

# Lesson 4

## Word List

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

**accurate**  
ak' yər ət

*adj.* 1. Able to give a correct reading or measurement.

This clock is so **accurate** that it gains less than one second a year.

2. Without mistakes or errors in facts.

In science class we make **accurate** drawings of the plants we study.

**accuracy** *n.* Correctness, exactness.

I question the **accuracy** of your report because others have described the accident quite differently.

**approximate**  
ə prāk' si mət

*adj.* Not exact, but close enough to be reasonably correct.

My **approximate** weight is a hundred and ten pounds.

**course**  
kōrs

*n.* 1. The path over which something moves.

The spaceship is now on a **course** for Mars.

2. A way of acting or behaving.

Because it is raining so hard, our best **course** is to wait in the car until the storm ends.

3. A subject or set of subjects to be studied.

The high school science **course** includes several field trips.

**depart**  
dē pārt'

*v.* To leave; to go away from a place.

The bus for Detroit **departs** at ten o'clock.

**departure** *n.* The act of leaving.

We were sad after the **departure** of our friends.

**despair**  
də spār'

*v.* To lose hope.

When neither the library nor the bookstore had it, I **despaired** of ever finding the book I wanted.

*n.* A total lack of hope.

The look of **despair** on their faces told me that the situation was worse than I had feared.

**destination**  
des tə nā' shən

*n.* The place to which something or someone is going.

Tell the clerk your **destination** when you buy your ticket.

**deteriorate**  
dē tīr' ē ət

*v.* To make or become worse.

Smoking causes the lungs and heart to **deteriorate**.

**gale**  
gāl

*n.* 1. A very strong wind.

Last night's **gale** tore several tiles off the roof.

2. A loud outburst.

We heard **gales** of laughter coming from the party.

**horizon**  
hər ī' zən

*n.* The apparent line in the distance where the sky meets the sea or land.

We watched the setting sun sink slowly over the **horizon**.

**horizontal** *adj.* (hər i zānt' l) Going straight across from side to side.

The shoeboxes were in a **horizontal** row at the back of the closet.

**jubilation**  
joo'b bə lā' shən

*n.* A feeling or expression of great joy.  
There was jubilation among the fans when the Patriots won the 2004 Super Bowl.  
**jubilant** *adj.* (joo'b bə lənt) Very happy.  
My family was **jubilant** when Aunt Jean survived the heart operation.

**navigate**  
nav' ə gāt

*v.* To calculate or direct the movement of a ship or aircraft.  
Phoenician sailors **navigated** by measuring the position of the sun and stars.  
**navigation** *n.* The science or practice of navigating.  
Clocks and sextants are instruments used in **navigation**.

**nostalgia**  
nās tal' jə

*n.* A longing for a certain time in the past.  
Seeing the photographs of my first dog filled me with **nostalgia**.  
**nostalgic** *adj.* Having feelings of nostalgia.  
I became **nostalgic** when I heard you playing the song my grandfather used to sing to me.

**revive**  
rē vīv'

*v.* 1. To make or become strong again.  
A short rest will **revive** you.  
2. To bring back into use or fashion.  
The show **revives** a number of songs from the fifties.

**sever**  
sev' ə

*v.* 1. To break off.  
When the plane that crashed was proven to be on a spy mission, the two countries **severed** all ties with each other.  
2. To cut in two.  
Irving accidentally **severed** the garden hose while mowing the lawn.

**voyage**  
voi' ij

*n.* A long journey by sea or in space.  
The **voyage** across the Pacific will take three weeks.  
*v.* To make a journey by sea or in space.  
Long before Columbus, the Vikings **voyaged** across the Atlantic Ocean to reach North America.

## 4A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 4. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) get worse. (c) To revive is to  
(b) To deteriorate is to (d) feel slightly uneasy.

2. (a) An accurate account is (c) A jubilant account is  
(b) one that is obscure. (d) one that is without errors.

3. (a) make it strong again. (c) To revive a friendship is to  
(b) To sever a friendship is to (d) look back on it with fond memories.

4. (a) A destination is  
(b) A course is  
(c) a setting out from a place.  
(d) the path over which something moves.
5. (a) Something that is horizontal  
(b) is not exact.  
(c) is falling into a state of disrepair.  
(d) Something that is approximate
6. (a) the act of leaving.  
(b) A departure is  
(c) A destination is  
(d) a long journey by sea.
7. (a) a lack of understanding.  
(b) a feeling of longing for the past.  
(c) Nostalgia is  
(d) Despair is
8. (a) A voyage is  
(b) a small boat.  
(c) a strong wind.  
(d) A gale is
9. (a) Jubilation is  
(b) Navigation is  
(c) the directing of a ship's movement.  
(d) the length of time something lasts.
10. (a) To despair is to  
(b) To voyage is to  
(c) return to one's starting point.  
(d) feel a sense of hopelessness.

accurate  
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sever  
voyage

## 4B 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 4.

- The **loud outbursts** of laughter from the next room distracted me from my work.
- I will be responsible for **working out the direction the boat should be headed** when we sail to Bali.
- The **place to which it is going** is shown on the front of the bus.
- We **start on our journey** at ten o'clock tomorrow morning.
- The ship met with stormy weather during the **long journey by sea** around Cape Horn.

6. Early this morning the **apparent line where the sky and sea meet** was obscured by the fog.
7. When the driver told me that the bus ride to Boston would take two hours, my friend said that was **close enough to be almost correct**.
8. Each **set of subjects to be studied** takes one year to complete.
9. I **completely broke off** my relationship with the company when I got a new job.
10. Nina and her best friend were **filled with joy** when they were assigned to the same tent.

## 4C 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 can **depart**?
  - (a) a train
  - (b) a ship
  - (c) a guest
  - (d) a noise
2. Which of the following could you **sever**?
  - (a) a branch of a tree
  - (b) a puff of smoke
  - (c) a relationship
  - (d) a finger
3. Which of the following could be a **destination**?
  - (a) a town in the Midwest
  - (b) a friendship
  - (c) next Tuesday
  - (d) Hollywood
4. Which of the following is a **course**?
  - (a) the earth's path around the sun
  - (b) taking a wait-and-see attitude
  - (c) "Introduction to Science"
  - (d) the start of a race
5. On which of the following might you **voyage**?
  - (a) an ocean liner
  - (b) the space shuttle
  - (c) a rowboat
  - (d) a helicopter
6. Which of the following might make a person feel **nostalgic**?
  - (a) thinking about the past
  - (b) making plans for the future
  - (c) looking at old photographs
  - (d) meeting an old friend
7. Which of the following can be **accurate**?
  - (a) a clock
  - (b) a statement
  - (c) a drawing
  - (d) a weather forecast

8. Which of the following can be **navigated**?

- (a) a spaceship (c) a train  
(b) an airplane (d) a boat

## 4D Word Study

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

If you think two of the words in a group are antonyms, circle those words and write *A* in the space next to the words.

1. cluster	navigate	deteriorate	improve	_____
2. nostalgia	distraction	jubilation	joy	_____
3. obvious	evident	equivalent	extinct	_____
4. depart	cultivate	arrive	retire	_____
5. puny	burly	nostalgic	grateful	_____
6. brittle	patient	correct	accurate	_____
7. navigate	comprehend	understand	arrive	_____
8. sever	preserve	save	obscure	_____
9. separate	hold	forget	combine	_____
10. patience	jubilation	despair	duration	_____

## 4E Passage

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

### A Difficult Journey

In England in the early seventeenth century, people were not free to worship as they pleased. This was a matter decided for them by the government, and those who did not like this could leave. So it was that on September 6, 1620, a sailing ship called the *Mayflower* **departed** from Plymouth, England, with a hundred and two passengers.

Many of those on board were leaving in order to be free to worship in their own way. Later, they were called Pilgrims, the name for people who make long journeys because of a deep religious faith. Others on the ship were simply hoping to make a new life for themselves in America. The passengers, however, did not want to **sever** all ties with England. They had to pay back the money they had borrowed to make this journey, and they intended to do this by trading with the old country.

The *Mayflower's* **destination** was Virginia, where others from England had settled thirteen years before. But getting there was no simple matter. In those days, when sailors were out of sight of land, they **navigated** by measuring the position of the sun and stars. When the sun told them it was noon, the clocks on board gave a different time, depending on how far east or west they had traveled. The difference in time was used to calculate their position. But their clocks and other instruments were not very **accurate**, and when clouds obscured the sun or stars, figuring out where they were and in what direction they were headed was not easy.

accurate  
approximate  
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depart  
despair  
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gale  
horizon  
jubilation  
navigate  
nostalgia  
revive  
sever  
voyage

For the first couple of weeks of the *Mayflower's* **voyage**, gentle breezes carried the ship along, and the passengers sat on deck and enjoyed the sunshine. Later on, however, the weather **deteriorated**. Strong **gales** rocked the *Mayflower* and made life miserable for the passengers; many people became sick. One person died and was buried at sea. A woman named Elizabeth Hopkins had a baby in mid-ocean and named the child Oceanus. Day after day, the Pilgrims stared at the **horizon**, hoping for the sight of land to **revive** their spirits. Day after day, all they saw was endless sea and sky. Many **despaired** of ever reaching America. Then at last, after sixty-five days, they saw land. That day there was great **jubilation** on board the *Mayflower*.

The Pilgrims soon discovered, however, that they had been blown far off their proper **course** by strong winds in the mid-Atlantic. Instead of landing in Virginia, they found themselves on Cape Cod, **approximately** five hundred miles to the north. For several weeks they explored the coast of Cape Cod Bay, looking for a place in which to settle. They had little time because the bitterly cold winter weather was almost upon them.

Finally, in late December, they discovered a suitable spot. The passengers went ashore to plan the new settlement and build houses. The place where they landed had been visited earlier by English explorers, and the name they had given it may have made some of the Pilgrims **nostalgic**. It was called Plymouth.

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 option was open to people in England who wanted to practice their own religion?

2. What is the meaning of **sever** as it is used in the passage?

3. How long did it take the *Mayflower* to get from England to Cape Cod?

4. Where did those on board the *Mayflower* intend to land?

5. What is the meaning of **accurate** as it is used in the passage?

6. **Approximately** how many passengers were there on the *Mayflower*?

7. When did the weather start to get worse?

8. When might it have been dangerous for passengers to go on deck?
9. Why did many passengers **despair** of reaching America?
10. What problem would cloudy skies cause for the crew of the *Mayflower*?
11. Where did the passengers first see land?
12. What is the meaning of **revive** as it is used in the passage?
13. How might the religious Pilgrims have expressed their **jubilation** at seeing land?
14. Name some of the things that the Pilgrims might have felt **nostalgia** for.
15. What **course** was open to the Pilgrims when they found themselves on Cape Cod instead of in Virginia?

### FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

Don't confuse **course**, a noun that has several meanings, with the adjective *coarse*, which means "rough to the touch; crude; not fine." These two words are homophones; they are pronounced the same but have different meanings and spellings.

Winds have different names, depending on the speed at which they blow. A *breeze* goes from

4 miles per hour (a light breeze) to 31 m.p.h. (a strong breeze). A **gale** has a wind speed of from 32 to 63 m.p.h. A *storm* is a wind blowing between 64 and 73 m.p.h. A *hurricane* has a wind speed of over 74 m.p.h.

Both **revive** and *survive* (Word List 3) come from the Latin word *vivus*, which means "living, alive."