

VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR & WRITING

Warm-Up Journals

Grade 11



Vocabulary Journal 1.1

Date _____

Read the following and make an educated guess as to what each vocabulary term means.

- factions *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The **factions** sailors refused to sail any farther into the storm.
- ignoble *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
Cheating on an exam is an **ignoble** way to get good grades.
- boor *n.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The **boor** grabbed handfuls of hors d'oeuvres and walked around while he ate them.
- aegis *n.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The life of the witness is under the **aegis** of the witness protection program.
- perspicacity *n.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The old hermit still had the **perspicacity** to haggle with the automotive dealer.
- fervent *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
We made a **fervent** attempt to capture the stallion, but he was too quick for us.
- rectify *v.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
JoAnne tried to **rectify** her poor relationship with her son by spending more time with him.
- enervate *v.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The record temperatures **enervated** the farmhands before noon.
- besiege *v.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
People jumped from the ground and brushed themselves off as ants **besieged** the picnic.
- ephemeral *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The gardener experienced **ephemeral** fame the year she grew a half-ton pumpkin.
- altruism *n.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
A person with **altruism** will usually stop and help a stranded motorist.
- carrion *n.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The **carrion** along the desert highway was a feast for the vultures.
- erotic *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
The museum staff cancelled the exhibition when it saw the erotic sculptures.
- amorphous *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
What began as an **amorphous** idea in Steven's dream turned into a revolutionary way to power automobiles.
- opulent *adj.* (my guess: _____) (correct definition: _____)
Despite the stock market crash, the wealthy family continued its **opulent** lifestyle.

Vocabulary Journal 1.2

Date _____

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

amorphous **enervate** **besiege** **factions**
ephemeral **perspicacity** **altruism** **carrion**

Carter had been walking for more than four hours since his truck ran out of fuel. The morning desert sun _____ him, bringing him closer to exhaustion. In his weary state, he chastised himself for not having the _____ to have brought an extra can of fuel on the trip. In such a barren, isolated place, Carter knew that he couldn't rely on the _____ of others for help if his truck broke down. The only living things on the road were biting flies that _____ Carter and forced him to swat his face and neck every few seconds. They continued to attack until they detected the foul smell of _____ when Carter passed a dead hare on the shoulder of the road. The departure of the flies gave him _____ relief as he continued his trudge; the bugs went away, but in the distance, Carter could see, through eyes stinging with sweat, the _____ distortions of light along the hot, desert floor.

Vocabulary Journal 1.3

Date _____

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

rectify **factions** **ignoble** **erotic** **amorphous** **besiege**

Some of the council approved the new zoning restriction, but a few _____ members refused to cast votes. None of them actually approved of the _____ bookstore next to the little league field, but they wanted to find a better way to legally _____ the _____ situation.

Vocabulary Journal 1.4

Date _____

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

aegis **altruism** **boor** **fervent** **carrion** **opulent**

Councilman Parker, a wealthy native of the small town, knew that a few council members had a[n] _____ desire to remove him from office. Some of them resented his _____ lifestyle, and others claimed that Parker was careless because he lived under the _____ of his wealth and thus had no fear of being fired. They also called Parker a _____ because he had the habit of interrupting conversations and barging into offices without knocking.

Vocabulary Journal 1.5

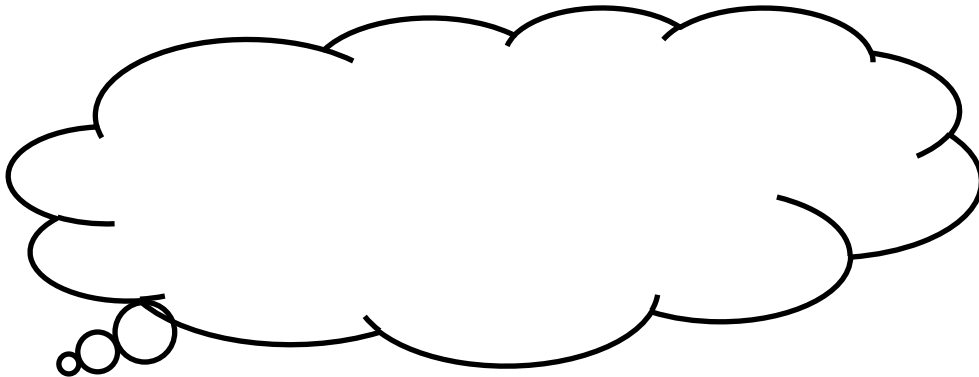
Date _____

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

1. The highway crew removed the *carrion* from the road because...
2. Bob decided to *rectify* his crime by...
3. People called Cory and *boor* because he always...
4. In an act of *altruism*, Jennifer went to the nursing home to...
5. Citizens protested the opening of an *erotic* bookstore near the park because...
6. Under the *aegis* of the police department, the witness could safely...
7. During the summit, the *factious* ambassador caused...
8. Working on the roof *enervated* the contractors, especially when...
9. The *ephemeral* argument was over in...
10. Features in the opulent *mansion* include...
11. The wounded fish was soon *besieged* by...
12. The *amorphous* body of the amoeba had no discernable...
13. If it were not for dad's *perspicacity*, I would have purchased a car that...
14. His *fervent* speech convinced...
15. A person can lose his or her job by committing an *ignoble* act such as...

Journal Reflection (3 Sentences Minimum)

Date _____



Sentence Errors Journal 1.6

Date _____

Identify the grammatical error in each of the following sentences. If the sentence contains no error, select answer choice E.

1. The mechanic repairs not only domestic cars, but also he repairs foreign cars. No Error
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
2. The clients requested information on what factors would effect the interest that they would earn on their stocks. No Error
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
3. My mother finds it peculiar that while I, and most of my female friends would do just about anything to get a taste of something sweet, my brother and his friends wait for dinner to eat.
No Error (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
4. Through language, stereotypes and standards are communicated to those who are required to listen; therefore, schools are a medium through which the population is controlled.
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
5. The government, who attempt to use welfare as a mean of controlling social classes, is ignoring the inherent problems of the system. No error.
(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

Improving Sentences Journal 1.7

Date _____

The underlined portion of each sentence below contains some flaw. Select the answer choice that best corrects the flaw.

6. The first baseman forgot to take his glove to the field, and he stops in the middle of the inning to retrieve his mitt.
A. and he is stopping in the middle of the inning to retrieve his mitt.
B. and he stopped in the middle of the inning to retrieve his mitt.
C. and he leaves in the middle of the inning to retrieve his mitt.
D. and he stopped in the middle of the inning, retrieving his mitt.
E. and he is stopping in the middle of the inning, retrieving his mitt.
7. Clearing the bar at seven feet, a new high jump record was set.
A. A new high jump record was set, while clearing the bar at seven feet.
B. While clearing the bar at seven feet, a new high jump record was set.
C. A new high jump record was set when the athlete cleared the bar at seven feet.
D. A new high jump record, by clearing the bar seven feet, was set.
E. After clearing the bar at seven feet, a new high jump record was set.