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

**anarchy**

*n.*
1. Total absence of government. Government officials fled, leaving the country in a state of **anarchy**.
2. Lack of order; total confusion. After the 2003 Iraq war, the country was in a state of **anarchy** with no established law enforcement in place.

**apprehend**

*v.*
1. To seize; to arrest. John Brown was **apprehended** when he tried to confiscate guns at Harper’s Ferry, Virginia, in 1859.
2. To grasp the meaning of; to understand. When contact with the space shuttle **Columbia** was lost on February 1, 2003, those tracking it **apprehended** at once what had happened.

**arraign**

*v.* To bring before a court to face charges. Lee Harvey Oswald had barely been **arraigned** for the assassination of the president when he too was shot and killed.

**assimilate**

*v.*
1. To absorb into a population. By the second generation, the Cambodian immigrants had been **assimilated** into Canadian society.
2. To take in a part and absorb into the whole. The students **assimilated** the new information, then began to apply it.

**bizarre**

*adj.* Strikingly out of the ordinary; peculiar. The smashed and twisted automobile, resting in a bed of violets near the side of the road, created a **bizarre** image.

**calamity**

*n.* An event that causes great suffering and harm; a disaster. The train engineer averted a **calamity** by slamming on the brakes as soon as he saw the car stalled on the tracks.

**calamitous**

*adj.* Disastrous. Filling in these wetlands to build a mall has been **calamitous** for the songbirds that migrated here each year.
**conspire**
*kan spir’*

**v.** 1. To plan together secretly to do something wrong or illegal.
   Campaign workers **conspired** to break into their opponent’s headquarters.

   2. To join or act together.
   The beautiful weather, good friends, and delicious food **conspired** to make the weekend at the beach one I will always remember.

**conspiracy**
*n. (kan spir’ a sē) A joining with others to plan or carry out unlawful acts.
   The **conspiracy** of the German officers to kill Hitler failed on July 20, 1944.

**dissension**
*di sen’ shan*

**n.** A difference of opinion; disagreement.
As representatives worked on the Constitution that hot summer of 1787, **dissension** over power for the states versus power for the federal government grew.

**elapse**
*e laps’*

**v.** To pass or slip by (used with time).
Five years **elapsed** before they saw their cousins again.

**imminent**
*im’ a nant*

**adj.** About to happen; likely to occur in the very near future.
The clouds rolling in made rain seem **imminent**.

**interrogate**
*in ter’ a gát*

**v.** To ask questions of, especially in a thorough or formal manner.
The police will **interrogate** the suspects separately in order to compare their stories.

**interrogation**
*n.** The act of questioning.
Helen’s lawyer was present during the **interrogation** of the witness to the accident.

**lionize**
*li’ a niz*

**v.** To treat as a celebrity.
After he made the first solo transatlantic flight, Charles Lindbergh was **lionized**.

**meticulous**
*ma tik’ ya las*

**adj.** Extremely careful; attentive to small details.
All of the parachutists gave their gear a **meticulous** final check before leaping from the plane.

**shackle**
*shak’ al*

**n.** 1. A ring or band put around the arm or leg to prevent free movement.
   In the 1800s, Africans captured for the slave trade were crammed into ships where they sat in **shackles** for the duration of the voyage to America.

   2. Something that prevents free action.
   Kevin hoped he could throw off the **shackles** of parental control when he left for college.

   **v.** To prevent freedom of action.
   High school dropouts often find that their lack of education **shackles** them to low-paying jobs.
swelter
swel' tar
v. To suffer from or to be overcome by great heat.
We sweltered in the hot sun because there was no shade in the fields where we worked.

sweltering adj. Very hot and humid; uncomfortable because of extremely hot weather.
Going for a swim is the best way to cool down on a sweltering July day.

6A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 6. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) restricts free movement. (c) A calamity is something that
(b) causes great joy. (d) A shackle is something that

2. (a) question that person closely. (c) To apprehend someone is to
(b) To interrogate someone is to (d) fear that person.

3. (a) be uncomfortably hot. (c) To swelter is to
(b) break up into smaller parts. (d) To elapse is to

4. (a) Dissension is (c) a total absence of government.
(b) fear of what might happen. (d) Anarchy is

5. (a) A calamity is (c) a lifting of all restraint.
(b) A conspiracy is (d) an event that causes great suffering.

6. (a) To recur (c) is to agree.
(b) is to understand. (d) To apprehend
7. (a) To lionize someone is to (b) To arraign someone is to (c) treat that person as a hero or heroine. (d) to make that person angry.

8. (a) is one that keeps recurring. (b) An imminent event (c) is one that is very peculiar. (d) A bizarre event

9. (a) To arraign some people is to (b) absorb them into a larger group. (c) To assimilate some people is to (d) show that they are innocent.

10. (a) To elapse is to (b) To conspire is to (c) fall to do what is expected or required. (d) plan secretly or illegally with others.

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**6B Just the Right Word**

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 6.

1. The roots of trees **take in and absorb** water from the soil.

2. Janine, seeing that an accident was **about to happen in the very near future**, moved her baby brother away from the stove.

3. As we examined the ancient Peruvian embroideries, we were amazed by how **extremely careful and attentive to small details** the creators of these pieces had been.

4. Our teachers always encouraged us to finish high school because no one, they said, should be **prevented from doing what he or she wished** by the lack of education.

5. To avoid a **complete breakdown in government**, the president called for a new election and then resigned.
6. Strong disagreement about whether or not to permit the use of trail bikes in the state park flared up at the town meeting.

7. Margaret finished the test well before the thirty minutes had slipped by.

8. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., with the managers of the Colorado mine, secretly made plans to prevent the union leaders from entering the work area.

9. Rebecca remembered summers on a Maine lake, away from the very hot and uncomfortable city.

10. The Bill of Rights gives both citizens and noncitizens the right to have a lawyer represent them when being called before a court to answer charges.

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 could shackle a person?
   (a) fear
   (b) leg irons
   (c) education
   (d) responsibility

2. Which of the following might be considered bizarre?
   (a) a dancing llama
   (b) a July snowstorm
   (c) an all-black zebra
   (d) twins with different birthdays

3. Which of the following might be apprehended?
   (a) a poem's meaning
   (b) a profound utterance
   (c) a hit-and-run driver
   (d) a coded message

4. In which of the following might dissension occur?
   (a) a club
   (b) a nation
   (c) an army
   (d) an individual

5. Which of the following could be imminent?
   (a) yesterday
   (b) a blizzard
   (c) a hurricane
   (d) the 1920s
6. Which of the following might be lionized?
   (a) an Olympic gold medalist  (c) an anonymous poet
   (b) a movie star  (d) a great white shark

7. Which of the following describes a conspiracy?
   (a) It is secret.  (c) It involves just one person.
   (b) It is possibly illegal.  (d) It occurs spontaneously.

8. Which of the following could be calamitous?
   (a) an earthquake  (c) a flood
   (b) a toothache  (d) a shipwreck

6D Word Study

Circle the two synonyms in each group of words.

1. meticulous  afraid  bizarre  careful
2. assimilate  bind  interrogate  absorb
3. anarchy  guile  calamity  disaster
4. shackle  pass  elapse  suggest
5. apprehend  arraign  charge  confiscate
6. sweltering  peculiar  imminent  bizarre

Circle the two antonyms in each group of words.

7. conspiracy  order  entreaty  anarchy
8. succumb  shackle  resist  interrogate
9. chilly  serene  odd  sweltering
10. dissension  confusion  agreement  conjecture
The Bounty, Part Two

After Captain Bligh and the eighteen members of his crew who remained loyal to him were set adrift in an open boat, they understood clearly that the chance of their surviving to report the calamity was slim. Nevertheless, Bligh wasted no time in raising the sail and ordering the men to start rowing. He also began a journal, in which he meticulously recorded everything that happened.

The greatest hazard they faced was the weather. In stormy seas the overcrowded twenty-three-foot boat was tossed so mercilessly that drowning seemed imminent. One storm, which lasted two weeks, kept the men thoroughly soaked the entire time. On other days, the sweltering heat of the tropical sun left them too exhausted to row. They stayed alive by collecting rainwater and by stopping at tiny, uninhabited islands to gather fruit and oysters. In this way they added to the meager supply of food and water they had been given when they were set adrift.

At last, weak and barely alive, they reached Timor, north of Australia, where they were received by the Dutch governor of the island. Their ordeal had lasted forty-one days. Another ten weeks elapsed before Captain Bligh was well enough to leave for England. When he arrived there in March 1790, he was lionized by the public for his amazing feat of crossing almost four thousand miles of uncharted ocean in an open boat. Nevertheless, losing one's ship as the result of a mutiny was a serious matter that required investigation. Bligh defended his actions well before the court of inquiry, which was conducted by the navy. They ruled that he was not responsible for the loss of his ship.

The British government took a quite different view of the mutineers, however. Having learned that some of the former crew members of the Bounty were on Tahiti, the navy sent an armed ship, the Pandora, to bring them to justice. When the ship arrived in March 1791, the officers found that many of the mutineers had married Tahitian women and were beginning to assimilate into the life of the island. All the men were quickly apprehended and taken aboard the Pandora, where they were interrogated by the captain. They told him that Fletcher Christian, with eight crew members, had sailed away to an unknown destination after a brief stay on Tahiti.
With the captured mutineers on board, the Pandora set sail for England. On the return voyage, however, four of the prisoners drowned when the ship sank in a storm. They had been kept shackled below decks, with the captain refusing to release them until the last moment before the ship went down. Of those remaining, six were arraigned when they eventually reached England. At the trial that followed, three were found guilty and hanged for conspiring to take over the Bounty by force. The others were set free.

And yet the story does not end there. In 1808, an American seal-hunting ship called the Topaz dropped anchor off what was believed to be an uninhabited island thirteen hundred miles southeast of Tahiti. A party sent ashore to explore discovered a man there named Alexander Smith. He had been one of the mutineers on the Bounty, and he had a bizarre tale to tell the American sailors.

Twenty years before, he said, Fletcher Christian had sailed to this speck of land, known today as Pitcairn Island, accompanied by eight of his fellow mutineers and eighteen Tahitians. After the Bounty had burned and sunk, the men and women began their new life on the island. But dissension soon developed when the sailors tried to force the Tahitians to become their servants. Quarrels led to violence and eventually to murder. The society they had established collapsed into anarchy. Within ten years of the Bounty’s arrival at the island, Alexander Smith was the only one of the men left alive. Today, his descendants still live on Pitcairn Island.

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. Why wasn’t Captain Bligh ever arraigned?

2. In what ways did the tropical weather create problems for the men in the open boat?
3. Why would the navy have wanted to **interrogate** Bligh once he had returned to England?

4. How do we know what happened to Bligh and his crew after they were set adrift?

5. How does the passage make clear that Bligh and his men did not believe their rescue was **imminent**?

6. Why do you think there was no **anarchy** on the overcrowded open boat?

7. Why might the sailors from the **Topaz** have doubted Alexander Smith's story?

8. Why do you think Christian left Tahiti in the **Bounty**?

9. Why was Captain Bligh **lionized** by the English public?

10. Describe the relations among the residents of Pitcairn island.

11. What **calamity** befell the **Pandora**?
12. How do you know the mutineers were trying to become **assimilated** into Tahitian society?

13. What restrictions did the prisoners on the _Pandora_ experience?

14. Following his return to Tahiti, how much time passed before Christian again sailed away?

15. What was the nature of the **conspiracy** for which three of the sailors were hanged?

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**FUN & FASCINATING FACTS**

- The Latin verb *prehendere* means "to grasp" or "to seize" and forms the root of the verb **apprehend**. Other words formed from this root include *comprehend*, "to understand; to grasp what is being explained" (You seem unable to comprehend the seriousness of what you have done.); *prehensile*, "able to grip" (A monkey's prehensile tail acts as a fifth limb.); *apprehensive*, "concerned" or "afraid" (An apprehensive person is gripped by a feeling of nervousness.).