Word List

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

**abduct**
v. To carry away by force; to kidnap.
Bandits stopped the jeep and *abducted* the driver.

**abduction**
n. The act or instance of abducting.
According to Greek myth, the *abduction* of Helen was the cause of the Trojan War.

**abode**
n. The place where one lives; home.
My summer *abode* was a small cabin that I shared with two other camp counselors.

**abyss**
n. 1. A deep opening in the earth.
We were afraid to look down as we crossed the *abyss* on a swaying rope bridge.
2. Anything too deep to measure.
The Hubble space telescope was built to probe the *abyss* of space.

**arbitrate**
v. To settle a disagreement between two parties by having a third party make a decision after hearing both sides.
The United Nations will *arbitrate* the border dispute between the two countries.

**arbitration**
n. (ar bi trò′ shan) The act of arbitrating.
By agreeing to *arbitration*, management and workers hope to avoid a strike.

**attribute**
v. To think of as coming from or belonging to a particular person or thing.
The painting was wrongly *attributed* to Mary Cassatt, America’s foremost Impressionist artist.

**n.** (a′ tri byō′t) A quality or feature associated with a person or thing.
Wisdom is often considered an *attribute* of old age.

**capricious**
adj. Likely to change quickly for no obvious reason.
Robert Frost wrote an amusing poem about the *capricious* New England weather.
**compromise**

- **v.** 1. To settle a disagreement by having each side give up something. We **compromised** by splitting the difference between the $2,000 asking price of the car and the $1,500 offer I made for it.
- 2. To expose to the possibility of criticism or shame. The manager will not **compromise** the restaurant’s reputation by tolerating poor service to diners.
- **n.** A settlement reached by each side giving up something. The **compromise** required me to work late on Fridays so that I could have Saturdays off.

**devout**

- **adj.** 1. Very religious. **Devout** Muslims try to make at least one visit to the holy city of Mecca.
- 2. Sincere. I am a **devout** believer in the healing power of the mind.

**dysrath**

- **adj.** Deeply disturbed; very troubled. The children were **dysrath** when their pet rabbit died.

**enlighten**

- **v.** To inform or instruct; to give knowledge or truth to. Since we didn’t know the store’s policy for returning merchandise, we asked customer service to **enlighten** us.
- **enlightened** **adj.** Free from ignorance or prejudice. This day-care center takes an **enlightened** approach to early childhood education.

**incline**

- **v.** 1. To slope or lean. Instead of being vertical, the post **inclines** slightly to the left.
- 2. To be likely to; to have a fondness for. I am **inclined** to talk too much.
- 3. To bend or bow (the head). I **inclined** my head so that the barber could trim the back of my neck.
- **n.** (in’ klin) A sloping surface. The summer house lay at the top of a grassy **incline**.

**intervene**

- **v.** To enter in order to help or settle something. The playground supervisor **intervened** when the children couldn’t agree about whose turn it was.
- **intervention** **n.** (in tar van’ shan) The act or instance of intervening. The talk show host’s timely **intervention** kept the discussion from becoming too heated.

**necessity**

- **n.** 1. Anything that cannot be done without or that is greatly needed. Insect repellent is a **necessity** when camping.
- 2. The condition of being needed. I don’t see the **necessity** for taking separate cars.
orbit

*n.* The path taken by an object around a heavenly body such as a star, planet, or moon.
The moon's **orbit** around the earth takes just over 27 days.

*v.* To put into or be in orbit.
In 1961, the Russian Yuri Gagarin became the first human being to **orbit** the earth.

sacred

*adj.* 1. Holy; having to do with religion.
The Western Wall in Jerusalem is **sacred** to the Jewish people.

2. Worthy of being given the greatest honor or respect.
The engaged couple asserted that they consider marriage vows to be **sacred**.

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**12A Finding Meanings**

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 12. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) a bowing of the head.  
(b) a quality associated with a person.  
(c) An attribute is  
(d) A compromise is

2. (a) A necessity is  
(b) a sudden change of mind.  
(c) a sloping surface.  
(d) An incline is

3. (a) expose to criticism.  
(b) To compromise is to  
(c) To abduct is to  
(d) keep from danger.

4. (a) An abyss is  
(b) An orbit is  
(c) the path taken by an object around a heavenly body.  
(d) the distance of a planet from the sun.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Options</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. (a) one who acts suddenly on a whim. (b) one who is deeply disturbed.</td>
<td>(c) A distraught person is (d) A devout person is</td>
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<td>6. (a) A capricious promise is one (b) made unwillingly.</td>
<td>(c) made with great seriousness. (d) A sacred promise is one</td>
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<td>7. (a) To enlighten someone is to (b) offer protection to that person.</td>
<td>(c) To abduct someone is to (d) carry off that person by force.</td>
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<td>8. (a) anything that is considered necessary. (b) anything that is too deep to measure.</td>
<td>(c) An abyss is (d) An abode is</td>
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<td>9. (a) the condition of being needed. (b) a promise to pay.</td>
<td>(c) Arbitration is (d) Necessity is</td>
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<td>10. (a) To be enlightened about something (b) To intervene in something</td>
<td>(c) is to avoid it completely. (d) is to involve oneself in it.</td>
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<td>11. (a) To be inclined to something is (b) To arbitrate something is</td>
<td>(c) to find a use for it. (d) to have a fondness for it.</td>
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Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 12.

1. In order to prevent a strike, the union members decided to settle for less than they had hoped for, and so they accepted a smaller pay increase.

2. Nimbleness is one of the qualities that is typical of Olympic gymnasts.

3. Each morning, the chanting of the very religious worshippers drifted from the temple.

4. He greeted them by saying, “Welcome to my new residence, the place that I call home.”

5. The space shuttle travels in a path around Earth every ninety minutes.

6. It’s difficult to maintain a close friendship with someone who is so quick to change from one moment to the next for no obvious reason.

7. The two sides decided to settle their dispute through the process in which a third party helps settle the matter.

8. Television should provide information to viewers as well as entertain them.

9. I slightly bent my body toward the speaker in order to hear what she was saying.
Applying Meanings

Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following can be arbitrated?
   (a) quarrels
   (b) nomads
   (c) differences
   (d) casualties

2. Which of the following can be capricious?
   (a) an action
   (b) a sphere
   (c) the weather
   (d) a garden

3. Which of the following might be considered a compromise?
   (a) settling for less
   (b) demanding more
   (c) antagonizing the other party
   (d) accepting an impartial judgment

4. Which of the following can be sacred?
   (a) places
   (b) books
   (c) whims
   (d) objects

5. Which of the following are necessities?
   (a) food
   (b) shelter
   (c) decorations
   (d) entertainment

6. Which of the following can enlighten people?
   (a) books
   (b) radio
   (c) movies
   (d) speeches

7. Which of the following can be an abode?
   (a) a hovel
   (b) a palace
   (c) a bicycle
   (d) a boat

8. Which of the following travel in orbit?
   (a) Earth
   (b) a river
   (c) Venus
   (d) the moon
Word Study

Change each of the words below into a different part of speech by adding, removing, or changing a suffix. Write the new word on the line. All words are from this lesson or previous lessons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>disrupt</td>
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<td>gratify</td>
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<td>dumbfound</td>
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<td>assert</td>
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<td>detach</td>
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Noun

<table>
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<th>Verb</th>
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<tr>
<td>pluck</td>
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<td>nomad</td>
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<td>sphere</td>
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<td>privilege</td>
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<td>congestion</td>
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Verb

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<td>impede</td>
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<td>intimidate</td>
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Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow it.

**How the Seasons Changed**

We know that the seasons occur because the earth, as it travels in its yearly **orbit** around the sun, has its northern hemisphere tilted away from the sun during northern winters and toward it during northern summers. The ancient Greeks were less **enlightened** in matters of astronomy than we are today. They had a different explanation. It was expressed in one of their myths about the goddess Demeter and her daughter Persephone.

The ancient Greeks believed that the gods **intervened** frequently in human affairs and often did so in a **capricious** manner. They were **inclined** to look upon mortals as mere playthings. Demeter, whose name means “earth mother,” was different. She was a benevolent goddess who had given humans the gift of agriculture, which provided them with most of the **necessities** of life. The island of Sicily was especially **sacred** to the ancient Greeks. They believed it was there that Demeter had first given corn to humans. Women, who tilled the fields and planted the crops while the men hunted, were among her most **devout** followers.

According to the myth, Persephone was **abducted** by Hades, the god of the underworld, while she was in a field with her friends picking flowers. He suddenly rose from an **abyss** that he created at her feet. He then carried Persephone off to his home, the **abode** of the dead. There he made her his wife. **Distraught** over the loss of her daughter, Demeter searched for her everywhere. When at last she discovered what had happened, Demeter demanded that Persephone be returned to her. Hades refused. He argued that Persephone had eaten a pomegranate while in the underworld. Anyone who had taken food there could never leave.

Unable to agree on a solution to the problem, Demeter and Hades called upon Zeus, the ruler of the gods, to **arbitrate** the dispute. Demeter threatened to make the earth barren unless her daughter was restored to her. Zeus did not want to lose the humans who worshipped him. So he worked out a **compromise**. Persephone would live part of each year in the underworld with Hades. The rest of the year she would spend on earth with her mother.

And so, we see, it is to Demeter’s moods that the ancient Greeks **attributed** the changing of the seasons. During the summer months, when
the land in Greece is scorched by the hot southern sun and crops wither in the heat, Persephone was thought to be in the underworld with Hades. During the mild, moist months from fall to spring when the earth is fruitful, she was living on earth with her mother.

- Answer each of the following questions in the form of 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. Were the ancient Greek gods remote from human affairs?

2. Why was it difficult to predict how the gods might behave?

3. What do we know to be the cause of the change of seasons?

4. What is the meaning of inclined as it is used in the passage?

5. Was Demeter indifferent to the loss of her daughter?

6. Did Persephone go willingly with Hades to the underworld?

7. Why was Zeus’s arbitration of the dispute successful?

8. What is the meaning of abyss as it is used in the passage?
9. What is the meaning of **compromise** as it is used in the passage?

10. Why would the Greeks have built many temples on the island of Sicily?

11. Why would the ancient Greeks have worshipped Demeter?

12. Why must the region ruled by Hades have been a very gloomy place?

13. Why do we understand the change of seasons better than the ancient Greeks did?

14. Does Earth go around the sun or does the sun go around Earth?

15. What are some of the **necessities** of life?