

*"In a multitude of words there will certainly be error."*

*-Chinese proverb*

## Vocabulary Lesson 21

**1. plea:** request; appeal; that which is asked of another

- a) The employees\* turned in a plea to their boss for higher pay.
- b) The president's plea to release the captives\* was denied by the enemy.
- c) In court today, the judge consented\* to the lawyer's plea for a light sentence.

**2. weary:** tired

- a) I am weary of debating\* the same topic\* all day.
- b) The farmer grew weary of bringing in the harvest\* every year for the past forty summers.
- c) Let me rest my weary bones here before the march commences.\*

**3. collide:** come together with force

- a) When the two autos collided, the people in the fragile\* smaller car perished.\*
- b) Committees are exploring\* ways of keeping cars from colliding.
- c) In my estimate\* the two bicycles collided at five o'clock.

**4. confirm:** prove to be true or correct; make certain

- a) The way Victor talked back to his mother confirmed that he was defiant.\*
- b) A probe\* of the criminal's background confirmed that he had been in jail numerous\* times.
- c) Years of research confirmed the theory\* that smoking is harmful.

**5. verify:** prove to be true; confirm\*

- a. A "yes man" is an employee\* who will verify everything the boss says.
- b. I was there as a witness to verify the charges against the bus driver.
- c. The data\* I turned in were verified by the clerks in our office.

**6. anticipate:** look forward to; expect

- a. We anticipate a panic\* if the news is revealed\* to the public.
- b. Harriet anticipated the approach\* of the mailman with fright.
- c. With his weird\* powers, Lonnie was able to anticipate the ringing of the telephone.

**7. dilemma:** situation requiring a choice between two evils; a difficult choice

- a. It is sensible not to panic\* in the face of a dilemma.
- b. Lottie faced the dilemma of whether to approve of the operation or not.
- c. In "The Lady or the Tiger," the hero had the dilemma of which door to open.

**8. detour:** a roundabout way

- a. Pop was uneasy\* about taking the detour in this strange town.
- b. In order to evade\* city traffic, Anthony took a detour.
- c. The detour took us ten miles off our course.

**9. merit:** goodness; worth; value

- a. There is little merit in lying to those you love.
- b. My brother was promoted because of merit, not because of friendship.
- c. I can't see any merit in your proposal.

**10. transmit:** send over; pass on; pass along; let through

- a. Garcia's message was transmitted to the appropriate\* people.
- b. Scientists can now transmit messages from space vessels\* to earth.
- c. Our local radio station does not transmit broadcasts after midnight.

**11. relieve:** make less; make easier; reduce the pain of; replace; release; free

- a. The pills relieved the pain from the wound I received in the conflict.\*
- b. A majority\* of the population\* wanted to relieve the mayor of his duty.
- c. The peace agreement relieved us of the threat\* of an attack.

**12. baffle:** be too hard to understand or solve

- a. How so mediocre\* a player earned so much money baffled me.
- b. The topic\* of relativity is a baffling one.
- c. Sherlock Holmes would undoubtedly\* have been baffled by the way the crime was committed.

## Words in Use

*Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.*

### Safety in the Air

The most persistent\* plea of weary pilots has always been for a machine that would warn them that they were about to collide with an oncoming airplane. Studies of landing patterns confirm that the number of collisions is increasing each year, and pilots verify hundreds of reports of near

misses. Recently a system that would electronically anticipate oncoming airplanes was devised,\* and the pilot's dilemma to dive or to climb, to detour to left or right, may be solved. The system has merit, though, only if every plane is equipped to transmit and receive a signal to and from an oncoming plane. But most aviation experts feel that only a system that watches every airplane in the sky will relieve a problem that tends to baffle everyone who attempts to find a solution.

## Fill in the Blanks

*Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.*

1. The first time a message was \_\_\_\_\_ over a telegraph was in 1840.
2. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ that this is your handwriting?
3. I took a \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid traffic.
4. We were all very \_\_\_\_\_ after the long trip.
5. There is \_\_\_\_\_ in being a good listener.
6. The judge listened to the burglar's \_\_\_\_\_ of not guilty.
7. The runner and catcher were about to \_\_\_\_\_ at home plate.
8. Tyrone was \_\_\_\_\_ that he didn't have any more work to do.
9. When you run a company you have at least one new \_\_\_\_\_ every day to solve.
10. Did you \_\_\_\_\_ our reservations at the hotel?
11. We were \_\_\_\_\_ as to who murdered the wretched\* old man.
12. After having been married to Arthur for thirty years, Selma could \_\_\_\_\_ everything he was going to say.

**(NOTE: You might have used the same word in Sentences 2 and 10.)**

## Word Detective

*From the list of 12 new words that follows, choose the one that corresponds to each definition below.*

*Plea, verify, merit, weary, anticipate, transmit, collide, dilemma, relieve, confirm, detour, baffle*

1. a roundabout way \_\_\_\_\_
2. that which is asked of another \_\_\_\_\_

3. come together with force \_\_\_\_\_
4. pass along \_\_\_\_\_
5. be too hard to understand \_\_\_\_\_
6. goodness; worth; value \_\_\_\_\_
7. make easier; replace \_\_\_\_\_
8. tired \_\_\_\_\_
9. make certain \_\_\_\_\_
10. a difficult choice \_\_\_\_\_
11. prove to be true \_\_\_\_\_
12. expect \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: The same words could be used for definitions 9 and 11.)

### **Spotlight On**

**dilemma**-The sport of bull fighting provides us with a vivid expression-being on the horns of a dilemma to describe a situation in which we are faced with two choices, each equally unpleasant. It is as if we were asked to choose which horn of a bull we prefer to be gored by.

*"Words are like leaves, and where they most abound much fruit of sense beneath  
is rarely found."*

*-Alexander Pope, Essay on Criticism*

## Vocabulary Lesson 22

**1. warden:** keeper; guard; person in charge of a prison

- a. The warden found himself facing two hundred defiant\* prisoners.
- b. A cautious\* warden always has to anticipate\* the possibility of an escape.
- c. When the journalists\* asked to meet with Warden Thomas, he sent word that he was sick.

**2. acknowledge:** admit to be true

- a. The experts reluctantly\* acknowledged that their estimate\* of food costs was not accurate.\*
- b. District Attorney Hogan got the man to acknowledge that he had lied in court.
- c. "I hate living alone," the bachelor\* acknowledged.

**3. justice:** just conduct; fair dealing

- a. Daniel Webster abandoned\* any hope for justice once he saw the jury.
- b. Our pledge\* to the flag refers to "liberty and justice for all."
- c. The warden\* acknowledged\* that justice had not been served in my case.

**4. delinquent:** an offender; criminal; behind time

- a. The youthful delinquent tried to avoid\* going to jail.
- b. All delinquents are banned\* from the Student Council at school.
- c. If you are delinquent in paying your dues, you will be dropped from membership in the club.

**5. reject:** refuse to take, use, believe, consider, grant, etc.

- a. When Sylvester tried to join the army, he was hoping the doctors would not reject him because of his eyesight.
- b. The reform\* bill was unanimously\* rejected by Congress.
- c. When his promotion was rejected by the newspaper owner, the editor\* was thoroughly\* bewildered.\*

**6. deprive:** take away from by force

- a. The poor man was deprived of a variety\* of things that money could buy.
- b. We were deprived of a good harvest\* because of the lack\* of rain.

c. Living in a rural\* area, Betsy was deprived of concerts and plays.

**7. spouse:** husband or wife

- a. When a husband prospers\* in his business, his spouse benefits also.
- b. The woman and her spouse relieved\* each other throughout the night at their child's bedside.
- c. "May I bring my spouse to the office party?" Dorinda asked.

**8. vocation:** occupation; business; profession; trade

- a. Red Smith's vocation was as a journalist\* for the Times.
- b. Hiroko's vocation turned into his life's career.
- c. It is difficult to pick an appropriate\* vocation when you are in elementary school.

**9. unstable:** not firmly fixed; easily moved or overthrown

- a. Some unstable people may panic\* when they find themselves in trouble.
- b. I could detect\* that the drinking glass was unstable and about to fall.
- c. Cathy's balance became unstable because she was very weary.\*

**10. homicide:** a killing of one human being by another; murder

- a. The police were baffled\* as to who was responsible for the homicide.
- b. It took a crafty\* person to get away with that homicide.
- c. News of the homicide quickly circulated\* through our vicinity.\*

**11. penalize:** declare punishable by law or rule; set a penalty for

- a. The Detroit Lions were penalized fifteen yards for their rough play.
- b. We were penalized for not following tradition.\*
- c. Mrs. Robins penalized us for doing the math problem in ink.

**12. beneficiary:** person who receives benefit

- a. I was the beneficiary of \$8,000 when my grandfather died.
- b. When the paintings were sold, the millionaire's niece was the beneficiary.
- c. My brother was the beneficiary of excellent advice from his guidance counselor.

**Words in Use**

*Read the following passage to see how the new words are used in it.*

## A New Way to Treat Prisoners

The warden of a prison today will readily acknowledge the new trend in prison reform.\* In an attempt to provide a different brand of justice for society's delinquents, officials now reject the idea that prison should completely deprive the convict of freedom. Thus, in some prisons inmates are allowed to leave the prison grounds to visit their spouses or to pursue\* their vocation. Even the more unstable convict who may have committed homicide is not penalized as harshly\* as before. The hope is that if persons emerge\* from prison less defiant\* than they do now, society will be the beneficiary.

### Fill in the Blanks

*Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.*

1. Wayne's parents yelled at him because he was known as a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The courts will \_\_\_\_\_ you if you don't obey the law.
3. Are you satisfied with your \_\_\_\_\_ or are you thinking of getting a different job?
4. Five persons were being questioned by the police about the brutal\* \_\_\_\_\_.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that I received the tapes.
6. When Steve asked his girlfriend to marry him, he did not anticipate\* that she would \_\_\_\_\_ him.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the prison set up stricter rules.
8. Mrs. Fried's \_\_\_\_\_ came home weary\* after each day's work.
9. It is often \_\_\_\_\_ persons who commit serious crimes.
10. Clara felt as if she had been \_\_\_\_\_ of the better things in life.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ was served when the villain\* was put behind bars.
12. Joseph was the \_\_\_\_\_ of large sums of money from his uncle's insurance policy.

### Matching

*Match the 12 new words in Column I with the definitions in Column II.*

#### **Column I**

1. warden
2. penalize

#### **Column II.**

- a. murder
- b. admit to be true

- |                 |                                        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| 3. justice      | c. person in charge of a prison        |
| 4. delinquent   | d. not firmly fixed                    |
| 5. vocation     | e. take away from by force             |
| 6. spouse       | f. a criminal                          |
| 7. homicide     | g. person who receives benefit         |
| 8. acknowledge  | h. declare punishable by law or rule   |
| 9. unstable     | i. husband or wife                     |
| 10. beneficiary | j. occupation                          |
| 11. reject      | k. fair dealing                        |
| 12. deprive     | l. refuse to take, use, believe, grant |

### Spotlight On

**beneficiary**-Except for Benedict Arnold, who did not treat his country well, all other words beginning with *bene* speak only of good, for that is what this prefix (a letter or letters attached at the beginning of a word) means. Here is a list of such "good" words: benefactor, beneficent, beneficial, benefit, benevolent, benign. In your reading, have you come across the letters N.B. in front of certain passages? The author is telling you to "note it well" (*nota bene*).