

Lesson 10

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Word List

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

available
ə vāl' ə bəl

adj. Easy to get; present and ready for use.
The salesperson said the jacket was **available** in black, brown, and white.

bondage
bān' dij

n. The state of being a slave.
More than three thousand years ago, Moses led the Jewish people out of **bondage** in Egypt.

donate
dō' nāt

v. To give to those in need, often through an organization.
People across the country **donated** food and clothing to the victims of the flood.

donation *n.* Whatever is donated, as money or goods.
Donations to help rebuild the community center now total sixty thousand dollars.

establish
e stab' lish

v. 1. To set up or begin.
Established in 1636, Harvard College, now part of Harvard University, is the oldest college in the United States.

2. To show to be true.
Scientists have **established** beyond any doubt that smoking causes cancer and other diseases.

establishment *n.* Something that has been established, especially a place of business or a public building.
Many restaurants, stores, and other **establishments** now ban smoking.

evade
ē vād'

v. 1. To keep away from; to avoid being caught.
The chipmunk **evaded** the cat by scrambling up a tree.

2. To avoid doing or answering.
Persons who **evade** paying income taxes can find themselves in serious trouble.

evasive *adj.* Carefully avoiding saying too much; not open or direct.
The captured prisoners were **evasive** when asked who had helped them escape.

liberate
lib' ə rāt

v. To free.
A group objecting to experiments on animals opened the monkey cages and **liberated** the animals inside them.

numerous *adj.* A large number; very many.
nōō' mār əs The bus makes **numerous** stops before it leaves us at school.

occasion *n.* 1. A particular time.
ō kā' zhən I recognized Marcia at once because we had met on a previous **occasion**.
2. A special event.
The presentation in Oslo, Norway, of the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize to Rigoberta Menchu was a great **occasion** for the Guatemalan people.
occasional *adj.* Happening once in a while.
We make an **occasional** trip to town to pick up supplies.

oppose *v.* To be or act against.
ə pōz' Moin, my best friend, will **oppose** me in the tennis finals.
opposition *n.* (äp ə zish' ən) The act or condition of being against.
There was no **opposition** to the proposal, which passed by a vote of 16 to 0.

prohibit *v.* To forbid by law or order.
prō hib' it The law now **prohibits** smoking in many public places.

pursue *v.* 1. To follow in order to capture; to chase.
pər sōō' Police **pursued** the stolen car in a high-speed chase across town.
2. To seek actively; to carry on with.
Do you intend to **pursue** a career in medicine?
pursuit *n.* 1. The act of following after.
In the early 1930s, people desperate for work poured into cities in **pursuit** of jobs.
2. An activity, as a job or sport, that a person takes part in.
Jennie and Bruce enjoy canoeing and other outdoor **pursuits** during the summer.

reassure *v.* To make less worried or fearful; to comfort.
rē ə shoōr' I was nervous before the recital, but my piano teacher **reassured** me.
reassurance *n.* The act of giving comfort or the state of receiving comfort.
Coach Ward's **reassurances** made us more optimistic about our chances of winning.

reluctant *adj.* Not wanting to do something; unwilling.
rē luk' tənt We were **reluctant** to leave our warm beds when we saw the ice on the windows.
reluctance *n.* The state of not wanting to do something.
With great **reluctance**, I agreed to clean my room before my cousins arrived on Saturday.

superior
sə piər' ē ə

adj. 1. Excellent of its kind.
Margot made the team because she is a **superior** runner.
2. Higher in position or rank.
A cardinal is **superior** to a bishop in the Catholic church.
n. A person of higher rank.
I reported to my **superior** as soon as I returned to work.

yearn
yɜrn

v. To want very badly; to be filled with longing.
Dorothy told the Wizard of Oz that she **yearned** to be back in Kansas.
yearning *n.* A longing or strong desire.
As rain leaked slowly through the roof of our tent, I was filled with a **yearning** for my warm, dry bed at home.

10A

Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 10. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) a promise to do certain things. (c) a place of business.
(b) An establishment is (d) A yearning is

2. (a) have important people calling. (c) To have numerous visitors is to
(b) have many people calling. (d) To have occasional visitors is to

3. (a) To liberate someone is to (c) chase that person.
(b) To pursue someone is to (d) put that person in prison.

4. (a) To remember an occasion is to (c) To remember a donation is to
(b) recall a particular person. (d) recall a particular time.

5. (a) a deep longing. (c) someone younger than oneself.
(b) A superior is (d) A yearning is

6. (a) To reassure someone is to (c) put that person's mind at ease.
(b) meet that person again. (d) To oppose someone is to

7. (a) To be superior is (c) To be reluctant is
(b) to act in a foolhardy way. (d) to be better than average.

8. (a) avoid answering them. (c) ask them over and over.
(b) To prohibit questions is to (d) To evade questions is to

9. (a) Liberation is (c) a state of slavery.
(b) an unwillingness to act. (d) Bondage is

10. (a) be against it. (c) To donate something is to
(b) set it free. (d) To oppose something is to

available
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donate
establish
evade
liberate
numerous
occasion
oppose
prohibit
pursue
reassure
reluctant
superior
yearn

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 10.

1. We managed to **get away from** the hornets by running into the house.
2. Tickets for this Saturday's concert are **easy to obtain** from most music stores.
3. The manager was **not very willing** to return my deposit when I cancelled my order for the ski boots.
4. I have to check with a **person of a higher rank** before I can let you in the building on Saturday.
5. My **going in search** of information about lasers led me to spend a lot of time in the library.
6. It has been **shown to be true** that the sun is about five billion years old.
7. Wintergreen Junior High school is seeking **gifts of money** to pay for the sports program.
8. What **special event** are you celebrating with this beautiful cake?
9. The city **did not allow** downtown parking for the duration of the street festival.
10. Paris was **freed from the foreign army that occupied it** on August 25, 1944.

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

1. Which of the following might a person **pursue**?

(a) an education	(c) an illness
(b) a runaway horse	(d) a career

2. Which of the following might a person **yearn** for?

(a) freedom	(c) despair
(b) agony	(d) prosperity

3. Which of the following statements offers **reassurance**?

(a) "It'll be okay."	(c) "You'll be sorry."
(b) "You can do it."	(d) "Don't say I didn't warn you."

4. Which of the following statements shows **reluctance**?

(a) "Let's go."	(c) "What's the hurry?"
(b) "I'll have to think about it."	(d) "Let's not be too hasty."

5. Which of the following do you **oppose**?

(a) careless driving	(c) education
(b) vacations	(d) crime

6. Which of the following could be **established**?

(a) a fact	(c) a restaurant
(b) a hospital	(d) a colony

7. Which of the following could be **evasive**?

(a) a reply	(c) an explanation
(b) a house	(d) a demand

8. Which of the following might a person **donate**?

(a) space	(c) time
(b) money	(d) food

available
 bondage
 donate
 establish
 evade
 liberate
 numerous
 occasion
 oppose
 prohibit
 pursue
 reassure
 reluctant
 superior
 yearn

Each group of four words contains either two synonyms or two antonyms. Circle that pair. Then write *S* if they are synonyms or *A* if they are antonyms.

- | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 1. yearn | ascend | rise | lumber | _____ |
| 2. decrease | prosper | end | terminate | _____ |
| 3. oppose | deposit | support | rely | _____ |
| 4. lessen | decrease | suspend | donate | _____ |
| 5. donate | receive | retire | translate | _____ |
| 6. flimsy | wicked | sturdy | nostalgic | _____ |
| 7. capture | prohibit | liberate | remove | _____ |
| 8. yearning | desire | concept | bondage | _____ |
| 9. return | reassure | abolish | establish | _____ |
| 10. willing | alert | puny | reluctant | _____ |

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

With Moses to the Promised Land



Harriet Tubman was born a slave in Maryland in 1820. From the time she was a young child, she **yearned** to be free. The hard physical work that she was forced to do made her very strong. And though as a slave she received no education, she was also intelligent and quick-thinking. She put these qualities to good use, first in making her own escape and later in helping others to do the same.

When Harriet was in her late twenties, her owner died. She feared she would be sold and sent to the deep South. There the work was harder and slave owners more cruel. She decided to escape instead. She urged her brothers to come with her on the journey north. They **reluctantly** joined her. Soon after they set out, though, her brothers turned back. They were afraid of being caught. So Harriet continued alone, traveling mostly at night. Eventually she made it safely to Philadelphia. Although she had found freedom, she couldn't enjoy it; so many others, including her family, were still living in **bondage**.

In 1850, Congress passed a law making it a crime to help runaway slaves. But over the next eleven years, Harriet returned **numerous** times to the South to lead other slaves to Canada. In Canada, slavery was **prohibited** and escaped slaves were welcome. Altogether during this time she helped to **liberate** over three hundred people. That number included her parents and brothers and sisters. Along the way she stayed with people who offered food and shelter in their homes, often at great risk to themselves. These houses were called "stations" on what became known as the Underground Railroad.

Between trips, Harriet took whatever jobs were **available**—cooking, sewing, or cleaning. She used some of her money to help former slaves start new lives. She always saved some of it for her next journey south. She had many friends who **opposed** slavery; when she needed money for her work, they would help her by making **donations**.

Slave owners were furious at having their "property" stolen. They offered as much as \$40,000 for Harriet Tubman's capture. She was often **pursued** by people who wanted the reward. She had many narrow escapes, but she always managed to **evade** being caught. Escaping slaves called her Moses

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because she led them to freedom, just as Moses had led the Jewish people out of slavery in Egypt thousands of years earlier.

During the Civil War, Harriet Tubman worked for the North as a nurse in the Union army. Slaves had been taught by their owners to be afraid of the Union soldiers. But Harriet went behind enemy lines and was able to **reassure** them. They believed her when she told them they had nothing to fear from the Union army. On some **occasions** while there, she acted as a spy, reporting to her **superiors** when she returned to the Union side. After the war she worked energetically to start schools in the South for the freed slaves, even though she herself could not read or write. She eventually settled in Auburn, New York, where she **established** a nursing home for elderly African Americans. When she died in 1913, thousands mourned this courageous woman who had helped so many people.

- ▶ **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. What did the law that Congress passed in 1850 **prohibit**?

2. What is the meaning of the word **superiors** as it is used in the passage?

3. How did Harriet Tubman feel about being a slave?

4. Why were her brothers **reluctant** to go with Tubman?

5. How did Harriet Tubman's friends help her?

6. What is the meaning of **evade** as it is used in the passage?

7. Why was Harriet Tubman called Moses by those she helped?

8. How do you think Tubman might have **reassured** the slaves she was helping?

9. In what way did the stations on the Underground Railroad help to **liberate** the slaves?

10. Why do you think some people opened their homes to escaping slaves?

11. How did the reward for her capture affect Tubman's later trips to the South?

12. What is the meaning of **established** as it is used in the passage?

13. Why do you think most slaves were unable to read or write?

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14. What two activities did Tubman engage in during the Civil War?

15. Why do you think Tubman made **numerous** trips south even though it was very dangerous for her?

FUN & FASCINATING FACTS

☛ The Statue of *Liberty* is a symbol of freedom to people all over the world. To hand out money *liberally* is to hand it out freely, without exercising very much control. Both these words, together with **liberate**, are formed from the Latin *liber*, which means “free.” It’s interesting to note that the Latin word for “book” is also *liber*. (A *library* is a place where *books* are kept.) There is a clear connection between books and freedom. A person who cannot read a book is in a kind of prison; learning to read sets the mind free to explore the world and everything in it.

☛ The noun formed from the verb **prohibit** is *prohibition*, an order to stop or the act of forbidding. The word is associated with a fascinating period in United States history. In 1919, the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution prohibited the sale of alcoholic beverages. The result was that many citizens ignored the law, and gangsters such as Al Capone grew rich by illegally selling alcoholic beverages. Within a few years it was clear that the amendment had failed. Prohibition, as this time was known, ended in 1933 when the Twenty-first Amendment was added to the Constitution. This one abolished the Eighteenth.