

Read the following sentences. If the word in bold is used correctly, write C on the line. If the word is used incorrectly, write I on the line.

- (a) An enormous iceberg **immersed** with the *Titanic*. ____
(b) I **immersed** my swollen ankle in ice water for ten minutes. ____
(c) A great actor **immerses** herself in the role and becomes that person. ____
(d) Abraham Lincoln was **immersed** in the enormous task of winning the war. ____
- (a) The **tycoon** has become one of the wealthiest women in the country. ____
(b) The **tycoon** hit the coast with high winds and flooding. ____
(c) The digital age has created many **tycoons** who run powerful businesses. ____
(d) A **tycoon** rummaged through the trash and then disappeared into the night. ____
- (a) Father **acceded** to my request for an increase in my allowance. ____
(b) She **acceded** to her friends' encouragement that she run for student-council president. ____
(c) Does his age **accede** the limit? ____
(d) After lunch, we **accede** to study hall. ____
- (a) Mr. Cisco grows **prolific** whenever he thinks about life in the old country. ____
(b) He is a **prolific** author of horror stories. ____
(c) Before computers, most people were **prolific** letter writers. ____
(d) The South Pacific is **prolific** with humpback whales. ____

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tycoon

5. (a) Food soon becomes **reticent** if it is not stored in a cool place. ____
(b) Milla has always been **reticent** around people she's just met. ____
(c) I was too **reticent** to say anything about the mistake. ____
(d) The Olympian was the **reticence** of the Bronze Medal. ____
6. (a) Her family was **affluent** for years until they lost their savings. ____
(b) Private jets and large yachts are flagrant symbols of **affluence**. ____
(c) After three months in Mexico, Jo was **affluent** in Spanish. ____
(d) My mom says my new friend is a bad **affluence**. ____
7. (a) The Medal of Honor is the United States's most **prestigious** award. ____
(b) Winning Olympic medals brings **prestige** to small countries. ____
(c) Hiring the well-known teacher helped restore **prestige** to the school. ____
(d) The most **prestigious** depth yet measured is 36,200 feet. ____
8. (a) The treasure remained **ostentatious** until its discovery in 1920. ____
(b) Olivia wore **ostentatious** earrings because she loved to make a statement. ____
(c) The luxury apartment was an **ostentatious** place to live. ____
(d) In the animal kingdom, the prize for "most **ostentatious**" goes to the peacock with its colorful plumage. ____
9. (a) I always seem to be assigned the most **irksome** tasks at school. ____
(b) Lopez gave an **irksome** wink to show he was in on the joke. ____
(c) It was so **irksome** to have to stand there and do nothing. ____
(d) I had so much **irksome** fun volunteering at the zoo. ____
10. (a) Who the coach chooses to clean the locker room is completely **arbitrary**. ____
(b) Jaymes has always wanted to be an **arbitrary** surgeon. ____
(c) A coin toss is an **arbitrary** method of deciding something. ____
(d) What we eat tonight is **arbitrary** because I'm so hungry I will eat anything. ____

12B

Making Connections

Circle the letter next to each correct answer. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. Which word or words go with *giving*?
 (a) benefactor (b) threadbare (c) philanthropy (d) panorama
2. Which word or words go with *complete view*?
 (a) diversity (b) typical (c) panorama (d) tycoon
3. Which word or words go with *demolish*?
 (a) immerse (b) raze (c) dismantle (d) accede
4. Which word or words go with *work*?
 (a) panorama (b) artisan (c) legacy (d) vocation
5. Which word or words go with *agree*?
 (a) concur (b) accede (c) dismantle (d) enhance
6. Which word or words go with *wealthy*?
 (a) irksome (b) arbitrary (c) affluent (d) prosperous
7. Which word or words go with *unpleasant*?
 (a) tedious (b) monotonous (c) irksome (d) prolific
8. Which word or words go with *showy*?
 (a) affluent (b) reticent (c) ornate (d) ostentatious
9. Which word or words go with *productive*?
 (a) ornate (b) dismantle (c) prolific (d) prestigious
10. Which word or words go with *money*?
 (a) legacy (b) panorama (c) bankrupt (d) tycoon

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tycoon

Determining Meanings

Circle the letter next to each answer choice that correctly completes the sentence. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. Philanthropists

- (a) use their money to improve the world.
- (b) may employ experts to tell them where to spend their money.
- (c) were first discovered in Africa a hundred thousand years ago.
- (d) will bid hundreds of thousands of dollars for a rare postage stamp.

2. The **panorama**

- (a) view from the window showed the entire beach at sunset.
- (b) photograph included most of Manhattan's skyscrapers.
- (c) of troubles that seemed to follow Alyssa were irritating.
- (d) of American literature is the subject of today's lecture.

3. A **legacy**

- (a) carries a hundred-dollar fine.
- (b) from an aunt enabled Ameira to go to college.
- (c) involving property should be looked over by a lawyer.
- (d) of debt was passed from one president to the next.

4. I was **immersed**

- (a) in my book when the doorbell rang.
- (b) by a horde of fans, yelling and screaming.
- (c) to hear that my best friend was valedictorian.
- (d) in learning my lines for the school play and didn't hear the telephone.

5. I **dismantled**

- (a) from the horse and walked around to rub his nose.
- (b) toward the bus but was too late.
- (c) the bike for repairs later and put the pieces in the garage.
- (d) the tree house and used the wood to help my dad build a doghouse.

6. **Artisans**

- (a) were a form of money in Polynesian societies.
- (b) such as basket weavers and painters meet every Thursday.
- (c) hang on the walls of the cafeteria at school.
- (d) sell their products at the weekly farmers' market.

7. **Arbitrary**

- (a) to what I was told, there are no leprechauns in Ireland.
- (b) rules aren't very effective.
- (c) choices are usually made without considering all the details.
- (d) creatures live in trees and use their tail as a fifth limb.

8. **Affluent**

- (a) meals are mostly made of bread, water, and potatoes.
- (b) families in this neighborhood are very generous to others.
- (c) in six languages, Tina was also a chess grandmaster.
- (d) mice have made their home in the attic.

12D

Completing Sentences

Complete the sentences to demonstrate your knowledge of the words in bold.

1. Our **legacy** to the next generation should be

_____.

2. I can be **reticent** when

_____.

3. I find it **irksome** when

_____.

4. It would be **ostentatious** to

_____.

5. A **philanthropist** is someone who

_____.

6. A person I know who deserves **prestige** is

_____.

7. A subject I would like to **immerse** myself in is

_____.

8. If you **accede** to something, that means

_____.

9. If a rule is **arbitrary**, it is

_____.

10. A **tycoon** has

_____.

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Hearst Castle's Master Builder

As part of the tour of Hearst Castle, also known as San Simeon, in southern California, visitors get to see home movies. These films show many of the celebrities who were guests there during the 1930s and 1940s. In one film, a tiny, bespectacled woman hiding her face behind a sheaf of papers is mistakenly identified by the narrator as William Randolph Hearst's secretary. In fact, she was Julia Morgan, the architect who designed and supervised the building of the castle, which some have described as the most **ostentatious** residence of the twentieth century.

There is an explanation for the error. Julia Morgan, despite being an extremely **prolific** architect, with over seven hundred buildings to her credit, was a very **reticent** person; she actively avoided publicity for herself. From early in her career, she rarely gave interviews. When she retired at the age of seventy-nine, she had all her architectural drawings destroyed. She declared that the buildings themselves would be her **legacy**. As a result, very little was written about her for many years.

Julia Morgan was born into an **affluent** San Francisco family in 1872. At that time, it was not common for young women to attend college. Despite this fact, Morgan entered the engineering school at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduation, she became the first woman admitted as an architectural student to the **prestigious** École des Beaux Arts in Paris, France. When her studies were completed, she returned to California, ready to open her own firm. First, however, she had to pass the state licensing exam. In 1904, she became the first woman to receive an architectural license to practice in that state.

Morgan had great skill in understanding her clients' wishes and in carrying them out successfully. She designed and built private homes as well as public buildings. One of her clients was Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, a wealthy widow and **philanthropist**. Her only child was the publishing **tycoon** William Randolph Hearst. When Mrs. Hearst died in 1919, her son inherited her enormous fortune. To match his great wealth, Hearst had extravagant plans: He would have a huge home built on his 275,000-acre ranch, midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. For this project, he hired Julia Morgan.

For the next twenty years, Morgan **immersed** herself in every aspect of the design and construction of the main house and three guest houses. Early in the project she supervised the laying of five miles of road to provide access to the site. She also arranged for a dock to be built to receive building materials arriving by ship. As the buildings were completed, she brought skilled **artisans** from Europe to execute the wood and stone carvings that embellish many of the rooms.

From the beginning, Hearst was actively involved in the building of “the ranch,” as he called it. At times, this must have been **irksome**; for example, after an elaborate fireplace was completed, it had to be **dismantled** and moved to a different place in the same room because Hearst was dissatisfied with its location. Morgan had no choice but to **accede** to Hearst’s wishes when he **arbitrarily** changed his mind, as he frequently did.

The scope of the project provided Morgan with a unique challenge as an architect. Casa Grande, the main house, contains 115 rooms, filled with art treasures collected in Europe. Its twin towers, 137 feet high, offer a fine **panorama** of the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Lucia mountains. The outdoor Neptune pool, lined with green and white marble, is not only breathtakingly beautiful but also soundly constructed on its hillside site. In addition to the buildings, Morgan directed the creation of numerous gardens and a private zoo that grew to include more than 100 species.

By the late 1930s, construction at San Simeon ceased. Morgan continued to work on other projects for Hearst as well as for other clients until 1951, when she retired. In 1958, San Simeon became one of California’s state historical monuments. With over one million visitors a year, it is now one of the nation’s most popular tourist attractions. Everyone knows that it was Hearst’s millions that paid for it, but very few know the name of the person who designed and supervised its building. And that is the way Julia Morgan would have wanted it.

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► Answer each of the following questions with a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson’s word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. Give some details of the San Simeon project that show that William Randolph Hearst was an **affluent** man.

2. What has been the result of Julia Morgan's **reticence**?

3. Why do you think Morgan brought **artisans** from Europe to do the carvings?

4. How do you know that Hearst was successful with his business?

5. How do you know that Morgan did not find Hearst too **irksome** to work with?

6. Why might fireplaces have to be **dismantled** before being moved?

7. Which details in the passage suggest that Hearst's taste was rather **ostentatious**?

8. Was Hearst Castle Morgan's only project? Explain.

9. Why would Morgan have to **accede** to Hearst's decisions about the castle?

10. Why must Hearst's frequent changes have been hard to accept?

11. Why do you think Morgan included towers as part of the design of the main house?

12. What is the meaning of **immersed** as it is used in the passage?

13. Why would it be inaccurate to describe San Simeon as a **philanthropic** project?

14. What is the meaning of **legacy** as it is used in the passage?

15. Which details in the passage suggest that Morgan deserves a position of **prestige** among American architects?

Fun & Fascinating FACTS

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- Commodore Matthew C. Perry's visit to Japan in 1854 opened that country for the first time to trade with the United States. It also added a new word to the English language. Perry negotiated with a Japanese official, whose title was *taikun*. This was formed from two Chinese words, *ta*, "great," and *kiun*, "prince." Perry introduced the word on his return to the United States, and it caught on. The spelling became modified to **tycoon**. During Abraham Lincoln's presidency, members of his cabinet affectionately referred to him by that term, *tycoon*.

Another English word of Chinese origin is *typhoon*, a wind of hurricane force in the western Pacific, formed from *ta*, "great," and *feng*, "wind."

.....

- The Greek verb *philein*, "to love," combines with the Greek *anthropos*, "humankind," to form **philanthropist**. Other words formed from *philein* include *bibliophile*, "a person who loves and collects books"; *Anglophile*, "a person who loves England and the English"; *Francophile*, "a person who loves France and the French"; *philosophy*, "the love of and seeking after wisdom"; and *philology*, "the love of words and language."

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