

## Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**beseech**  
bē sēch'v. To ask earnestly; to beg.  
I **beseech** you to stay just one more day.**consternation**  
kän stər na' shənn. Amazement or fear that makes one feel confused.  
We were filled with **consternation** when we saw that our car had been towed.**delectable**  
dē lek' tə bəladj. Pleasing to the senses, especially to the sense of taste; delicious.  
My grandfather's homemade apple pie is **delectable**.**garland**  
gär' ləndn. A wreath or chain of leaves and flowers.  
The islanders greet new arrivals with **garlands** of fresh flowers to put around their necks.**gratify**  
grat' i fiv. 1. To please or satisfy.  
The Red Cross was **gratified** by the response to its appeal for blood donors.  
2. To give in to what is wanted or requested.  
My parents were unable to **gratify** my wish for a pony.  
**gratifying** adj. Pleasing.  
It is **gratifying** to see one's hard work in math rewarded with higher grades.**haughty**  
hôt' ēadj. Showing too much pride in oneself and scorn or contempt for others.  
The supervisor's **haughty** manner made her unpopular in the office.  
**haughtiness** n. The state or quality of being haughty.  
His **haughtiness** seemed absurd for one who had accomplished so little.**impetuous**  
im pech' ōō əsadj. Inclined to act without thinking; hasty.  
I regretted my **impetuous** decision to invite everyone at Marcello's party to come over to my place.**lavish**  
lav' ishadj. 1. Much more than enough.  
The Chinese New Year's celebration included a **lavish** fifteen-course meal.  
2. Very costly.  
The tribal chiefs at the ceremony bestowed **lavish** gifts on each other as signs of respect.  
v. To give freely or generously.  
Critics **lavished** praise on the new Broadway musical.



**pluck**

pluk

v. 1. To pull off or out; to pick.

I was tempted to **pluck** a rose from the bush, but the sight of the thorns stopped me.

2. To remove the feathers from.

This machine can **pluck** a chicken in less than eight seconds.

3. To pull at and let go.

You play the harp by **plucking** the strings gently.

n. Courage; bravery.

It took a lot of **pluck** for Rico to learn to walk again.

**plucky** *adj.* Brave; courageous.

After a **plucky** attempt to rescue the kitten stuck in the tree, Monique had to call the fire department.

**ponder**

pän' də

v. To think about; to consider carefully.

Lost in thought, the chess player **pondered** her next move.

**privilege**

priv' ə lij

n. A special favor, right, or advantage given to a person or group.

Free parking at Reagan National Airport is one of the **privileges** enjoyed by members of Congress.

**privileged** *adj.* Given favors or advantages denied to others.

You should feel **privileged** that you were able to attend an Ivy League school.

**prostrate**

präs' trät

*adj.* 1. Lying flat.

Having fainted, he lay **prostrate** on the floor.

2. Lying facedown, especially to show respect.

The worshippers in the temple lay **prostrate** before the high priest.

3. Completely overcome; weak and helpless.

People were **prostrate** with terror as the tornado approached.

**rapture**

rap' chər

n. A state of great joy, delight, or love.

The Scot was filled with **rapture** at the sound of bagpipes.

**revelry**

rev' əl rē

n. Noisy merrymaking.

Sounds of **revelry** came from the locker room after the game.

**whim**

wim

n. A sudden wish to do something without a particular reason; a fanciful idea.

Purchasing a puppy is not something to be done on a **whim**.



Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 7. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) A plucky attempt is one  
(b) that takes a lot of courage. (c) An impetuous attempt is one  
(d) that is bound to fail.

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2. (a) To be prostrate is to be  
(b) devoid of hope. (c) To be gratified is to be  
(d) lying with the face downward.

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3. (a) To act impetuously is to  
(b) do something without thinking. (c) do something knowing it to be wrong  
(d) To act in a haughty manner is to

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4. (a) is to be watchful and alert.  
(b) is to be blissfully happy. (c) To be in a state of rapture  
(d) To be in a state of consternation

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5. (a) A haughty person is  
(b) A privileged person is (c) one who tries to please others.  
(d) one who shows contempt for others.

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6. (a) A whim is  
(b) a wreath of leaves and flowers. (c) A garland is  
(d) a small gift.

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7. (a) Consternation is  
(b) contempt for the feelings  
of others. (c) Revelry is  
(d) a state of shocked surprise.

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8. (a) To be prostrate is to be  
(b) To be gratified is to be (c) dissatisfied.  
(d) helpless.

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beseech  
consternation  
delectable  
garland  
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impetuous  
lavish  
pluck  
ponder  
privilege  
prostrate  
rapture  
revelry  
whim

9. (a) Pluck is  
(b) a display of joy.
- (c) noisy merrymaking.  
(d) Revelry is
- 
- 

10. (a) to give it freely.  
(b) To lavish something is
- (c) To ponder something is  
(d) to feel uncomfortable about it.
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7B

### 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 7.

1. I **am making an earnest request to** you not to get involved in their quarrel.
2. The **feeling of great joy and love** in the faces of the bride and groom was captured in the wedding photographs.
3. Imagine being able to buy a plane ticket to Tahiti on a **sudden wish to do something out of the ordinary!**
4. Parents do not have to **show they care by giving in to** every wish of their children.
5. I felt **that I was being given a special favor** when my parents let me borrow the car for the first time.
6. Getting back on a horse after taking a bad fall takes **a lot of courage.**
7. The student **gave a great deal of thought to** the question before replying.
8. The pizza at Saracino's is **pleasing to the taste.**
9. The new government offices are so **much more luxurious than is necessary** that reporters were shocked at the waste of taxpayers' money.
10. We were **lying stretched out flat on the ground** from fatigue after our hike.



Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

- Which of the following can express **haughtiness**?
 

(a) a look	(c) a retort
(b) an insult	(d) an epidemic
- Which of the following could be considered a **privilege**?
 

(a) receiving a reprimand	(c) staying up late
(b) voting in an election	(d) paying taxes
- Which of the following can be **plucked**?
 

(a) feathers	(c) trees
(b) flowers	(d) guitar strings
- Which of the following might be a part of **revelry**?
 

(a) dancing	(c) solitude
(b) music	(d) laughter
- Which of the following actions by children would **gratify** their parents?
 

(a) making derogatory remarks	(c) cleaning up their rooms
(b) making astute comments	(d) disrupting supper
- Which of the following might cause **consternation**?
 

(a) losing the car keys	(c) suddenly gaining weight
(b) losing a wallet	(d) suddenly losing weight
- Which of the following might a person **ponder**?
 

(a) a choice of college	(c) the origin of the universe
(b) a choice of leader	(d) braking to avoid an accident
- Which of the following might be done on a **whim**?
 

(a) electing a president	(c) buying a new coat
(b) administering a test	(d) building a space station

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