

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

**audacious**  
ô dâ' shəs

*adj.* 1. Willing to take risks; daring.

The students came up with an **audacious** plan to build a neighborhood park where there was currently a garbage dump.

2. Showing disrespect or a lack of courtesy.

Our teacher warned us that the **audacious** remarks were not appropriate in a civil debate.

**audacity** *n.* (ô das' ə tē) Willingness to take risks by showing excessive boldness.

Olly was the only boy with the **audacity** to ask for more food.



.....  
*Talk to your partner about situations that require audacity.*

**confiscate**  
kän' fi skāt

*v.* To seize, by force if necessary; to take possession of.

Ms. Martinez **confiscated** my phone and told me I could have it back when class was over.

**conscientious**  
kän shē en' shəs

*adj.* 1. Thorough; careful.

Because of our **conscientious** preparations, the science fair was enjoyable and informative for everyone.

2. Honest; principled.

Several of the students made a **conscientious** effort to combat hunger by working with the food bank.



.....  
*Discuss with your partner what a conscientious person would do if he or she found a wallet on the sidewalk.*

**depict**  
dē pikt'

*v.* To give a picture of; to describe.

These seafaring novels **depict** life aboard a navy sailing ship with great accuracy.



.....  
*Tell your partner how you would depict your school to someone who has never been there.*

**embark**  
em bärk'

*v.* 1. To go on board a ship or airplane at the start of a voyage.

Around nine o'clock, we **embarked** for a day of whale watching.

2. To start out; to begin.

Lewis and Clark **embarked** on their famous expedition across America in 1804.

**inkling**  
in'k' lɪŋ

*n.* A slight suspicion; a vague idea.

As she opened the door, Shala had no **inkling** that her friends were hidden in the darkened room, waiting to shout, "Surprise!"

**lackadaisical**  
lak ə dā' zi kəl

*adj.* Showing little spirit or enthusiasm.  
When the students came after school to work on their reports, the librarian was quite **lackadaisical** about enforcing the no-talking rule.

**mutiny**  
myōōt' n ē

*n.* Deliberate refusal to obey orders given by those in command, especially by sailors.  
The 1917 **mutiny** by French soldiers could have caused France to lose the war.  
*v.* To rebel openly against a commander.  
We think the students might **mutiny** if the cafeteria does not start serving better food.



.....  
*Chat with your partner about whether it is better to mutiny or to try to reach a peaceful compromise when faced with unreasonable rules.*

**pilfer**  
pil' fər

*v.* To steal repeatedly small amounts or things that are of little value.  
Pip **pilfered** bread and other bits of food from the kitchen to feed the injured mouse he was caring for.

**profusion**  
prō fyōō' zhən

*n.* A plentiful supply; a great or generous amount.  
Daffodils grew in **profusion** along the river bank.



**profuse** *adj.* Given or occurring in generous amounts; abundant.  
Jerry's **profuse** apologies convinced me he was sorry he had hurt my feelings.  
.....  
*Share with your partner something you can eat profuse amounts of.*

**prudent**  
prōōd' nt

*adj.* Very careful; showing judgment and wisdom.  
Lost in the forest, Aadhya argued it was more **prudent** to wait until morning to find the trail than to continue wandering in the dark.

**prudence** *n.* The avoidance of risk; carefulness in what one says or does.  
Although the knight was shaking with anger, he exercised **prudence**, saying nothing to the king who had insulted him.

**rankle**  
ranj' kəl

*v.* To cause continuing anger or irritation.  
The unfair criticism still **rankled** Deena, even though her friend later apologized.

**rebuke**  
rē byōōk'

*v.* To criticize strongly; to reprimand.  
Mrs. Meyer **rebuked** Ben for his insulting remark in class.

*n.* A sharp criticism.  
My mom's **rebuke** seemed to include every mistake I had made since I was born.



.....  
*Talk to your partner about positive ways you might respond to a rebuke.*

**serene**  
sə rēn'

*adj.* Calm and untroubled; peaceful.  
The nurse's **serene** manner comforted the patients.

**serenity** *n.* (sə ren' ə tē) A calm and untroubled state.  
My grandmother's constant **serenity** has a calming effect during times of crisis.



.....  
*Discuss with your partner ways you can find serenity in daily life.*

**slovenly**  
slāv' ən lē

*adj.* Untidy; carelessly done.  
My mother would not let me leave for the field trip until I cleaned my **slovenly** bedroom.

## 5A

### Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 5. Then write the sentence.

1. (a) one that is peaceful. (c) A lackadaisical manner is  
(b) one that changes frequently. (d) A serene manner is

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. (a) To rankle someone is to (c) warn that person.  
(b) To rebuke someone is to (d) criticize that person.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. (a) a feeling of mistrust. (c) Audacity is  
(b) Prudence is (d) excessive boldness.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. (a) to describe it. (c) To confiscate something is  
(b) to remember it. (d) To depict something is

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. (a) imitate another's actions. (c) To embark is to  
 (b) set out on a voyage. (d) To mutiny is to
- 
6. (a) avoids unnecessary risks. (c) A slovenly plan is one that  
 (b) A prudent plan is one that (d) has several parts.
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7. (a) To pilfer something is to (c) take it by force.  
 (b) To confiscate something is to (d) exchange it for something else.
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8. (a) A conscientious person is (c) defies authority.  
 one who (d) does careful work.  
 (b) A lackadaisical person is one who
- 
9. (a) to rebel against authority. (c) to make a sincere effort.  
 (b) To mutiny is (d) To pilfer is
- 
10. (a) they are numerous. (c) If the illustrations are profuse,  
 (b) If the illustrations are slovenly, (d) they are elegant.
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## 5B

## Just the Right Word

Replace each phrase in bold with a single word (or form of the word) from the word list.

1. Spencer's parents wished he were not so **willing to take risks** as they watched him climb the rocks.
2. My sister is always accusing me of being very **untidy and careless** in my personal habits.
3. Poison ivy grows in **very large amounts** at the southern end of the island.
4. When in the ocean, surfers are expected to act with **care to avoid anything that might be too risky**.
5. **An act of defiance against one's superior** is a serious action.
6. Unlike many early colonists, Roger Williams, acting in a **principled and honest** manner, paid the Narragansetts for the land he wanted to occupy.
7. The woman had the first **faint suggestion** she had won the election when reporters arrived.
8. I hope you are not a person for whom an imagined slight **continues to irritate** just as much as a real one.
9. The group's dancing was so **lacking in enthusiasm** that they looked bored.
10. Before mountaineers can **start out** on an expedition, they need supplies.

## 5C

## Applying Meanings

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

- Which of the following indicates a **slovenly** person?
  - polished shoes
  - long hair
  - dirty fingernails
  - patched jeans
- Which of the following might deserve a **rebuke**?
  - breaking a rule
  - showing negligence
  - saving a child's life
  - getting an A on a test
- Which of the following might **rankle**?
  - a deliberate insult
  - a false accusation
  - an unexpected rebuff
  - an affable remark
- Which of the following could be **confiscated**?
  - a warm smile
  - a sum of money
  - a helpful attitude
  - a firm promise
- Which of the following might a **lackadaisical** student do?
  - ask for extra homework
  - get straight A's
  - pay close attention
  - daydream in class
- Which of the following would a **conscientious** bike rider do?
  - signal before making a turn
  - stay alert
  - wear a helmet
  - ignore stop signs
- Which of the following suggests **serenity**?
  - a basketball game
  - a sunset
  - a sleeping baby
  - a carnival ride
- Which of the following can a person **pilfer**?
  - a diamond ring
  - a car
  - a candy bar
  - a sneeze

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## Word Study: Word Parts

Complete each sentence. Each answer is a word from this or an earlier lesson.

1. The prefix *re-* means "back." It combines with the Latin verb *salire* (to leap) to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (able to spring back).
2. The prefix *re-* also means "again." It combines with the Latin verb *currere* (to run) to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (to happen again).
3. The prefix *de-* means "remove." It combines with the Greek word *hydr* (water) to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (to remove water from).
4. The prefix *an-* means "without." It combines with the Greek word *onuma* (name) to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (of an unknown name).
5. The Greek word *pseudes* means "false." Combined with the Greek word for "name," it forms the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (a fictitious or pen name).
6. Two Greek words, *anthos*, meaning "flower," and *legein*, meaning "to gather," combine to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (a collection of various writings).
7. The prefix *in-* means "in" or "into." It changes to *im-* when it combines with the Latin verb *pellare* (to drive) to form the English word \_\_\_\_\_ (to drive forward).



## The *Bounty*, Part One

When the captain of His Majesty's ship *Bounty* spoke to the men on watch a little after midnight, everything seemed normal. Three weeks before, on April 4, 1789, Captain Bligh and his crew had **embarked** for the West Indies from the tropical South Pacific island of Tahiti. For six months, they had collected breadfruit plants, which grew in **profusion** on Tahiti. The purpose of the voyage was to transport over a thousand of these plants, already carefully stowed on board, to the West Indies. They were to be grown as a food crop on the large plantations there.

Captain Bligh probably should have realized that not all was as **serene** as it seemed. He knew that his men had been loath to leave the pleasant island life to return to the more rigid structure of life aboard ship. He had, in fact, been dissatisfied with the **slovenly** habits they had developed while the *Bounty* had lain at anchor. Some of the crew failed to care properly for the sails. Others had **pilfered** from the ship because no one was keeping proper watches.

Furthermore, Captain Bligh seemed to have lost confidence in his chief mate, Fletcher Christian. It had been Christian's **lackadaisical** attitude, Bligh believed, that had resulted in the sailors' neglecting their duties on Tahiti. Bligh had **rebuked** Christian for failing to supervise the men properly. If this had **rankled** the chief mate, Bligh had not perceived any change in him when the two had dined together.

Despite these annoyances, Bligh's mood was calm when he returned to his cabin. He had no **inkling** of what was about to happen as, rocked by the gentle motion of the ship, he fell asleep. Had he been **prudent**, he might have posted a guard outside his cabin. As it was, its door was not even locked. Shortly before dawn, the captain was awakened abruptly. Fletcher Christian, accompanied by several crew members, burst in and informed him that they had taken over the ship. They had **confiscated** all the weapons on board. They had also locked up the eighteen crew members who remained loyal to the captain.

Bligh warned those who held him prisoner that for this **audacious** act they would all be hanged. His warning, however, had no effect. Later that morning, he and the loyal crew members were pushed into an open boat. They were permitted to take some weapons with them and were given a small quantity of

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food and water. Bligh watched helplessly as Christian and the remaining crew members on board sailed off in the *Bounty*. He and the other passengers were left in the tiny boat to their fate in the middle of the vast ocean.

Three movies have been made of the **mutiny** that took place on the *Bounty* on the morning of April 28, 1789. All three **depict** Captain Bligh as a cruel man who treated his crew badly and was himself responsible for what happened. However, by using information in court documents, letters, and diaries written by people who participated in the events, several historians argue that Bligh was a **conscientious** naval officer. He was no stricter than other sea captains of the time. While he had ordered several men flogged twelve or even twenty-four lashes for being disobedient, this was the usual punishment at that time in the British navy for quite minor offenses. To this day, there is no unanimous explanation for this event that changed the lives of these men forever.

► 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. Why do you think there was such a serious punishment for **mutiny**?

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2. Why would it be inaccurate to describe Fletcher Christian as a **conscientious** first mate?

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3. What are two examples from the passage that illustrate the crew's **slovenly** performance?

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4. Why was Christian **rebuked** for his supervision of the men on Tahiti?

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5. What is the meaning of **embarked** as it is used in the passage?

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6. What kinds of things do you think the men could have **pilfered** from the ship?

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7. Why was Tahiti a good place to gather breadfruit plants?

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8. What was it about Christian that made Bligh lose confidence in him?

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9. Why would it be inaccurate to say that the men who took over the ship were acting in a **prudent** manner?

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10. Was Bligh **rankled** by his men's behavior as he went to sleep on April 27, 1789? Explain.

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11. Why is it likely that Captain Bligh did not feel **serene** as he watched the *Bounty* sail away?

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12. How did Fletcher Christian make sure that none of the crew would resist his takeover?

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13. How do we know that no one warned the captain of possible trouble?

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

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15. Why do you think Captain Bligh is **depicted** as cruel in the movies about this event?

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## Fun & Fascinating FACTS

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- The word **lackadaisical** has an interesting history. In the eighteenth century, a person might have expressed regret for a failure to act properly by saying, "Alack the day." Translated into modern English, it means, "I'm sorry that day happened." The expression shortened to "lackaday," and a person who used it frequently was described as *lackadaisical*.

*Lax* is a separate word, meaning "not strict or demanding." (Accidents occurred because of the *lax*

safety rules at the plant.) Don't substitute *laxadaisical*, which is not in any dictionary, for *lackadaisical*.

.....

- In early Roman times, tax collectors working for the state put the money they collected in baskets woven from rushes. The Latin name for this basket was *fiscus*. *Fiscal*, which means "having to do with money collected and spent by the state," is formed from *fiscus*. So is the word **confiscate**. The state has the power to seize, by force if necessary, money owed to it by its citizens.

