

Lesson 20

Word List

Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

arrest
à rɛst'

- v. 1. To stop the movement or progress of. The doctors were able to **arrest** the spread of the disease.
2. To seize and charge with breaking the law. When the police **arrested** the suspect, they found the stolen jewelry in his pocket.
n. The act of arresting. The police officer made the **arrest** at the scene of the crime.

capable
kà' pə bəl

- adj. Able to do things well; skilled. Although she is only fourteen, Samantha is **capable** of playing varsity hockey.
capable of 1. Ready and able to. Even in his nineties, Bob Hope was still **capable** of entertaining an audience.
2. Having the qualities necessary for. Although she's only fourteen, Samantha is **capable** of babysitting two small children.

congratulate
kən grə' chə lāt

- v. To express pleasure for a person's success or good fortune. Allow me to **congratulate** you on your victory.
congratulations (kən grə chə lā' shənz) n. pl. Good wishes. Our class made Zel a card that said, "**Congratulations** on winning the 10k race!"

despise
di' spiz'

- v. To scorn and dislike strongly; to consider unworthy of respect. The French nobles **despised** the peasants, whom they considered lacking in refinement.

dispute
di' spyoot'

- n. A strong difference of opinion; an argument. The feuding neighbors were unable to settle their **dispute** and finally took it to court.
v. To question the truth or value of. When her parents **disputed** the value of her new bike, Rona produced an article in *Cycling* that praised it.

eventual
i' ven' chōō əl

- adj. Coming at a later time; happening as a result of. Years of practice led to his **eventual** success as a Wimbledon tennis champion.

helm
hɛlm

- n. 1. The wheel or tiller used to steer a boat. The skipper said I could take the **helm** since the sea was calm.
2. A position of control. With a new president at the **helm**, there is a strong likelihood that the company will grow.

humiliate
hyōō mi' lē āt

- v. To treat in a way that takes away a person's pride or self respect. His fellow workers **humiliated** Hans Christian Andersen because he seemed so strange.
humiliation (hyōō mi' lē ā' shən) n. The act of humiliating or the state of being humiliated. The emperor in the story could not hide his **humiliation** at the way the two "tailors" had tricked him.

implore
im' plōr'

- v. To plead with or beg for with much feeling. I **implored** my parents to let me go with them.

insert
in sɜrt'

v. To put in.
"Please **insert** fifty cents," said the voice on the phone.
n. (in' sɜrt) An extra piece sewn or put in place.
My new shirt has a lace **insert** at the neck.

outrage
out' rāj

n. 1. Anger caused by injury or insult.
The decision to close the school caused **outrage** among the parents.
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2. Anything that causes resentment or anger; a wicked or brutal act or remark.
"Capital punishment is an **outrage** and should be banned!" she shouted.
v. To fill with anger or resentment.
The way some people allow their dogs to run without a leash **outrages** me.

pierce
piərs

v. 1. To pass or break through.
A beam of light suddenly **pierced** the darkness.
2. To make a hole through.
The needle **pierced** the thick fabric easily.
piercing *adj.* Very loud and shrill.
The **piercing** cries of the seagulls woke me up.

quiver
kwɪ' vər

v. To shake with small, rapid movements; to tremble.
The child's lip **quivered** as if he were about to cry.
n. 1. A trembling.
There was a **quiver** in her voice as Mira told us about the accident.
2. A case for holding arrows.
Each archer was equipped with a bow and a **quiver** full of arrows.

release
ri lēs'

v. 1. To let go; to free.
The pigeons flew away as soon as I **released** them from their cages.
2. To make known.
A copy of the governor's speech was **released** to reporters at noon.
n. 1. A setting free.
Four years after his **release** from prison, Nelson Mandela was sworn in as South Africa's first black president.
2. A making known.
The publicity committee hurried to get out the press **release** so people would know about the play.

sullen
su' lən

adj. Silent from anger or hurt.
Tom grew from a **sullen** teenager into a friendly and outgoing young man.

20A Finding Meanings

1. (a) A quiver is
(b) A release is

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 20. Write each sentence in the space provided.

- (c) an extra piece put into place.
(d) a case for arrows.

2. (a) A capable person is one who
(b) whose self-respect has been lost.
(c) An outraged person is one
(d) is able to do things well.
3. (a) a rapid shaking movement.
(b) An arrest is
(c) A quiver is
(d) a putting off until later.
4. (a) to deny that it is true.
(b) To insert a story is
(c) to make it known.
(d) To release a story is
5. (a) An arrest is
(b) A dispute is
(c) a stopping by an officer of the law
(d) a changing of one's mind.
6. (a) To humiliate someone is to
(b) plead with that person.
(c) make that person very angry.
(d) To implore someone is to
7. (a) a sudden stop.
(b) an argument.
(c) A dispute is
(d) A helm is
8. (a) is silently angry.
(b) thinks fondly of the past.
(c) A sullen person is one who
(d) A humiliated person is one who
9. (a) to shock and anger that person.
(b) to think highly of that person.
(c) To despise someone is
(d) To outrage someone is
10. (a) something that is removed.
(b) An insert is
(c) an extra piece put in place.
(d) A helm is

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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 20.

1. Her high soprano voice suddenly **broke through** the silence of the auditorium.
2. They'll come around to your way of thinking **sooner or later**.

3. Jeff was almost in tears as he **begged and pleaded** with me to help him with his math homework.
4. Unlike her cheerful sister, Noa had a **dark and gloomy** nature.
5. Six quarters must be **put into the slot** before the washing machine will start.
6. I **questioned the correctness** of the price I was charged because the sign said "Everything Half-Price."
7. Mr. Singh gave the carpenters his **good wishes** on a remodeling job well done.
8. My **loss of pride in what I was doing** was so great when the audience didn't even applaud that I rushed off the stage.
9. Nan and Johanna took turns at the **wheel used to steer the boat** on their tour of the islands.
10. Annabel will do a good job building the new bathroom because she is so **skilled and able**.
11. I **have a strong dislike** for those who are cruel to animals.

20C Applying Meanings

arrest
capable
congratulate
despise
dispute
eventual
helm
humiliate
implore
insert
outrage
pierce
quiver
release
sullen

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below.
A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might be **congratulated**?
(a) a winner
(b) a bride and groom
(c) a victim
(d) an intruder
2. Which of the following could be **released**?
(a) a statement to the press
(b) a prisoner
(c) a caged animal
(d) a door catch
3. Which of the following happens **eventually**?
(a) you are born
(b) you die
(c) winter comes to an end
(d) the football season begins
4. Which of the following has a **helm**?
(a) a racing car
(b) a canoe
(c) a ship
(d) a fortress

5. Which of the following might be **humiliating**?

- (a) being routed in a contest
- (b) showing courage
- (c) being hailed as a hero
- (d) being jeered at

6. Which of the following would be an **outrage**?

- (a) jailing an innocent person
- (b) discovering a cure for a disease
- (c) banning free speech
- (d) consoling a person who is sad

7. Which of the following can be **pierced**?

- (a) the skin
- (b) the ears
- (c) the voice
- (d) fog

8. Which of the following would we want **arrested**?

- (a) a lawbreaker
- (b) the victim of a crime
- (c) the spread of a disease
- (d) a pessimist

Word Study

Look at each group of four words below. If you think two of the words in a group are synonyms, circle them and write *S* in the space next to the words. If you think two of the words in a group are antonyms, circle them and write *A* in the space next to the words.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| 1. arrest | achieve | dispute | stop | _____ |
| 2. despise | cherish | extinguish | isolate | _____ |
| 3. valiant | crafty | temporary | fearless | _____ |
| 4. quarrel | feud | ramp | talon | _____ |
| 5. insert | astonish | confirm | astound | _____ |
| 6. sullen | amiable | capable | exquisite | _____ |
| 7. yield | waft | resist | prune | _____ |
| 8. banish | intend | welcome | persuade | _____ |
| 9. surround | raise | remember | recall | _____ |
| 10. relent | recall | lower | elevate | _____ |
| 11. detest | forsake | beg | implore | _____ |
| 12. fragile | forlorn | sad | capable | _____ |
| 13. create | recite | utilize | destroy | _____ |
| 14. capture | refine | release | console | _____ |
| 15. eliminate | remove | recommend | humiliate | _____ |

Read the passage below; then complete the exercise that follows.

The Story of William Tell

In the town of Altdorf, Switzerland, stands a famous statue of William Tell, his son at his side, his crossbow slung over his shoulder. Although historians **dispute** William Tell's existence, and there is no evidence that he was a real person, Tell is a national hero to the Swiss people. He is a symbol of political and individual freedom.

Seven hundred years ago, the Swiss people were ruled by Austria. The governor of Switzerland was an Austrian named Gessler who **despised** the Swiss people and did not consider them **capable** of ruling themselves. One day, in order to **humiliate** them, he put his cap on a pole and ordered everyone in the town of Altdorf who passed by to bow before it. The Swiss people regarded the cap as a symbol of Austrian rule, and they detested it. However, the people of Altdorf had no choice, and they **sullenly** obeyed the order.

William Tell, a peasant from a nearby Swiss village, happened to be visiting Altdorf with his young son. Tell was famous for his skill as a boatman and was equally expert with the crossbow. He was also a proud man, and the people of the village watched as he approached the cap. Would he bow his head before it? No one was surprised to see him walk past the cap with his head held high. The Austrian guards **arrested** him for his "crime" and took him before the governor.

Gessler had heard of William Tell's remarkable skill with the crossbow, and it amused him to give his prisoner a choice: either go to prison or win freedom by shooting an apple from the top of his son's head at a hundred paces. Tell did not hesitate. After pacing out the distance, he removed two arrows from his **quiver**. He **inserted** the first one in the groove of his crossbow; the second arrow he tucked in his belt. He wound the spring of the crossbow and took careful aim. There was a tense silence as those watching waited for him to **release** the arrow. When he did so, it flashed through the air, splitting the apple cleanly in two. The boy was unharmed. After **congratulating** William Tell for demonstrating such skill, Gessler asked what the second arrow was for.

William Tell looked him in the eye and said, "If the first arrow had hurt my son, the second would have **pierced** your heart." Gessler was **outraged** by this reply and ordered Tell locked up for the rest of his life. But the boat that was carrying him across the lake to prison ran into a storm. The frightened crew knew that William Tell was a skilled boatman. They untied him and **implored** him to take over. Tell seized the **helm**. While the crew cowered below, he steered the boat toward the rocky shore. At the last moment he leaped ashore and escaped.

Once free, he lay in wait at a place where he knew Gessler would pass. When the governor did so, the arrow from William Tell's bow found its mark. Gessler died instantly. The news of William Tell's deed spread quickly and made him a hero to the Swiss people. It helped to unite them in their struggle and **eventually** led to their freedom from Austrian rule.

arrest
capable
congratulate
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implore
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quiver
release
sullen

Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from this lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words).

1. Do you think William Tell's **arrest** was unjust?
2. How did the people of Altdorf show their feelings when told to bow before the cap?
3. Why was it **humiliating** for the Swiss to bow before Gessler's cap?
4. What does it mean to say that historians **dispute** the existence of William Tell?
5. What were Gessler's feelings toward the Swiss people?
6. Why did Gessler order William Tell to jail?
7. Why did Gessler think that Austria had a right to rule the Swiss people?
8. Why was everyone silent as they watched William Tell?
9. What did William Tell do with the two arrows?
10. What is the meaning of **quiver** as it is used in the passage?

11. What did William Tell intend to do with the second arrow?
12. How did Gessler react when the arrow split the apple in two?
13. Where was the crew while William Tell was at the **helm**?
14. How can we tell that the crew could not handle the boat?
15. Did Gessler's death have an immediate result?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

To **humiliate** someone is to make that person look weak or foolish in the eyes of others. The word comes from the Latin *humilis*, which means "low." This Latin word in turn comes from an older Latin word, *humus*, which means "earth" or "dirt." To *humiliate* someone is to treat that person "like dirt." Incidentally, *humus* is the English word for the decayed vegetable matter that enriches soil.

Humble (Word List 14) comes from the same Latin root. Someone of *humble* birth occupies a *low* position in society. To *humble* oneself is to *lower* oneself in the eyes of others.

There is another noun formed from *humiliate*, in addition to *humiliation*. It is related in meaning, but with an important difference. *Humility* is the state of being humble. It is considered by many to be a desirable state, the opposite of being boastful or vain.

Humiliation suggests being disgraced, having one's pride taken away.

If you weep while **implo**ring a person to do something, your pleading might have a better chance of succeeding. At least, that is what the word suggests. It comes from the Latin *plorare*, which means "to cry out" or "to weep."

A **sullen** person is likely to shun the company of others or to be shunned by them. In either event, such a person is likely to be left alone. This should come as no surprise since the word comes from the Latin *solus*, which means "alone." For a number of other words formed from this Latin root see Lesson 13.