

auspicious
expedite
extenuating
fraudulent
innuendo

rebuke
redeem
subordinate
transgress
vehement

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 **auspicious**

(ô-spîsh'əs)
-adjective

— *Auspicious* means

- The beginning of the semester was **auspicious** for Liza; she got an A on the first quiz and saw this as a promise of more good grades to come.
- Jen and Robert's marriage plans did not get off to an **auspicious** start. They couldn't agree on what kind of ceremony they wanted or which guests to invite.
 - A. deceptive.
 - B. indirect.
 - C. favorable.

2 **expedite**

(ĕks'pə-dīt')
-verb

— *Expedite* means

- Express lanes in supermarkets **expedite** the checkout process for shoppers who buy only a few items.
- To **expedite** payment on an insurance claim, be sure to include all the necessary information on the form before mailing it in.
 - A. to hurry up.
 - B. to reduce the cost of.
 - C. to delay.

3 **extenuating**

(ĕk-stĕn'yōō-ā'tīng)
-adjective

— *Extenuating* means

- I know I promised to come to the surprise party, but there were **extenuating** circumstances: my car broke down.
- When my father had a heart attack, I missed a final exam. Due to the **extenuating** circumstances, the professor agreed to let me take a makeup exam.
 - A. providing a good excuse.
 - B. assigning blame.
 - C. encouraging.

4 **fraudulent**

(frô'jə-lənt)
-adjective

— *Fraudulent* means

- Leroy was jailed for filing **fraudulent** income tax returns. He had been cheating the government for years.
- The art dealer was involved in a **fraudulent** scheme to pass off worthless forgeries as valuable old paintings.
 - A. inferior.
 - B. dishonest.
 - C. careless.

5 **innuendo**

(in'yōō-ĕn'dō)
-noun

— *Innuendo* means

- People weren't willing to say directly that the mayor had taken a bribe, but there were many **innuendos** such as "Someone must have gotten to him."
- When Neil said, "Emily's home sick. Again," he was using an **innuendo**. He really meant that she was just taking another day off.
 - A. a sharp scolding.
 - B. an obvious lie.
 - C. a suggestion.

6 **rebuke**

(rĭ-byōōk')
-verb

— *Rebuke* means

- When the puppy chews the furniture, don't hit him; instead, **rebuke** him in a harsh voice.
- Although my father scolded me many times in private, I'm grateful that he never **rebuked** me in public.
 - A. to criticize.
 - B. to make excuses for.
 - C. to hit.

7 **redeem**
(rĭ-dēm')
-verb

— Redeem means

8 **subordinate**
(sə-bôr'də-nĭt)
-adjective

— Subordinate to means

9 **transgress**
(trăns-grĕs')
-verb

— Transgress means

10 **vehement**
(vē'ə-mənt)
-adjective

— Vehement means

- Tuan's parents were angry with him for neglecting his chores, but he **redeemed** himself by washing and waxing their car.
- Cal was suspended from the basketball team because of his low grades, but he **redeemed** himself the next semester by earning a B average.
 - A. to reveal.
 - B. to make up for past errors.
 - C. to punish.

- As a waiter, I take orders from the headwaiter, and he's **subordinate** to the manager of the restaurant.
- The federal District Courts are lower than the United States Court of Appeals, which in turn is **subordinate** to the Supreme Court.
 - A. lower than.
 - B. a substitute for.
 - C. superior to.

- Adam **transgressed** by eating an apple Eve gave him; God punished them both.
- Kianna knew she had **transgressed** against family wishes when she sold the ring her grandmother had given her.
 - A. to benefit.
 - B. to tell a lie.
 - C. to commit an offense.

- I knew my parents would not be happy about my plan to take a year off from school, but I didn't expect their objections to be so **vehement**.
- When Nell's boyfriend angrily grabbed her, she responded with **vehement** fury. Yelling "That's the last time you'll ever touch me!" she walked out on him.
 - A. strong.
 - B. secret.
 - C. unjustified.

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. _____ An indirect remark or gesture, usually suggesting something belittling or improper; an insinuation; a hint
2. _____ To speed up or ease the progress of; make easier
3. _____ To scold sharply; express blame or disapproval
4. _____ Intense; forceful
5. _____ Characterized by trickery, cheating, or lies
6. _____ Being a good sign; favorable; encouraging
7. _____ Serving to make (a fault, an offense, or guilt) less serious or seem less serious through some excuse
8. _____ To sin or commit an offense; break a law or command
9. _____ Under the authority or power of another; inferior or below another in rank, power, or importance
10. _____ To restore (oneself) to favor by making up for offensive conduct; make amends

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. auspicious | B. expedite | C. extenuating | D. fraudulent | E. innuendo |
| F. rebuke | G. redeem | H. subordinate | I. transgress | J. vehement |

- _____ 1. The company president is ___ only to the board of directors. She takes orders from the board, and only the board can fire her.
- _____ 2. When young children ___, they may lie to cover up their misdeeds.
- _____ 3. If you get a phone call announcing that you've won a free car or free trip in some contest you've never heard of, watch out. It's probably ___.
- _____ 4. To ___ the registration process, fill out all the forms before you get in line.
- _____ 5. After showing up late for the fund-raising dinner and then falling asleep during the speeches, the politician tried to ___ himself with a public apology.
- _____ 6. According to tradition, it's ___ if March "comes in like a lion" with stormy weather, because it will then "go out like a lamb."
- _____ 7. Edna was ___ in her opposition to the proposed budget cuts. She let everyone in the department know just how strongly she felt.
- _____ 8. Later, Edna's supervisor ___(e)d her, saying, "No one asked for your opinion about the budget, so just get on with your work."
- _____ 9. The friendly weekly poker game grew less friendly when Travis said, "Isn't it amazing that, week after week, Bill always wins?" The ___, of course, was that Bill was cheating.
- _____ 10. "Yes, my client robbed the bank," the lawyer said, "but there were ___ circumstances. She didn't have time to wait in line to make a withdrawal."

NOTE: Now check your answers to these items by turning to page 179. 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.

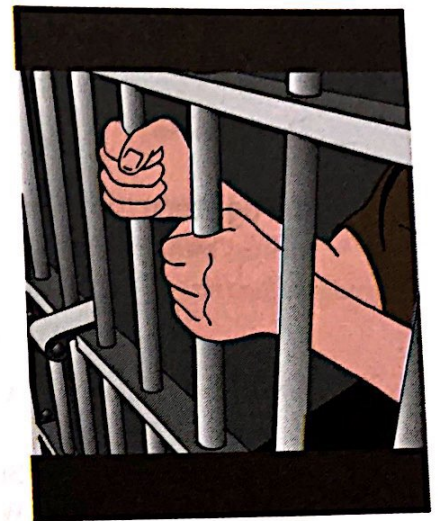
- _____ 1-2. Reuben certainly ___(e)d against decorum° when he showed up at his sister's wedding in jeans. Later, he tried to ___ himself by giving the newlyweds an ostentatious° present.
- _____ 3-4. First the judge ___(e)d the charlatans° for "violating the public trust." Then he fined them thousands of dollars for engaging in ___ advertising.
- _____ 5-6. The tour did not get off to a(n) ___ start—the singer missed the first concert. But there was a(n) ___ reason: he had developed bronchitis, and trying to sing would have exacerbated° the infection.

- 7-8. The owner of that company is ___ in his insistence that managers implement° a plan to communicate better with workers in ___ positions.
- 9-10. The restaurant critic wrote, "Those customers who are oblivious° to the headwaiter's outstretched hand will have an overly long wait to be seated." Her ___ implied that customers could ___ getting a table only by slipping the headwaiter some money.

Final Check: Tony's Rehabilitation

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.

When he was 18, Tony was arrested for possessing a small amount of cocaine. Instead of panicking, he was nonchalant°. He didn't think of himself as having (1) _____ (e)d; the cocaine was just for fun, not some heinous° offense. On the way to the police station, he wasn't worried about being interrogated°. He figured he could claim that there were (2) _____ circumstances. He'd say he was just holding the stuff for a friend—maybe he'd even insinuate° that the "friend" was making him the victim of some (3) _____ scheme—and then he'd be released right away.



But things didn't work out according to Tony's scenario°. When he told his story to the police captain, the captain's response was hardly (4) _____. "Tell it to the judge, kid. I've heard it all before." Then, turning to a(n) (5) _____ officer, the captain said, "Book him." Tony still wasn't distraught°. He just thought, "Well, my father will extricate° me from this mess. He'll (6) _____ me, of course, but after he's through yelling at me, he'll pay my bail, even if it's exorbitant°. And he knows plenty of influential people who can (7) _____ the legal process so my case will be dismissed quickly." So Tony wasn't prepared for his father's (8) _____ anger, or for his parting words: "You got yourself into this. Now you'll take the consequences."

With no bail, Tony had to remain in jail until his hearing took place. He was terrified, especially by the other inmates. Some were belligerent°, trying to start fights; others used (9) _____, such as calling him "the millionaire." His inference° was that they were threatening retribution° for his easy life. He got through his nine-day stay without being attacked, though, and the experience woke up his dormant° good sense. He realized that fooling around with drugs is insidious°—his involvement would only get worse unless he turned his life around.

Therefore, at his court hearing, Tony asked to be sent to a drug treatment center, and as a first-time offender, he got his wish. Today, six years later, Tony is still "clean." He has not regressed° to his previous self-destructive behavior. And he still wonders what would have become of him if he hadn't managed to (10) _____ himself.