umbrella A folding frame covered with cloth that can be opened and held over the

head to keep off the rain.

Raindrops pitter-pattered on my umbrella.

flare To burn with a sudden, bright, unsteady flame.

The breeze made the candles <u>flare</u>.

lizard A reptile having short legs and a tapering tail.

The little <u>lizard</u> left zigzag tracks in the sand.

wizard A very clever and skillful person; a magician.

Thomas Edison was a wizard at invention.

blizzard A heavy snowstorm with strong, cold wind.

The <u>blizzard</u> dumped twenty inches of snow on the town.

buzzard A kind of vulture.

The buzzard feeds on the flesh of dead animals.

squawk To make a loud, harsh cry.

Hens squawk when they're frightened.

canary A small yellow songbird.

The canary chirped merrily in its cage.

curtsy or A way of greeting by bending the knees and lowering the body.

curtsey Amy bobbed a curtsy (curtsey) to the guests.

cackle To make the sharp, broken sound of a hen.

I heard hens cackle and roosters crow.

dairy A milk farm.

His job was milking cows at a dairy farm.

bleat To make the cry of a sheep, a goat, or a calf.

Dogs bark, cows moo, and sheep bleat.

interpret To translate; to explain the meaning.

Since our visitors couldn't speak English, Maria had to

interpret what they said.

rein A strip of leather used to guide a horse.

"If you pull on this rein, the horse will turn to this side."

parrot A tropical bird with bright feathers and a hooked bill.

The deplete of the with origin teathers and a nooked off

The parrot squawked, "Hello" from its cage.

nostrils The openings in the nose.

The horse, quivering its nostrils and sniffed the carrots.

siren A device for making a loud high-pitched sound, used as a warning signal.

The police car sped by, its siren wailing.

parachute An umbrella-shaped device that permits a person or an object to float

safely down from an airplane.

The parachute popped open soon after the sky diver jumped from the

airplane.

giraffe An animal with along neck and long legs.

The giraffe we saw at the zoo was taller than that telephone pole.

cannon A large mounted gun.

The booming of the <u>cannon</u> signaled the beginning of a battle.

twirl To spin.

We watched the drum majorettes twirl their batons in the parade.

bridle. To control; to hold back.

He has to learn to bridle his temper.

fierce Wild and savage; violent; intense.

The large lion had a fierce roar.

proceed To go forward; to move on.

Drivers must halt at stop signs, then proceed with caution.

ballet A graceful dance performed by a trained group on a stage.

The ballet dancers twirled gracefully across the stage.

baton A rod used by an orchestra conductor or a band director.

The conductor raised his baton to signal the orchestra to start the overture.

pineapple: A tropical fruit shaped like a large pinecone with juicy, yellow flesh.

I had two slices of pineapple for dessert.

surround To encircle; to enclose.

Tall hills surround the small lake.

lily A plant that grows from a bulb and has bell-shaped flowers.

White <u>lily</u> flowers are popular at Easter time.

flannel. A soft cloth with a nap on one or both sides.

My flannel pajamas keep me warm on cold nights.

canal A man-made waterway.

A ship canal was built in Panama to connect the Atlantic and Pacific

Oceans.

blossom A flower or flowers of a plant or a tree.

The apple trees burst into pink blossom.

lullaby A cradle song.

The mother sang a <u>lullaby</u> to put her baby to sleep.

niece A daughter of one's brother or sister.

Your uncle's daughter is your father's <u>niece</u>.

artillery Large mounted guns.

Artillery boomed and rifles clattered as the battle began.

knuckles Finger joints.

My knuckles turn white when I clench my fist.

jockey A person who rides a horse in a race.

He was the winning jockey in the Kentucky Derby.

wintry Of or like winter; cold.

The sun was warm, but the wintry wind made me shiver.

attach To fasten on or to.

Please attach a stamp before mailing.

holly An evergreen shrub with prickly leaves and red berries.

Holly leaves and berries are used in making Christmas wreaths.

lurch To sway suddenly to a side.

We saw his car <u>lurch</u> and then stop as it ran into a ditch.

waver To hesitate; to sway; to show doubt.

His courage began to waver when he saw the dangers ahead.

necessary Needed; required.

Following the rules is necessary if you want to stay in our club.

sleigh A light vehicle on runners, usually drawn by one or more horses

on snow or ice.

The horses pulled the <u>sleigh</u> across the snow-covered field.

response An answer; a reply.

I knocked on the door but got no response.

buffalo A shaggy-haired wild ox.

Buffalo once roamed the Great Plains in large numbers.

principal The head of a school.

The <u>principal</u> gave the welcoming speech to parents attending the

PTA meeting.

corpse A dead human body.

Doctors examined the corpse to find out how the man died.

mosquito A small flying insect.

Mosquito bites cause itching.

patio A paved area next to a house; a porch.

We will have a picnic lunch on the patio if it doesn't rain.

terrace A balcony; a paved area next to a house.

The terrace of their apartment overlooks a flower garden.

sandal A shoe made of straps and a sole.

She took her sandal to a shoe shop to have the broken strap repaired.

penguin A sea bird that lives near the South Pole.

The penguin has small wings suitable for swimming but not for flying.

twelfth Next after the eleventh.

He hit a home run in the twelfth inning.

sneer An expression of the face showing scorn or contempt.

Cathy curled her lips in a sneer as if to say, "I don't believe it."

ninth Next after eighth.

Their <u>ninth</u> child was a son after they had eight daughters.

ninety The number coming after 89 and before 91.

Nine times ten is ninety.

flimsy Not strong; thin and weak; poorly made.

This paper is too flimsy to wrap a package with.

lair A living or resting place of a wild animal.

The lions were asleep in their lair.

calendar A chart showing the days, weeks and months of a year.

Diane circled the date of her dentist's appointment on her calendar.

ladle A dipper.

She served the soup with a ladle.

glimpse A quick look.

I caught a glimpse of a deer running into the woods.

familiar Often seen, heard, or experienced; well-known.

The man's voice on the phone sounded familiar, but I couldn't remember his name.

altar A table or a raised place in a church at which prayers are offered.

He knelt at the <u>altar</u> to pray.

trailer A large vehicle pulled by a car, a truck or a tractor.

We hitched the <u>trailer</u> to our car and drove off for vacation.

forward Toward the front or the future; ahead.

"If you want to volunteer, please step forward.

wharf A dock; a landing place for ships.

They anchored the ship at the wharf to unload the cargo.

beggar A person who begs.

The beggar held out his hand for food.

fortieth Next after the thirty-ninth.

Ronald Reagan became the fortieth President of the United States.

bugle A musical instrument that looks like a small trumpet.

He blew his bugle long and loud to wake the soldiers in the car.

barbecue A cookout at which roasted meat is served.

We held a <u>barbecue</u> on the patio and served broiled ribs covered with a spicy

tomato sauce.

corduroy A cloth, usually cotton, with a surface of raised ribs.

He wore a beige corduroy coat and brown wool pants.

imitation The act of copying.

My parrot did a funny imitation of my speech.

prowl To move about quietly in search of prey.

Hungry wolves prowl the dark woods.

chimney An upright structure for letting smoke out from a fireplace, a stove, or a furnace.

Black smoke billowed from the tall chimney.

pedal A foot lever.

The driver stepped on the gas <u>pedal</u> to speed up the car.

browse a. To feed on leaves or young shoots by nibbling here and there.

Deer and moose browse on tender twigs.

b. To look over leisurely or casually.

He likes to browse in bookstores before buying his favorite books.

spurt A quick burst; a sudden outpouring.

Jack put on a spurt of speed as he dashed to the finish line.

hastily In haste; hurriedly.

Because he wanted to go out and play, Kevin did his homework

hastily.

license A legal permission to do something.

Mary passed the test to get her license to drive.

feud A long, bitter quarrel between two persons, families, or clans.

The neighbors started a feud because of the barking dog.

screech To make a harsh, shrill cry or sound.

I heard the tires <u>screech</u> as the car turned the corner sharply.

balloon A bag filled with air or gas to make it float in the air.

"You'll pop the balloon if you put too much air in it."

swirl To move around and around.

We watched falling leaves swirl in the wind.

mimic To imitate humorously; to copy closely.

The parrot squawked harshly, trying to mimic my voice.

scribble To write hastily or carelessly.

I saw him scribble something on a memo pad while he was talking

on the telephone.

leech A worm that lives in water and sucks blood from animals or people.

While fishing in the pond, I had to pull off a leach that clung to my leg.

abundance A large quantity; a plentiful supply.

Flowers grew in abundance in the rich, moist soil.

drowsy Sleepy.

He grew drowsy and fell asleep in his chair.

relief The lessening of pain or discomfort.

"Take this pill for relief of pain."

arithmetic The study of numbers.

We learned the multiplication table in arithmetic class.

whirl To turn rapidly round and round.

When a fan is turned on, its blades whirl.

weird Mysterious; strange.

Weird sounds came from the dark cave.

fleece The wool coat of a sheep.

The lamb's <u>fleece</u> is as white as snow.

squeal To make a loud, sharp cry.

Pigs squeal when they're hungry or hurt.

ceiling The overhead inside surface of a room.

He painted the walls green and the ceiling white.

aspirin A drug used to ease pain.

Taking aspirin helped ease his headache.

banana A tropical fruit with smooth, yellow skin and soft, creamy flesh.

The monkey peeled and ate a banana.

muscles Tissues of the body made up of strong fibers that can be tightened or

relaxed to make the body move. Exercise helps build <u>muscle</u>.

forsake To give up; to leave; to desert.

I won't forsake my friends when they need my help.

abandon To give up; to desert.

The captain ordered his crew to abandon the sinking ship.

squirm To wiggle; to twist and turn the body.

Worms squirm when hurt.

medicine A drug or other substance taken to treat or prevent disease.

"You'll find the aspirin in the medicine cabinet."

basis Foundation; base.

Ghost stories have no scientific basis.

mattress A pad used to sleep on.

I slept on an air mattress during the camping trip.

terrible Fearful; dreadful; very bad.

The noise was so terrible I covered my ears with my hands.

birch A hardwood tree with smooth white bark and thin triangular leaves.

The bark of a <u>birch</u> tree peels off easily in thin layers.

bargain Something bought or offered for sale at an unusually low price.

Ten dollars for this guitar is a bargain even at a flea market.

veer To change direction; to shift.

The airplane had to veer sharply to avoid a collision with another.

nasal Of the nose.

A <u>nasal</u> discharge often accompanies a cold.

burglar A person who breaks into a house or a building to steal.

The <u>burglar</u> was bitten by a watchdog when he broke into the house.

peeved Irritated; annoyed; fretful.

She was peeved about not getting an invitation to the party.

arc A part of a curved line.

A rainbow is an arc of colored light sometimes seen after rain.

altogether On the whole; in all.

Altogether, it was a pleasant vacation.

snuggle To hold close; to lie close.

Chicks snuggle under their mothers' wings for warmth and protection.

nestle To lie close and snug; to settle comfortable.

After supper he likes to <u>nestle</u> down in his armchair and watch television.

vegetable A plant or its parts eaten raw or cooked.

Lettuce is a leafy <u>vegetable</u> often eaten in salads.

opposite Facing; across from; moving the other way.

The two cars were traveling in opposite directions when they collided head-on.

battery A device that produces electricity by chemical reaction.

My flashlight needs a new battery.

appetite Desire for food.

You'll spoil your appetite if you eat candy before dinner.

reel a. To pull by

a. To pull by winding up a spool of line.

You can <u>reel</u> in the fish and then scoop it with the net.

b. To spin or seem to spin around; to stagger away.

The dips and turns of the roller coaster made my head reel.

yield

a. To produce; to bring in.

This investment will <u>yield</u> a large profit.

b. To give over; to give up; to give in.

Drivers making left turns must yield the right of way.

triple To make three times as much or as many.

He was able to triple his income after starting his own business.

dough A soft mixture of flour and other ingredients used to bake bread or

pastries.

She rolled the dough and cut it for cookies.

chisel A tool with a sharp edge at one end of cutting and shaping wood or stone.

I cut a groove in the wood with a chisel.

slogan A word or a phrase used as a motto.

"Buckle up for safety" is a slogan aimed at all motorists.

illegal Not allowed by law.

It's illegal to carry a gun without a permit.

vise A device having two jaws, used for holding and clamping.

Jack put the steel rod in a vise and cut it with a hacksaw.

jersey A soft knitted cloth; a shirt or a sweater made of this cloth.

His football jersey has the number 12 on the front and the back.

galloping Riding a horse at the fastest gait; moving at the fastest gait.

We heard the hoof beats of galloping horses.

cashier A person who receives or pays out money in a store or in a bank.

The <u>cashier</u> took the money and gave me a receipt.

bristle To raise the hair stiffly; to show anger.

Dogs bristle and growl when they fight.

antenna A set of wires or rods used in sending or receiving electric signals.

Your radio will sound better if you pull its antenna out.

canvas A coarse, heavy cloth used for many purposes such as making tents and

sails.

My tennis shoes have white canvas uppers.

echoing Sending back a sound.

Our footsteps went echoing down the empty hall.

gadget A small mechanical device.

The can opener is a handy gadget.

ordinary Usual; common; not special.

It was another ordinary day; nothing special happened.

chipmunk A small striped animal that looks like a squirrel.

The <u>chipmunk</u> scurried away, carrying nuts in its cheek pouches.

cellar An underground room often used for storage.

The farmer stored apples in his <u>cellar</u> to keep them all winter.

booty Goods taken by robbers or pirates; goods taken from an enemy in war.

The pirates searched the merchant ship for booty.

volume a. A quantity; an amount.

That tank holds a large volume of water.

b. The force of intensity of a sound; loudness. "Please turn up the volume on the stereo."

expel To put out; to force out.

We will expel him from our club if he breaks another rule.

cavalry Soldiers trained to fight on horseback.

The cavalry galloped into battle.

saloon A bar; a tavern.

The cowboy went into the saloon to have a drink.

coffin A box for burying a dead person.

Flowers covered her coffin at the funeral.

hatred Intense dislike; hate.

The Indians felt <u>hatred</u> toward the white settlers who drove them out of their land.

topple To fall; to tumble; to overturn.

"If you push the bookcase, it will topple over.

errand A short trip to do something.

Mary went on an errand to mail a letter.

casket a. A small box or chest.

She keeps her jewelry in a <u>casket</u>.

b. A coffin.

He was buried in a wooden casket.

glossary A list of hard or special words with their meanings explained.

If you don't know the word, look it up in the glossary at the back of the book.

basin A shallow bowl for holding water or other liquids.

Mother filled the wash basin with warm water.

nuzzle To rub gently with the nose.

Little puppies <u>nuzzle</u> their mother's side for milk.

muzzle A set of straps or wires put over an animal's mouth to kept it from biting or eating.

We put a <u>muzzle</u> on our German Shepherd when we took it for a walk in the park.

easel A stand for holding a picture, a chart, or a chalkboard.

The artist put his canvas on the easel and began to paint.

marine Of the sea.

The whale is a large marine animal.

intention Something intended; a purpose.

"I had no intention of hurting your feelings."

absurd Very silly; unreasonable.

It's absurd to wear a Sunday suit in a Halloween parade.

blitz A sudden, intense attack.

The defense put on a blitz and sacked the quarterback.

decent Proper; adequate; fair.

Cinderella had no decent clothes to wear to the ball.

griddle A heavy metal plate used for cooking.

She flipped pancakes on the griddle.

gnaw To bite, chew, or wear away bit by bit.

Dogs love to gnaw bones.

bulletin A brief report, news, or announcement.

Everyone gathered at the bulletin board when the teacher posted the exam grades.

whoop A loud shout.

Larry gave a whoop of joy when he won the chess game.

awful Very bad; frightful; ugly.

Tom's hair looks awful; he needs a haircut.

imagine To picture in the mind; to guess.

"Can you imagine how frightened he was when he saw the ghost?"

burial The placing of a body in a grave.

They carried the coffin to the grave for burial.

accuse To charge with wrongdoing.

"Don't accuse me of taking your book; I didn't do it."

quizzed Gave a short test; asked questions.

The teacher <u>quizzed</u> the class on yesterday's homework.

mallet A hammer with a wooden or rubber head.

Jerry drove the tent stakes into the ground with a mallet.

canopy A covering that looks like a tent or a roof.

We ate dinner under a <u>canopy</u> set up next to our tent.

brawl A noisy quarrel or fight.

The players had a brawl after the game.

awning A roof like cover spread over a window or a door.

The awning over the window shades the living room from the scorching

sun.

hoeing Loosening the soil around plants and digging up weeds with a hoe.

He spent the afternoon hoeing the garden.

altitude The height above sea level.

The airplane was flying at an altitude of 20,000 feet.

facility

a. Ease; skill

Mary speaks English and Spanish with equal facility.

b. Something built to serve a particular need.

The computer facility at the bank was expanded to serve more customers.

tragedy

A sad happening; a play or a story with a sad ending. The plane crash was a <u>tragedy</u> that claimed many lives.

admission

The right to enter; the act of allowing to enter. He applied for <u>admission</u> to several colleges.

bison

An ox like animal commonly called buffalo.

The bison has a shaggy mane, a large hump, and short horns.

truly

Sincerely; really; truthfully.

Business letters often end, "Yours truly".

ballot

A piece of paper used in voting; a voting ticket. I marked my <u>ballot</u> and dropped it into the box.

measles

A contagious disease that causes fever and a rash of small red spots. When Tim had the <u>measles</u>, he had red spots all over his skin.

cruiser

A police patrol car.

Two policemen in a cruiser patrolled the neighborhood looking for the robber.

filly

A young female horse.

That filly won the Kentucky Derby.

survey

A detailed study to gather information.

The survey shows that this television program is very popular among

teenagers.

mildew

A kind of fungus that forms a white or grayish coating on things left in

a damp place.

Mildew covered the books kept in the damp basement.

famine

A severe shortage of food.

Thousands of people starved to death during the famine.

divine

Of God; given by God.

Trusting in divine guidance, the Pilgrims sailed to an unknown land.

dinosaur

One of a group of large reptiles that lived millions of years ago.

The dinosaur had a long neck and tapering tail.

suspense Uncertainty or anxiousness about what will happen.

The story kept me in suspense until the very end.

artery A blood vessel from the heart to other parts of the body.

He bled heavily after a bullet pierced an artery in his leg.

sensible Having good sense; having good judgment.

"Be sensible and take an umbrella because it's going to rain."

cobbler A person who repairs or makes shoes.

The <u>cobbler</u> put new heels on my shoes.

numeral A word or a symbol that stands for a number.

The Roman numeral X stands for ten.

bustle To hurry noisily or excitedly; a noisy or excited activity.

Bellhops <u>bustle</u> about the crowded hotel lobby, carrying bags for guests.

grudge Anger or resentment held for a long time.

The gunman held a grudge against the sheriff who had shot and killed his partner five

years ago.

territory A large area; a region.

The pilot flew over enemy territory on a scouting mission.

forbid To order not to do something.

"I forbid you to go out until you finish your homework.

devour To eat greedily.

Hungry boys always devour their lunch.

career An occupation; a profession.

Kevin chose the Army for his <u>career</u>, hoping to someday become a general.

vessel a. A tube carrying blood or other fluid in the body.

The artery is a blood vessel.

b. A container for liquid.

"Boil the spaghetti in a large vessel."

glacier A large field of ice, formed from packed snow that moves slowly down a

mountainside.

When a glacier reaches the sea, it breaks off into icebergs.

luggage Bags or suitcases taken on a trip.

Diane checked her <u>luggage</u> before boarding the airplane.

astronaut A person trained to travel in a spaceship.

Neil Armstrong was the first astronaut to land on the moon.

video The picture part of television.

The TV station lost the video, but the audio was fine.

denim A heavy cotton cloth.

Blue jeans are made of denim.

halo A ring of light seen around the sun or the moon.

A <u>halo</u> around the moon often foretells bad weather.

propel To cause to move ahead; to push forward.

The astronaut fired a rocket to propel the spaceship into orbit.

caravan A group of people traveling together on a long journey.

A <u>caravan</u> of merchants riding camels journeyed across the desert.

ravine A deep, narrow valley.

The ravine was flooded with muddy water after the storm.

athlete A person trained in sports.

Mike is a great athlete; he does well in all sports.

scrawny Lean; skinny; thin.

The scrawny old horse's ribs almost came through his skin.

barracks A building or a group of buildings for housing soldiers.

The soldiers returned to the barracks to sleep.

maroon a. Dark reddish brown.

My hands were stained maroon from pitting cherries.

b. To leave a person alone and helpless in an isolated place.

The pirates planned to <u>maroon</u> their prisoners on the deserted island.

A poor piece of work; work done clumsily or carelessly.

The mechanic made a botch of the repair job and had to fix it again.

belch To throw out violently; to discharge gas from the stomach.

Volcanoes belch smoke and ashes.

welfare Well-being; happiness and health.

The ship's captain is responsible for his crew's safety and welfare.

hiccups or Sudden, sharp noises made in the throat when the breathing muscles

hiccoughs do not work properly.

I couldn't stop my hiccups (hiccoughs).

fizz To make a hissing or bubbling sound.

Ginger ale will fizz if you pour it on ice.

skeleton The bony framework of the body.

They wired the bones of the dinosaur into a skeleton.

warrant A written court order.

The police had a warrant to search the suspect's house.

petroleum A dark-colored oil found in the earth.

Gasoline is made of refined petroleum.

missionary A person sent to teach his or her religion in a foreign country.

That Indian woman learned to read the Bible from an American

missionary.

wallow To roll about, as in deep mud.

Pigs like to wallow in mud.

duel A fight or a contest between two persons or parties.

The opposing lawyers got into a verbal <u>duel</u> in the courtroom.

apricot A juicy, orange-colored fruit that looks like a small peach.

This peach is so small it looks like an apricot.

kerosene or A thin oil made from petroleum.

kerosine The campers cooked their supper on a kerosene (kerosine) stove.

visible Capable of being seen.

Many distant stars are visible through a powerful telescope.

hurricane A severe tropical storm.

The hurricane destroyed homes and flooded streets along the Florida coast.

bonanza Something that suddenly produces great wealth or benefit; a rich mine.

Mr. Gillette struck a bonanza when he invented the safety razor.

platoon A body of soldiers; a small group of persons.

A platoon of soldiers marched behind the band in the parade.

horrid Frightful; terrible; very ugly or unpleasant.

I couldn't stand that horrid monster in the movie.

fulfill or

To satisfy; to carry out.

fulfil

Anyone wishing to enter the contest must fulfill (fulfil) all requirements

and pay the fee.

holster

A pistol case worn on a belt.

The cowboy drew a gun from his holster.

fossil

The remains of an animal or plant that lived long ago.

The scientists found a dinosaur fossil millions of years old.

contour

The outline of a figure, a coast, a mountain, or other objects.

The contour of Italy is shaped like a boot.

freakish

Unusual; odd.

The <u>freakish</u> June frost killed our young tomato plants.

cinders

Ashes; small pieces of partly burned wood or coal.

The logs burned out, leaving gray cinders in the fireplace.

paneling

Sheets of wood or other material used to cover a wall or other surface.

Their family room has oak paneling on the walls.

frankfurter

A wiener; a reddish sausage.

The hot dog is a <u>frankfurter</u> served in a long split roll.

hermit

A person who lives alone and away from others especially for religious

reasons.

The hermit lived alone in a cave so he could meditate day and night.

macaroni

A food made of flour paste formed in the shape of hollow tubes.

Mother cooked macaroni and cheese for lunch.

majestic

Stately; impressive; noble; grand.

The majestic mountains rose in the distance.

axle

A bar on which wheels turn.

The wheels on the rear <u>axle</u> of his car have snow tires mounted on them.

helicopter

An aircraft with propellers on top, capable of flying straight up and down.

A <u>helicopter</u> circled overhead making a chop-chop-chop sound.

gorilla

A very large ape of Africa.

The gorilla is the strongest of the apes.

hustle

To move or act quickly; to hurry.

You'd better hustle if you want to catch the bus.

veteran A person who has had many years of experience; a person who has been

in military service.

The old sergeant was a veteran of three wars.

probably Very likely; almost certainly.

The weatherman says it will probably rain today.

blockade The closing off of an area to keep people or supplies from getting in or

out.

Navy ships set up a blockade around the enemy harbor so that no other

ships could get in.

millionaire A very rich person worth more than a million dollars.

His invention made him a millionaire.