Prefixes and Suffixes

Suffix: -ence means "state of" or "quality of"
Suffix: -ate means "to become" or "to cause to become"
Suffix: -ent means "performer of"
Suffix: -ity means "state of" or "quality of"

Vocabulary List 8
(see next page for definitions and activities)

alight
convalesce
dainty
feint
implore
impugn
integral
jurisdiction
malnutrition
meddle
painstaking
pantheon
sear
vertical
wince
Lesson Eight

1. **alight** (ə lît') v. to descend and settle, as after flying
   
   adj. burning; lighted

   (v) Jennifer watched a cardinal alight upon the bench outside her window.

   (adj) Awakened by the smell of smoke, he looked outside and saw the barn alight.

   (v) syn: land; perch; come down ant: fly; rocket; take off

   (adj) syn: ablaze; flaming ant: extinguished

2. **convalesce** (kə və ləs') v. to recover one's health

   Tom had a long period to convalesce after the car accident.

   syn: recuperate; rehabilitate ant: weaken; deteriorate

3. **dainty** (dān'tè) adj. preciously delicate or charming

   Eileen stores her dainty, crystal figurines in a glass display case, away from her children's curious hands.

   syn: fragile; elegant; pretty ant: ungainly; burly

4. **feint** (fānt) v. to distract an opponent by pretending to move in one direction and then moving in another

   n. a deceptive act meant to distract or deceive one's opponent

   (v) The boxer feinted to the right to throw his opponent off guard, and then struck him with a sharp left hook.

   (n) The swordsman did not fall for the villain's feint.

   (v) syn: fake; bluff

   (n) syn: cheat; facade

5. **implore** (im plôr') v. to beg

   Theresa implored the king to spare her brother, who was caught spying.

   syn: entreat; plead ant: order; command

6. **impugn** (im py ôn') v. to attack as false; to cast doubt on

   The prosecutor impugned the defendant's alibi at every available opportunity.

   syn: contradict; oppose ant: support; defend

7. **integral** (in'te gral) adj. necessary to make something complete; essential

   Daily practice is integral to a successful season.

   syn: central; key ant: optional
8. jurisdiction (jōör is dik’ shən) n. 1. the authority to interpret and apply the law 2. the geographical range of an authority
   (1) The state trooper does not have the jurisdiction to arrest people in the neighboring state.
   (2) The suspect escaped punishment by fleeing the detective’s jurisdiction.
   (1) syn: power; rule; influence
   (2) syn: scope; reach

9. malnutrition (mal nōō trish’on) n. a lack of proper nutrition
   The castaway knew that he would suffer from malnutrition if he did not find something other than coconuts to eat.
   syn: undernourishment; famine

10. meddle (med’ dal) v. to intrude in the business of others; to interfere
    Mrs. Thompson told her children not to meddle in the affairs of strangers.
    syn: pry; snoop
    ant: ignore; overlook

11. painstaking (pānz’ tāk ing) adj. using or requiring great care and effort
    After ten years of painstaking research, the scientist finally made a breakthrough.
    syn: meticulous; diligent
    ant: careless; negligent

12. pantheon (pa’nthē on) n. 1. a group of highly regarded people
    2. a place dedicated to highly regarded people
    (1) The Nobel Prize pantheon includes such people as Marie Curie and Albert Einstein.
    (2) The art museum is a pantheon of the greatest artists in history.

13. sear (sēr) v. 1. to scorch or burn the surface of
    2. to make dry and withered
    (v.1) To sear the meat, the chef turned the flame up on the grill.
    (v.2) During the heat wave, the sun seared the leaves of the delicate tree.
    (v.1) syn: singe; char
    (v.2) syn: parch; dehydrate
    ant: moisten; dampen

14. vertical (vūr’ tīk əl) adj. perpendicular to the horizon
    A vertical column of water shot into the air after Tim’s car struck the fire hydrant.
    syn: upright; erect
    ant: horizontal; flat

15. wince (wins) v. to flinch
    Dominic winced when he saw the antique vase fall from the shelf.
    syn: cringe; recoil
EXERCISE I – Words in Context

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

1. Lucas ________ the landlord to give him another week to pay the rent.

2. A steady diet of potato chips and cola will soon result in _________ and obesity.

3. Dr. Insano hates it when Captain Freedom _________ with his mad plans to take over the world.

4. The bird will not _________ until it sees food on the ground.

5. The artist at the knickknack factory has the _________ job of painting tiny details on each of the figurines.

6. Julia's friends visited her at the hospital while she _________ from the illness.

7. On top of the music box is a[n] _________ ballerina that rotates as the song plays.

8. The first step is _________ to the whole process, so please remember to do it.

9. The bridge sits atop ten _________ pilings that extend deep into the water.

10. The hot sun will _________ the grapes until they turn into raisins.

11. Ralph _________ to the left, evading the players trying to tackle him.

12. The Baseball Hall of Fame is a[n] _________ dedicated to the greatest players in history.

13. Officer Brad did not give Heather a speeding ticket this time, but he warned her not to get caught speeding in his _________ again.

14. Carly _________ when she saw the silly expression on her face in her embarrassing yearbook photograph.

15. The court _________ Charlotte after agents caught her selling secret documents to an enemy spy.
EXERCISE II – Sentence Completion

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

1. The pantheon contained statues of...

2. If the boss meddles with the vacation schedule, the workers might...

3. You will need several weeks to convalesce if...

4. The pigeons will alight on the lawn if you...

5. She knew the feint had worked when she...

6. When the thief escaped her jurisdiction, the sheriff had to...

7. Fred winced when...

8. Rachel impugned her son's story that he simply misplaced his new toy because...

9. Exercise and proper nutrition are integral to...

10. Phillip implored his parents to...

11. No one thought the dainty woman would...

12. One way to avoid malnutrition is...

13. The reporter saw rows of vertical bars as he walked through...

14. The flame of the blowtorch seared...

15. Hunter did not want the painstaking job of...
EXERCISE III – Prefixes and Suffixes

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

The suffix -ate means “to become” or “to cause to become.”
The suffix -ence means “state of” or “quality of.”
The suffix -ent means “performer of.”
The suffix -ity means “state 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. (convalesce) The doctor ordered Chloe to stay in bed during her __________. N   V   ADJ

2. (integral) Someone who always does what he or she knows to be right is said to have __________. N   V   ADJ

3. (convalesce) Owing a shortage of hospital beds, some __________ were asked to finish recovering at home. N   V   ADJ

4. (integral) Several automakers now __________ global positioning systems into their automobiles. 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.

On December 26th, 2004, just before 8:00 am, an earthquake measuring 9.0 on the Richter scale rumbled the Nicobar Islands in the Indian Ocean near the northern coast of Sumatra. A quake of this magnitude occurs about once every twenty years; the last to come close was a 9.2 that struck Prince William Sound in 1964. Like most earthquakes, the Indian Ocean earthquake was caused by shifting tectonic plates—the vast, broken “pieces” that form the outer portion of Earth’s crust; however, this earthquake was just the beginning of a far-reaching disaster.

When the two plates collided near Nicobar, one plate wedged slightly beneath the other. It seems insignificant until you consider the enormousness of the plates—they are foundations of continents, miles deep and made of rock. When the edges of the plates met, the collision released huge amounts of energy, causing the seafloor and water above the fault to rise. The energy thrust billions of tons of seawater upward, causing a vertical “bulge” of water on the surface.

The bulge, enormous but barely perceptible to people on the surface, immediately plunged back into the ocean, causing waves to travel outward at speeds upward of 400 miles per hour. Despite their great energy, the waves were of little height, so ships far from shore barely noticed them passing. It was different, however, for people on the coast.

They noticed a drop in the tide. Not realizing that the water had moved out to sea to fill the gap created by the approaching wave of destruction, adults and children ran onto the beach to collect fish left flopping on the seabed.

As the waves approached the shore, the resistance of the shallow water caused them to compress. They lost speed, but built upon one another and increased in amplitude until they reached heights approaching 100 feet. The wave’s length increased the impending devastation. The wave, from one crest to the next, was miles long. This was not some dainty tidal wave that crashed onto the beach and swept some umbrellas away—this was several minutes of one single, enormous, continuous wave that had no intention of stopping when it hit the coast.

The epic surge snapped trees in half, leveled buildings, and swept tens of thousands of people beneath the foam as it pushed inland as far as a mile. When the water receded, debris littered thousands of miles of coastline. Automobiles lay overturned, streets had turned into rivers, and victims desperately sought missing friends and family members. The death toll, initially estimated at 100,000, climbed during the painstaking recovery, passing 160,000. It was the deadliest tsunami in recorded history.
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40 Everyone had been caught off guard. Unlike natives of Japan, where tidal waves are common and sudden changes in the tide are carefully watched, few people on the coast of the Indian Ocean knew the warning signs. Seismologists detected the earthquake hours before the wave, but no one knew whom to contact. Because of the rarity of tsunamis in the Indian Ocean, most of the stricken areas were outside the warning center's jurisdiction. Agencies now agree that an effective warning system will be integral to protecting the coast from future tsunamis.

1. According to the passage, which of the following is a sign of an approaching tsunami?
   A. an earthquake
   B. a sudden drop in water level
   C. low speed but constant breeze
   D. tectonic plate activity
   E. fish jumping from the water

2. According to the passage, a tsunami wave near its starting point could
   A. wipe out an entire fleet of battleships.
   B. collide with other waves and simply cancel itself out.
   C. be as tall as 100 feet.
   D. pass by a ship undetected.
   E. replenish coral reefs in the area.

3. As used in line 29, dainty most nearly means
   A. devastating.
   B. strong.
   C. fragile.
   D. delicate.
   E. slight.

4. Which choice would be the most appropriate title for the passage?
   A. The Largest Earthquake in History
   B. A Two-Part Disaster: the Indian Ocean Earthquake, Tsunami, and Recovery
   C. Surviving Earthquakes and Tsunamis
   D. Disaster from the Deep
   E. Earthquakes and Tsunamis
5. As used in line 46, *integral* most nearly means
   A. detrimental.
   B. supportive.
   C. essential.
   D. secondary.
   E. ideal.