

## Choosing the Right Word

Select the **boldface** word that better completes each sentence. You might refer to the passage on pages 70–71 to see how most of these words are used in context.

- Many female authors once used male (**repercussions, pseudonyms**) because it was considered improper for women to write novels.
- She has lived (**aloof, retentive**) from other people for so long that it is hard for her to take part in everyday social affairs.
- He's cleverly managed to (**rehabilitate, finesse**) his way into a very important position in this company.
- It will be better if we all take responsibility for the mistake instead of letting one employee be the (**pseudonym, scapegoat**).
- His prejudices are so strong that he wants to (**ostracize, bask**) all members of minority religious groups.
- Jefferson preferred to (**articulate, defect**) his ideas about government and religion in writing rather than give public speeches.
- Although he was trying to look unconcerned, I could see that he was much (**abashed, aloof**) by the teacher's criticism.
- An actor who has (**basked, instilled**) for so long in the favor of the public finds it hard to realize that he or she is no longer popular.
- It was shocking how quickly the singer was (**ostracized, defected**) for voicing her opinions about free speech.
- She is not the most (**forthright, genial**) person in the world, but in her own way she is at least trying to be friendly.
- The new governor's address was an unusually (**articulate, abashed**) and effective description of the challenges facing the state in the years ahead.
- No matter how much time or effort it takes, I will (**purge, instill**) these unfair charges of disloyalty from my reputation!
- Is it our duty to try to (**ostracize, instill**) a faith in democracy in the people of other lands?
- My (**anguish, finesse**) at the loss of a loved one was all the greater when I realized that my carelessness had caused the accident.
- The college student did not understand the serious (**premonitions, repercussions**) of plagiarism when he downloaded an essay from the Internet.



Emily Brontë wrote under the pen name Ellis Bell.

16. How can we ever forgive him for (**defecting**, **purging**) from our great cause at the very time we needed him most?
17. Fortunately, the soil is so (**resolute**, **retentive**) of moisture that the weeks of dry weather did not damage our crops.
18. By teaching her son how to garden and fish, Hilary hoped to (**flaunt**, **instill**) in him a love of nature.
19. I did not think that such an innocent conversation could have such serious (**repercussions**, **scapegoats**) on the outcome of an election.
20. It is possible to be honest and (**forthright**, **retentive**) in stating your views and opinions without being cruel or tactless.
21. Shakespeare tries to convey Brutus's (**defects**, **premonitions**) of defeat at Philippi by having Caesar's ghost appear to him the night before the battle.
22. We should now be just as (**genial**, **resolute**) in fighting for peace as the Americans of two hundred years ago were in fighting for independence.
23. It would be good taste on his part not to (**flaunt**, **ostracize**) all the honors and awards that he has won.
24. The purpose of our prison system is not just to punish offenders but to (**flaunt**, **rehabilitate**) them.
25. Many people view cats as (**finesse**, **aloof**) and averse to cuddling.

## Synonyms

Choose the word from this Unit that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. needs to **enunciate** words more clearly
2. **snubbed** the newcomers
3. a **watertight** vessel
4. **ingrain** in them a love of country
5. **restores** antique cars as a hobby
6. refuse to be made the **fall guy** again
7. **expel** the vermin from the house
8. accepting praise with **poise**
9. a rather **standoffish** disposition
10. used an **assumed name** to conceal my identity

articulate

ostracized

retentive

instill

rehabilitates

scapegoat

purge

finesse

aloof

pseudonym



The synonyms and antonyms here do not appear on the Definitions page.

6

## Antonyms

Choose the word from this Unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. **demolish** an old shopping center
2. signed the book with his **real name**
3. used a **permeable** plant container
4. handled the matter with surprising **inelegance**
5. gave an **incoherent** statement to reporters

rehabilitate

pseudonym

retentive

finesse

articulate

## Completing the Sentence

From the words in this Unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the correct word form in the space provided.

1. We learned that beneath the old man's quiet and withdrawn manner, there was a charming and **genial** personality.
2. The star basketball player **basked** in the admiration of every small child in the neighborhood.
3. Since we all know that you sing and play the piano beautifully, what need is there for you to **flaunt** your musical talents?
4. By the example of their own conduct, our parents **instilled** in us a deep respect for people of all races, nationalities, and religions.
5. The city planner said that in addition to building new housing, we should plan to **rehabilitate** many old buildings.
6. Although every form of government has its **defects**, democracy has more pluses and fewer minuses than any other.
7. The speaker could not be understood easily because he swallowed his words instead of **articulating** them clearly.
8. I criticize him not because he makes mistakes but because he constantly looks for a(n) **scapegoat** to take the blame for them.
9. It took four years of civil war to **purge** this nation of the curse of slavery.
10. The defendant was found not guilty at his trial, but his punishment came when he was **ostracized** by all his friends.

11. Instead of a(n) forthright answer, all we got from her was, "In one sense, yes, but on the other hand, perhaps no."
12. Even though I assured my dying grandfather that I would visit him soon, I had a strange premonition that I would never see him again.
13. Good citizens don't remain aloof from the problems and trouble in their communities.
14. I have learned over the years that it is often possible to accomplish more by finesse than by brute force.
15. She has such a(n) retentive mind that she seems able to master complicated details without even taking notes.
16. I think you will know who William S. Porter was if I tell you that he used the pseudonym O. Henry.
17. Can anything equal the overwhelming anguish of a mother at the death of her child?
18. After the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor, the American people were resolute in their determination to defeat the fascist powers.
19. Although Hal was the only boy at the formal dance wearing sneakers and an old sweatshirt, he did not seem at all abashed.
20. In recent years, pollution of our waterways has had serious and sometimes fatal repercussions on the wildlife that inhabits them.

### Writing: Words in Action

Answers to both prompts will vary.

1. Look back at "Diary of a Young Migrant Worker" (pages 70–71). How does your life differ from that of Eldora? Write a brief essay in which you compare and contrast your life with that of the young migrant worker. Use at least two details from the passage and three Unit words.
2. What is the American Dream? How can it be attained? Is it achievable for all? Why or why not? In a brief essay, respond to these questions. Support your view with details and examples from your studies, the reading (refer to pages 70–71), or personal experience. Write at least three paragraphs, and use three or more words from this Unit.

Writing prompt #2 is modeled on that of standardized tests.



## Vocabulary in Context

### Literary Text

The following excerpts are from *The Call of the Wild* and *White Fang* by Jack London. Some of the words you have studied in this Unit appear in **boldface** type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. . . . this song of the huskies might have been the defiance of life, only it was pitched in minor key, with long-drawn wailings and half-sobs, and was more the pleading of life, the **articulate** travail of existence. (*The Call of the Wild*)

If something is **articulate**, it is

- a. emotionless       c. expressive  
b. defined          d. pondered

2. "Well, Buck, my boy," he went on in a **genial** voice, "we've had our little ruction, and the best thing we can do is to let it go at that. You've learned your place, and I know mine." (*The Call of the Wild*)

A **genial** voice is NOT

- a. good-natured      c. hoarse  
 b. hostile              d. friendly

3. It was because nothing daunted him that he had been chosen for government courier. He took all manner of risks, **resolutely** thrusting his little weazened face into the frost and struggling on from dim dawn to dark. (*The Call of the Wild*)

If a person proceeds **resolutely**, he or she does so with

- a. indifference      c. experience  
b. cleverness         d. determination

4. The noise from downstairs was as that of a score of battling fiends. There were revolver shots. A man's voice screamed once in horror and **anguish**. There was a great snarling and growling, and over all arose a smashing and crashing of furniture and glass. (*White Fang*)

If a person screams in **anguish**, he or she is experiencing

- a. agony              c. depression  
b. regret              d. isolation

5. But it can scarcely be said that White Fang was a member of the gang. He did not mingle with it, but remained **aloof**, always himself, and was even feared by it. (*White Fang*)

If an animal is **aloof**, he is

- a. playful              c. outgoing  
 b. reserved            d. strong



In this film adaptation of *The Call of the Wild*, Clark Gable plays Jack Thornton.

Interactive Quiz



Snap the code, or go to [vocabularyworkshop.com](http://vocabularyworkshop.com)