

Name _____
Vocabulary List 5

Date _____
Mrs. Stephens

Practice Due Date _____
Quiz Date _____

Prefixes and Suffixes

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

Suffix: *-ance* means "state of" or "quality of"

Suffix: *-er* means "one who does"

Suffix: *-y* means "condition of" or "quality of"

Vocabulary List 5

(see next page for definitions and activities)

bizarre
bungle
deduce
dynamic
irrelevant
loiter
obstinate
scrutinize
stunt
superficial
ultimate
vapid
viable
wan
wane

Lesson Five

1. **bizarre** (bi zär´) *adj.* extremely unusual; strange
The *bizarre* behavior of the animals signaled that something was wrong.
syn: unusual; weird *ant: ordinary; normal*
2. **bungle** (bung´ gəl) *v.* to act or work clumsily; to ruin something through clumsiness
Kevin was fired after he *bungled* a job and lost a valuable client.
syn: botch *ant: manage; succeed*
3. **deduce** (di dōōs´) *v.* to conclude by reasoning; to infer
After examining the clues at the crime scene, the detective *deduced* that the death was accidental.
syn: determine; understand *ant: misconstrue; mistake*
4. **dynamic** (dī nam´ ik) *adj.* 1. energetic; intense; forceful
2. continuously active or changing
(1) The *dynamic* speaker at the school assembly captured everyone's attention.
(2) Land in the Midwest might be flat, but the region has some of the most *dynamic* weather patterns in the world.
(1) *syn: powerful; active* *ant: mild; calm; lifeless*
5. **irrelevant** (i rel´ ə vənt) *adj.* unimportant to the matter at hand
Carol thought geometry was *irrelevant* to her life until she had to calculate the area of her lawn.
syn: inapplicable; immaterial *ant: pertinent; germane*
6. **loiter** (loi´ tər) *v.* to linger without an apparent purpose
Some of the teenagers do nothing but *loiter* in front of the arcade.
syn: dawdle; amble *ant: hurry; hasten*
7. **obstinate** (ob´ stə nit) *adj.* stubborn
It took ten minutes for the farmer to get the *obstinate* cow across the road.
syn: headstrong *ant: obedient; compliant*
8. **scrutinize** (skrōōt´ n īz) *v.* to examine in great detail
The board *scrutinized* the record of each applicant before choosing one to receive the scholarship.
syn: study; inspect *ant: skim; browse*

EXERCISE I – Words in Context

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

1. The club will not survive if interest continues to _____.
2. The towering maple tree _____ the younger trees by blocking the sunlight.
3. The committee created a[n] _____ plan to reduce homelessness in the city once and for all.
4. The new book was criticized as a[n] _____ biography of an equally unexciting person.
5. Your grade is based entirely on your writing; the type of paper you use is _____.
6. Having been seasick for hours, the passenger looked _____ in the face and weak in the knees.
7. The store owners do not want people to _____ in front of the entrance because they block the entry of potential customers.
8. Hector _____ his photography project when he accidentally exposed all the film.
9. Historians _____ the ancient document to be certain that it was authentic.
10. Everyone said he was wasting his time, but the _____ prospector kept digging until he eventually struck gold.
11. Gina has the _____ belief that physical appearance is more important than character.
12. The _____ growth of the region requires that the map be revised every two years.
13. From the performance of the team, the coach _____ that it would have a winning season.

14. Visiting the petting zoo is the _____ experience for children who love animals.
15. The astrologer believed that the meteor shower's occurring during the eclipse was more than just some _____ coincidence.

EXERCISE II – Sentence Completion

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

1. Mitch could have gotten away with the crime, but he made the *ultimate* decision to...
2. To persuade her *obstinate* son to go to the dentist, Gayle...
3. The *wan* color of her face indicated...
4. Irene wants a *dynamic* career in which...
5. Chad must give his parents one *viable* reason for wanting to...
6. If you *loiter* in front of the bank too long, people might think...
7. For a publicity *stunt*, Carl decided to...
8. The most *bizarre* item in Tim's collection is...
9. His parents *scrutinized* his report card because...
10. Jill thinks the old music is *vapid*, but her parents...
11. Tosha felt her feelings were *irrelevant* in the matter because...
12. He had only a *superficial* understanding of the subject until he...
13. If Pat *bungles* the science project, he...
14. You should allow your anger to *wane* before...
15. After investigating the remnants of the burned-out building, the fire marshal *deduced*...

EXERCISE III – Prefixes and Suffixes

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

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

The suffix *-ance* means “state of” or “quality of.”

The suffix *-er* means “one who does.”

The suffix *-y* means “condition of” or “quality of.”

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. (irrelevant) Because of the _____ of her question, everyone could tell that she had not completed the reading assignment.
N V ADJ
2. (scrutinize) His essay will be published if it withstands the _____ of the magazine's editor.
N V ADJ
3. (bungle) The mistakes of a single _____ who works on the assembly line ruined an entire shipment of the factory's product.
N V ADJ
4. (scrutinize) The stone tablets are _____ to anyone who happens to know how to read ancient Sumerian. 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.

In September of 1961, one of the most **bizarre** events in the history of the paranormal occurred in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Driving home from a visit to Canada, Barney and Betty Hill noticed a strange light in the sky. Before the end of the night, Betty and Barney
5 would become the first couple in history to have reported the phenomenon now known as an “alien abduction.”

The light grew more intense as the Hills approached the White Mountains, but the couple dismissed it as a helicopter or low-flying plane. The light darted from side to side with amazing quickness, and it
10 seemed to come closer with each movement. It was not until the light slowed and **loitered** above the road ahead that Barney and Betty became worried. Taking his binoculars, Barney stepped out of the car and peered at the light, now only a hundred feet away. He later described it as “banana-like with pointed tips and windows.” Barney walked closer,
15 resisting the fear that was rapidly overwhelming him. Barney saw what appeared to be figures moving behind the windows, as many as eleven. Terrified, Barney suddenly became aware of Betty, screaming for him to return to the car. The Hills wasted no time as they motored down the highway, but the light followed, growing larger as the Hills retreated.
20 When the strange craft was directly over the car, the Hills heard a strange noise, like that of a tuning fork. What happened to the Hills next would perplex them for the rest of their lives.

Stunned and feeling strange, the Hills awoke, in their car, thirty-five miles from where they had stopped to observe the light. Bewildered and
25 insecure, they drove home.

The next day, Betty called nearby Pease Air Force Base to report the incident. The base told Betty that something unidentified had indeed been detected near the exact spot where she and Barney had stopped; however, there was no **viable** proof or explanation of what had happened,
30 so the Hills moved on with their lives. Barney simply tried to forget about the night, but Betty could not put the event behind her quite so easily.

Nightmares plagued Betty in the nights following the abduction. In the dreams, a group of men took Betty and Barney aboard a craft and conducted medical tests on the couple. Beleaguered by the nightmares, and
35 increasingly aware of the strangeness of the evening, the Hills sought help from a psychiatrist who used hypnosis to treat amnesia. In a short time,

the Hills realized that two hours had elapsed on that September night for which they had no recollection. For the next six months, the Hills struggled to piece together the lost time. Under hypnosis, Barney sketched the creatures he claimed to have seen: short beings with pale faces, large heads, and enormous, cat-like eyes—what has since become the common description of so many aliens in books and television. Betty's descriptions matched those of Barney's, and she even sketched a "star map" that the aliens allegedly showed her during the abduction. Some have found the map to be a curiously accurate depiction of *Zeta Reticuli*, a twin star system not fully mapped until 1969.

Experts have **scrutinized** the Hills' story, authors have written about it, and it has even been portrayed on film, but no one has been able to **deduce** what really happened on that September night. The Hills' psychiatrist suggested that the episode was a product of imagination, emphasizing that people under hypnosis tell what they *believe* to be the truth—not necessarily the *factual* truth. Interest in the Hills' case **waned** throughout the 1960s, but the Hills were not forgotten entirely; the abduction craze eventually resurfaced in full force. Aliens, whether real or fictional, short-and-gray, or enormous-and-slimy, are imbedded in our culture, so watch the skies!

1. The Hills were a married couple who
 - A. encountered strange creatures in the sky.
 - B. claimed to have evidence of aliens.
 - C. did not believe their own experiences.
 - D. claimed to have been abducted by beings from a UFO.
 - E. wrecked their car in the White Mountains.
2. As used in line 29, *viable* most nearly means
 - A. central.
 - B. physical.
 - C. feasible.
 - D. irrefutable.
 - E. overwhelming.
3. According to the passage, Betty's star map is
 - A. the first thing the Hills submitted to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).
 - B. a successful stunt to gain publicity, money, and movie rights.
 - C. a perfect representation of the Andromeda system.
 - D. an encrypted message warning the government of an impending invasion.
 - E. a portrayal of a star system that Betty could not have known about.

4. As used in line 52, *waned* most nearly means
- A. vanished.
 - B. faded.
 - C. grew.
 - D. stagnated.
 - E. changed.
5. Which choice *best* paraphrases the psychiatrist's main point?
- A. Aliens have no place in science.
 - B. Hypnosis is not an entirely dependable method of acquiring the truth.
 - C. Hypnosis is reliable for getting facts, but not what people believe to be facts.
 - D. People always tell the truth when under hypnosis.
 - E. Hypnosis can be used for both good and evil purposes.