# VOCABULARY for the High School Student 



HAROLD LEVINE - NORMAN LEVINE $\quad$ ROBERT T. LEVINE

AN AMSCO PUBLICATION

# VOCABULARY for the High School Student 

FOURTH EDITION

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When ordering this book, please specify:
Either R 788 P or
VOCABULARY FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
ISBN: 1-56765-127-5
NYC Item 56765-127-4
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Printed in the United States of America

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## Preface

The principal aim of this updated and enlarged edition is to help high school students build a superior vocabulary and learn the skills of critical thinking, close reading, and concise writing. The exercises in this edition have been written expressly to teach these and other desirable skills at the same time as vocabulary.
Like its predecessors, this edition involves students in a variety of vocab-ulary-enriching activities in chapter after chapter.
Learning New Words From the Context (Chapter 1) presents one hundred sixty short passages in which unfamiliar words can be defined with the help of clues in the context. By teaching students how to interpret such clues, this chapter provides them with an indispensable tool for vocabulary growth and, at the same time, makes them better readers.
Enlarging Vocabulary Through Central Ideas (Chapter 2) teaches twenty groups of related words. In the EATING group, students learn condiment, glutton, palatable, succulent, voracious, and other eating words. Each word studied in such a group helps students learn other words in the group.
Enlarging Vocabulary Through Anglo-Saxon Prefixes (Chapter 3) teaches words beginning with eight Anglo-Saxon prefixes, like FORE-, meaning "before," "beforehand," or "front." Knowing FORE-, students can more readily understand forearm, forebear, foreboding, foreshadow, foreword, etc.

Enlarging Vocabulary Through Latin Prefixes (Chapter 4) does the same with twenty-four Latin prefixes. It is easier for students to understand discontent, discredit, disintegrate, dispassionate, and disrepair when they know that the prefix DIS- means "opposite of."
Enlarging Vocabulary Through Latin Roots (Chapter 5) teaches words derived from twenty Latin roots. If students, for example, know that the root HERE- means "stick," they can better understand adhere ("stick to"), cohere ("stick together"), incoherent ("not sticking together"; "disconnected"), etc.
Enlarging Vocabulary Through Greek Word Elements (Chapter 6) teaches derivatives from twenty Greek elements, like AUTO-, meaning "self." Among the ten AUTO- words taught in this chapter are autocrat (ruler exercising self-derived power), automation (technique for making a process self-operating), and autonomy (self-government).
Expanding Vocabulary Through Derivatives (Chapter 7) teaches students how to convert one newly learned word into several-for example, literate into illiterate, semiliterate, literacy, illiteracy, etc. The chapter also provides an incidental review of some basic spelling rules.
Understanding Word Relationships and Word Analogies (Chapter 8) supplements the numerous explanations and hints given throughout the book on dealing with analogy questions. This chapter is principally for students who are unfamiliar with analogy questions, or are having difficulty with them.

Dictionary of Words Taught in This Text is intended as a tool of reference and review.

Whenever something is learned, it is likely soon to be forgotten unless it is used. Therefore, students must be encouraged to use-in their writing and class discussions-the words and skills they are learning in this book. If a wordy paragraph can be made more concise or if undesirable repetition can be avoided by use of a synonym-they should be expected to do so because they have been using these very same skills hundreds of times in the exercises of this book. When a strange word can be understood from a knowledge of its root or prefix-or from clues in the con-text-they should be challenged to define it and to verify their definition in the dictionary. Above all, they should be encouraged to own a good dictionary and to develop the dictionary habit.

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## Chapter

## Learning New Words From the Context

## What is the context?

The context is the part of a passage in which a particular word is used and which helps to explain that word. Suppose you were asked for the meaning of bear. Could you give a definite answer? Obviously not, for bear, as presented to you, has no context.

But if you were asked to define bear in the phrase "polar bear," you would immediately know it refers to an animal. Or, if someone were to say, "Please stop that whistling-I can't bear it," you would know that in this context bear means "endure" or "stand."

## Why is the context important?

An important point for those of us who want to enlarge our vocabularies is this: the context can give us the meaning not only of familiar words like bear, but also of unfamiliar words.

Suppose, for example, you were asked for the meaning of valiant. You might not know it, unless, of course, you already had a fine vocabulary. But if you were to meet valiant in the following context, you would have a very good chance of discovering its meaning:
"Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but once."
-William Shakespeare

From the above context, you can tell that the author is contrasting two ideas-"cowards" and "the valiant." Therefore, "the valiant" means the opposite of "cowards," namely "brave people." Valiant means "brave."

## In what ways will this chapter benefit you?

This chapter will show you how to get the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context. Once you learn this skill, it will serve you for the rest of your life in two important ways: (1) it will keep enlarging your vocabulary, and (2) it will keep making you a better and better reader.


## Pretest 1

Each passage below contains a word in italics. If you read the passage carefully, you will find a clue to the meaning of this word in an opposite word (antonym) or a contrasting idea.

For each passage, write on your paper (a) the clue that led you to the meaning and (b) the meaning itself. The answers to the first two passages have been inserted as examples.

1. It is the responsibility of every driver to be entirely sober at all times. Drunk drivers pose a danger to themselves, to their passengers, and to everyone else on the road.
a. Clue: sober is the opposite of "drunk"
a. MEANING: sober means "not drunk"
2. One sandwich for lunch usually suffices for you, but for me it is not enough.
a. Clue: suffices is in contrast with "is not enough"
b. Meaning suffices means "is enough"
3. Plastic dishes last a long time because they are unbreakable. Ordinary china is very fragile.
4. Our tennis coach will neither confirm nor deny the rumor that she is going to be the basketball coach next year.
5. Don't digress. Stick to the topic.
6. Your account of the fight concurs with Joanne's but differs from the accounts given by the other witnesses.
7. "I greatly fear your presence would rather increase than mitigate his unhappy fortunes."
-James Fenimore Cooper
8. Roses in bloom are a common sight in summer, but a rarity in late November.
9. The tables in the restaurant were all occupied, and we waited more than ten minutes for one to become vacant.
10. There are few theaters here, but on Broadway there are theaters galore.
11. "I do not shrink from this responsibility; I welcome it." -John Fitzgerald Kennedy
12. Ruth is an experienced driver, but Harry is a novice; he began taking lessons just last month.
13. A bank teller can usually tell the difference between genuine $\$ 100$ bills and counterfeit ones.
14. When I ask Theresa to help me with a complicated assignment, she makes it seem so easy.
15. On the wall of my room I have a copy of Rembrandt's "The Night Watch"; the original is in the Rijks Museum in Amsterdam.
16. "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; / I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him./The evil that men do lives after them;/The good is oft interred with their bones; / So let it be with Caesar."-William Shakespeare
17. In some offices, work comes to a halt at noon and does not resume until 1 p.M.
18. When we got to the beach, my sister and I were impatient to get into the water, but Dad was not in a hurry.
19. Off duty, a police officer may wear the same clothes as a civilian.
20. The candidate spoke for less than 20 minutes. At first, the audience appeared friendly and supportive, nodding and occasionally applauding. Before long, however, listeners turned hostile, voicing their disapproval with shouts and boos.

## Study Your Lesson Words, Group 1

WORD
civilian ( $n$.)
so-'vil-yən
complicated (adj.)
'käm-plo-,kā-təd
concur (v.)
kən-'kər
confirm ( $v$. )
kən-'fərm
confirmation (n.) proof; evidence; verification
digress ( v .)
dī-'gres

## MEANING AND TYPICAL USE

 police, or firefighting forces was a marine; the rest were civilians. explain them to you.agree; coincide; be of the same opinion with it. and an X-ray later confirmed his opinion.
turn aside; get off the main topic; deviate
person who is not a member of the military, or
Eight of the passengers were soldiers and one
hard to understand; elaborate; complex; intricate
If some of the requirements for graduation seem complicated, ask your guidance counselor to

The rules of the game require you to accept the umpire's decision, even if you do not concur
state or prove the truth of; substantiate; verify
My physician thought I had broken my wrist,

At one point, the speaker digressed to tell of an incident in her childhood, but then she got right back to the topic.

| fragile (adj.) <br> 'fra-jel | easily broken; breakable; weak; frail <br> The handle is fragile; it will easily break if you use too much pressure. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { galore (adj.) } \\ & \text { gə-lör } \end{aligned}$ | aplenty; in abundance; plentiful; abundant (galore always follows the word it modifies) <br> There were no cabs on the side streets, but on the main street there were cabs galore. |
| genuine (adj.) 'jen-yə-wən | actually being what it is claimed or seems to be; true; real; authentic <br> The oil painting looked genuine, but it proved to be a copy of the original. |
| hostile (adj.) <br> 'häs-təl | of or relating to an enemy or enemies; unfriendly; inimical <br> In the heat of battle, allies are sometimes mistaken for hostile forces. |
| impatient (adj.) <br> im-'pā-shənt | not patient; not willing to bear delay; fretful; anxious <br> Five minutes can seem like five hours when you are impatient. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { inter }(v .) \\ & \text { in-'tər } \end{aligned}$ | put into the earth; bury; entomb <br> Many American heroes are interred in Arlington National Cemetery. |
| interment ( $n$. ) | burial; entombment; sepulture |
| mitigate ( $v$. ) <br> 'mi-tə-,gāt | make less severe; lessen; alleviate; soften; relieve <br> With the help of novocaine, your dentist can greatly mitigate the pain of drilling. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { novice (n.) } \\ & \text { 'nä-vəs } \end{aligned}$ | one who is new to a field or activity; beginner; apprentice; neophyte; tyro <br> There are two slopes: one for experienced skiers and one for novices. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { original ( } n . \text { ) } \\ & \partial-\text { 'rij-ə-nl } \end{aligned}$ | work created firsthand from which copies are made; prototype; archetype <br> This is a copy of thanksgiving turkey by Grandma Moses. The original is in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. |

2. At its maximum ? the new high-speed train can ? the distance in less than two hours.
3. Though she has a strong voice, her words were almost ? d by the ? of the chanting crowd.
4. While Sal ? d the attic, I ? searched the basement, but we failed to find the old comic books.
5. After the boat ? d, we had to ? with the strong current as we swam shoreward.
6. The ? employees were ? d when the mayor refused to raise their salaries.
7. The doctor's ? put the health of the community in ? because no other physician was willing to practice in that remote area.
8. 1 know the Bakers well, but in their Halloween costumes I could not ? them from the other guests.
9. Driving is difficult on a moonless night when there are no street lights to ? the road.
10. The candidate attempted to ? his achievements, but his exaggerations were ? d by the reporter's sharp questioning.

## EXERCISE 1.30: SYNONYMS

Eliminate repetition by replacing the boldfaced word or words with a synonym from your lesson words.

1. Tanks can pass over terrain that civilian vehicles cannot pass through.
2. When he is in a rage, do not say anything that will enrage him further.
3. The forests are especially dry because we have had a long period of dry weather.
4. Those who drive today are putting their lives in danger because the roads are icy and dangerous.
5. If you lean over the side of the boat, you may turn it over.
6. Steve maintains that you started the fight, and you maintain that he did.
7. Even with flood control, the Mississippi will occasionally flood millions of acres.
8. The speeding vehicle was clocked at a speed of 90 miles an hour.
9. Many who had outlived previous earthquakes did not outlive this one.
10. The findings have not been disclosed; the committee will disclose them at the proper time.

## EXERCISE 1.31: ANTONYMS

On your answer paper, enter the lesson word that is most nearly the opposite of the boldfaced word or words.

1. People whose main concern is for the safety of their money may not want to put their savings in ? by investing in the stock market.
2. In the flood, eighty-four people perished, nine are missing, and eleven ? d.
3. Let us neither ? our accomplishments nor minimize our failures.
4. The brightly ? d business district was momentarily darkened by a sudden power outage.
5. Skills previously acquired may ? serve us in good stead.
6. I often confuse one twin with the other. How are you able to ? them?
7. Admirers of the late leader faithfully observe the anniversaries of his birth and ?
8. The stillness of the early morning was abruptly broken by the ? of wailing sirens.
9. Angela was so ? d that she could not be placated.
10. The two letters were mailed at different times, but they arrived ?

## EXERCISE 1.32: CONCISE WRITING

Express the thought of each sentence in no more than four words.

1. The long period of dry weather has come to an end.
2. Burglars searched through the cabinets, turning over all the contents.
3. The charges that they were making made her extremely angry.
4. Someone made a hole in that tank with a pointed instrument.
5. Light from the moon lit up the path that we were following.

## EXERCISE 1.33: SYNONYM SUMMARY

Each line, when completed, should have three words similar in meaning. The parentheses indicate the number of missing letters. On your answer paper, write the complete words. Answers to the first line are search, ransack, and rummage.

1. s (2) rch
2. per (1) 1
3. sp (2) d
4. (2) set
5. quarrel (4)
6. d (2) th
7. (2) rage
8. $p$ (2) rce
9. clam (1) $r$
10. bri (2) ten
11. arg (2)
12. (2) gether
13. sw (1) mp
14. different (2) te
15. (3) live
16. di (3) ge
17. (2) terward
18. (2) large
19. (2) danger
20. t (2) n
(3) sack
dan (3)
(2) lerity
(4) turn
bel (4) rent
(2) mise
in (3) se
per (6)
(2) roar
(2) ghten
(3) tend
(3) currently
delu (2)
rec (2) nize
out (2) st
(3) close
lat (2)
ampl (1) fy
imp (4)
(1) ity
rum (4)
(3) pardy
(4) city
caps (3)
conten (2) ous
(2) cease
(2) furi (3)
punc (4)
(1) i (1)
(2) lumin (3)
(2) sert
simul (4) ously in (2) date disting (2) sh
surv (3)
rev (2) 1
(3) sequently
magn (3)
j (2) pard (3)
muni (2) pal

## EXERCISE 1.34: ANALOGIES

Which lettered pair of words-a, $b, c, d$, or $e$-most nearly expresses the same relationship as the capitalized pair?

1. AMPLIFY: ENLARGE
a. ban : allow
b. survive : perish
c. censure : commend
d. imperil : jeopardize
e. specify : incense
2. DROUGHT : RAIN
a. curiosity : interest
b. famine : hunger
c. aloofness : privacy
d. indifference : concern
$e$. frankness : honesty
3. HARE : CELERITY
a. lion : timidity
b. chicken : courage
c. ant : industriousness
d. bat : vision
e. spider : impatience
4. DECEASE : INTERMENT
a. cloudburst : inundation
b. index : preface
c. inauguration : election
d. evening : afternoon
$e$. childhood : infancy

Hint: Decease is followed by interment.
5. CAPSIZE : RIGHT
a. raze : demolish
b. suffice : do
c. perforate : puncture
d. madden : incense
$e$. damage : repair

Hint: To capsize is the opposite of to right.
6. TRESPASSER : TRAVERSE
a. builder : construct
b. vendor : sell
c. pedestrian : walk
d. transient : travel
$e$. thief : take

Hint: A trespasser traverses another's property illegally.
7. RUMMAGE : SEARCH
a. vanquish : defeat
b. scorch : burn
c. simmer : boil
d. chill : freeze
$e$. whisper: shout
8. CONTENDER : VIE
a. emissary : send
b. aggressor : fear
c. outcast : reject
d. victim : assault
e. dissenter : object
9. SECRET : DIVULGE
a. promise : keep
b. thorn : remove
c. warning : ignore
d. defect : correct
e. debt : pay
10. DIN : NOISE
a. garment : shirt
b. vanilla : flavor
c. coin : dime
d. color : purple
e. tool : saw

Hint: A din is a kind of noise.

## EXERCISE 1.35: COMPOSITION

Answer in a sentence or two.

1. Why might people in an agricultural country be famished after a long drought?
2. What information, divulged in a newspaper, could jeopardize a politician's career?
3. Is a din ever inaudible? Explain
4. What might help you survive a capsizing craft?
5. Describe a situation in which a citizen and a municipal employee might become contentious.

## Pretest 6

By using the commonsense method, determine the meaning of the italicized words below.
21. "Now, the point of the story is this: Did the tiger come out of that door, or did the lady? The more we reflect upon this question, the harder it is to answer."-Frank R. Stockton
22. According to the rules, as soon as you lose a match, you are eliminated from the tournament.
23. In the midst of waxing the car, I became so fatigued that I had to stop for a rest.
24. Realizing that I was going the wrong way on a one-way street, I quickly reversed direction.
25. "And he took care of me and loved me from the first, and I'll cleave to him as long as he lives, and nobody shall ever come between him and me."-George Eliot
26. My father is a sales agent, but I plan to go into some other vocation.
27. Tenants usually do not stop complaining about the lack of heat until they are content with the temperature.
28. The speaker kept the audience laughing with one facetious remark after another.
29. Ms. Muldoon thought I was to blame for the whispering, unaware that the girl behind me was the true culprit.
30. "We set out with a fresh wind ... never dreaming of danger, for indeed we saw not the slightest reason to apprehend it." -Edgar allan Poe
31. In your sentence, "She refused to accept my invitation to the party," omit the words "to accept"; they are superfluous.
32. In New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, and most other large urban centers, traffic is a serious problem.
33. Room 109 is too small for our club; it can accommodate only 35 , and we have 48 members.
34. Everyone makes a mistake once in a while; no one is infallible.
35. "Now, in the whale-ship, it is not every one that goes in the boats. Some few hands are reserved, called ship-keepers, whose province it is to work the vessel while the boats are pursuing the whale." -Herman Melville
36. Don't dive there! The water is too shallow! Do you want to fracture your skull?
37. The detectives continued their search of the apartment, believing that the missing letter was concealed somewhere in it.
38. There are no clothing shops in the vicinity of the school; the nearest one is about a mile away.
39. To halt the pilfering of construction materials, the builder has decided to hire security guards.
40. "Then he advanced to the stockade, threw over his crutch, got a leg up, and with great vigor and skill succeeded in surmounting the fence and dropping safely to the other side."
-Robert Louis Stevenson

## Study Your Lesson Words, Croup 6

WORD
accommodate ( v .)
ə-'kä-mə-,dāt
apprehend ( $v$. )
,a-pri-’hend

## MEANING AND TYPICAL USE

1. hold or contain without crowding or inconvenience; have room for

The new restaurant will accommodate 128 persons.
2. oblige; do a favor for; furnish with something desired
I'm sorry I have no pen to lend you. Ask Norman. Perhaps he can accommodate you.

1. anticipate (foresee) with fear; dread

Now I see how foolish I was to apprehend the outcome of the test. I passed easily.

## 2. arrest

The escaped prisoners were apprehended as they tried to cross the border.
apprehension ( $n$.) alarm; uneasiness
apprehensive (adj.)
cleave ( v .)
'klēv
fearful; afraid
stick; adhere; cling; be faithful
Some of the residents are hostile to new ways; they cleave to the customs and traditions of the past.

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { conceal (v.) } \\ & \text { kən-'sēl } \end{aligned}$ | keep secret; withdraw from observation; hide; secrete <br> I answered all questions truthfully, for I had nothing to conceal. |
| :---: | :---: |
| content (adj.) | satisfied; pleased |
| kän-'tent | If you are not content with the merchandise, you may return it for an exchange or a refund. |
| culprit (n.) | one guilty of a fault or crime; offender; |
| 'kal-prot | wrongdoer <br> The last time we were late for the party, I was the culprit. I wasn't ready when you called for me. |
| eliminate (v.) | drop; exclude; remove; get rid of; rule out |
| i-li-mə-nāt | The new director hopes to reduce expenses by eliminating unnecessary jobs. |
| facetious (adj.) <br> fə-'sē-shəs | given to joking; not to be taken seriously; witty; funny |
|  | Bea meant it when she said she was quitting the team. She was not being facetious. |
| fatigue (v.) | tire; exhaust; weary |
| fo-'tēg | Why not take the elevator? Climbing the stairs will fatigue you. |
| fatigue ( $n$.) | exhaustion; weariness |
| infallible (adj.) in-'fa-la-bal | incapable of being in error; sure; certain; absolutely reliable |
|  | When Phil disputes my answer or I question his, we take it to our math teacher. We consider her judgment infallible. |
| pilfer ( $v$. ) | steal (in small amounts); purloin |
| 'pil-fər | The shoplifter was apprehended after pilfering several small articles. |
| province (n.) | 1. proper business or duty; sphere; jurisdiction |
| 'prä-vən(t)s | If your brother misbehaves, you have no right to punish him; that is not your province. |
|  | 2. territory; region; domain |


| $\text { reflect }(v .)$ <br> ri-'flekt | think carefully; meditate; contemplate <br> I could have given a much better answer if I had had the time to reflect. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { reverse ( } v . \text { ) } \\ & \text { ri-'vərs } \end{aligned}$ | turn completely about; change to the opposite position; revoke; annul <br> If found guilty, a person may appeal to a higher court in the hope that it will reverse the verdict. |
| reverse (n.) | setback; defeat; reversal <br> In 1805, Napoleon's fleet met with a serious reverse at the Battle of Trafalgar. |
| reversible (adj.) | able to be worn with either side out |
| shallow (adj.) | 1. not deep |
| 'sha-,lō | Nonswimmers must use the shallow part of the pool. |
|  | 2. lacking intellectual depth; superficial; uncritical |
| sü-'pər-flü-əs | beyond what is necessary or desirable; surplus; needless |
|  | We already have enough volunteers; additional help would be superfluous. |
| surmount (v.) | conquer; overcome; climb over |
| sər-'maunt | At the end of the third quarter, the visitors were ahead by 18 points, a lead that our team was unable to surmount. |
| urban (adj.) | having to do with cities or towns |
| 'ər-bon | In the United States today, the urban population far outnumbers the farm population. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { vicinity (n.) } \\ & \text { vo-'si-no-tē } \end{aligned}$ | neighborhood; locality; region about or near a place |
|  | Katerina lost her keys in the vicinity of Pine Street and Wyoming Avenue. |
| vocation (n.) | occupation; calling; business; trade; profession |
| vō-'kā-shən | Ruth will be studying to be an engineer. Bob plans to enter teaching. I, however, have not yet chosen a vocation. |

## Apply What You Have Learned

## EXERCISE 1.36: SENTENCE COMPLETION

Write the lesson word that best fits the meaning of the sentence.

1. Most ? residents are ? to live in the city, despite its many problems.
2. The warden's staff carefully searched the ? of the zoo, hoping to ? the escaped tiger.
3. Only after practicing law for three years did Deirdre realize that medicine was her true ?
4. If you want your writing to be concise, you must ? all ? words.
5. The new auditorium can ? three thousand people.
6. The police are empowered to arrest, but not to punish, an alleged ? because punishment is the ? of the courts.
7. The weary runner ? ed her exhaustion with a final burst of speed to win the six-mile race.
8. If building supplies are left unattended at the construction site, someone may ? them.
9. After pausing to ? , the speaker ? d his position because he realized he had been completely wrong.
10. You shouldn't have taken me seriously when I boasted that my judgment is ? for I was only being ?

## EXERCISE 1.37: SYNONYMS

Eliminate repetition by replacing the boldfaced word or words with a synonym from your lesson words.

1. Teaching children is not solely the duty of the schools; it is also a parental duty.
2. The new buses are roomier; they have room for thirty-six passengers.
3. There are no food shops in this neighborhood, but there are several in the neighborhood of the railroad station.
4. Even the experts are sometimes in error; no one is absolutely incapable of error.
5. A century ago, children generally followed the occupation of their elders, instead of choosing an occupation of their own.
6. It is not enough to get rid of spelling errors in your writing; you must also get rid of unnecessary words.
7. Prior to today's defeat, we were the only undefeated team in the league.
8. Physical exercise makes us very tired, though it does not seem to tire our gym instructor.
9. Progress is slow on the section of the highway near the city because of heavy city traffic.
10. The person initially blamed for the offense was not the real offender.

## EXERCISE 1.38: ANTONYMS

On your answer paper, enter the lesson word that is most nearly the opposite of the boldfaced word.

1. Here, the water is ? but a few feet out it is quite deep.
2. Weather forecasters are sometimes wrong; they are not ?.
3. Are more helpers necessary, or would they just be ? ?
4. I felt refreshed by our stroll along the beach, but my companion was ? d.
5. Some are ? with the outcome; others are dissatisfied.
6. The lawmakers decided to ? some of the jobs they had just voted to create.
7. If you say you are famished after that filling seven-course dinner, you cannot be serious; you are being ?
8. Let us ? to the principles of law and justice; we cannot abandon them.
9. Facts that for years were ? ed from the public are now being
revealed.
10. When the suspect was ? ed, her attorneys petitioned a judge to release her.
