

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Vocabulary List 13

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Stephens

Practice Due Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Quiz Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Prefixes and Suffixes

Suffix: *-ible* means "able to be"

Suffix: *-er* means "performer of"

Suffix: *-ation* means "act of" or "result of"

Suffix: *-ful* means "full of" or "having"

### Vocabulary List 13

(see next page for definitions and activities)

bystander  
cede  
comprehensive  
devout  
flounder  
foster  
incite  
pittance  
precipitate  
restrictive  
scurry  
shrewd  
spew  
tact  
vigorous

## Lesson Thirteen

1. **bystander** (bī' stan dər) *n.* a person present at an event but not participating in it; an onlooker  
The police asked *bystanders* to describe the man who robbed the convenience store.  
*syn: spectator; witness* *ant: participant; contributor*
2. **cede** (sēd) *v.* to surrender; to give up or yield to another  
The farmer refused to *cede* any land to the state for the construction of the new highway.  
*syn: abandon; transfer* *ant: protect; keep*
3. **comprehensive** (kom prē hen' siv) *adj.* inclusive; extensive  
The chief told the officers that she wanted a *comprehensive* report of the incident no later than tomorrow.  
*syn: complete; thorough* *ant: limited; selective*
4. **devout** (di vout') *adj.* 1. devoted to religion  
2. sincere; earnest  
(1) The *devout* monks meditated in prayer several times a day.  
(2) Her low wages and humble lodgings proved her *devout* interest in helping others.  
(1) *syn: pious; reverent* *ant: unholy; irreverent*  
(2) *syn: serious; heartfelt* *ant: insincere; dishonest*
5. **flounder** (floun' der) *v.* to move or speak clumsily and confusedly  
Logan *floundered* during his poorly-prepared presentation.  
*syn: struggle*
6. **foster** (fo' stər) *v.* to promote the development or growth of; to nurture  
Schools should *foster* good citizenship as well as academics.  
*syn: encourage; support* *ant: oppose; restrain*
7. **incite** (in sīt') *v.* to provoke into action; to rouse  
Several of the rowdy fans were arrested for trying to *incite* a riot.  
*syn: instigate; urge; galvanize* *ant: deter; prevent*
8. **pittance** (pit' ns) *n.* a small amount  
The pawn broker gave Harry a *pittance* of what the watch was actually worth.  
*syn: bit; trifle* *ant: abundance*

9. **precipitate** (pri sip' i tāt) *v.* 1. to bring something about prematurely; to speed up  
2. to fall from the sky as rain, snow, or hail  
(1) The manager's rude comment *precipitated* Brenda's resignation from the company.  
(2) Moisture in the air will *precipitate* when the temperature reaches the dew point.  
(1) *syn: hasten; advance* *ant: delay; prolong*
10. **restrictive** (ri strik' tiv) *adj.* limiting  
After many accidents, the town imposed *restrictive* traffic laws.  
*syn: restraining* *ant: encouraging; liberal*
11. **scurry** (skûr' ē) *v.* to move lightly and rapidly  
The rabbits *scurried* across the lawn and hid beneath the front porch.  
*syn: scamper; dash* *ant: trudge; plod*
12. **shrewd** (shrōōd) *adj.* sharp in business and practical affairs; cunning  
The *shrewd* investor seldom failed to make enormous profits.  
*syn: clever; astute* *ant: naive; inexperienced*
13. **spew** (spyōō) *v.* to eject forcefully; to spit out in great quantity  
Lava *spewed* from the volcano.  
*syn: gush; spurt* *ant: ooze*
14. **tact** (takt) *n.* sensitivity in dealing with others  
George, who has no *tact*, insisted on talking about his inheritance from the deceased as the funeral procession entered the cemetery.  
*syn: discretion* *ant: carelessness*
15. **vigorous** (vig' gər əs) *adj.* 1. strong and energetic in mind or body  
2. done with force and liveliness  
(1) Each day before work, Jerry goes to the gym for a *vigorous* workout.  
(2) The *vigorous* woodsman did not stop chopping wood until the entire tree had become a pile of logs.  
(1) *syn: aggressive; brisk* *ant: slothful; lazy*  
(2) *syn: hearty; enthusiastic* *ant: lethargic; sluggish*

## EXERCISE I – Words in Context

*Using the vocabulary list for this lesson, supply the correct word to complete each sentence.*

1. It took eight hours for the scientist to present a[n] \_\_\_\_\_ explanation of her theory.
2. Donations \_\_\_\_\_ the growth of the new library.
3. Maria's inheritance was a mere \_\_\_\_\_ compared to the amount her sister received.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ woman was seldom seen outside of church.
5. Two \_\_\_\_\_ were injured when the awning fell off the storefront.
6. When someone asked him a difficult question, Walt \_\_\_\_\_ because he did not know the answer.
7. A series of internal scandals \_\_\_\_\_ the collapse of the organization.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ regulations in the state park are meant to protect the wildlife.
9. Milk \_\_\_\_\_ from Alicia's mouth when she glanced at the container and saw that it had expired two weeks ago.
10. It is wise to stretch before participating in any form of \_\_\_\_\_ exercise.
11. Ambassadors must have the \_\_\_\_\_ to deal with people of foreign cultures without offending them.
12. A[n] \_\_\_\_\_ businessperson can turn a lemonade stand into a booming corporation.
13. Jeff called the exterminator when he saw mice \_\_\_\_\_ across the basement floor.
14. Officials of the unstable nation feared that news of the scandal would \_\_\_\_\_ a rebellion.

15. A change in management forced Pam to \_\_\_\_\_ control of the project to someone else.

## EXERCISE II – Sentence Completion

Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. Each night, the *devout* musician...
2. Constant, crashing waves *precipitated* the destruction of...
3. Joe hired a *shrewd* accountant to...
4. The team will have to *cede* victory to the challengers if...
5. Doug earned only a *pittance* of his usual salary when...
6. The *restrictive* rules in the factory are meant to...
7. Doing at least thirty minutes of *vigorous*, physical activity five times a week will...
8. When a big rat *scurried* across the floor, Jamie...
9. The depleted soil does not *foster*...
10. The teacher will provide *comprehensive* explanations of...
11. Someone who has no *tact* might...
12. The car sputtered, and its tailpipe *spewed*...
13. Bobby *incited* panic when he...
14. He *floundered* with the answer to the teacher's question because...
15. The *bystanders* crowded around to see the...

### EXERCISE III – Prefixes and Suffixes

*Study the entries and use them to complete the questions that follow.*

The suffix *-ible* means “able to be.”

The suffix *-ation* means “act of” or “result of.”

The suffix *-er* means “performer of.”

The suffix *-ful* means “full of” or “having.”

*Use the provided prefixes and suffixes to change each word so that it completes the sentence correctly. Then, keeping in mind that prefixes and suffixes sometimes change the part of speech, identify the part of speech of the new word by circling N for a noun, V for a verb, or ADJ for an adjective.*

1. (comprehensive) Though the topic is complex, the article is written in simple language so it is \_\_\_\_\_ to readers of all levels.  
N    V    ADJ
2. (improvise) Using her skills of \_\_\_\_\_, the downed pilot created a crude shelter using parts she salvaged from the wreckage.  
N    V    ADJ
3. (tact) The students were praised for the \_\_\_\_\_ manner in which they handled the sensitive situation.    N    V    ADJ
4. (improvise) Grandfather, the \_\_\_\_\_ in the family, would rather build something using spare parts than buy it new at the store.  
N    V    ADJ

## EXERCISE IV – Critical Reading

*The following reading passage contains vocabulary words from this lesson.*

*Carefully read the passage and then choose the best answers for each of the questions that follow.*

Any fruit to declare? **Restrictive** customs regulations sometimes irk international travelers, but the inconvenience is a mere **pittance** compared to the destructive potential of a single smuggled plant or animal. For evidence, one need only examine the island of Guam, the largest of the Marianas Island chain in the West Pacific.

5 The wilderness of Guam, in its undeveloped beauty, resounded with the various calls of native birds until World War II. It was during that time, presumably, that a stealthy invader found its way from a shipping crate to the jungle, where it discovered a veritable feast—a predator's paradise—of small birds, lizards, and eggs.

10 Unchecked by natural predators, the brown tree snake was free to indulge and procreate on Guam. By 1970, the snake could be found on every part the island, which is approximately thirty miles long by nine miles wide.

15 A warm jungle, rich with birds, lizards, and rodents, **fostered** the exploding number of brown tree snakes, each of which grows to an average of three to six feet in length. The snake, mildly poisonous, has tiny fangs in the back of its mouth that are used only if the snake has the opportunity to gnaw on its prey, so it poses little threat to adults.

20 As the reptiles prospered, the jungles grew eerily silent, save whispers of the humid Pacific breeze through the palms, or coconut crabs **scurrying** over the craggy, volcanic rocks that litter the jungle floor. By 1984, nine of Guam's twelve native bird species were extinct, as well as half the lizards, the primary food source for young snakes.

25 Brown tree snakes create more than just an ecological problem on Guam. The snakes slither up electric lines and into power boxes, causing power outages and costing time and money. They are also a source of anxiety for residents who fear that the snakes might attack their infants who cannot defend themselves.

30 Declining animal populations and frequent power problems **incited** officials to take action against the invaders, though largely to save the other islands of the Pacific. Dogs are used to sweep outgoing flights at Guam's airport and incoming flights at most destinations. Snake traps—modified minnow traps baited with mice—hang from the fences surrounding airstrips. Residents are encouraged to kill any snakes they might see, though despite the infestation, the snakes are not especially easy to find. The trees on Guam are not bent, as some might believe after

35

watching sensationalized documentaries, beneath the weight of dangling snakes. As nocturnal hunters, the snakes usually curl up in dark places  
40 during the day and emerge to hunt at night. Though the snakes are thought to exceed twenty per square acre of jungle, many residents go years without spotting one—if any—in nature.

Biologists, unwilling to **cede** the jungles to the snakes, have tried for years to exterminate the invasive species, but until the perfect predator,  
45 chemical, or control method is found, birds will not be abundant on the island. On the other hand, the snakes have no effect on the crystal clear waters, world-class diving, and amazing confluence of cultures on Guam, so do not allow stories about snakes to deter your travel plans. And remember, a little hassle in the airport might make you a little late, but it  
50 might also prevent the destruction of an entire ecosystem.

1. As used in line 15, *fostered* most nearly means
  - A. fed.
  - B. supplied.
  - C. provided.
  - D. supported.
  - E. encouraged.
2. The brown tree snakes are thought to have colonized Guam during
  - A. World War I.
  - B. World War II.
  - C. the Korean War.
  - D. 1970.
  - E. 1984.
3. Which of the following is *not* listed as a part of the brown tree snake's diet?
  - A. crabs.
  - B. rodents.
  - C. eggs.
  - D. birds.
  - E. lizards.
4. As used in line 30, *incited* most nearly means
  - A. followed.
  - B. prompted.
  - C. strained.
  - D. suggested.
  - E. warned.



5. The author of the passage would probably agree that the brown tree snake problem
- A. will never be solved.
  - B. has ruined the economy of Guam.
  - C. has been overstated in the past.
  - D. cannot spread to other islands.
  - E. should be viewed as a positive experience.