

## LESSON 3

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### Target words

1. <b>apathy</b>	6. <b>pathetic</b>
2. <b>chronic</b>	7. <b>remorseful</b>
3. <b>epilogue</b>	8. <b>superfluous</b>
4. <b>inevitable</b>	9. <b>tenacity</b>
5. <b>nepotism</b>	10. <b>veracity</b>

**2. APATHY (N.):** You can use **apathy** to talk about someone's state of mind if you are criticizing them because they do not seem to be interested in or enthusiastic about anything

- Teachers who delight in what they teach are deeply disappointed when students display *apathy* for the subject.
- I thought Meredith would be eager to talk about her new job, but she showed complete *apathy* when asked her about it.

SYNONYMS: indifference; nonchalance

**9. CHRONIC (ADJ.):** A problem or behavior, etc that is **chronic** lasts for a long time

- Jamie reluctantly gave up basketball because of *chronic* knee problems that had plagued her since her sophomore year.
- The doctor said the *chronic* headache Andrew had suffered from all winter was caused by a sinus infection.

SYNONYMS: constant; continuous

**7. EPILOGUE (N.):** An **epilogue** is a passage or speech which is added to the end of a book or play as a conclusion.

- The author added a short *epilogue* to the book explaining what eventually happened to the young boy featured in the story.
- The final act's *epilogue* listed the events that had motivated the writing of the play.

SYNONYMS: conclusion; coda

**1. INEVITABLE (ADJ.):** Something that is inevitable can be avoided

- After dating each other throughout high school and college, it seemed *inevitable* that they would get married.
- It was inevitable that the snow would melt after the temperature reached 50 degrees.

SYNONYMS: unavoidable; inescapable

**8. NEPOTISM (N.):** **Nepotism** is the unfair use of power in order to get jobs or other benefits for your family or friends

- Many people accused the mayor of *nepotism* after she appointed her brother-in-law to be chief of the fire department.
- Mr. Healey was obviously guilty of *nepotism* when he promoted his twenty-two-year-old son to district manager: many other employees were better qualified for the position.

SYNONYMS: favoritism; cronyism

**5. PATHETIC (ADJ.):** If you describe a person or animal as **pathetic**, you mean that they are sad and weak or helpless, and they make you feel very sorry for them

- When I saw the *pathetic* homeless man shivering in the cold, I gave him my coat.
- Tom appeared *pathetic* as he watched his ex-wife marry his best friend.

SYNONYMS: pitiful; moving

**10. REMORSEFUL (ADJ.)**

- Show how *remorseful* you are by writing an apology letter.
- If you were *remorseful*, you would have said "I'm sorry" by now.

SYNONYMS: regretful; contrite

**3. SUPERFLUOUS (ADJ.)**

- Buying Vanessa a sweater would be *superfluous*, as she already has at least a dozen.
- Please don't ask him what happened—he goes into such *superfluous* detail.

SYNONYMS: redundant; surplus

**4. TENACITY (N.):** If you have *tenacity*, you are very determined and do not give up easily

- Jake's *tenacity* allowed him to excel in college while working two jobs.
- Talent, hard work and sheer *tenacity* are all crucial to career success.

SYNONYMS: determination; resolution

**6. VERACITY (N.)**

- Chad's reputation was such that no one doubted the *veracity* of his story.
- An early biographer of George Washington claimed that Washington once threw a silver dollar across the Potomac River, but most historians question the *veracity* of that story.

SYNONYMS: integrity; rectitude

## EXERCISE 1

Match the words under Column A with the definitions under Column B.

### COLUMN A

1. apathy
2. chronic
3. epilogue
4. inevitable
5. nepotism
6. pathetic
7. remorseful
8. superfluous
9. tenacity
10. veracity

### COLUMN B

- A. the quality of being true
- B. the act of using your power or influence to get good jobs or unfair advantages for members of your own family
- C. continuing for a long time
- D. behavior that shows no interest or energy and shows that someone is unwilling to take action
- E. arousing pity, especially through vulnerability or sadness.
- F. a speech, etc. at the end of a play, book, or film/movie that comments on or acts as a conclusion to what has happened
- G. feeling sorry for something wrong you have done
- H. certain to happen and unable to be avoided or prevented
- I. the quality of trying to do something even when it is difficult
- J. more than is needed or wanted

## EXERCISE 2

Complete each sentence by filling in the blank with the best word from the list. Make changes if necessary.

apathy	chronic	epilogue	inevitable	nepotism
pathetic	remorseful	superfluous	tenacity	veracity

1. Most people don't enjoy being around a(n) ..... complainer; hearing constant complaining is tiresome and depressing.
2. Old photos and letters added ..... to his claim that he had served in the Navy.
3. The guilty verdict was..... because of the overwhelming evidence presented against the accused.
4. Hannah's .....was obvious during class, as she often sighed and yawned during the teacher's lecture and wasn't interested in participating in the small-group discussions.
5. My mother works at a florist shop, so it would be rather .....to send her flowers for her birthday.
6. The doctor said it was only Mark's tenacity that allowed him to walk again after the crippling accident.
7. The author of this biography about Benjamin Franklin includes an interesting ..... after the last chapter detailing what became of many of Franklin's descendants.
8. .... for his actions, he pledged to be considerate and show the utmost respect for the elderly at all times.
9. Some fans believe the coach is guilty of ..... because he recently inserted his daughter into the starting lineup; however, she is clearly one of the better players on the team.
10. Without ....., you will not be able to complete the marathon.

### EXERCISE 3

Circle the unrelated word in each set.

- |                       |            |               |              |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. <b>apathy</b>      | tenacity   | nonchalance   | indifference |
| 2. <b>chronic</b>     | continuous | superfluous   | constant     |
| 3. <b>epilogue</b>    | conclusion | determination | coda         |
| 4. <b>inevitable</b>  | pathetic   | inescapable   | unavoidable  |
| 5. <b>nepotism</b>    | favoritism | cronyism      | resolution   |
| 6. <b>pathetic</b>    | pitiful    | moving        | inevitable   |
| 7. <b>remorseful</b>  | regretful  | redundant     | contrite     |
| 8. <b>superfluous</b> | surplus    | unavoidable   | chronic      |
| 9. <b>tenacity</b>    | resolution | determination | apathy       |
| 10. <b>veracity</b>   | rectitude  | nonchalance   | integrity    |

## Word Building via Affixes

Consider the following.

1. anti /ant (against, opposite)	antipathy	antagonism	antithesis	antidote
2. ante ( before)	antecedent	antediluvian	antiquity	anticipate
3. auto (self)	automaton	autonomous	autocracy	autobiography
4. circum ( around)	circumference	circumspect	circumscribe	circumvent
5. inter (between, among)	intervene	interject	interval	intermediary

### EXERCISE 5

Select the appropriate word from the list above to fill in the gap in the following sentences. Use each word **ONLY ONCE**.

1. The teenagers expressed their \_\_\_\_\_ for the school by vandalizing the gym.
2. With the help of an \_\_\_\_\_, the two rulers were able to solve their border dispute.
3. The mental rigor required by the practice of music effectively acted as an \_\_\_\_\_ to aging, keeping their nervous systems youthful.
4. If Gina looked in a few fashion magazines, she would realize her hairstyle is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ one that went out of style in the 1970s.
5. He treated us as \_\_\_\_\_ individuals who had to learn to make up our own minds about important issues.
6. The head of the country abolished parliament so he could establish a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ and rule without restriction.
7. In the future, we must be \_\_\_\_\_ of those who offer us riches for nothing in return.
8. As soon as the dictator got into power, he immediately began to \_\_\_\_\_ the rights of the people.
9. During the \_\_\_\_\_ between arriving at the airport and boarding the plane, we'll probably do a bit of window shopping.
10. During his sermon, the minister asked his clergy members to practice the \_\_\_\_\_ of hate and love even their worst enemies.

## ROUND-UP EXERCISE

Choose the right answer to each question.

1. Joe spoke of \_\_\_\_\_ and vital matters with exactly the same degree of intensity, as though for him serious issues mattered neither more nor less than did trivialities.
  - A. autonomous
  - B. antediluvian
  - C. superfluous
  - D. unavoidable
2. He had expected gratitude for his disclosure, but instead he encountered \_\_\_\_\_ bordering on hostility.
  - A. indifference
  - B. resolution
  - C. antiquity
  - D. autocracy
3. Her first concert appearance was disappointingly perfunctory and derivative rather than the inspired performance in the innovative style we had \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. circumscribed
  - B. anticipated
  - C. circumvented
  - D. interjected
4. While no single empirical investigation can ever conclusively prove the \_\_\_\_\_ of a theory, the fact that our data are consistent with findings from over a dozen independent labs worldwide bodes well for our framework's resilience.
  - A. autonomy
  - B. antagonism
  - C. veracity
  - D. redundancy
5. The *opposite* of **epilogue** is
  - A. index
  - B. abstract
  - C. preface
  - D. graph
6. The *opposite* of **inevitable** is
  - A. inescapable
  - B. unpredictable
  - C. definite
  - D. unlikely
7. **antediluvian** suggests
  - A. nonchalance
  - B. resolution
  - C. antiquity
  - D. integrity
8. If a person exhibits **apathy**, he or she displays
  - A. confidence
  - B. fear
  - C. joy
  - D. unconcern

9. **pathetic : pitiful ::**

- A. remorseful : happy
- B. colorful : flashy
- C. boring : lively
- D. automaton : robot

10. **nepotism : dissatisfaction ::**

- A. optimism : hatred
- B. cooperation : appreciation
- C. bitterness : admiration
- D. tenacity : failure

11. **chronic : persistent ::**

- A. anger : frequently
- B. happiness : temporary
- C. humor : permanently
- D. ceaseless : continuous

12. **antidote: wellness**

- A. epilogue : end
- B. determination : success
- C. contrition : apathy
- D. circle : circumference