

Lesson 2

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

aroma
ə rō' mə

n. A smell or odor, especially a pleasant one.

The **aroma** of hot buttered popcorn made our mouths water.

beverage
bev' ə r ij

n. A liquid used as a drink.

When we ordered our **beverages**, I chose lemonade.

bland
bland

adj. 1. Lacking a strong flavor.

Patients with stomach problems eat **bland** foods like chicken soup and mashed potatoes.

2. Not irritating, exciting, or disturbing.

The doctor's **bland** manner soon calmed the crying child.

brittle
brit' l

adj. Easily broken; not flexible.

Candy canes are **brittle** and should be handled with care.

cluster
klus' tər

n. A number of similar things grouped together.

Clusters of brightly colored flowers grew along the side of the road.

v. To gather or come together in a group.

The children **clustered** around the storyteller.

combine
kəm bīn'

v. To join or bring together.

We **combine** oil and vinegar to make the salad dressing.

combination *n.* A joining or bringing together.

Our team's victory resulted from a **combination** of hard work and good luck.

consume
kən sōm'

v. 1. To use up.

Piano practice **consumes** all of Alex's free time.

2. To eat or drink.

A horse **consumes** fifty pounds of hay a day.

3. To do away with or destroy.

The forest fire **consumed** over two thousand acres in Oregon.

crave
krāv

v. To have a strong desire for.

When he was a teenager, Abraham Lincoln **craved** knowledge so much that he would walk miles to borrow a book he had not read.

craving n. A strong desire.

After the hike, we all had a **craving** for lots of cool water.

cultivate
kul' ti vāt

v. 1. To prepare land for the growing of crops.

Before the spring planting, farmers **cultivate** the soil.

2. To grow or to help to grow.

Ana **cultivates** tomatoes every year in her garden.

3. To encourage development by attention or study.

Parents can **cultivate** a love of nature in their children by taking them on hikes in the country.

equivalent
ē kwiv' ə lənt

adj. Equal to.

Although the decimal 0.5 and the fraction $\frac{1}{2}$ appear to be different, they are **equivalent** amounts.

n. That which is equal to.

One year of a dog's life is the **equivalent** of seven human years.

export
ek spōrt'

v. To send goods to another country for sale.

Colombia **exports** coffee to countries all over the world.

n. (eks' port) Something exported.

Grain is an important **export** of the United States.

extract
ek strakt'

v. 1. To remove or take out.

Dr. Bogasian will **extract** my wisdom tooth next week.

2. To obtain with an effort.

I **extracted** a promise from them to leave us alone.

n. (eks' trakt) Something removed or taken out.

Vanilla **extract** comes from the seedpods of vanilla plants.

introduce
in trə dōōs'

v. 1. To cause to know; to make known by name.

Let me **introduce** you to my companion, Jane Willow.

2. To bring to the attention of, especially for the first time.

It was our friends in Hawaii who **introduced** us to scuba diving.

3. To bring into use.

The invention of the airplane **introduced** a new way of traveling.

introduction n. (in trə duk' shən) 1. Something spoken or written before the main part.

We read the **introduction** before going on to the rest of *The Woman in White*.

2. The act of being made known by name.

After my **introduction** to the others in the room, I relaxed and enjoyed the party.

purchase
pər'chəs

v. To buy.

My parents **purchase** a new car every five years.

n. 1. Something that is bought.

Store detectives may ask you to show sales slips for your **purchases** as you leave.

2. The act of buying.

Because of a bicycle's cost, I looked at and rode several before I made a **purchase**.

tropical
trəp'ikəl

adj. 1. Of, from, or similar to the regions near the equator.

Ecuador, which lies on the equator, is a **tropical** country.

2. Hot and moist.

The chilly autumn temperature outside made the air at the indoor pool feel **tropical**.

2A

Finding Meanings

aroma
beverage
bland
brittle
cluster
combine
consume
crave
cultivate
equivalent
export
extract
introduce
purchase
tropical

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 2. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) An aroma is
(b) a pleasant smell.

(c) A cluster is
(d) a drink.

2. (a) to give it away.
(b) to use it up.

(c) To crave something is
(d) To consume something is

3. (a) An extract is something
(b) that is bought.

(c) An equivalent is something
(d) that is equal to something else.

4. (a) A cluster is (c) a group of similar things.
(b) An export is (d) something that is given away.
-
-

5. (a) A combination is (c) a strong desire.
(b) An introduction is (d) a making known by name.
-
-

6. (a) Something that is brittle (c) Something that is bland
(b) lacks a strong flavor. (d) bends easily.
-
-

7. (a) is to borrow it from that (c) To introduce someone to a book
person. (d) To purchase a book for someone
(b) is to make that person
aware of it.
-
-

8. (a) obtain it with an effort. (c) To extract an offer is to
(b) reject it. (d) To crave an offer is to
-
-

9. (a) breaks easily. (c) has a strong smell.
(b) Something that is tropical (d) Something that is brittle
-
-

10. (a) A beverage is (c) something that is eaten.
(b) A purchase is (d) something that is bought.
-
-

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 2.

1. Milk, juice, and other **liquids suitable for drinking** are on sale at the booth.
2. This machine **takes out** the juice from oranges.
3. These computers are being **sold to other countries** at the rate of two hundred a day.
4. Inline skates were **first brought into use** in the U.S. in the 1980s.
5. The **mixing together** of blue and yellow paint produces green.
6. Plants will not grow well if the soil has not been **properly prepared for the growing of crops**.
7. The summer climate in Washington, D.C., is almost **like that near the equator**.
8. After my cousins **paid money in order to own** a dog, they all helped to feed, train, and exercise it.
9. It was clear that Uncle Paul **had a strong desire for** a piece of my mother's pumpkin pie.
10. Every morning chickadees **gather in a group** around our bird feeder.

aroma
beverage
bland
brittle
cluster
combine
consume
crave
cultivate
equivalent
export
extract
introduce
purchase
tropical

Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

- Which of the following is a **bland** food?
(a) oatmeal (c) white bread
(b) hot chili (d) pepperoni pizza
- Which of the following can be **purchased**?
(a) good health (c) automobiles
(b) diseases (d) energy
- Which of the following can be **cultivated**?
(a) corn (c) an interest in science
(b) water (d) the soil
- Which of the following has an **aroma**?
(a) the number 7 (c) a famous person's name
(b) freshly ground coffee (d) a rose
- Which of the following can be **consumed**?
(a) vegetables (c) fuel
(b) sleep (d) plants
- Which of the following is a **beverage**?
(a) milk (c) chocolate ice cream
(b) water (d) hot chocolate
- Which of the following are **equivalent** to a dollar?
(a) fifty cents (c) four quarters
(b) ten dimes (d) twenty nickels
- Which of the following are **exported** from the U.S.?
(a) kangaroos (c) parrots
(b) grains (d) medicines

The prefix *pre-* means "before." The preface of a book is the part that comes before the rest of the book. A preview of a movie is a showing of it before the general public gets to see it. A prefix is the part of a word that comes before the rest.

Some prefixes turn a word into its opposite. These prefixes include the following:

un- (an unhappy person is not happy)

in- (an incorrect answer is not correct)

im- (an impossible task is one that is not possible)

dis- (a disagreeable person is one who is not agreeable)

ir- (an irregular verb is one that is not regular)

Change each of the words into its opposite by adding the correct prefix. Check each of your answers in a dictionary to be sure you have formed a proper word.

1. mature _____
2. accustomed _____
3. complete _____
4. compatible _____
5. resistible _____
6. obedient _____
7. patient _____
8. dismayed _____
9. sufficient _____
10. prove _____
11. honest _____
12. easy _____

aroma
 beverage
 bland
 brittle
 cluster
 combine
 consume
 crave
 cultivate
 equivalent
 export
 extract
 introduce
 purchase
 tropical

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow it.

When Money Grew on Trees



Do you wish that chocolate grew on trees? Well, it does. The trees are cocoa trees. They grow in **tropical** countries. Of course, you wouldn't recognize the little pale-colored and bitter-tasting beans of the cocoa tree as chocolate. But those beans are the raw material from which candy bars are made.

Cocoa trees were first **cultivated** in Central and South America. They are now grown in many other parts of the world, including West Africa, the Caribbean, and southern Asia. They grow best in areas with a year-round temperature of around eighty degrees and an annual rainfall of eighty inches or more. The young trees need to be sheltered from direct sunlight. Banana plants, which are taller, are often grown between the rows to provide shade.

Pods as big as footballs grow from the branches and trunks of the trees. Inside each pod is a **cluster** of twenty to forty cocoa beans. Each bean is inside its own thin shell. Workers cut the pods from the trees by hand and split them open to remove the beans. The beans are then separated and stored in boxes for about a week. When the beans are brown and have a slight chocolate **aroma**, they are ready to be dried. The drying takes place either in the sun or in ovens. After the drying is completed, the beans are put in sacks. The sacks of beans are **exported** to countries all over the world.

Now they are ready to be made into chocolate. First, the beans are roasted. This makes the shells **brittle** and easy to separate from the beans. Next the beans are ground into a paste. This paste contains a lot of fat. That fat is called cocoa butter. The cocoa butter is **extracted** from the beans.

What remains is cocoa powder. This powder is used for making chocolate cakes, cookies, and puddings. The soft, sweet chocolate in candy is made by **combining** the cocoa powder with cocoa butter, sugar, and dried milk.

The Spanish explorers who traveled through Central and South America in the 1500s were the first to **introduce** chocolate into Europe. The Aztecs, who lived in what is now Mexico, ground up cocoa beans and made the paste into a cold **beverage**. They must have thought it tasted **bland**; they mixed it with chili peppers and other spices. Not surprisingly, the name "chocolate" comes from an Aztec word meaning "bitter drink." Montezuma,

the Aztec king, seems to have had a **craving** for it. According to Aztec records, he **consumed** up to fifty cups of chocolate a day!

The Aztecs also used cocoa beans as money. A rabbit cost ten beans, while a slave could be **purchased** for a hundred. Sadly, that would have made the value of a human being **equivalent** to ten rabbits. This may seem surprising, but here is something else to think about: the Aztecs really did live in a land where money grew on trees.

✦ **Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.**

1. How can one satisfy a **craving** for chocolate?

2. What are two ways that cocoa is used today?

3. What is the meaning of **cultivated** as it is used in the passage?

4. Why do cocoa trees grow only in **tropical** countries?

5. To which countries are cocoa beans **exported**?

6. In addition to using cocoa beans for a drink, in what other way did the Aztecs use them?

aroma
beverage
bland
brittle
cluster
combine
consume
crave
cultivate
equivalent
export
extract
introduce
purchase
tropical

7. How is chocolate candy made?

8. What would you find if you split open a pod of the cocoa tree?

9. How do workers know when the cocoa beans are ready to be dried?

10. What is the meaning of **consumed** as it is used in the passage?

11. When can the shells of cocoa beans be removed easily from the beans?

12. How is ground cocoa bean paste turned into cocoa powder?

13. How and when did Europeans learn about chocolate?

14. What is the meaning of **bland** as it is used in the passage?

15. Why could an Aztec receive five rabbits in exchange for fifty cocoa beans?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

• **Aroma** once meant a spice. Spices have strong and pleasant smells, and in time the meaning of the word changed. An aroma became the pleasant smell of the spice rather than the spice itself. Later the word came to mean any smell, but especially one that is pleasant.

• The word **export** is formed from the Latin prefix *ex-*, meaning “out,” and the Latin root *port*, meaning “carry.” Goods being *exported* are *carried* by boat or plane *out* of the country. The antonym of *export* is *import*. To *import* goods is to bring them *into* a country. (The United States *imports* many cars from Japan.)

• The Latin *tractus* means “drawn” or “pulled” and forms the root of several English words. A *tractor* is a vehicle used to pull farm machinery. A *protracted* explanation is one that is drawn out and goes on too long. This root joins with the Latin prefix *ex-*, meaning “out,” to form the word **extract**.

• The adjective **tropical** is formed from the word *tropic*. The Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn are two imaginary lines going around the earth, north and south of the equator. They are three thousand miles apart, and the area of the world between them is called the tropics. Most of Africa and Central and South America and parts of Asia are in the tropics.

aroma
beverage
bland
brittle
cluster
combine
consume
crave
cultivate
equivalent
export
extract
introduce
purchase
tropical