

CHAPTER
10th

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| connoisseur | lucid |
| conspiracy | plight |
| contrite | superficially |
| distraught | symmetrical |
| germane | verbose |

Name: _____
Per. _____

Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

- 1 **connoisseur**
(kɒn'ə-sûr')
-noun
___ *Connoisseur* means
- My sister is a **connoisseur** of Southern novels. She's read dozens of them, and she knows all about the authors and their different styles.
 - Curtis has broad knowledge of French wines—where they are made, when they are at their best, and exactly how each one tastes. He's a true **connoisseur**.
- a. a doubter. b. an authority. c. a leader.
- 2 **conspiracy**
(kən-spīr'ə-sē)
-noun
___ *Conspiracy* means
- The **conspiracy** to overthrow the government was started by two of the premier's own advisors.
 - Although only Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested for the assassination of President Kennedy, many believe there was a **conspiracy** to kill the President.
- a. a plot. b. an idea. c. an announcement.
- 3 **contrite**
(kən-trīt')
-adjective
___ *Contrite* means
- Dolores was especially **contrite** about tearing her sister's dress because she'd borrowed it without permission.
 - Judges are often more lenient with offenders who truly regret their crimes. A criminal who seems genuinely **contrite** may get a shorter sentence.
- a. angry. b. confused. c. sorry.
- 4 **distraught**
(dī-strōt')
-adjective
___ *Distraught* means
- The parents of the little girl who wandered off in the crowded mall were **distraught** until she was found.
 - As the snowstorm got worse and worse and his wife still hadn't arrived home from work, Jeff became increasingly **distraught**.
- a. anxious. b. busy. c. forgetful.
- 5 **germane**
(jər-mān')
-adjective
___ *Germane* means
- Stacy went to the law library to look up information that might be **germane** to her client's case.
 - It bothered Christine when her new boss asked if she had a boyfriend. That information certainly wasn't **germane** to her work.
- a. damaging. b. related. c. foreign.
- 6 **lucid**
(loo'sīd)
-adjective
___ *Lucid* means
- I usually find computer manuals horribly unclear, but this one is **lucid**.
 - The scientist's explanation of the greenhouse effect was so **lucid** that the entire audience was able to grasp it.
- a. easy to understand. b. repetitious. c. fair to both sides.

- 7 **plight**
(plīt')
-noun
___ *Plight* means
- The **plight** of the homeless can be somewhat relieved by decent shelters.
 - There were reports of a cave-in at the mine, but it was too soon to know much about the **plight** of the trapped miners.
- a. a delayed situation. b. an unlikely situation. c. an unfortunate situation.
- 8 **superficially**
(sōō'pər-fīsh'əl-lē)
-adverb
___ *Superficially* means
- Leah spent a full week studying for the exam. Joyce, however, reviewed **superficially**, flipping through the pages of her textbook an hour before the test.
 - This morning, the mechanic was short of time and inspected my car only **superficially**. He said he'd check it thoroughly later and then give me an estimate.
- a. thoroughly. b. slightly. c. daily.
- 9 **symmetrical**
(sī-mē'trī-kəl)
-adjective
___ *Symmetrical* means
- The children's sandcastle was **symmetrical**, with a wall on each side and a tower and flag at each end.
 - No one's face is perfectly **symmetrical**. For example, one eye is usually slightly higher than the other, and the left and right sides of the mouth differ.
- a. unique. b. beautiful. c. balanced.
- 10 **verbose**
(vər-bōs')
-adjective
___ *Verbose* means
- The **verbose** senator said, "At this point in time, we have an urgent and important need for more monetary funds to declare unconditional war on drugs and combat this evil and harmful situation." The reporter wrote, "The senator said we urgently need more money to fight drugs."
 - Gabe is the most **verbose** person I know. He always uses ten words when one would do.
- a. loud. b. wordy. c. self-important.

Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. _____ Very troubled; distressed
2. _____ Using or containing too many words
3. _____ In an on-the-surface manner; not thoroughly
4. _____ Having to do with the issue at hand; relevant
5. _____ Clearly expressed; easily understood
6. _____ Truly sorry for having done wrong; repentant
7. _____ Well proportioned; balanced; the same on both sides
8. _____ An expert in fine art or in matters of taste
9. _____ A situation marked by difficulty, hardship, or misfortune
10. _____ A secret plot by two or more people, especially for a harmful or illegal purpose

CAUTION: Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.

➤ Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|------------|
| a. connoisseur | b. conspiracy | c. contrite | d. distraught | e. germane |
| f. lucid | g. plight | h. superficially | i. symmetrical | j. verbose |

- _____ 1. Claire was truly sorry for having started the argument with Sal. To show how ___ she felt, she sent him a special note of apology.
- _____ 2. Everyone is greatly concerned about the ___ of the hostages. We're not even certain they're still alive.
- _____ 3. The garden is ___, with the same flowers and shrubs, arranged in the same pattern, on each side of a central path.
- _____ 4. A ___ of Asian art told me that my Chinese vase is very old, quite rare, and valuable.
- _____ 5. In writing, it is actually easier to be ___ than to make the effort to cut out the unnecessary words.
- _____ 6. During the Revolutionary War, Benedict Arnold, an American officer, was involved in a ___ to help the British win.
- _____ 7. The teacher and the other students became irritated when Susan kept asking questions that weren't ___ to the class discussion.
- _____ 8. My parents had expected my sister home by ten o'clock. By the time she finally walked in at two in the morning, they were very ___.
- _____ 9. Ved's teacher was so pleased with his clear explanation of a difficult theory that she wrote on his paper, "Wonderfully ___!"
- _____ 10. Whenever Kim tries to buy a new dress, her husband is only ___ interested. If she shows him one and asks his opinion, all he says is, "It's fine. Let's buy it and get out of here."

NOTE: Now check your answers to these questions by turning to page 130. Going over the answers carefully will help you prepare for the next two practices, for which answers are not given.

➤ Sentence Check 2

Using the answer lines provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- _____ 1-2. In the novel *Rosemary's Baby*, Rosemary becomes more and more ___ as she realizes that her husband and friends are involved in a ___ against her.
- _____ 3-4. Ms. Lewis is a ___ of Native American crafts. She can identify the tribe of the artist after examining a necklace or piece of pottery only ___.

- _____ 5–6. The drunk driver is ____ about causing the accident, but his regret won't give Marsha solace° or ease her _____. She is permanently disabled.
- _____ 7–8. The professor said, “It seems ____ to our discussion of the Age of Reason to mention that ____ architecture was typical. Balance was valued—both in art and in the individual.”
- _____ 9–10. Using too many superfluous° words can make something more difficult to understand. Thus if the essay had not been so _____, it would have been more _____.

► **Final Check: The Missing Painting**

Here is a final opportunity for you to strengthen your knowledge of the ten words. First read the following selection carefully. Then fill in each blank with a word from the box at the top of the previous page. (Context clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank.) Use each word once.

It wasn't until noon that Daniel Cobb noticed the painting was missing. He immediately became (1)_____. As a (2)_____ of art, he was well aware of the enormous value of the painting—and this was a grievous° loss. He was so upset that when he phoned the police, he could not think or talk clearly enough to give a (3)_____ description of his unfortunate (4)_____. Instead, he found himself rambling so much that he was afraid the police would think he was just a (5)_____ old fool.

Nevertheless, the police soon arrived at Cobb's home, which was magnificent—a fine old mansion in a (6)_____ style, with a row of columns on each side of the front door. Leading the police to the room from which the painting had been taken, Cobb began to explain. “Last night,” he said, “my wife and I gave a dinner party for art experts. We showed them our entire collection. I remember that they gave the missing painting special attention. At least, a few of them seemed to look at it more than just (7)_____. I can only assume that we are the victims of a (8)_____. Our guests must have plotted to sneak into the house during the night and take the painting.”

As Cobb finished speaking, his wife entered the room, having just returned from town. She was clearly alarmed by the presence of the police. After Cobb quickly explained, however, she started to laugh. “Today's Monday,” she finally said.

“I hardly see how that's (9)_____ to our problem!” her husband responded.

“Remember, we told the Leeworth Art Association it could exhibit the painting today, for its annual show. That's where I've been. I brought the painting there early this morning.”

Cobb looked embarrassed but relieved that his guests had been exonerated° by his wife's story. “Accept my sincere apology for having bothered you. I am most (10)_____,” he said to the police officers. “Please stay and have some lunch.”

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| Scores | Sentence Check 2 _____ % | Final Check _____ % |
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Enter your scores above and in the vocabulary performance chart on the inside back cover of the book.

CHAPTER
10_R

Name: _____
per.: _____

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|------------|-----------|
| alleviate | infamous |
| benefactor | intrinsic |
| covert | revulsion |
| cynic | speculate |
| demise | virile |

Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

- 1 **alleviate**
(ə-lē'vē-āt')
-verb
___ *Alleviate* means
- To **alleviate** his loneliness, the widower moved closer to his daughter and her family.
 - After a long game in the August heat, the young baseball players **alleviated** their thirst with ice-cold lemonade.
- a. to consider. b. to hide. c. to ease.
- 2 **benefactor**
(bĕn'ə-fāk'tər)
-noun
___ *Benefactor* means
- The Second Street Bank is a long-time **benefactor** of the arts. This year it will sponsor a series of free jazz concerts in the parks.
 - The wealthy **benefactor** who paid for the child's operation prefers to remain anonymous.
- a. a financial supporter. b. a social critic. c. a cooperative person.
- 3 **covert**
(kūv'ərt)
-adjective
___ *Covert* means
- Miriam and David's relationship is so **covert** that they never eat out. Even their best friends don't know they are seeing each other.
 - If you enjoy **covert** activities, become a secret agent.
- a. obvious. b. concealed. c. easy to bear.
- 4 **cynic**
(sīn'īk)
-noun
___ *Cynic* means
- Her parents' nasty divorce has made Libby a **cynic** about marriage.
 - Mr. Bryant was a **cynic** about people until he fell down on a street corner and several strangers rushed to his aid.
- a. someone who believes the worst. b. someone who gives help. c. someone with a bad reputation.
- 5 **demise**
(dī-mīz')
-noun
___ *Demise* means
- During my years in grade school and high school, the untimely **demise** of several of my classmates made me very aware of my mortality.
 - In 1567, a beard caused a man's **demise**. Hans Steininger's beard was so long that he stepped on it while climbing a staircase, lost his balance, fell down the steps, and died.
- a. popularity. b. a secret. c. dying.
- 6 **infamous**
(īn'fə-məs)
-adjective
___ *Infamous* means
- King Henry VIII of England was **infamous** throughout Europe for executing two of his six wives.
 - Visitors to the dungeons of ancient castles always want to see the instruments of torture, including the **infamous** Iron Maiden—a body-shaped box with spikes inside.
- a. known unfavorably. b. thought to be annoying. c. giving hope.

➤ Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| a. alleviate | b. benefactor | c. covert | d. cynic | e. demise |
| f. infamous | g. intrinsic | h. revulsion | i. speculate | j. virile |

- _____ 1. Problems are ___ to life; they're unavoidable.
- _____ 2. My hunger isn't fully satisfied, but the apple ___(e)d it somewhat.
- _____ 3. Teenage guys usually welcome a deepening voice and a thickening beard as signs that they are becoming more___.
- _____ 4. The selfless work of the nuns in the slums of India is enough to touch the hearts of most hardened ___s.
- _____ 5. Though she was tried and found not guilty, Lizzie Borden is still ___ for killing her parents with a hatchet.
- _____ 6. The children loved the ___ activities involved in preparing their mother's surprise party.
- _____ 7. The mass murderer's neighbors were overcome with ___ when they learned what their "friend" had been doing in his basement.
- _____ 8. "As no group has claimed responsibility, we can only ___ on the motives for the bombing," said the newscaster.
- _____ 9. Roger Novak had been a well-known ___ of AIDS research, so it was no surprise that he left a lot of money for the research in his will.
- _____ 10. It's a good idea for married couples to discuss their funeral plans in case of each other's ___. For example, do they wish to be buried or cremated?

NOTE: Now check your answers to these questions by turning to page 130. Going over the answers carefully will help you prepare for the next two practices, for which answers are not given.

➤ Sentence Check 2

Using the answer lines provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

- _____ 1-2. Nursing is a good career for Dee because it's a(n) ___ part of her personality to try to ___ people's pain. In addition, since she is physically and mentally strong, she will be able to handle the rigors° of nursing, such as intense stress and long hours.
- _____ 3-4. Although everything about the Nazis filled the Dutch spy with ___, his ___ assignment was to make friends with top Nazi scientists. He had few qualms° about faking such friendships—he would have felt more guilty if he hadn't done everything in his power to fight the Nazis.

- _____ 5-6. The _____s in town said that Joyce Lester's sorrow over her husband's _____ was much less than her joy in getting the money from his insurance policy.
- _____ 7-8. Young men who are bullies usually think of themselves as _____, but a _____ of the weak is far more manly than someone who takes advantage of weakness.
- _____ 9-10. With all the stories told about Jesse James, the Dalton Gang, and other _____ figures of the Wild West, we can only _____ as to how much is fact and how much is fiction.

► **Final Check: The Mad Monk**

Here is a final opportunity for you to strengthen your knowledge of the ten words. First read the following selection carefully. Then fill in each blank with a word from the box at the top of the previous page. (Context clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank.) Use each word once.

Shortly before the Russian Revolution, an eccentric^o man named Rasputin became (1)_____ as the "mad monk." Because he dressed like a peasant, drank heavily, and rarely bathed, the nobility often felt (2)_____ during their encounters^o with him at the palace.

Yet despite his outward appearance, Rasputin possessed a(n) (3)_____ charm that drew many to him, including the Russian empress. She thought him a great man of God and a special (4)_____ of her seriously ill son, whose condition she felt Rasputin (5)_____ (e)d.

Many (6)_____s believed otherwise. To them, Rasputin was no healer; instead, he was a man who exploited^o his relationship with the empress for his own benefit. Rather than praise Rasputin, his enemies preferred to malign^o him. In a pamphlet titled *The Holy Devil*, one of his critics described Rasputin as a sinister^o man. This author even dared to (7)_____ that the monk and the empress were romantically involved. This theory was strengthened by the fact that the empress's "holy man" pursued many women and boasted about how (8)_____ he was.

Finally, a group of Russian noblemen made (9)_____ plans to kill Rasputin. Somehow, the secret must have gotten out, for a Russian official warned Rasputin of a plot against him. He nevertheless accepted the noblemen's invitation to a dinner party, where they served him poisoned wine and cake. When Rasputin did not appear to succumb^o to the poison, his enemies hastened his (10)_____ by shooting and stabbing him and then dumping him into an icy river. An autopsy revealed that he had died by drowning.

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| Scores | Sentence Check-2 _____ % | Final Check _____ % |
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Enter your scores above and in the vocabulary performance chart on the inside back cover of the book.