

## Lesson Five

1. **catalyst** (kăt' l - ĭst) *noun* a person, thing, or agent that speeds up or stimulates a result, reaction, or change.  
A slight tap from the riding crop was all the *catalyst* the race horse needed to put on speed and leave the others in his dust.  
*syn: ferment*
  
2. **catholic** (kăth' ə lik) *adjective* universal; wide-ranging  
His interests were so *catholic* that he could talk knowledgeably on almost any subject.  
*syn: broad; liberal* *ant: provincial, limited, parochial*
  
3. **cavort** (kə vōrt') *verb* to leap about in a sprightly manner; romp  
The stray puppy began to *cavort* with the children on the playground.  
*syn: frolic, prance, caper*
  
4. **chafe** (chāf) *verb* to irritate as if by friction or rubbing  
The stinging wind began to *chafe* our faces as we struggled through the storm.  
*syn: annoy; vex* *ant: soothe*
  
5. **charisma** (kə rĭz' mə) *noun* a great appeal or attraction for others; personal magnetism  
Although the candidate was very handsome and had a great deal of *charisma*, he had absolutely no idea of the issues.  
*syn: charm*
  
6. **chauvinist** (shō' vənĭst) *noun* one who has a fanatical devotion to a country, sex, or religion, with contempt for other countries, the opposite sex, or other beliefs  
Although he did not dislike women, he certainly was a male *chauvinist* and had a hard time treating females as equals.
  
7. **chicanery** (shĭ kă' nə r ē) *noun* trickery; the use of clever but tricky talk to deceive or evade  
The district attorney was accused of *chicanery* by the defense counsel.  
*syn: a ruse* *ant: honesty*
  
8. **choleric** (kōl' ə rĭk) *adjective* easily angered  
He was a *choleric* man whose temper was bound to get him in trouble.  
*syn: quick tempered; irascible, irritable* *ant: phlegmatic, impassive*
  
9. **dally** (dăl' ē) *verb* to waste time; dawdle  
We *dallied* with the idea of a sea cruise but eventually decided to fly to Rio.  
*syn: to flirt or toy with; loiter* *ant: hasten, hurry*
  
10. **dastardly** (dăs' tərd lē) *adjective* mean and cowardly  
Only a *dastardly* person would poison someone's pet dog.  
*syn: malicious*

## Exercise I—Words in Context

From the words below, supply the words needed to complete the sentences.

*dastardly    chicanery    charisma    chauvinism    catholic*

- A. Though John was popular with his fellow students and teachers, for some reason Sandy was not impressed with his \_\_\_\_\_. She thought his methods of getting people to like him were \_\_\_\_\_, and she considered the traits he proudly regarded as masculine to be signs of his deeply rooted male \_\_\_\_\_. While he considered himself to have a \_\_\_\_\_ taste and the ability to talk intelligently on any topic, she thought his constant talking was mere \_\_\_\_\_ to get people to notice him.

From the words below, supply the words needed to complete the sentences.

*choleric    catalyst    chafed    cavort    dally*

- B. Though his new boots looked great, they \_\_\_\_\_ the calves of his legs terribly when he tried to \_\_\_\_\_ on the lawn with the children.
- C. As a child, he was afraid to walk past the gang of teenagers who would \_\_\_\_\_ on the street corner.
- D. In chemistry, heat is often used as a \_\_\_\_\_; it will speed up the reaction without changing the results.
- E. Though he made an honest attempt to be easygoing, his students found him to be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Exercise II—Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Study the entries and answer the questions that follow.

The root *corp* means *body*.

The root *rupt* means *break*.

The prefix *inter* means *between or among*.

- A. Without using a dictionary, try to define the following words:

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. corporal    | 4. interrupt |
| 2. corporation | 5. erupt     |
| 3. incorporate | 6. corrupt   |

- B. Because he ignored the pain for too long, they had to rush him to the hospital with a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ appendix.

- C. List as many words as you can think of that contain the prefix *inter* or the roots *corp* and *rupt*.

### Exercise III—Analogies

Complete the analogy by choosing the most appropriate word.

- |                         |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. cadaverous : thin :: | 2. lax : careful ::     | 3. chicanery : swindlers :: |
| A. firm : stubborn      | A. car : trip           | A. home : hearths           |
| B. fight : pacify       | B. ticket : journey     | B. finesse : diplomats      |
| C. obese : fat          | C. listless : energetic | C. meat : butchers          |
| D. insult : sincere     | D. squander : money     | D. light : evenings         |

### Exercise IV—Reading Comprehension

Read the selection and answer the questions.

The Greek philosophers began an inquiry, and they arrived at no solutions. We cannot pretend today that we have arrived at solutions to most of the questions they asked. The mind of the Hebrews, as we have already shown, awoke suddenly to the endless miseries and disorders of life, saw that these miseries and disorders were largely due to the lawless acts of men, and concluded that salvation could come only through subduing ourselves to the service of the one God who rules heaven and earth. The Greek, rising to the same perception, was not prepared with the same idea of a patriarchal deity; he lived in a world in which there was not God but the gods; if perhaps he felt that the gods themselves were limited, then he thought of Fate behind them, cold and impersonal. So he put his problem in the form of an inquiry as to what was right living, without any definite correlation of the right-living man with the will of God.

H. G. Wells

- In this selection, the author essentially wishes to
  - praise the Hebrews and condemn the Greeks.
  - praise the Greeks and condemn the Hebrews.
  - prove or disprove the existence of an almighty being.
  - discuss how both groups of ancients viewed man's existence.
- Wells, who is sometimes called the father of the science fiction novel, demonstrates in this selection
  - a desire to predict the future.
  - a bitter view of man's existence.
  - a keen grasp of ancient history.
  - a curiosity regarding the existence of God.

3. The author states or implies that
  - A. the Greeks were superior to the Hebrews in intellectual activities.
  - B. the Hebrews posited a God and thereby took the easy answer.
  - C. the Greeks raised questions, but failed to come up with answers because they stopped trying.
  - D. the questions raised by the ancients are questions that modern man is still trying to answer.
  
4. The author states or implies that the
  - A. Hebrews saw the senselessness of life and posited the existence of a God who could bring about man's salvation.
  - B. Greeks also saw the senselessness of life but came up with the conclusion that man, not God, is in charge of his own fate.
  - C. raising of questions about life and its meaning answers few questions but causes many problems.
  - D. idea of a patriarchal deity, who was both cold and impersonal, was arrived at by both the Hebrews and Greeks, though by different paths.

1. A substance that alters the rate at which a physical or, especially, a chemical reaction takes place, usually by making it go faster. Can also apply to a person that gets a group or organization moving.
2. A special quality of individuals who show an exceptional ability to lead and win the devotion of large numbers of people.
3. To waste one's time in a manner that is not unpleasant.

## Lesson Five

**Grammar Practice**

Underline the appositive or appositive phrase in each of the following sentences. Underline twice the word or words that each appositive identifies or explains

1. Komodo dragons, giant flesh-eating monitor lizards, grow to be over eleven feet long.
2. These huge reptiles, the largest lizards in the world, live in some Southeast Asian jungles.
3. They are named after Komodo Island, a part of Indonesia.
4. Other monitor lizards, the perenty and the water monitor, live in tropical areas of Australia and Southeast Asia.
5. The unusual name monitor is applied to these lizards because people believe that they warn of the presence of crocodiles.
6. My sister Sarah wants to be a writer.
7. One of the most famous playwrights in history, William Shakespeare wrote tragedies, comedies, and romances.
8. In a film version of one Shakespeare play, Kenneth Branagh plays Hamlet, the prince of Denmark.
9. Branagh also directed the film Henry V.
10. In that film, he plays the title character, King Henry V of England.

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|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A choleric person would probably not make           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. a good computer operator.</li> <li>B. a good butcher.</li> <li>C. a good real estate salesperson.</li> <li>D. a good lighthouse keeper.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. A dastardly student is likely to be           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. popular with his classmates.</li> <li>B. unpopular with teachers.</li> <li>C. liked by the teachers but disliked by the other students.</li> <li>D. despised by everyone.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. A person must be most alert for chicanery in           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. a handbook for new students.</li> <li>B. a training manual for soldiers.</li> <li>C. an installment sales contract.</li> <li>D. a court summons.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |
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