

CHAPTER
10

blasphemy
enmity
erroneous
garner
heretic

incite
languish
peruse
recluse
renounce

Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

1 **blasphemy**
(blās'fə-mē)
-noun

— *blasphemy* means

- The Smiths have lived so long in Boston and think it is such a wonderful city that they feel it's almost **blasphemy** to consider living anywhere else.
- Some of the world's greatest thinkers, such as Copernicus, have been accused of **blasphemy** because their ideas challenged the teachings of the church.
 - physical violence.
 - an insult to something holy.
 - daydreaming.

2 **enmity**
(ĕn'mī-tē)
-noun

Enmity means

- After their divorce, Harry tried not to feel **enmity** toward his ex-wife. He knew that anger and bitterness would be bad for their children.
- Lila seems to feel real **enmity** toward our boss; she criticizes everything he says or does. The rest of us can't figure it out—we think he's a pretty decent guy.
 - admiration.
 - affection.
 - hostility.

3 **erroneous**
(ĭ-rō'nē-əs)
-adjective

— *erroneous* means

- Many first-graders have the **erroneous** idea that their teacher lives at the school.
- Because the newspaper had printed an **erroneous** date and time for the community meeting, few people showed up when it actually took place.
 - error-free.
 - in error.
 - original.

4 **garner**
(gär'nər)
-verb

— *garner* means

- Once a year, our boss sends around a questionnaire to **garner** ideas from the employees about how to improve the company.
- When the payroll clerk gives us our checks, he always says, "Are you ready to **garner** the fruits of this week's labor?"
 - to gather.
 - to distribute.
 - to reject.

5 **heretic**
(hĕr'ĭ-tĭk)
-noun

— *Heretic* means

- Martin Luther was originally a Catholic priest, but when he began to disagree with the church's teachings, he was labeled a **heretic** and left the priesthood.
- People who believed that the world was round, not flat, were once considered lunatics or **heretics**.
 - a conservative.
 - a rebel.
 - a genius.

6 **incite**
(ĭn-sīt'
-verb

— *incite* means

- The smell of blood in the water can **incite** sharks to attack.
- No one knows what **incited** the usually gentle dog to bite the mail carrier.
 - to prevent.
 - to urge on.
 - to forbid.

- 7 **languish**
(lǎng'gwīsh)
-verb
- Languish* means
- Children who **languish** in institutions, such as orphanages, often improve dramatically when they are adopted into loving homes.
 - Some people **languish** in the summer heat, but others love the hot weather and feel full of energy and strength.
- a. to thrive. b. to misunderstand. c. to do poorly.
- 8 **peruse**
(pə-rōōz')
- Peruse* means
- When the list of people killed was posted after the plane crash, the passengers' anxious relatives **perused** it fearfully.
 - To **peruse** a train timetable, with its tiny type and tinier footnotes, you need good eyesight and plenty of patience.
- a. to inspect. b. to glance at. c. to explain.
- 9 **recluse**
(rĕk'lōōs')
- Recluse* means
- Local old-timers tell stories about Wild Man Bill, a **recluse** who lived in a cave and came into town only once a year to buy supplies.
 - While she was suffering from depression, Linda became a **recluse**, rarely leaving her home and not wanting to see even her closest friends.
- a. a hermit. b. a popular person. c. a busy person.
- 10 **renounce**
(rə-nouns')
- Renounce* means
- Great-Uncle Abe was a member of the Communist Party when he was a young man, but he soon decided to **renounce** communism and become a Republican.
 - Edward VIII was briefly king of England, but he **renounced** his throne in 1936 in order to marry Wallis Simpson, a divorced commoner.
- a. to announce. b. to remember. c. to disown.

Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. _____ Hatred
2. _____ To examine; read with great care
3. _____ Mistaken
4. _____ A person who leads a solitary life; someone who withdraws from others
5. _____ Disrespect toward something sacred or important; irreverence
6. _____ To reject; give up; cast off
7. _____ To lose strength; fail in health; be weak
8. _____ To stir up
9. _____ A person who holds unpopular or unaccepted beliefs; dissenter; nonconformist
10. _____ To collect

CAUTION: Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.

> Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

a. blasphemy	b. enmity	c. erroneous	d. garner	e. heretic
f. incite	g. languish	h. peruse	i. recluse	j. renounce

- _____ 1. The poet Elizabeth Barrett ___(e)d on her couch for years, a semi-invalid, until she fell in love with Robert Browning and found the strength to elope with him.
- _____ 2. A movie which portrayed Mary, the mother of Jesus, as a homeless drug addict was attacked by many church leaders, who said it was ____.
- _____ 3. "I am dropping out of the race," the candidate stated after losing badly in the primary election. "I have ___(e)d all hope of becoming president."
- _____ 4. My girlfriend and I decided to go our separate ways without _____. We both agreed that we didn't want to spend our lives together, but we intended to remain friends.
- _____ 5. Obviously, Jamie has a(n) ____ idea of where babies come from. She announced that her father and mother had bought her in a toy store.
- _____ 6. Since I ___ so many compliments every time I wear this sweater, I must conclude that it is a very good color for me.
- _____ 7. Some people have no respect for anyone else's religious beliefs. According to them, if you don't believe as they do, you are a(n) _____.
- _____ 8. The appearance of a hawk in the sky ___(e)d the other birds to attack, fearing that it was there to kill and eat their young.
- _____ 9. Mrs. Sheridan rarely leaves her house. She is simply a harmless old ____, but the neighborhood kids think she must be a witch or a criminal.
- _____ 10. Irene ___(e)d the contract slowly, reading every bit of the fine print. She didn't want to sign anything that she might regret later.

NOTE: Now check your answers to these questions by turning to page 176. Going over the answers carefully will help you prepare for the next two practices, for which answers are not given.

> Sentence Check 2

Using the answer lines, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- _____ 1-2. Many people think that referring to Christmas as "Xmas" is ____, but this idea is _____. In fact, the X is the Greek symbol for Christ.
- _____ 3-4. By "skim reading," you can ___ a lot of information, but you do not ___ every word of a book or article. Instead, you run your eye quickly over the page to find what you need.

- _____ 5-6. It's hard to see how anyone can manage to _____ the world and become a(n) _____. How do hermits earn a living, for instance? And what happens when they get called for jury duty?
- _____ 7-8. A(n) _____ is likely to earn the _____ of people who hold more conventional beliefs and do not like to have their ideas challenged.
- _____ 9-10. The young revolutionary was sent to prison for trying to _____ a riot, but he didn't _____ there. Instead, he read widely, kept a passionate, eloquent° diary, and emerged ready to rebel again.

➤ **Final Check: Galileo**

Here is a final opportunity for you to strengthen your knowledge of the ten words. First read the following selection carefully. Then fill in each blank with a word from the box at the top of the previous page. (Context clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank.) Use each word once.

The great scientist Galileo Galilei, usually known simply as "Galileo," was a brilliant man who was far ahead of his time. But instead of earning accolades°, his discoveries earned him the (1) _____ of the powerful Catholic Church, which tried for years to silence him. Born in 1564 in Pisa, Italy, Galileo became a student of mathematics. He invented a device for making mathematical measurements and found the first dependable way of keeping time. But his true passion was kindled° when he learned of the first telescope, which had been invented in Holland. He (2) _____ (e)d every piece of writing he could find about the new invention, then built much stronger telescopes and began to study the sky. The information he (3) _____ (e)d led to some startling realizations. He found out that several ideas taught as facts by the universities and the Church were (4) _____. For instance, the Church insisted that the moon was a perfectly smooth ball. Galileo, however, could see that the moon's surface was dotted with mountains and valleys. More important, the Church insisted that the Earth was the center of the universe. Galileo's studies showed that the Earth and other planets rotated around the sun. To the Church, this idea was (5) _____: an infraction° of its own teachings. Church officials called the scientist a(n) (6) _____ for saying that the universe did not rotate around the Earth. They feared that Galileo's findings would (7) _____ people to question the Church in other ways. Therefore, they demanded that Galileo (8) _____ his own findings. But he ignored their reproach° and continued to write about what he knew to be true. For the last eight years of his life, Galileo (9) _____ (e)d under "house arrest," forbidden to leave his own home. Even while he was forced to live as a(n) (10) _____, he continued to study and to write about his discoveries. More than three hundred years after his death, Galileo was pardoned by the Church, which finally admitted that he had been right all along.

Scores	Sentence Check 2 _____ %	Final Check _____ %
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Enter your scores above and in the vocabulary performance chart on the inside back cover of the book.