

# Lesson 11

## Word List

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

**accelerate**  
ak sel' ə r āt

- v. 1. To go or to cause to go faster.  
The morning train quickly **accelerates** once it leaves the station.  
2. To bring about at an earlier time.  
Increased sunlight **accelerates** the growth of plants.

**altitude**  
al' tū tōōd

- n. Height above sea level or the earth's surface.  
Mexico City lies at an **altitude** of almost 8,000 feet.

**anxious**  
anj' shəs

- adj. 1. Worried; concerned.  
I am **anxious** about how I did on the Spanish test.  
2. Eager; wishing strongly.  
After writing to each other for over a year, the two penpals are **anxious** to meet.  
**anxiety** n. (anj' zī' ə tē) Great uneasiness or concern.  
Our **anxiety** increased as road conditions got steadily worse.

**brace**  
brās

- v. 1. To make stronger by giving support to.  
Mom **braced** the table leg with a metal strip to keep it from wobbling.  
2. To make ready for a shock; to prepare.  
After the pilot's warning, we **braced** ourselves for a bumpy landing.  
n. Something used to support a weak part.  
I wore a **brace** on my leg for four weeks after I injured it doing a high jump.  
**bracing** adj. Giving energy to; refreshing.  
After spending most of the summer in the city, we found the mountain air wonderfully **bracing**.

**confident**  
kən' fi dant

- adj. Certain; sure.  
We are **confident** we will win Saturday's hockey game.  
**confidence** n. 1. A lack of doubt; a feeling of being certain.  
My parents showed their **confidence** in me by letting me repair the car by myself.  
2. Trust in another to keep a secret.  
Because Felix told me this in **confidence**, I cannot answer your question.

**contact**  
kən' takt

- n. 1. The touching or joining of two things.  
**Contact** with a live wire will give you an electric shock.  
2. The condition of being in communication with others.  
Before the telephone was invented, people usually stayed in **contact** by writing letters.  
v. To communicate with.  
The Apollo astronauts could not **contact** Earth while their spaceship was traveling behind the moon.

**exult**  
eg zult'

- v. To be joyful; to show great happiness.  
Senator Gray's supporters **exulted** when she easily won reelection.  
**exultant** adj. Very happy.  
Theresa was **exultant** when she crossed the 10K finish line first.

**hangar**  
han' ə r

- n. A building where aircraft are kept and repaired.  
The pilot steered the plane out of the **hangar** and onto the runway.

**maximum**  
maks' i məm

*n.* The greatest or highest number or amount.  
The largest bus we have for school trips holds a **maximum** of fifty people.  
*adj.* Being the greatest or highest number or amount.  
The **maximum** speed of this car is 150 miles per hour.

**methodical**  
mə thād' i kəl

*adj.* Done in a regular, orderly way.  
Our **methodical** search of the house failed to turn up any evidence of a robbery.

**nonchalant**  
nän shə länt'

*adj.* Having the appearance of not caring; seeming to show a lack of concern.  
Your **nonchalant** attitude to schoolwork worries your parents.

**proceed**  
prō sēd'

*v.* To go on, especially after stopping for a while; to continue.  
The subway train **proceeded** on its way after I got off at 14th Street.

**saunter**  
sōn' tər

*v.* To walk without hurrying; to stroll in a relaxed, unhurried manner.  
Pedestrians **saunter** along the river bank, enjoying the afternoon sunshine.  
*n.* A relaxed, unhurried walk.  
Our **saunter** around the park was abruptly terminated by a violent thunderstorm.

**solo**  
sō' lō

*n.* A musical piece for one voice or a single instrument.  
A jubilant violin **solo** begins the symphony's second movement.  
*adj.* Made or done by one person.  
Francis Chichester's **solo** voyage around the world made him famous.  
*v.* To fly alone, especially for the first time.  
Most student pilots **solo** after ten hours of lessons.

**stall**  
stōl

*n.* 1. A place for an animal in a barn.  
Each cow in the barn had its own **stall**.  
2. A small stand or booth where things are sold.  
I purchased this pottery at one of the **stalls** at the county fair.

accelerate

*v.* 1. To suddenly lose power.  
You will **stall** the engine if you let out the clutch too quickly.

altitude

2. To delay by being evasive.

anxious

Tenants sometimes try to **stall** the landlord when they can't pay the rent.

brace

confident

contact

exult

hangar

maximum

methodical

nonchalant

proceed

saunter

solo

stall

## 11A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 11. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) A plane's hangar is (c) its height above sea level.  
(b) the amount of cargo it can carry. (d) A plane's altitude is

2. (a) To accelerate an engine is to (c) run it at its lowest speed.  
(b) cause it to lose power suddenly. (d) To stall an engine is to



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 3. (a) a performance by one person.<br>(b) A saunter is                            | (c) A solo is<br>(d) a support for a broken part.                       |
| 4. (a) a place where goods are sold.<br>(b) a place where planes are kept.         | (c) A brace is<br>(d) A hangar is                                       |
| 5. (a) stop suddenly.<br>(b) To accelerate is to                                   | (c) go faster.<br>(d) To exult is to                                    |
| 6. (a) does things in an orderly way.<br>(b) is filled with happiness.             | (c) An anxious person<br>(d) A methodical person                        |
| 7. (a) A contact is<br>(b) A brace is  | (c) a support for a broken part.<br>(d) a place where business is done. |
| 8. (a) To be nonchalant about something is<br>(b) To be anxious about something is | (c) to be concerned about it.<br>(d) to be very happy about it.         |
| 9. (a) To be confident is to be<br>(b) sure of oneself.                            | (c) reluctant to act or speak.<br>(d) To be exultant is to be           |
| 10. (a) walk in a relaxed, unhurried manner.<br>(b) show a willingness to help.    | (c) To saunter is to<br>(d) To proceed is to                            |

## 11B 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 11.

- Five striped bass is the **greatest number** you are allowed to catch this month.
- After checking our coats, we will **make our way** to our seats in the upper balcony.
- Canadian baseball fans were **filled with happiness** when the Blue Jays won the World Series.

4. I plan to **fly a plane without my instructor** tomorrow.
5. The breeze off the ocean is very **refreshing and gives one renewed energy**.
6. The trainer led the horse back to its **enclosed place in the stable** after her ride.
7. I lost the **possibility to communicate** with my friends after they moved out of state.
8. The skiers were **showing no concern** as they started down the steep slope.
9. Jan was up at dawn, **very eager** to be on his way.
10. I am telling you what the lawyer told me in **the expectation that you will keep it a secret**.

## 11C Applying Meanings

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

accelerate  
altitude  
anxious  
brace  
confident  
contact  
exult  
hangar  
maximum  
methodical  
nonchalant  
proceed  
saunter  
solo  
stall

1. Which of the following are measurements of **altitude**?
 

(a) three tons	(c) six miles
(b) twenty dollars	(d) 10,000 feet
2. Which of the following might you find in a **hangar**?
 

(a) airplanes	(c) tools
(b) spare parts	(d) horses
3. Which of the following might cause a person to **exult**?
 

(a) receiving a scholarship	(c) an exceptional harvest
(b) being liberated	(d) being thrown into bondage
4. Which of the following remarks shows **confidence**?
 

(a) "I give up."	(c) "I'm not sure."
(b) "I can do it."	(d) "Let me show you how."
5. Which of the following can be **accelerated**?
 

(a) plant growth	(c) a route
(b) an automobile	(d) a crevice

6. Which of the following might cause **anxiety**?
- (a) becoming ill (c) being denounced  
 (b) losing a job (d) finding a wallet
7. Which of the following can **stall**?
- (a) a horse (c) an airplane  
 (b) an engine (d) a person
8. Which of the following could be used as a **brace**?
- (a) a steel rod (c) a length of string  
 (b) a broom handle (d) a handkerchief

## 11D Word Study

The prefix *com-* means "with." To *complain* about something is to find fault with it. To make certain words easier to say, this prefix is sometimes written *con-*.

Complete the words below by providing the correct form of the prefix.

- |                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. _____nect      | to put together with              |
| 2. _____sume      | to do away with or destroy        |
| 3. _____fident    | pleased or satisfied with oneself |
| 4. _____bine      | to put one thing with another     |
| 5. _____patible   | getting along with another        |
| 6. _____versation | a talk with someone               |
| 7. _____tent      | satisfied with what one has       |
| 8. _____prehend   | to understand or be familiar with |
| 9. _____tact      | get in touch with                 |
| 10. _____panion   | someone who travels with another  |

## 11E Passage

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

## Off You Go into the Wild Blue Yonder

After ten weeks of flying lessons, which is about the average instruction period, you are ready to take your first **solo** flight. Today, your instructor will be on the ground instead of sitting beside you. When you arrive at the airfield, you see her standing outside the **hangar**, and she greets you with a friendly wave. As the two of you chat, you try to sound as **nonchalant** as possible, even though your heart is pounding. She must see how nervous you are because she remarks that she has complete **confidence** in you. That makes you feel better, and you begin to relax a little as the two of you **saunter** over to the plane.

After climbing inside and taking a deep breath, you **methodically** complete the checklist of the plane's controls. Then, you wait for a signal from the control tower to **proceed**. As soon as it comes, your feelings of **anxiety** leave you. You start the engine and release the brake. You open the throttle a little, feeding more gasoline to the engine and causing the propeller to whirl faster. The plane starts to move forward. You taxi onto the runway, facing into the wind, and wait.

A voice from the control tower comes through your headphones, giving you permission to take off. You open the throttle wide, and the plane **accelerates** down the runway. Your right hand rests on the "stick," a control that lifts the plane's nose when pulled back and drops the nose when pushed forward. The plane is now traveling so fast that you can feel it trying to leave the ground. You pull back gently on the stick. The ground suddenly drops away beneath you. You are flying!

You have been told to go no faster than eighty-five miles an hour, although the plane has a **maximum** speed of twice that. You reach an **altitude** of five hundred feet and ease back on the throttle, watching your air speed carefully. If it drops below fifty-five miles an hour, the plane will **stall**. To increase speed, you push the stick forward, dropping the nose slightly. Already, it is time to make the first turn. You push the stick gently to the left, and the wing on that side drops, causing the plane to make a turn, or "bank" as you have learned to call it. There are so many things to think about that you hardly notice the view. After making three more left banks, you are on your final approach.

The control tower clears you for landing. You reduce the amount that the throttle is open and can feel the plane dropping. Not too fast. Not too steep an angle. Come in too high and you'll overshoot the runway; come in too low, and you'll fall short. You **brace** yourself as the runway comes rushing toward you.

When the plane is just inches off the ground, you close the throttle and pull back on the stick to raise the nose. Without power from the engine, the wings no longer support the plane, and it drops. You don't want to be too high when this happens or the plane will bounce as it makes **contact** with the ground. But you make a perfect landing. An **exultant** feeling sweeps over you as you roll down the runway and come to a stop. Flying is fun!

accelerate

altitude

anxious

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confident

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maximum

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nonchalant

proceed

saunter

solo

stall

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 large airport building would be easily seen from the air?

2. What is the **maximum** speed allowed on the flight?

3. What is the meaning of **stall** as it is used in the passage?

4. What might happen if the check of the controls before a flight is less than **methodical**?

5. How does the pilot receive instructions when in the plane?

6. What is the meaning of **confidence** as it is used in the passage?

7. How does the pilot try to hide a feeling of nervousness before the flight?

8. How is it made clear that the pilot didn't hurry over to the plane?

9. What does the pilot need before **proceeding** to take off?

10. How much instruction is usually necessary before one is allowed to fly alone?

11. What happens to the plane's air speed when the nose drops slightly?

12. What happens to the plane when the pilot closes the throttle?

13. What is the meaning of **brace** as it is used in the passage?

14. How might the pilot **exult** after landing safely?

15. How might you feel if you were a pilot making your first flight alone?

A plane's **altitude** is measured by an instrument called an *altimeter*, which shows the height above sea level, not the distance to the ground below. It does this by measuring the density of the air outside. It would show the same altitude, say 5,000 feet, over the ocean and over land that was 4,900 feet above sea level. In the second case, the plane actually would be barely skimming the ground.

Don't confuse **hangar**, a large building where aircraft are kept, with *hanger*, a metal, wood, or plastic frame on which clothes are hung. These two words are homophones.

The opposite of **maximum** is *minimum*. (For many years, most highways in the United States had a

*maximum* speed of 55 m.p.h. and a *minimum* speed of 40 m.p.h.)

In Lesson 7, you learned several words formed from the Latin *solus*, which means "alone; without company." **Solo** is another of those words. A *solo* is an activity, musical or otherwise, performed by one person. A piece of music for two people is called a *duet*; for three people, a *trio*; and for four people, a *quartet*.