

Lesson 6

Word List

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

applaud
ə plôd'

v. 1. To show approval, especially by clapping hands.
The audience **applauded** until the actors came back on stage to take another bow.
applause n. The showing of approval or enjoyment by cheering or clapping.
The theater lights came on after the **applause** had died down.

crafty
krafv tē

adj. Skilled at tricking others.
Templeton, the **crafty** and mean-spirited rat in *Charlotte's Web*, adds humor to the book.

disclose
dis klôz'

v. 1. To make known.
The judge told the reporter she must **disclose** the names of those who attended the meeting.

drab
drab

adj. Dull and without color; not cheerful or colorful.
A sparrow is a **drab** little bird compared to a male cardinal.

entire
en tīr'

adj. Having nothing left out; whole; complete.
I recited the **entire** Robert Frost poem from memory.

exclaim
eks klām'

v. To speak suddenly and with strong feeling.
"Today was the worst day of my life!" she exclaimed.
exclamation (eks klə mā' shən) n. A sharp cry of strong feeling.
Grandpa's **exclamation** of pain sent me rushing to his side.

exquisite
ek skwiz' it

adj. Finely done or made; very beautiful.
The **exquisite** wood carvings on the museum door came from the island of Bali.

intend
in tend'

v. To plan; to have in mind.
I **intend** to give a piano recital on Monday.
intention n. An aim, plan, or purpose.
It was Thea's **intention** to open a bookstore, but she decided to go to engineering school instead.

jeer
jīr

v. To speak or cry out in scorn; to mock.
My brother told me to ignore them if the older boys **jeered** when I sang.
n. Something said that is meant to hurt or insult.
An umpire soon learns to ignore the **jeers** of the crowd.

peer
pīr

v. To look closely; to stare, especially at something that is hard to see or to understand.
Ahmed **peered** at the sign, trying to read what it said.

progress
pră' grəs

n. 1. Moving toward a goal.
The stormy sea slowed the small boat's **progress**.
2. An improvement.
I am finally making some **progress** mastering the new computer program.

v. (prə gres´) 1. To move forward.

Work on the new bridge **progressed** at a faster pace when the weather improved.

2. To advance to a higher stage; to improve.

Manuel **progressed** so fast on the tuba that he got into the school band.

refine
ri fīn´

v. To make pure by removing all unwanted matter.

We take oil from deep inside the earth and **refine** it into gasoline.

refined *adj.* 1. In a pure state.

When flour is **refined**, a lot of the wheat germ is lost.

2. Having good manners and good taste.

He was a noisy and rude boy, but as young man he is gentle and **refined**.

scoundrel
skoun´ drəl

n. A mean or wicked person.

Thank heavens the police caught the **scoundrel** who stole my wallet.

uneasy
un ē´ zē

adj. Not comfortable; worried or nervous.

I felt **uneasy** walking down the dark street until I observed a police officer on the corner.

vain
vān

adj. 1. Having too high an opinion of one's looks or achievements.

Charlie is so **vain** he has a full-length mirror in every room.

2. Without success.

The firefighters made a **vain** attempt to keep the fire from spreading.

in vain *adv.* Without success or result; useless.

All my hand-waving was **in vain**—the teacher never called on me.

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) one that is complete.
(b) An entire set is

- (c) one that is not broken.
(d) An exquisite set is

2. (a) Crafty persons are those who
(b) think too highly of themselves.

- (c) Vain persons are those who
(d) do not think well of themselves.

3. (a) beautiful to look at.
(b) A drab fabric is one that is

- (c) An exquisite fabric is one that is
(d) hidden from view.

4. (a) A jeer is
(b) A scoundrel is

- (c) a small hand tool.
(d) a dishonest person.

5. (a) easily hurt or upset. (c) Refined people are
(b) dull and uninteresting. (d) Drab colors are
6. (a) A crafty person is one who (c) refuses to give up easily.
(b) An uneasy person is one who (d) is skilled at tricking people.
7. (a) An exclamation is (c) something said with strong feeling.
(b) An intention is (d) a feeling of not being wanted.
8. (a) take it back. (c) To refine something is to
(b) To disclose something is to (d) make it pure.
9. (a) An intention is something (c) one denies having done.
(b) one plans to do. (d) A jeer is something
10. (a) come into view. (c) To progress is to
(b) To peer is to (d) move forward.
11. (a) be hard to get along with. (c) To be uneasy is to
(b) To be applauded is to (d) be worried or nervous.

applaud
crafty
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vain

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. Josh **looked closely** at the faded sign but was unable to make out what it said.
2. Remi was eager to renew the contract, but all her efforts were **not met with success**.
3. A **well-mannered** person does not try to talk with his mouth full.
4. The **cruel and insensitive remarks** classmates made did not dismay Carlos at all.

5. Icy road conditions slowed our **forward movement** through town.
6. "Now I understand!" Einstein **said suddenly, with strong feeling**, as he jumped up.
7. He was so **good at tricking people** that those he fooled did not even know it.
8. The inspector did not **let anyone know** the reason for her visit to the factory.
9. There was loud **cheering and clapping** when the members of the band came on stage.

6C Applying Meanings

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 look **drab**?

(a) a dark suit of clothes	(c) a freshly painted room
(b) a rainbow	(d) a circus clown

2. Which of the following are **entire** words?

(a) father	(c) s me b dy
(b) m th r	(d) l

3. Which of the following might be called **exquisite**?

(a) a wedding dress	(c) a grease spot
(b) a diamond necklace	(d) a trash can

4. What might cause **jeers** from the crowd at a baseball game?

(a) an umpire's bad call	(c) a home run
(b) a win for the home team	(d) a dropped catch

5. Which of the following might someone **peer** at?

(a) a hard-to-read letter	(c) a loud noise
(b) a quaintly dressed person	(d) an unpleasant smell

6. Which of the following might make a person **uneasy**?

(a) winning first prize	(c) climbing a tall ladder
(b) hearing strange noises	(d) being left alone at night

7. Which of the following would it be **vain** to attempt?

- (a) unscrambling an egg
 (b) learning Chinese
 (c) traveling backward in time
 (d) climbing Mount Everest

8. Which of the following would a person be likely to **applaud**?

- (a) a great achievement
 (b) a pessimistic remark
 (c) an entertaining show
 (d) a patriotic speech

6D Word Study

Look at the words below. Circle the two words in each group of four that are synonyms.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------|----------|
| 1. recall | recite | reduce | remember |
| 2. sensitive | uneasy | nervous | quaint |
| 3. disclose | persuade | glimpse | reveal |
| 4. hail | jeer | lack | mock |
| 5. abrupt | sudden | severe | certain |

Look at the words below. Circle the two words in each group of four that are antonyms.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| 6. complete | vain | modest | sufficient |
| 7. excessive | exquisite | drab | forbidden |
| 8. drowsy | crafty | foolish | destructive |
| 9. ease | contempt | respect | preparation |
| 10. disclose | applaud | intend | jeer |

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6E Passage

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

The Emperor's New Clothes*

Once there was an emperor who was very **vain**, spending hour after hour **peering** at himself in the mirror. Whenever he got new clothes he would gather his ministers around him so that they could tell him how wonderful he looked.

One day, two men who said they were master tailors came to see the emperor. They told him they could make him a suit of clothes so magnificent that everything else he owned would seem **drab**. The cloth would be so unusual that only those with the most **refined** taste would be able to see it. The emperor was foolish enough to believe them and agreed to pay whatever they asked.

*This passage is a retelling of the popular fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen.

The “tailors” started work at once. Every day the emperor sent his ministers to check on their **progress**. Of course, they could see perfectly well that the **crafty** pair were only pretending to weave the cloth and cut it and stitch it, but they didn’t dare **disclose** the truth to the emperor. The ministers were **afraid** to disagree with the emperor because that would be like confessing that they did not have good taste. They felt **uneasy** about lying, but they believed they had no choice. They told the emperor only what he wanted to hear—that his new clothes were the most **exquisite** they had ever seen.

When the two **scoundrels** told the emperor that their work was complete, he was so excited that he announced that the next day would be a public holiday. He **intended** to walk through the streets of the town in his new clothes so that everyone could admire him. The next morning, the “tailors” carefully laid out the emperor’s new clothes and began helping him dress. The ministers gathered around to watch, and there were loud **exclamations** of delight when the emperor, turning this way and that, at last stood proudly before them dressed only in his underwear.

Officers of the palace guard had been up since before dawn making sure that the townspeople turned out to **applaud** the emperor as he went by. The **entire** town lined the streets to see him. Under the watchful eyes of the officers, the people cheered and waved flags, and the emperor loved every minute of it. But then something unexpected happened. Above the roar of the crowd, the emperor heard a child’s voice saying, “Look! The emperor has no clothes!” The cry was at once taken up by the crowd. “THE EMPEROR HAS NO CLOTHES! THE EMPEROR HAS NO CLOTHES!”

The emperor looked down at himself and saw that it was true. He knew that he had been tricked. Feeling very foolish, he ran back to the palace as fast as he could, the **jeers** of the crowd ringing in his ears.

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. What did the emperor do with his time?

2. Why might the emperor have been tempted to get rid of all his old clothes after he talked to his tailors?

3. How would you describe **refined** taste?

4. Why was it impossible to judge how the tailors’ work was **progressing**?

5. Why does the passage refer to the two tailors as **scoundrels**?

6. Who finally **disclosed** the truth to the emperor?

7. Why were the ministers **uneasy**?

8. What did the ministers tell the emperor?

9. What do you think the ministers thought of the two tailors?

10. What do you think was the tailors' **intention** in tricking the emperor?

11. Why did the ministers **exclaim** in delight?

12. Why do you think the child might have deserved the crowd's **applause**?

13. Why did the **entire** town show up to see the emperor?

14. Why did the emperor run back to the palace?

15. What vocabulary word describes the emperor perfectly? Why?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

The adjective **drab** is also the name of a color—a light, green-brown. (U.S. soldiers wear olive-*drab* clothing.) *Drab* is also a noun meaning “a small amount,” but it is found only in the phrase “in dribs and drabs,” meaning a little bit at a time. (Instead of paying me the money all at once, they gave it to me in *dribs and drabs*.)

As well as being a verb, **peer** is also a noun. It means “an equal; a person of the same rank or position as another.” For example, “Those sixth graders are my *peers*. We all are in the same class.” Or, to say

that Daniel Webster had no *peer* as a public speaker is to say that no one could equal him in the art of public speaking. A *peer* is also the name for a member of the British House of Lords.

Note that **peer** and *pier* are homophones, words that sound alike but have different meanings and spellings.

Vain and *vein* are another pair of homophones. A *vein* is a blood vessel that carries blood to the heart.