

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

admonish
ad mən' ish

v. 1. To warn.

Rescue workers **admonished** us to stay away from the flooding river.

2. To criticize gently.

The coach **admonished** me for missing practice.

admonition n. (ad mə nish' ən) A warning.

We remembered our parents' **admonition** to stay close to shore while swimming.



Tell your partner one admonition you have heard a teacher give.

aghast
ə gast'

adj. Struck with horror; shocked.

We were **aghast** at what the storm had done to the neighborhood.

annihilate
ə nī' ə lāt

v. To destroy completely; to reduce to utter ruin.

General Custer's army of over two hundred men was **annihilated** at the battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876.

benefactor
ben' ə fak tər

n. A person who provides help, especially by giving money.

People who donated more than \$100 were listed as **benefactors** of the library.

bestow
bē stō'

v. To give as an honor; to present as a gift.

An Academy Award is the highest honor Hollywood can **bestow** on a film.



Bestow your pencil upon your partner.

devious
dē' vē əs

adj. 1. Having many twists and turns; winding.

The climbers followed a **devious** route up the mountain.

2. Sneaky; not frank or honest.

This **devious** scheme was intended to take advantage of vulnerable people.



Chat with your partner about something a devious person might do.

devoid
də void'

adj. Lacking; empty; entirely without.

Although he had experienced great misfortune, he was **devoid** of bitterness.



Discuss with your partner how you might feel if you were devoid of happiness.

heed
hēd

v. To pay attention to.
I hope you will **heed** my advice.

n. Attention; notice.

Pay **heed** to the teacher's instructions before you begin the test.

heedful *adj.* Paying careful attention.

Heedful of the fog, my uncle drove slowly.

heedless *adj.* Failing to pay proper attention.

They went ahead with their plans, **heedless** of our objections.

mortal
môrt' l

n. A human being, especially as contrasted with a god.

Achilles, a hero in Greek mythology, had a goddess for a mother and a **mortal** for a father.

adj. 1. Of or relating to human beings.

Being **mortal**, he accepted the fact that one day he would die.

2. Causing death; fatal.

Caesar received a **mortal** wound delivered by his friend Brutus.

3. Very severe.

My friend wouldn't go into the reptile house because he has a **mortal** fear of snakes.

muse
myōōz

v. To think about in a quiet, careful way.

Mother **mused** over whether to sell the house.

pioneer
pī ə nir'

n. A person who goes before others and opens the way for them to follow.
Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, two nineteenth-century women, were **pioneers** in the women's rights movement.

v. To open the way for others.

Langston Hughes **pioneered** jazz poetry.



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Talk to your partner about what it might have been like to pioneer space travel.

plague
plāg

n. 1. A deadly disease that spreads rapidly from person to person.

Those Londoners who could afford it fled to the country to escape the great **plague** of 1665.

2. Anything that causes destruction or suffering.

A **plague** of locusts destroyed the crop.

v. To cause suffering or distress.

After the tryouts, I was **plagued** by doubts that I would make the varsity team.

subside
səb sīd'

- v. 1. To sink to a lower level.
After the rain stopped, the floodwaters gradually **subsided**.
2. To become quieter or less active.
The baby's sobs gradually **subsided**.



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Tell your partner one thing a teacher can do to make classroom noise subside.

unwitting
un wit' in

- adj. Not done on purpose; unintended.
I tried to ignore the **unwitting** insult, but his comment hurt me just the same.

wrath
rath

- n. Forceful anger; fury.
When I saw the girl being bullied, I was filled with **wrath**.
- wrathful** adj. Very angry.
In Homer's story of the Trojan War, a **wrathful** Achilles seeks revenge on the killer of his friend Patroclus.



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Discuss with your partner some positive steps to take when you feel wrathful.

3A

Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 3. Then write the sentence.

1. (a) is one that is caused deliberately. (c) is one that causes death.
(b) A mortal wound (d) An unwitting injury

2. (a) helps with gifts of money. (c) stands in the way of change.
(b) A pioneer is someone who (d) A benefactor is someone who

3. (a) one that is unintended. (c) one given as a warning.
(b) A wrathful insult is (d) An unwitting insult is

4. (a) gradually rises. (c) A subsiding path is one that
 (b) twists and turns. (d) A devious path is one that
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-

5. (a) fooled by false promises. (c) To be aghast is to be
 (b) shocked. (d) To be annihilated is to be
-
-

6. (a) To subside is to (c) To muse is to
 (b) do worse than expected. (d) sink to a lower level.
-
-

7. (a) To be wrathful is to (c) live forever.
 (b) To be mortal is to (d) be very angry.
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8. (a) open the way for others. (c) To muse is to
 (b) express disagreement. (d) To pioneer is to
-
-

9. (a) To admonish someone is to (c) To plague someone is to
 (b) protect that person. (d) criticize that person.
-
-

10. (a) is to fail to pay attention to it. (c) To be heedless of something
 (b) is to be well supplied with it. (d) To be devoid of something
-
-

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3B

Just the Right Word

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

1. "What fools these **human beings** be," says Shakespeare's Puck.
2. Drug-related violence is a **cause of much suffering** that began to spread rapidly in the 1970s.
3. New Orleans was almost **reduced to ruins** in 2005 by Hurricane Katrina.
4. Elizabeth Blackwell was a **person who opened the way for others** in the field of medical education for women.
5. Drivers should **pay close attention to** stop signs.
6. Avoid doing business with Ed; he is **not honest in his dealings with others**.
7. As far as we know, Mars is **totally lacking in any form** of life.
8. In ancient times, people believed that a volcano's eruption was caused by the **terrible anger** of the gods.
9. Two children are easier to care for than one, the babysitter **thought quietly to himself**.
10. We obeyed the park ranger's **instruction that warned us** to be careful with matches while in the woods.

3C

Applying Meanings

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

- Which of the following can **subside**?
 - (a) an epidemic
 - (b) the floor
 - (c) a storm
 - (d) flame
- Which of the following might a **wrathful** person do?
 - (a) seek revenge
 - (b) apologize
 - (c) make derogatory remarks
 - (d) speak in a loud voice
- Which of the following can you **heed**?
 - (a) advice
 - (b) a suggestion
 - (c) a warning
 - (d) a gift
- Which of the following might **plague** a person?
 - (a) hopes
 - (b) doubts
 - (c) worries
 - (d) fears
- Which of the following might make you **aghast**?
 - (a) seeing a beautiful sunset
 - (b) hearing of a terrible accident
 - (c) missing a favorite TV show
 - (d) receiving good news
- Which of the following can be **mortal**?
 - (a) terror
 - (b) wounds
 - (c) buildings
 - (d) horses
- Which of the following could be described as **devious**?
 - (a) a winding path
 - (b) an impartial judge
 - (c) a person who lies and cheats
 - (d) a person who lacks authority
- Which of the following might a **benefactor** do?
 - (a) pay your college tuition
 - (b) support a local theater
 - (c) make derogatory remarks about you
 - (d) give you good advice

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Word Study: Latin Roots

Read the Latin words and their meanings. Then complete the sentences. The vocabulary words are from Lesson 3 or earlier.

Many English words come from Latin. We say they have Latin roots.

<i>facere</i> (to make)	<i>furor</i> (rage)	<i>monere</i> (to warn)	<i>mors</i> (death)
<i>nihil</i> (nothing)	<i>sidere</i> (to settle)	<i>solus</i> (alone)	<i>pars</i> (side)
<i>via</i> (way)	<i>vulnus</i> (a wound)		

- To _____ someone is to warn that person. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- _____ is the state of being alone. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- To be _____ is to be easily hurt. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- To _____ something is to destroy it completely. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- A(n) _____ judge will hear both sides of an argument fairly. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- To _____ someone is to make him extremely angry. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- A(n) _____ person is one who is not direct and straightforward. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- To _____ is to fall to a lower level. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- A(n) _____ wound is one that causes death. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.
- A(n) _____ is a person who tries to make things better for others. The word comes from the Latin _____, meaning _____.



Pandora's Box

Modern English contains many words and phrases with origins that go back to ancient Greece. One of these phrases is *Pandora's Box*, which has come to mean “something that produces unexpected problems or difficulties.” Take, for example, the nineteenth-century French scientist Marie Curie. She was a **pioneer** in the study of uranium, and it could be said that she opened a Pandora's Box with her research. Her work led to the splitting of the uranium atom and the development of the atomic bomb. This gave the human race, for the first time in history, the power to **annihilate** itself. The expression *Pandora's Box* comes from a Greek myth that explains how evil and suffering came into existence in a world that was originally **devoid** of them.

The story starts with Prometheus, whom the ancient Greeks looked upon as a **benefactor** of the human race. They believed that he stole fire from Zeus, the king of the gods, and gave it to human beings. To get revenge, the **wrathful** Zeus punished Prometheus by chaining him to a rock where eagles came and devoured his liver. Each night it grew back, and each day it was devoured afresh. Zeus was not satisfied with this, however; he also wanted to punish the people who had received the precious gift of fire, so he came up with a **devious** plan.

Zeus ordered his son Hephaestus, the best craftsman of the gods, to create the first woman. Her name, Pandora, means “all the gifts” because each of the gods **bestowed** a special gift upon her. Aphrodite gave her beauty. Hermes gave her the ability to be crafty. Zeus gave her a box, which he **admonished** her never to open. But he also gave her the gift of curiosity. He knew that she would not **heed** his warning.

Zeus then sent Pandora to live on Earth as a **mortal**. She married and lived happily, untroubled except for one thing. She could not stop glancing at the box that Zeus had given her. That kept her **musings** about what it contained. She was often tempted to lift the lid and peep inside. Then she would remember Zeus's warning and restrain herself. However, her curiosity, far from **subsiding**, increased with every passing day.

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Finally, Pandora could stand it no longer. She acted swiftly, so as to give herself no time to think. She picked up the box and opened it. Immediately, all the evils that now exist in the world flew out of Pandora's Box. Greed and envy, hatred and fear, disease and despair; all appeared on Earth for the first time. They began to **plague** humankind. Pandora was **aghast** at what she had done. She quickly slammed the lid shut. Too late! She had been Zeus's **unwitting** helper as he carried out his plan of revenge and proved his power once again.

► 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 did Prometheus **bestow** on humankind?

2. What is the meaning of **subsiding** as it is used in the passage?

3. Did Pandora know what she was doing when she helped Zeus carry out his plan?

4. Why would it be incorrect to call Pandora a **benefactor** of humankind?

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

6. What warning did Zeus give Pandora when he presented her with the box?

7. Did Hephaestus obey Zeus's order?

8. How did Zeus's gift of curiosity affect Pandora?

9. What is the meaning of **plague** as it is used in the passage?

10. Did Zeus show any pity for Prometheus?

11. In what way did Marie Curie take a lead in the world of science?

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

13. According to the myth, who suffered because of Zeus's **wrath**?

14. Why can we say that Marie Curie opened a Pandora's Box?

15. How might Marie Curie have felt if she had known that her research would lead to the atomic bomb?

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