

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

**acquire**

ə kwīr

v. To gain ownership of something; to get by one's own efforts or actions.

Most tourists **acquire** souvenirs from the places they visit.

**acquisition** n. (ak wə zish' ən) Something that is acquired.

We left the store with our shopping bags filled with our **acquisitions**.



.....  
*Tell your partner about a recent acquisition you made.*

**antagonize**

an tag' ə nīz

v. To make an enemy of; to stir up anger or dislike.

You will **antagonize** your classmates if you make derogatory comments about them.

**competent**

kəm' pə tənt

adj. Having the ability to do what is needed.

The mechanic is **competent** to work on the car's brakes.

**competence** n. The ability to do what is needed.

This examination tests the student's **competence** to drive safely.



.....  
*Chat with your partner about your level of competence in cooking.*

**comprise**

kəm prīz'

v. 1. To form; to make up.

Six states **comprise** New England.

2. To consist of or include.

A baseball team **comprises** nine players.



.....  
*Work with your partner to estimate how many rooms comprise your school, including classrooms, gym, cafeteria, library, and other rooms.*

**correspond**

kōr ə spānd'

v. 1. To match; to be equal to.

The two handwriting samples **correspond** in every way.

2. To exchange letters with another person.

Although the friends hadn't seen each other for several years, they **corresponded** regularly.

**correspondence** n. The act of exchanging letters; the letters that are exchanged.

The **correspondence** of famous people is often published after their death.

**dilapidated**

di lap' ə dāt əd

adj. In poor condition from neglect or age.

The shed was so **dilapidated** that it wasn't worth repairing.

**illustrious**  
il lus' trē əs

*adj.* Very famous; outstanding.

Anton Chekov, the **illustrious** Russian writer, is famous for his plays and short stories.

**incident**  
in' sə dənt

*n.* Something that happens in real life or in a story; an event, often of little importance.

Our car was struck from behind, but I thought no more about the **incident** until my neck began to hurt.



.....  
*Share with your partner an amusing incident that occurred recently.*

**inherit**  
in her' it

*v.* 1. To receive something from someone after that person's death.

I **inherited** this house from my grandparents.

2. To receive, as part of one's physical or mental makeup, from one's parents.  
The baby **inherited** his mother's red hair.

**latitude**  
lat' ə tōōd

*n.* 1. The distance north or south of the equator, measured in degrees.

The **latitude** of New Orleans is thirty degrees north.

2. A region as marked by its distance from the equator.

Tropical plants cannot survive in northern **latitudes**.

3. Freedom from strict rules.

Students in high school are allowed some **latitude** in choosing their courses.



.....  
*Discuss with your partner how much latitude students should have in choosing their clothes for school.*

**loath**  
lōth

*adj.* Unwilling; reluctant.

I was **loath** to put my trust in such a devious person.

**maintain**  
mān tān'

*v.* 1. To declare something to be true.

Although the evidence against her is strong, she continues to **maintain** her innocence.

2. To continue in the same way or condition.

The walkers try to **maintain** an even pace as they exercise.

3. To keep in good condition.

The state of New York **maintains** this highway.



.....  
*Who do you maintain is the best athlete in history? Explain to your partner why.*

**renovate**  
ren' ə vāt

*v.* To make like new again.

My parents intend to **renovate** the apartment completely before we move in.

**renovation** *n.* (ren ə vā' shən) The act of renovating; the thing renovated.

A group of concerned parents was responsible for the **renovation** of the playground.

**reprimand**  
rep' rə mand

v. To scold in a harsh or formal manner.  
The principal **reprimanded** us for being late to school.  
n. A strong scolding from someone in authority.  
The teacher gave us a **reprimand** for being absent without permission.

**supervise**  
sūō' pər viz

v. To direct or manage activities.  
Ms. Agostino will **supervise** the students in the study hall.  
**supervision** n. (sūō' pər vizh' ən) The act of managing or directing.  
A lack of proper **supervision** resulted in yesterday's accident at the playground.  
**supervisor** n. A person who manages or directs activities.  
The **supervisor** reminded the worker to wear a hardhat at the construction site.



Tell your partner how much supervision you think seventh graders need at a party.

## 4A

### 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) Ari's hobby of **corresponding** with famous people made him well known. \_\_\_\_

(b) The **correspondence** of state officials is available to the public. \_\_\_\_

(c) The copy should **correspond** in every way with the original. \_\_\_\_

(d) One day I mean to **correspond** the story of my early life. \_\_\_\_
- (a) You really need to work on your bad **latitude**. \_\_\_\_

(b) The **latitude** tells us how far from the equator a place is. \_\_\_\_

(c) Penguins are found only in southern **latitudes** near the pole. \_\_\_\_

(d) I would like some **latitude** in where I have my birthday party. \_\_\_\_
- (a) Tiana **maintains** that she and Dolores were childhood friends. \_\_\_\_

(b) Nathan **maintained** an even pace until the last hundred yards of the marathon. \_\_\_\_

(c) We were **maintained** in the principal's office but released almost immediately. \_\_\_\_

(d) The city **maintains** all three public parks and does a fine job. \_\_\_\_

4. (a) I **loath** having to babysit my little brother. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) People were **loath** to leave their homes during the epidemic. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) When sharks were sighted offshore, the mayor was **loath** to issue a warning. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) I was feeling **loath**, so I decided to stay home from school. \_\_\_\_
5. (a) Elsie likes to go to **dilapidated** lunch with her aunt every Saturday. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) The book was in **dilapidated** condition and was practically worthless. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) **Dilapidated** structures that cannot be repaired are demolished. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) Alligators in Florida have increased in number in recent **dilapidated** years. \_\_\_\_
6. (a) Marina **acquired** a British accent shortly after arriving in London. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) The United States **acquired** control of Texas from Mexico in 1845. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) You are **acquired** to have your bags inspected at the gate. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) "What's inside the box?" Alex **acquired**. \_\_\_\_
7. (a) The teacher promised more strict **supervision** of the book club. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) I was shocked to **supervise** that my room had been cleaned. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) Parents are expected to **supervise** their own children on the playground. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) Mustafa wore a hat to **supervise** his eyes from the sun. \_\_\_\_
8. (a) Pour the **competence** in the jug and place it on the table. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) A **competent** person is needed to help the teacher. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) You can measure **competence** by studying how people respond to a crisis. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) The racers lined up for the start of the 100-meter **competence**. \_\_\_\_
9. (a) The **renovation** of the United States Capitol dome took several years. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) The computer was a **renovation** that changed life forever. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) The sports arena was **renovated** in time for the championship game. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) Bells **renovated** throughout the city as the people celebrated. \_\_\_\_
10. (a) I dropped the **incident** when it got too hot to carry. \_\_\_\_  
 (b) The **incident** was caught on camera. \_\_\_\_  
 (c) The **incident** happened so long ago, I had completely forgotten about it. \_\_\_\_  
 (d) Malik remembers every little **incident** in his life. \_\_\_\_

acquire
antagonize
competent
comprise
correspond
dilapidated
illustrious
incident
inherit
latitude
loath
maintain
renovate
reprimand
supervise

## 4B

## 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 *obtain*?  
(a) antagonize      (b) acquire      (c) attain      (d) purchase
2. Which word or words go with *unwilling*?  
(a) loath      (b) loathe      (c) competent      (d) reluctant
3. Which word or words go with *ability*?  
(a) competent      (b) latitude      (c) capable      (d) devious
4. Which word or words go with *event*?  
(a) occasion      (b) incident      (c) reprimand      (d) latitude
5. Which word or words go with *communicate*?  
(a) inherit      (b) correspond      (c) antagonize      (d) supervise
6. Which word or words go with *scold*?  
(a) acquire      (b) reprimand      (c) supervise      (d) admonish
7. Which word or words go with *anger*?  
(a) aggravate      (b) antagonize      (c) infuriate      (d) maintain
8. Which word or words go with *include*?  
(a) admonish      (b) inherit      (c) comprise      (d) reprimand
9. Which word or words go with *famous*?  
(a) celebrated      (b) melancholy      (c) illustrious      (d) competent
10. Which word or words go with *property*?  
(a) evict      (b) inherit      (c) latitude      (d) renovate

## 4C

## Determining Meanings

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

1. We **inherited**

- (a) so much about the test last week.
- (b) the necklaces from our grandmother.
- (c) our blue eyes from our father.
- (d) the championship from the other team.

2. She **maintained**

- (a) that her favorite drink is lemonade.
- (b) a certain distance between herself and the dog.
- (c) stories about the old house on the hill.
- (d) that you can always beat your fears.

3. The **renovation**

- (a) at the edge of the plate is beautiful.
- (b) of the houses made them seem almost new.
- (c) bounced across the desert on new tires.
- (d) of the bridge kept it from collapsing.

4. Meryl **antagonizes**

- (a) people who are supposed to be her friends.
- (b) the umpire whenever he makes a call she doesn't like.
- (c) over problems every night before she goes to sleep.
- (d) to school every day, even if it rains.

5. An **illustrious**

- (a) name in American history is Chief Joseph.
- (b) hero like Harriet Tubman is a role model for us all.
- (c) lotion is on the shelf if you need it.
- (d) name from the ancient world is Cleopatra.

6. The **reprimanding**

- (a) went on all afternoon in the principal's office.
- (b) praised the student for bravery.
- (c) from the officer was a serious matter.
- (d) wind knocked over the old oak tree.

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7. The team **comprises**

- (a) music in their heads and then writes it down later.
- (b) a dozen players.
- (c) people of all races, genders, and religions.
- (d) every time they lose a game.

8. The **supervisor**

- (a) was satisfied with the quality of the food.
- (b) made sure they got to work on time.
- (c) of the project claimed to be happy with the progress so far.
- (d) needed to be turned off before it overheated.

## 4D

### Completing Sentences

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

1. One way to **correspond** is by

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. An **illustrious** person I know of is

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. From my ancestors I **inherited**

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. A recent **acquisition** of mine is

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. I should be given more **latitude** because

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. I feel **competent** to

\_\_\_\_\_.

7. I would be **loath** to

\_\_\_\_\_.

8. It is important to **maintain**

\_\_\_\_\_.

9. When you are **reprimanded**, that means you

\_\_\_\_\_.

10. My gym outfit **comprises**

\_\_\_\_\_.

## 4E

## Vocabulary in Context

Read the passage.



## Mount Vernon

No visit to Washington, D.C., is complete without a trip to Mount Vernon, the **illustrious** home of George Washington, our nation's first president. It is located just a few miles south of our nation's capital. Its expansive views, spacious lawns, shaded walks, and carefully manicured gardens make it one of the most popular tourist attractions in the nation. More than a million people annually visit Mount Vernon. There they may pay respects to the memory of our first president and his wife, the first lady; both are buried there.

Mount Vernon had been in the Washington family for almost a hundred years when George Washington **inherited** the property in 1761. It **comprised** five separate farms as well as the main residence overlooking the Potomac River, which he occupied with his wife and her two children from a former marriage. Because the house was too small for their needs, Washington added rooms and outbuildings. Some of this work was completed by the 317 enslaved people Washington kept at Mount Vernon. He also hired paid workers and **supervised** their work closely; by the time they had finished, Mount Vernon had been transformed into the fine mansion visitors see today.

Washington was **loath** to leave his beautiful home. But his duty to his country required him to be absent from Mount Vernon from 1775 until 1783. During that time he commanded the Continental army in the war against the British. In his absence, a distant cousin, Lund Washington, managed the property for him. We know a great deal about this period in the history of Mount Vernon because the abundant **correspondence** between the two men has survived.

Washington gave his cousin considerable **latitude** in looking after the estate, and Lund was a **competent** manager. However, one **incident** aroused Washington's wrath. Lund informed him that a British warship had navigated up the river, and the crew had asked for food. Lund had not wanted to **antagonize** them and had complied with their request. Washington **reprimanded** his cousin, telling him that he should have refused to accommodate the British "even if they had burned my house and laid the Plantation in ruins."

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In 1789, Washington reluctantly left Mount Vernon once again to serve as the country's first president. After eight years he retired from public life and returned for the last time to his beloved home. Two years later he died. The property remained in the Washington family until 1858. By then, the house was in a sadly **dilapidated** state. In that year, the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, an organization of private citizens, **acquired** the property. The association carefully **renovated** the house. It now looks as it did when George Washington lived there. The Mount Vernon Ladies Association has **maintained** it ever since and makes it available to the public to view every day of the year.

► 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. What is the meaning of **latitude** as it is used in the passage?

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2. Who **supervised** the workers at Mount Vernon between 1775 and 1783?

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3. Was George Washington eager to leave Mount Vernon in 1789?

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4. Why does Washington have a secure place in United States history?

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5. Why did George Washington, on the whole, have reason to be satisfied with his cousin's management?

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6. Was George Washington at Mount Vernon when the British warship arrived?

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7. Was George Washington pleased when his cousin helped the British?

---

---

8. What is the meaning of **comprised** as it is used in the passage?

---

---

9. How did George Washington know what was going on at Mount Vernon while he was away?

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10. Why did Lund give the British what they asked for?

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11. What is the meaning of **inherited** as it is used in the passage?

---

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12. Had the Washington family taken good care of Mount Vernon prior to its purchase by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association?

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13. What was Mount Vernon in need of in 1858?

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14. In what year did George Washington become the owner of Mount Vernon?

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15. What is the meaning of **maintained** as it is used in the passage?

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