

Vocabulary — Study Sheet

Lessons 1–24 · 240 words

How to study: Cover the meanings with a card and read down the list of words — say each meaning out loud before you slide the card down. Then do it the other way: cover the words, read the meanings, and name the word. Any word you miss twice, write on a separate list and study those first tomorrow.

Lesson 1 • Synonyms

Veto — saying no to something
Rash — being careless
Variable — changeable
Novice — a beginner
Receptacle — a container
Outstanding — important in some way
Quiver — to shake
Generally — usually
Blunder — a mistake
Hazardous — dangerous

Lesson 2 • Synonyms

Brutal — cruel
Treacherous — false or deceptive
Bewildered — confused
Bountiful — plentiful
Blissful — happy
Valid — true
Cumbersome — clumsy
Dormant — sleeping
Ceaseless — unending
Daunting — discouraging

Lesson 3 • Antonyms

Criticism — making an unfavorable remark
Unique — the only one
Flimsy — frail or weak
Allow — permit
Fatigue — tiredness or weariness
Vigor — strength or energy
Ordinary — common
Substantial — solid or firm
Prohibit — forbid
Compliment — praise, saying something good to someone

Lesson 4 • Antonyms

Frisky — lively
Permanent — lasting
Tiresome — boring or dull
Considerate — thoughtful
Ridiculous — silly
Sluggish — slow
Unstable — unsteady
Sensible — wise
Heedless — inconsiderate
Interesting — something that is able to hold your attention

Lesson 5 • Compound Words

Touchdown — a score in a football game
Vineyard — a field where grapes are grown
Whirlpool — a current of water that spins around rapidly

Headquarters — a command post for a group
Guidebook — a book of information for tourists
Blueprint — a plan for a building
Spellbound — enchanted
Masterpiece — something made with great skill
Windshield — the front window of a car
Earthquake — shaking of the ground caused by a movement of the plates beneath Earth's surface

Lesson 6 • Homophones

Lute — a musical instrument
Loot — to rob or steal
Cruise — a trip on a ship
Crews — groups of people working together
Foul — unclean
Course — a direction or movement
Coarse — hard or rough texture
Bridal — having to do with a wedding
Bridle — used to control a horse
Fowl — a bird such as a goose

Lesson 7 • Homographs

Present — giving someone something
Present — being there in person
Refuse — garbage
Minute — a measure of time
Minute — something that is very small
Invalid — untrue, false, inaccurate
Invalid — someone who is sick
Object — something you can see or touch
Object — oppose
Refuse — not doing something you were asked or told to do

Lesson 8 • Eponyms

Sardines — small fish often packed in cans for sale
Vaudeville — a variety show
Bikini — a small, two-piece bathing suit
Marathon — running a race of just over 26 miles
Cologne — a fragrant liquid
Tarantula — a large hairy spider with a poisonous bite
Tangerine — an orange-colored citrus fruit
Cantaloupe — a type of melon
Bologna — a lunch meat
Tuxedo — a kind of dress coat

Lesson 9 • Words From Other Cultures

Alligator — a large reptile with leathery skin
Magazine — a publication for reading
Syrup — a sweet thick liquid such as molasses
Sheik — the chief or head of the family
Pajamas — clothes worn for sleeping
Kimono — a long outer garment worn in Japan

Impala — a word from the Zulu people in Africa
Okra — a plant used in a stew, soup, or fried
Barbecue — an outdoor grill for cooking meat
Bandit — a robber

Lesson 10 • Clips

Taxi — a car for hire
Ref — a judge in a sports event
Limo — a short form of “limousine”
Champ — a winner
Grad — a student who has earned a diploma at a school
Fan — a supporter of someone
Curio — a strange or novel object
Rev — a rotation
Mike — an instrument that magnifies sound
Fridge — an appliance used to keep food and drinks cold

Lesson 11 • Blends

Splatter — something that is sprayed
Squiggle — a twist or curve
Squawk — a loud, harsh sound
Flurry — a sudden gust or movement
Glimmer — a gleam
Spacelab — a laboratory in space
Telethon — a TV program that lasts many hours
Flares — flames or glares
Paratroops — military units that use parachutes to descend behind enemy lines
Medevac — a helicopter for transporting wounded people

Lesson 12 • Collective Nouns

Colony — ants living together
Knot — a group of toads
Skulk — foxes found together
String — a group of ponies
Gaggle — a group of geese on water
School — a group of fish
Bed — a place where oysters live
Gang — a group of elk
Troop — a group of kangaroos
Company — a group of parrots

Lesson 13 • Geography

Archipelago — a chain of islands
Plateau — a large area of high, flat land
Valley — the land that lies between mountains or hills
Tributary — a branch of a river
Strait — a narrow channel that connects two larger bodies of water
Peninsula — an area of land that is surrounded by water on three sides
Delta — the dirt and sand that collect at the mouth of a river
Oasis — a fertile place in a desert where there are water, trees, and other plants
Gorge — a deep, narrow valley that often has a stream running through it
Isthmus — a narrow strip of land that connects two large areas of land

Lesson 14 • Poetry

Meter — the arrangement of beats in a line of poetry
Couplet — two lines of poetry that usually rhyme

Metaphor — a comparison of two unlike things
Alliteration — the repetition of the first sound of several words in a poem
Onomatopoeia — when a word imitates the sound of something
Rhyme — a word that has the same ending sound as another word
Simile — uses the words like or as to compare two unlike things
Personification — a human characteristic is given to something that is not human
Haiku — a three-line poem in which there are five, seven, and five syllables per line
Sonnet — a poem with 14 lines written in a certain meter and with a special rhyme scheme

Lesson 15 • Funny Words

Doodad — a fancy ornament
Hodgepodge — a big mess
Chitchat — friendly or idle talk
Namby-pamby — lacking strength
Fiddlesticks — nonsense
Flabbergast — surprising someone
Lollygag — while away time
Hullabaloo — a loud disturbance
Rapscallion — a scamp
Nitty-gritty — something essential

Lesson 16 • Latin Roots (ped, numer, liber)

Pedestrian — someone who goes on foot
Pedal — a lever worked by a foot
Pedestal — a base on which a statue stands
Biped — an animal with two feet
Numeral — a word or letter that stands for a number
Numerous — a great many
Enumerate — going over something step by step
Numerator — the number above the line in a fraction
Liberal — giving freely
Liberty — freedom

Lesson 17 • Latin Roots (clar, dict)

Clarity — clearness
Declare — making something known
Clarify — making something clear
Declaration — an announcement
Clarion — a clear, shrill sound
Predict — saying what will happen next
Dictator — a person who rules with total authority
Diction — a person’s manner of speaking
Dictate — saying something aloud for someone else to write down
Dictionary — a book of alphabetized words, their meanings, and pronunciations

Lesson 18 • Greek Word Parts (mech, meter, path)

Pathology — the study of disease
Mechanic — someone who repairs machines
Mechanize — to do by machine
Barometer — measures the pressure of the atmosphere
Thermometer — measures temperature
Sympathy — feeling sorry for someone
Speedometer — measures how fast a vehicle is going
Pathetic — pitiful

Kilometer — a measure of length in the measurement system

Diameter — a straight line that goes through the center of a circle

Lesson 19 • Acronyms

Scuba — gear that enables a diver to breathe underwater

Modem — a device that converts communication signals

Quasar — a heavenly object that lets off a blue light and radio waves

Canola — a kind of oil used for cooking

Sonar — a device that uses sound waves to locate objects underwater

Laser — a strong, narrow beam of light

Snafu — a big disorganized mess

Veep — a vice president

Zip — a code that identifies places in the United States for mail delivery

Radar — an instrument that uses radio waves to determine distance, direction, and speed of unseen objects

Lesson 20 • British English

Pram — a baby carriage

Larder — a pantry

Flat — an apartment

Underground — a subway

Chemist — a druggist

Lift — an elevator

Cupboard — a closet

Nappy — a diaper

Cutlery — silverware

Holiday — a vacation

Lesson 21 • Word Stories

Ketchup — tomato sauce

Leotard — a bodysuit that dancers wear

Cyclone — a violent rotating windstorm

Dahlia — a kind of flower

Manuscript — text of a book or paper

Academy — a school

Album — a book with blank pages for holding photos or other collections

Oxygen — a colorless gas in the air that people, animals, and plants need to breathe

Volcano — a cone-shaped mountain that is formed by lava erupting from a crack in the Earth's surface

Zany — clownish and silly

Lesson 22 • Prefixes (retro-, ir-, mal-, inter-, ab-)

Malfunction — when something doesn't work

Retrospective — a survey of past experiences

Irresponsible — not being responsible

Irrational — not thinking clearly

Malformed — poorly shaped

Intersection — where one thing crosses another

Interpose — to come between things

Abduct — carry off by force

Abstain — doing without something

Retroactive — something that starts on a previous date

Lesson 23 • Prefixes (bi-, com-, il-, hydro-, mono-)

Bivalve — a shell with two parts that hinge together

Biannual — an event that occurs twice a year

Compile — collecting things

Illegal — against the law

Hydroplane — can land or take off on water

Hydroelectric — electricity made from waterpower

Monotone — sameness of tone or style

Monosyllable — a word with one syllable

Commiserate — feeling sorrow for someone's troubles

Illiterate — a person who does not know how to read or write

Lesson 24 • Suffixes (-ist, -ic, -ation, -tion, -ism, -ent)

Dentist — a doctor for teeth

Recreation — amusement

Perfectionist — a person who likes things to be perfect

Heroic — someone who is very brave

Historic — famous in history

Accusation — a charge against someone

Succulent — juicy

Turbulent — disturbed

Optimism — the belief that things will turn out for the best

Journalism — the writing and publishing of newspapers and magazines