

chide  
coalition  
commensurate  
connotation  
diabolic

dilapidated  
integral  
noxious  
scenario  
yen

## 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 **chide**  
(chīd)  
-verb

— *Chide* means

- My parents **chided** me for getting sunburned, but my blistered skin hurt a lot more than their scolding.
  - Elise was right to **chide** me when I lazily threw the newspapers into the trash instead of stacking and tying them for recycling.
- A. to command.                      B. to criticize.                      C. to be cruel to.

2 **coalition**  
(kō'ə-līsh'ən)  
-noun

— *Coalition* means

- Four colleges formed a **coalition** to operate a shared Center of Higher Education.
  - A **coalition** of one sheriff, two horse thieves, three stagecoach robbers, and a couple of crooked gamblers once made up the government of Virginia City.
- A. one part of a whole.              B. a neighborhood.              C. a partnership.

3 **commensurate**  
(kə-mən'sər-īt)  
-adjective

— *Commensurate with* means

- Most students who work hard will eventually see results **commensurate** with their efforts.
  - The expression "make the punishment fit the crime" means that a penalty should be **commensurate** with the degree of wrongdoing.
- A. essential to.                      B. delayed by.                      C. equal to.

4 **connotation**  
(kōn'ə-tā'shən)  
-noun

— *Connotation* means

- For many of us, the word *sea* has a **connotation** of salty air and vast openness.
  - *Sayonara*, the Japanese word for "goodbye," actually means "if it must be so" and thus has **connotations** of sadness at parting.
- A. a suggested meaning.              B. a handicap.                      C. a warning.

5 **diabolic**  
(dī'ə-bōl'īk)  
-adjective

— *Diabolic* means

- In the musical *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, the barber is indeed **diabolic**: he kills his clients by cutting their throats so that his friend Mrs. Lovett can make the victims into meat pies.
  - The horror story featured open graves, walking corpses, and a **diabolic** villain who turned an entire townful of people into zombies.
- A. lazy.                                  B. frightened.                      C. devilish.

6 **dilapidated**  
(də-lāp'ə-dāt'īd)  
-adjective

— *Dilapidated* means

- The **dilapidated** house must have once been handsome. Some of its broken windows are stained glass, and the loose door hinges are fine metalwork.
  - His teddy bear is **dilapidated**, with its ears hanging by threads and the stuffing coming out, but the little boy won't let go of it long enough for anyone to repair it.
- A. out of proportion.                      B. strongly desired.                      C. run-down.

**7 integral**  
(in'tə-grəl)  
-adjective

— *Integral* means

- Arguing seems to be an **integral** part of Laura and Nate's relationship. If they weren't fighting, they'd have nothing to say to each other.
- Voting is **integral** to democracy. Without free elections, a democratic system cannot continue to exist.
  - A. essential.
  - B. very small.
  - C. predicted.

**8 noxious**  
(nɒk'shəs)  
-adjective

— *Noxious* means

- When you are cleaning, never mix ammonia and bleach. The **noxious** gas they produce could send you to the hospital.
- The entire office building had to be evacuated when **noxious** fumes started coming out of the air vents and dozens of workers got sick.
  - A. potential.
  - B. unhealthy.
  - C. impossible.

**9 scenario**  
(sɪ-nâr'ē-ō)  
-noun

— *Scenario* means

- "I've worked out an overall **scenario** for the movie," the screenwriter said, "but I haven't gone beyond the basic plot."
- To help governments and industries plan for the future, experts sometimes develop **scenarios** describing what might happen in the next year or decade.
  - A. an outline of possible events.
  - B. a budget.
  - C. an actual occurrence.

**10 yen**  
(yĕn)  
-noun

— *Yen* means

- Whenever I have a **yen** for something sweet, I try to eat fruit instead of cookies or candy.
- My **yen** for garlic bagel chips doesn't go away even after I've eaten a whole bagful.
  - A. a longing.
  - B. a feeling of disapproval.
  - C. a memory.

## 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. \_\_\_\_\_ Harmful to life or health; poisonous
2. \_\_\_\_\_ A sequence of events that is imagined, assumed, or suggested
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Very cruel; wicked; demonic
4. \_\_\_\_\_ To scold mildly or express disapproval
5. \_\_\_\_\_ A strong desire; craving
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Necessary to the whole; belonging to the whole
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A union of individuals, groups, or nations for some specific purpose
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Corresponding in degree, number, or size; in proportion
9. \_\_\_\_\_ A secondary meaning suggested by a word, in addition to the word's dictionary definition
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Fallen into a state in which repairs are badly needed; broken down

**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 provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

A. chide  
F. dilapidated

B. coalition  
G. integral

C. commensurate  
H. noxious

D. connotation  
I. scenario

E. diabolic  
J. yen

1. The doctor \_\_\_\_\_(e)d Rick for not following her advice about switching to a low-fat diet.
2. One Chinese emperor was so quick to have people executed that his officials always said their last goodbyes when they were summoned to the presence of their \_\_\_\_\_ ruler.
3. We may argue about whether character or plot is more important, but they are both \_\_\_\_\_ to any novel.
4. The New York telephone directory lists hundreds of different \_\_\_\_\_s, including action groups for "Korean-American Voters," "Fairness to Africa," and "A Smoke-Free City."
5. Often, to satisfy a \_\_\_\_\_, I eat something sweet, only to find that the sweetness has produced an equally strong craving for something salty.
6. "I wish I could give you a grade \_\_\_\_\_ with the excellence of your paper," the teacher said. "Unfortunately, there is no such grade as 'A plus-plus.'"
7. Dictionaries usually don't give the \_\_\_\_\_s of words. These associated meanings become familiar to us only through experience.
8. My parents always know when my friend Theo has been here because his \_\_\_\_\_ old car, which has a leaky radiator, leaves a puddle of water in the driveway.
9. Cigarettes aren't bad only for smokers. Secondhand smoke is also \_\_\_\_\_ and can be harmful to everyone nearby.
10. I had thought up several \_\_\_\_\_s of how my widowed mother might marry again, but I never would have predicted what actually happened: she married my widowed father-in-law.

**NOTE:** Now check your answers to these items by turning to page 178. 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 provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- 1-2. When red M&M's were discontinued, angry consumers \_\_\_\_\_(e)d the company and formed a "\_\_\_\_\_ for the Restoration and Preservation of Red M&M's." The company hastily reinstated<sup>o</sup> the red pieces.
- 3-4. The developers who endangered the local water supply by dumping \_\_\_\_\_ wastes in the landfill did not get a punishment that was \_\_\_\_\_ with their reprehensible<sup>o</sup> act: they had to pay only a small fine.

5-6. A dark, \_\_\_ old house in our neighborhood scares local children, who feel that the quiet, unfriendly owner is some sort of \_\_\_ villain.

7-8. The TV writer was distraught°: "The producer told me to shorten the script by cutting the deathbed scene out of my \_\_\_. But how can I? It's a(n) \_\_\_ part of the story."

9-10. While the word "\_\_\_" can refer to a strong desire for anything, to many people it has the specific \_\_\_ of a sharp longing for a particular food.

### Final Check: Halloween Troubles

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.

Discomfort was such a(n) (1) \_\_\_\_\_ part of my childhood Halloweens that I wouldn't have recognized the holiday without it. In retrospect°, I think I must have been a masochist°. As a Dutch girl, I limped from door to door in crippling wooden shoes. As a vampire with sharp fangs, I cut my lower lip every time I said "Trick or treat." Even today the word *Halloween* carries for me (2) \_\_\_\_\_ s of physical misery.

My (3) \_\_\_\_\_ for the perfect Halloween encompassed° not only frightening others, but also frightening myself. So I was willing to approach even the most scary-looking houses, ones sure to be haunted or to belong to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ witches waiting to boil children for dinner. Generally, such houses were (5) \_\_\_\_\_,

with cracked windows, creaking steps, and loose shutters banging in the wind. Even scarier than those places, however, were the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ s of high-school students. At any moment, these gangs might corner me and, without wasting words, make the terse° demand, "Your candy or your life." I might die if I refused to relinquish° my Baby Ruths, Hershey's Kisses, and Three Musketeers.

My candy haul was always disappointing, never (7) \_\_\_\_\_ with what I had suffered on my rounds. In addition, as soon as I returned home, my parents would order me to throw out all unwrapped candy, since it might contain some (8) \_\_\_\_\_ substance, even poison. By then, of course, I had built up a powerful and indiscriminate° (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for candy—any candy at all. So I would stuff myself with the loot that remained—and then be (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (e)d for getting sick.

