

Lesson 4

Word List Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

- aloft**
ə lɒft
adv. Up in the air, especially in flight.
[A strong breeze kept the kites *aloft*.]
- attain**
ə tʌn
v. 1. To reach; to arrive at.
[Redwood trees *attain* heights of over 300 feet.]
2. To achieve.
[The library *attained* its lofty goal of raising ten thousand dollars for the repair fund.]
- buffet**
bʌ fə
n. 1. A piece of furniture with drawers and shelves for the display of plates, dishes, and bowls.
[This splendid antique *buffet* contains a valuable collection of china.]
2. A meal laid out for guests to help themselves.
[The abundance of food at the *buffet* allowed people to go back for second or third helpings.]
v. (bʌfət) To pound repeatedly; to batter.
[High winds and waves *buffeted* the ship during the storm.]
- elude**
ē lʊd
v. To escape by being quick or clever.
[The mouse *eluded* the cat by slipping through a crack in the wall.]
elusive *adj.* (ē lʊsɪv) 1. Hard to find or capture.
[The *elusive* outlaws were familiar with the terrain while those pursuing them were not.]
2. Hard to explain or make clear.
[Albert Einstein's connection between energy and the speed of light is too *elusive* for most nonscientists to grasp.]
- flammable**
flamə bəl
adj. Able to catch fire easily.
[Children's night clothes must be fireproofed so they are not *flammable*.]
- hover**
hʊvər
v. To remain in place over an object or location.
[Hummingbirds *hover* by beating their wings sixty times a second.]
- inflate**
ɪn flæt
v. To fill with air or other gas.
[*Inflate* the tires to the correct pressure.]
- jeopardy**
jepər dē
n. Danger.
[Mountaineers who climb without partners put their lives in *jeopardy*.]
jeopardize *v.* To put in danger of loss or injury.
[Smokers *jeopardize* their health by smoking cigarettes.]
- moor**
mʊər
v. To hold in place with ropes or anchors.
[After the sailors *moored* the boat to the dock, they went ashore.]
mooring *n.* A place to which a boat or aircraft can be moored.
[The hurricane tore many boats from their *moorings*.]

plummet plum' ət	<i>v.</i> To fall suddenly toward the earth or to a lower level; to plunge. [The abundant harvest caused the price of corn to <i>plummet</i> .]
pollute pə lōōt'	<i>v.</i> To make impure or dirty. [Smoke from cars' engines <i>pollutes</i> the air of our cities.] pollution <i>n.</i> (pə lōō' shən) The action of polluting; the state of being polluted. [The careless dumping of poisonous chemicals caused widespread <i>pollution</i> of the soil.]
propel prə pel'	<i>v.</i> To push or drive forward. [Two engines <i>propelled</i> the speedboat.]
stationary stā' shə ner ē	<i>adj.</i> 1. Not moving. [A <i>stationary</i> bicycle is used for exercise.] 2. Not changing. [The price of admission to the ball park has remained <i>stationary</i> for the past couple of years.]
superb sə pərb'	<i>adj.</i> Of the highest quality; grand; splendid. [The view from the mountaintop was <i>superb</i> .]
swivel swiv' əl	<i>n.</i> A fastening that allows any part joined to it to swing freely. [This chair has a <i>swivel</i> that enables it to turn in a full circle.] <i>v.</i> To turn freely around a fixed point. [Owls can <i>swivel</i> their heads to look behind them.]

4A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 4. Write each sentence on the line provided.

1. (a) A buffet is
(b) a sudden loss of control.
- (c) A mooring is
(d) a piece of furniture for displaying plates.
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2. (a) To attain something is to
(b) To jeopardize something is to
- (c) stay away from it.
(d) put it in harm's way.
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3. (a) To swivel is to
(b) fall suddenly to earth.
- (c) To plummet is to
(d) avoid getting caught.
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4. (a) A superb automobile is one
(b) that is in need of repair.
- (c) that is not moving.
(d) A stationary automobile is one
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5. (a) A mooring is (c) a small hole that allows air to escape.
 (b) A swivel is (d) a fastening that allows parts to move freely.
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6. (a) To attain something is to (c) reach it.
 (b) let it go. (d) To inflate something is to
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7. (a) lose sight of it. (c) To propel something is to
 (b) To elude something is to (d) drive it forward.
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8. (a) bring it onto dry land. (c) To inflate a boat is to
 (b) To moor a boat is to (d) hold it in place with ropes.
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4B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the italicized phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 4.

1. I was pleased when I *finally achieved* my goal of doing twenty push-ups.
2. The telescope *swings in any direction* so that it can be pointed to any part of the sky.
3. You can *pump some air into* that air mattress with this bicycle pump.
4. It's easier to hit a target that is *fixed in one spot and doesn't move*.
5. Materials that are *quick to catch fire* should be segregated in a fireproof container.
6. One expects the food at four-star restaurants to be *of the highest quality*.
7. I attempted to *get away from* my pursuer by hiding in a doorway.
8. It was a great thrill when we went *up in the air* in a hot-air balloon.
9. I started to feel seasick as the waves *continued to pound over and over against* the boat.

10. The helicopter *stayed in the air while remaining in place* over the ship's deck while its cargo was lowered.
11. The water has been *made unfit for drinking* by the large amounts of chemicals dumped into it.

4C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below. Each question has from one to four correct answers.

1. Which of the following can be *inflated*?
- (a) balloons (c) tires
(b) prices (d) kites
2. Which of the following might cause *pollution*?
- (a) car exhausts (c) oceans
(b) chemicals (d) people
3. Which of the following can take you *aloft*?
- (a) a plane (c) an elevator
(b) a helicopter (d) a racing car
4. Which of the following can *hover*?
- (a) a hummingbird (c) a train
(b) a jet airplane (d) a helicopter
5. Which of the following are *flammable*?
- (a) gasoline (c) straw
(b) wooden crates (d) metal boxes
6. Which of the following can be *elusive*?
- (a) ideas (c) memories
(b) an escaped prisoner (d) the title of a book
7. Which of the following might be on a *mooring*?
- (a) a ferry (c) a tree
(b) a house (d) a trip to Europe
8. Which of the following can *propel* a boat?
- (a) the wind (c) oars
(b) the stars (d) sharp rocks

4D Word Relationships

Select the pair of words that most nearly expresses the relationship of the pair of words in capital letters. Circle the letter in front of the pair you choose.

1. STATIONARY : CHANGING ::
 (a) spoken : written (c) humid : warm
 (b) tall : lofty (d) affectionate : hostile
2. JEOPARDY : DANGER ::
 (a) abundance : scarcity (c) mooring : boat
 (b) sanctuary : safety (d) triumph : challenge
3. BUFFET : MEAL ::
 (a) ant : picnic (c) hunger : poverty
 (b) desert : terrain (d) nourishment : food

Each group of four words below contains two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Circle these two words; then circle the S if they are synonyms, the A if they are antonyms.

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|--------------|----------|---|---|
| 4. EXCHANGE | PURIFY | | |
| POLLUTE | PROPEL | S | A |
| 5. SWIVEL | INFLATE | | |
| CHARGE | TURN | S | A |
| 6. ALOFT | ELUSIVE | | |
| OBVIOUS | ALERT | S | A |
| 7. ADDRESS | PROPEL | | |
| ACHIEVE | ATTAIN | S | A |
| 8. FLAMMABLE | SUPERB | | |
| HUMOROUS | SPLENDID | S | A |
| 9. UNTIE | INFLATE | | |
| STRETCH | MOOR | S | A |
| 10. COLLECT | ELUDE | | |
| HOVER | AVOID | S | A |