



Lesson 4

Word List

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

adage

ad'ij

n. An old saying that has come to be accepted as true; a proverb.
Preparing to move again, I comforted myself with the **adage** "A rolling stone gathers no moss."

camaraderie

kām'ə rād'ər ē

n. Good will and warm feelings among friends.
A spirit of **camaraderie** filled the room where the group gathered for its high-school reunion.

contend

kən tend'

v. 1. To struggle with.
Mail carriers sometimes have to **contend** with bothersome dogs.
2. To maintain or assert.
Opponents of nuclear power plants **contend** that the risk of a malfunction in one is too great.

contention *n.* 1. A conflict or struggle.
Miwa and Jessie are in **contention** for first place on the honor roll.

2. A point made in an argument.
It is my **contention** that the ghost you claim to have seen was merely a shadow on the wall.

extraneous

ek strā' nē əs

adj. Not necessary; irrelevant.
When you revise your written instructions, eliminate any **extraneous** details.

hubbub

hu' bub

n. Noisy confusion; uproar.
Fans thronged onto the field in a **hubbub** of excitement when the Boston Red Sox won the pennant.

meander

mē an' dər

v. 1. To follow a winding course.
The Mississippi River **meanders** from northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico.
2. To wander aimlessly.
Shoppers at the sidewalk sale **meandered** through the street looking for bargains.

odoriferous

ō dər if' ə r əs

adj. Having or giving off a smell.
Odoriferous fumes spewed from the truck's exhaust.

paraphernalia

pər ə fər nāl' yə

n. 1. Personal belongings.
We accumulated so much **paraphernalia** that the closets couldn't hold it all.
2. Equipment associated with a particular activity.
We keep our riding **paraphernalia** in the barn.

punctilious punk'til-ē-əs	<i>adj.</i> Careful of and attentive to details, especially ones relating to good manners and behavior. A punctilious host tries to leave nothing to chance when preparing for guests.
recuperate rē-kūp-er-āt	<i>v.</i> To regain health or strength. Her surgeon expects Amanda to recuperate quickly.
regale rē-gāl	<i>v.</i> To entertain or delight. Charlie regaled the guests with his funny stories.
sedentary sed-ən-ter-ē	<i>adj.</i> Doing or requiring a lot of sitting. Operating a computer is sedentary work.
Spartan spärt-ən	<i>adj.</i> Marked by simplicity and lack of luxury. The Marine sergeant described the Spartan way of life at the recruits' training camp.
temporal tem-pər-əl	<i>adj.</i> Relating to the everyday world as opposed to that which is spiritual or eternal. Medieval kings were the temporal rulers of their states, but in religious matters they accepted the Pope's authority.

wry rī	<i>adj.</i> 1. Turned or bent to one side in distaste or humor. He gave a wry smile as he admitted believing such a far-fetched tale. 2. Amusing in a quiet but sharp way. The poem's wry wit made me smile inwardly.
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4A

Understanding Meanings

Read the sentences. If a sentence correctly uses the word in bold, write C on the line. If the sentence is incorrect, rewrite it so that the vocabulary word in bold is used correctly.

- To **meander** is to move directly from one place to another.