

Lesson 37

"Zounds! I was never so bethump'd with words
Since I first call'd my brother's father dad."

Shakespeare, *King John*

Words To Learn This Week

heir

majestic

dwindle

surplus

traitor

deliberate

vandal

drought

abide

unify

summit

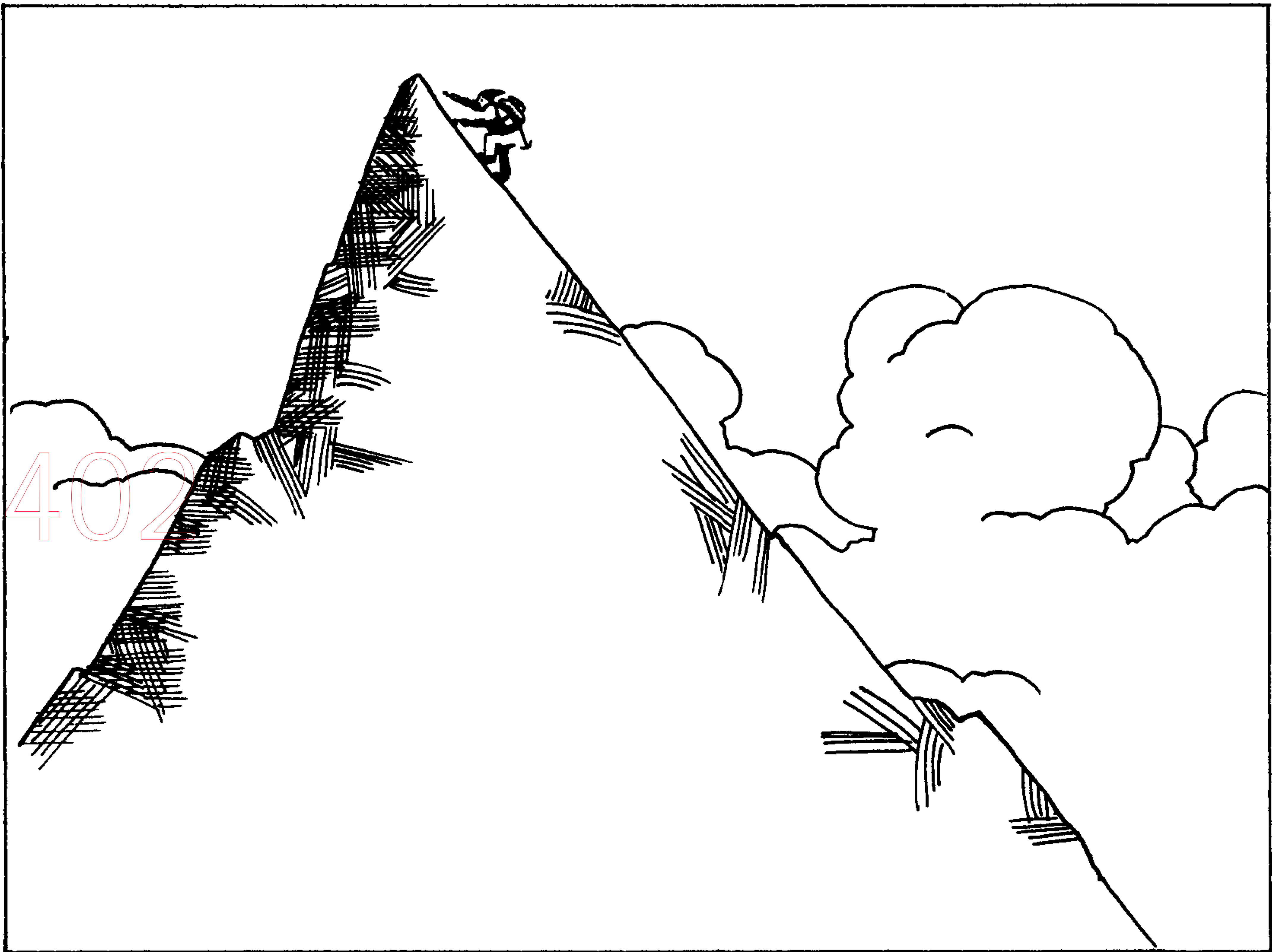
heed

1. **heir** (hēr) person who has a right to someone's property after that one dies; person who inherits anything
 - a. Though Mr. Sloane is the **heir** to a gold mine, he lives like a miser.*
 - b. The monarch* died before he could name an **heir** to the throne.
 - c. It is essential* that we locate the rightful **heir** at once.
2. **majestic** (mə jēs' tik) grand; noble; dignified; kingly
 - a. The lion is the most **majestic** creature of the jungle.
 - b. In Greek mythology,* Mt. Olympus was the **majestic** home of the gods.
 - c. The graduates marched into the auditorium to the music of the **majestic** symphony.
3. **dwindle** (dwin' dl) become smaller and smaller; shrink
 - a. Our supply of unpolluted* water has **dwindled**.
 - b. With no visible* signs of their ship, hopes for the men's safety **dwindled** with each passing hour.
 - c. After the furious tempest,* the **dwindling** chances of finding the raft vanished* entirely.
4. **surplus** (sir' pləs) amount over and above what is needed; excess, extra
 - a. The bank keeps a large **surplus** of money in reserve.
 - b. **Surplus** wheat, cotton, and soybeans are shipped abroad.*
 - c. No mortal* ever considers* that he has a **surplus** of good things.
5. **traitor** (trā' ter) person who betrays his or her country, a friend, duty, etc.
 - a. The patriot* sneered* when asked to stand on the same platform with the man who was accused of being a **traitor**.
 - b. No villain* is worse than a **traitor** who betrays* his country.
 - c. Do not call him a **traitor** unless you can verify* the charge.
6. **deliberate** (di lib' ər āt or di lib' ər it) to consider carefully; intended; done on purpose; slow and careful, as though allowing time to decide what to do
 - a. Rico's excuse was a **deliberate** lie.
 - b. My grandfather walks with **deliberate** steps.
 - c. Judge Sirica **deliberated** for a week before making his decision known.
7. **vandal** (van' dl) person who wilfully or ignorantly destroys or damages beautiful things
 - a. Adolescent* **vandals** wrecked the cafeteria.
 - b. The **vandals** deliberately* ripped the paintings from the wall.
 - c. We could scarcely* believe the damage caused by the **vandals**.
8. **drought** (drou) long period of dry weather; lack of rain; lack of water; dryness
 - a. Because of the **drought**, some farmers began to migrate* to more fertile* regions.
 - b. In time of **drought**, the crops become scorched.*
 - c. As the **drought** wore on, people began to grumble against those who had squandered* water when it was more plentiful.
9. **abide** (ə bīd') accept and follow out; remain faithful to; dwell; endure
 - a. The team decided unanimously* to **abide** by the captain's ruling.
 - b. Senator Ervin **abided** by his promise not to allow demonstrations in the committee room.
 - c. My mother cannot **abide** dirt and vermin.*
10. **unify** (ū' nə fī) unite; make or form into one
 - a. The novel* traces the developments that **unified** the family.
 - b. After the Civil War our country became **unified** more strongly.

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- c. It takes a great deal of training to **unify** all these recruits into an efficient fighting machine.
11. **summit** (sum' it) highest point; top
- a. We estimated* the **summit** of the mountain to be twenty thousand feet.
- b. Do not underestimate* Ruth's ambition to reach the **summit** of the acting profession.
- c. The **summit** meeting of world leaders diminished* the threat* of war.
12. **heed** (hēd) give careful attention to; take notice of; careful attention
- a. I demand that you **heed** what I say.
- b. Florence pays no **heed** to what the signs say.
- c. Take **heed** and be on guard against those who try to deceive* you.

Which of the words studied in this lesson is suggested by the picture?



Read the following story to see how the new words are used in it.

Listen to Smoky the Bear

At one time the United States was **heir** to great riches, for more than half of our country was covered with forests. Now the **majestic** woodlands have **dwindled** to the point where we have no **surplus** of trees. Of course, only a **traitor** to the beauties of nature would **deliberately** set a forest fire, but careless citizens are the **vandals** who are responsible for much of the destruction. In time of **drought** especially, scorching* fires started by careless smokers can reduce a beautiful forest to acres of blackened stumps.

Theodore Roosevelt understood that we cannot **abide**

the continual loss of our precious forests but we must learn to live in harmony* with nature. In 1905 he appointed* Gifford Pinchot to head the Forest Service which promptly* began to **unify** efforts in caring for our national forests. The modern forest rangers, from the "lookouts" stationed on mountain **summits** to the "smokejumpers" who parachute from airplanes to fight fires, ask us to **heed** the advice of Smoky the Bear, who has become their symbol.* Smoky says, "Only you can prevent forest fires."

Lesson 38

"Believe my words
For they are certain and unfallible."

Shakespeare, *I Henry VI*

Words To Learn This Week

biography
drench
swarm
wobble
tumult
kneel
dejected
obedient
recede
tyrant
charity
verdict

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1. **biography** (bī äg' rə fē) the written story of a person's life; the part of literature which consists of biographies
 - a. Our teacher recommended* the **biography** of the architect* Frank Lloyd Wright.
 - b. The reading of a **biography** gives a knowledge of people and events* that cannot always be obtained* from history books.
 - c. The **biography** of Malcolm X is a popular* book in our school.
2. **drench** (drench) wet thoroughly; soak
 - a. A heavy rain **drenched** the campus,* and the students had to dry out their wet clothing.
 - b. The **drenching** rains resumed* after only one day of sunshine.
 - c. His fraternity friends tried to **drench** him but he was too clever for them.
3. **swarm** (swôrm) group of insects flying or moving about together; crowd or great number; to fly or move about in great numbers
 - a. As darkness approached,* the **swarms** of children playing in the park dwindled* to a handful.
 - b. The mosquitoes **swarmed** out of the swamp.
 - c. Our campus* **swarmed** with new students in September.
4. **wobble** (wäb' l) move unsteadily from side to side
 - a. Little Perry thrust* his feet into the oversized shoes and **wobbled** over to the table.
 - b. A baby **wobbles** when it begins to walk alone.
 - c. Lacking experience on the high wire, the clown **wobbled** along until he reached the safety of the platform.
5. **tumult** (tu' mült or tōō' mult) noise; uproar; violent* disturbance or disorder
 - a. The sailors' voices were too feeble* to be heard above the **tumult** of the storm.
 - b. There was such a **tumult** in the halls we concluded* an accident had occurred.
 - c. The dreaded* cry of "Fire!" caused a **tumult** in the theatre.
6. **kneel** (nēl) go down on one's knees; remain on the knees
 - a. Myra **knelt** down to pull a weed from the drenched* flower bed.
 - b. The condemned* man **knelt** before the monarch* and pleaded* for mercy.
 - c. **Kneeling** over the still figure, the lifeguard tried to revive* him.
7. **dejected** (di jek' tid) in low spirits; sad
 - a. His biography* related* that Edison was not **dejected** by failure.
 - b. The defeated candidate* felt **dejected** and scowled* when asked for an interview.
 - c. There is no reason to be **dejected** because we did not get any volunteers.*
8. **obedient** (ō bē' dē ənt) doing what one is told; willing to obey
 - a. The **obedient** dog came when his master beckoned.*
 - b. **Obedient** to his father's wishes, Guy did not explore* any further.
 - c. When parents make reasonable requests of them, the majority* of my friends are **obedient**.
9. **recede** (ri sēd') go back; move back; slope backward; withdraw
 - a. As you ride past in a train, you have the unique* feeling that houses and trees are **receding**.
 - b. Mr. Ranford's beard conceals* his **receding** chin.
 - c. Always cautious,* Mr. Camhi **receded** from his former opinion.

10. **tyrant** (tī' rənt) cruel or unjust ruler; cruel master; absolute ruler
 - a. Some **tyrants** of Greek cities were mild and fair rulers.
 - b. The **tyrant** demanded loyalty* and obedience* from his subjects.
 - c. Though Ella was a **tyrant** as director of the play, the whole cast was grateful* to her when the final curtain came down.
11. **charity** (char' ə tē) generous giving to the poor; institutions for helping the sick, the poor, or the helpless; kindness in judging people's faults
 - a. A free hospital is a noble **charity**.
 - b. The entire community is the beneficiary* of Henry's **charity**.
 - c. The hired hand was too proud to accept help or **charity**.
12. **verdict** (vér' dikt) decision of a jury; judgment
 - a. The jury returned a **verdict** of guilty for the traitor.*
 - b. We were cautioned* not to base our **verdict** on prejudice.*
 - c. Baffled* by the **verdict**, the prosecutor* felt that the evidence* had been ignored.*

Read the following story to see how the new words are used in it.

Gulliver's Travels

Jonathan Swift tried to show the smallness of people by writing the **biography** of Dr. Lemuel Gulliver. In one of his strangest adventures, Gulliver was shipwrecked. **Drenched** and weary,* he fell asleep on the shore. In the morning, he found himself tied to pegs in the ground, and **swarming** over him were hundreds of little people six inches high.

After a time he was allowed to stand, though he began to **wobble** from being bound so long. He was then marched through the streets, naturally causing a **tumult** wherever he went. Even the palace was not big enough for him to enter, nor could he **kneel** before the king and queen. But he did show his respect for them in another way.

The king was **dejected** because he feared an invasion of Lilliput by Blefuscu, the enemy across the ocean. The

reason for the war between the two tiny peoples would seem small and foolish to us. The rebels of Blefuscu were originally Lilliputians who would not abide* by the royal decision to crack their eggs on the small end instead of on the larger end. Gulliver, **obedient** to the king's command, waded out into the water when the tide **receded**, and sticking a little iron hook into each of fifty warships, he pulled the entire enemy fleet to Lilliput. Gulliver later escaped from Lilliput when he realized the tiny king was really a **tyrant** with no **charity** in his heart.

Oddly enough, the **verdict** of generations of readers has taken no heed* of the author's intention in *Gulliver's Travels*. Instead, while Lilliputians are still the symbol* of small, narrow-minded people, Swift's savage attack upon humankind has become one of the best-loved children's classics.

Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. The principal probed* the cause of the _____ in the cafeteria.
2. A _____ of insects descended* on the picnic food.
3. When asked for their _____ on the agreement, the members gave their approval spontaneously.*
4. The first project in our creative writing class was a _____ of a close friend or relative.
5. Until the flood waters _____, the authorities prohibited* anyone from returning to the vicinity.*
6. Mr. Finley was redeemed* in the eyes of his employees* by his _____ in overlooking their costly error.
7. The grateful* traveler would _____ in prayer every night.
8. Mother is an expert at soothing* our _____ spirits.
9. It is absurd* to surrender your rights to a _____ when you have abundant* reason to remain free.
10. We faced the dilemma* of being _____ in the downpour while we covered our boat or having to bail the water out of the boat after the rain had ceased.*
11. Melinda shrieked* as the unstable* pedestrian* _____ into the path of the oncoming car.
12. A glance* from the mother was enough of a reminder to bring the _____ child back to her side.

Lesson 39

“Ah, kill me with thy weapon, not with words!”

Shakespeare, *III Henry VI*

Words To Learn This Week

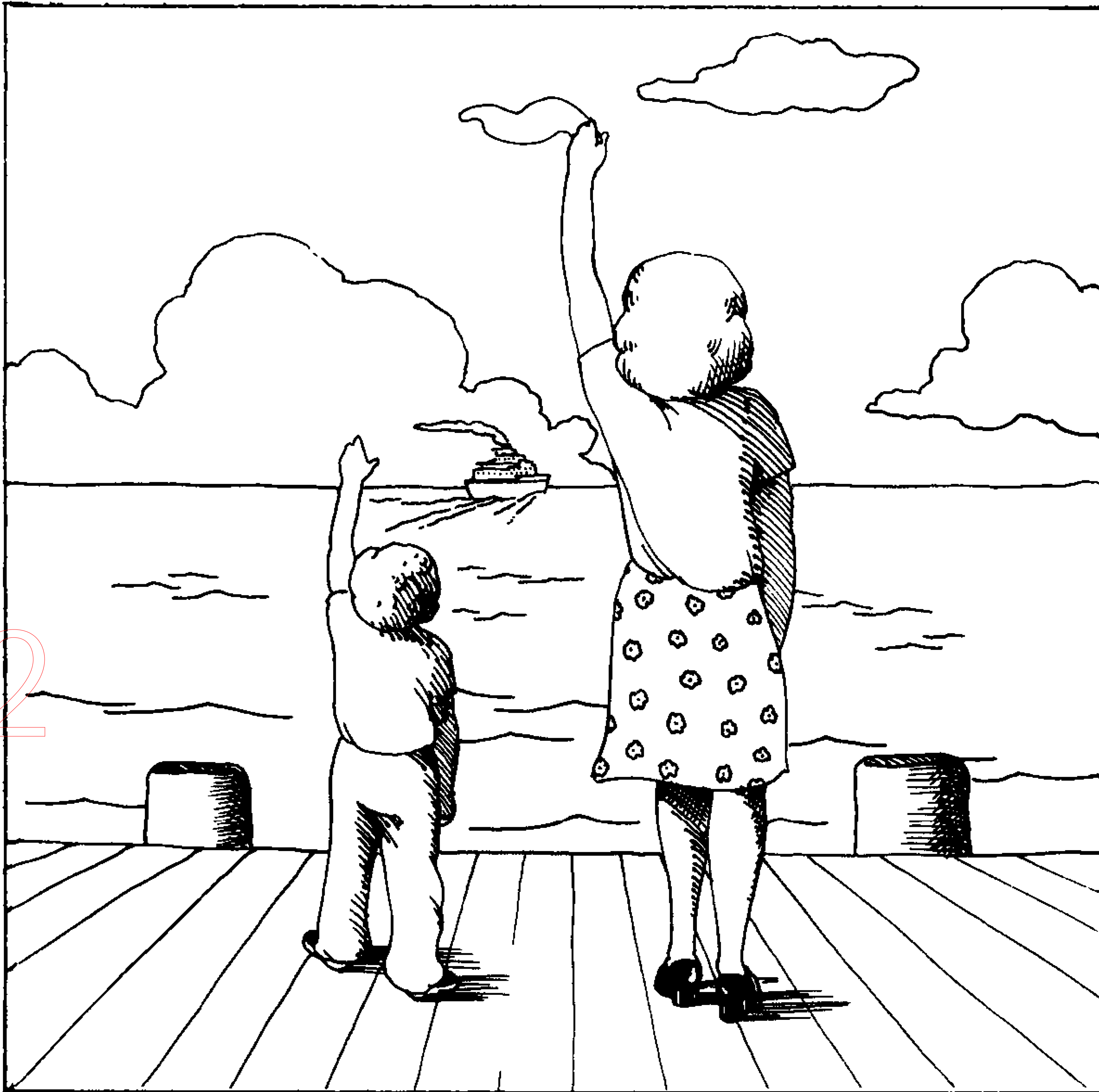
unearth
depart
coincide
cancel
debtor
legible
placard
contagious
clergy
customary
transparent
scald

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1. **unearth** (un érth') dig up; discover; find out
 - a. The digging of the scientists **unearthed** a buried city.
 - b. A plot to defraud* the investors was **unearthed** by the F.B.I.
 - c. The museum exhibited* the vase which had been **unearthed** in Greece.
2. **depart** (di pärt') go away; leave; turn away (from); change; die
 - a. We arrived in the village in the morning and **departed** that night.
 - b. Stan was vague* about **departing** from his usual manner of choosing a partner.
 - c. Vera was reluctant* to mention that her uncle had long since **departed**.
3. **coincide** (kō' in sid') occupy the same place in space; occupy the same time; correspond exactly; agree
 - a. If these triangles were placed one on top of the other, they would **coincide**.
 - b. Because Pete's and Jim's working hours **coincide**, and they live in the same vicinity,* they depart* from their homes at the same time.
 - c. My verdict* on the film **coincides** with Adele's.
4. **cancel** (kan' sl) cross out; mark so that it cannot be used; wipe out; call off
 - a. The stamp was only partially* **canceled**.
 - b. Because the first shipment contained defective* parts, Mr. Zweben **canceled** the rest of the order.
 - c. Having found just the right man for the job, Captain Mellides **canceled** all further interviews.
5. **debtor** (det' ə) person who owes something to another
 - a. If I borrow a dollar from you, I am your **debtor**.
 - b. As a **debtor** who had received many favors from the banker, Mr. Mertz was reluctant* to testify against him.
 - c. A gloomy* **debtor's** prison was once the fate of those who could not repay their loans.
6. **legible** (lej' ə bl) able to be read; easy to read; plain and clear
 - a. Julia's handwriting is beautiful and **legible**.
 - b. Nancy hesitated* in her reading because the words were scarcely* **legible**.
 - c. Our teacher penalizes* us for compositions which are not **legible**.
7. **placard** (plak' ärd) a notice to be posted in a public place; poster
 - a. Colorful **placards** announced an urgent* meeting.
 - b. **Placards** were placed throughout the neighborhood by rival* groups.
 - c. Numerous* **placards** appeared around the city calling for volunteers.*
8. **contagious** (kan tāj' əs) spreading by contact, easily spreading from one to another
 - a. Scarlet fever is **contagious**.
 - b. I find that yawning is often **contagious**.
 - c. Interest in the project was **contagious**, and soon all opposition to it collapsed.*
9. **clergy** (kler' jē) persons prepared for religious work; clergymen as a group
 - a. We try never to hinder* the **clergy** as they perform their sacred* tasks.
 - b. Friar Tuck was a member of the **clergy** who loved a jolly* jest.*
 - c. The majority* of the **clergy** felt the new morality* was a menace* to society.
10. **customary** (kus' təm er' ē) usual
 - a. It was **customary** for wealthy Romans to recline* while they were dining.
 - b. The Beatles' movie received the **customary** rave* reviews from the critics.

- c. The traitor* rejected* the **customary** blindfold for the execution.
11. **transparent** (trans par' ent) easily seen through; clear
- Window glass is **transparent**.
 - Colonel Thomas is a man of **transparent** honesty and loyalty.*
 - The homicide* was a **transparent** case of jealousy* that got out of hand.
12. **scald** (skôld) pour boiling liquid over; burn with hot liquid or steam; heat almost to the boiling point
- Do not neglect* to **scald** the dishes before drying them.
 - The **scalding** lava pouring from the mountain placed everyone in peril.*
 - By being hasty,* Stella **scalded** her hand.

Which of the words studied in this lesson is suggested by the picture?



Read the following story to see how the new words are used in it.

Roast Beef on Rye

A little digging will **unearth** the roots of our language and habits. For instance, our word "sandwich" is derived from the Earl of Sandwich, who lived in the time of George III. This gentleman would not **depart** from the gambling table for hours on end. If his play happened to **coincide** with dinner, he would **cancel** his regular meal and order a slice of meat to be served to him between two pieces of bread. The biography* of the Earl claims that we are his **debtors** for his discovery of the sandwich. Charles Dickens later used the phrase "sandwich man" to describe someone who walks about with a clearly **legible** message on **placards** hung on his chest and back.

An example of a superstition is the fear of walking under a ladder. This must have been a **contagious** fear for it seems to have started with the ancient belief that

spirits lived in trees or wood. "Knocking on wood" was a way of calling up the friendly spirit to protect one from harm. Today a member of the **clergy** might sneer* at this custom, expecting that by this time such superstitions would have receded* into the past with witches and ghosts.

Another expression, "giving someone the cold shoulder," has been traced to the Middle Ages, when a host would serve his guests a cold shoulder of mutton or beef instead of the **customary** hot food. This was a **transparent** attempt to show the guest he was no longer welcome. The host had thus found a more charitable* yet effective way of expressing his feelings without using a **scalding** remark.

Lesson 40

"He hath heard that men of few words are the best men."

Shakespeare, *Henry V*

Words To Learn This Week

epidemic
obesity
magnify
chiropractor
obstacle
ventilate
jeopardize
negative
pension
vital
municipal
oral

1. **epidemic** (ep ə dem' ik) an outbreak of a disease that spreads rapidly,* so that many people have it at the same time; widespread
 - a. All of the schools in the city were closed during the **epidemic**.
 - b. The depiction* of violence* in the movies has reached **epidemic** proportions.
 - c. During the **epidemic** we were forbidden* to drink water unless it had been boiled.
2. **obesity** (ō bēs' ə tē) extreme fatness
 - a. **Obesity** is considered* a serious disease.
 - b. The salesman tactfully* referred* to Jack's **obesity** as "stoutness."
 - c. At the medical convention the topic* discussed was the prevention of **obesity**.
3. **magnify** (mag' nə fī) cause to look larger than it really is; make too much of; go beyond the truth in telling
 - a. A microscope* is a **magnifying** glass.
 - b. It seems that Mr. Steinmetz **magnified** the importance of the document* in his possession.
 - c. Some people have a tendency* to **magnify** every minor* fault in others.
4. **chiropractor** (kī' rə prak' tər) a person who treats ailments by massage and manipulation of the vertebrae and other forms of therapy on the theory* that disease results from interference with the normal functioning of the nervous system
 - a. The **chiropractor** tried to relieve* the pain by manipulating* the spinal column.
 - b. Mrs. Lehrer confirmed* that a **chiropractor** had been treating her.
 - c. The **chiropractor** recommended hot baths between treatments.
5. **obstacle** (əb' sti kal) anything that gets in the way or hinders; impediment; obstruction
 - a. The soldiers were compelled* to get over such **obstacles** as ditches and barbed wire.
 - b. Ignorance* is an **obstacle** to progress.
 - c. Prejudice* is often an **obstacle** to harmony* among people.
6. **ventilate** (ven' tl āt) change the air in; purify by fresh air; discuss openly
 - a. We **ventilated** the kitchen by opening the windows.
 - b. The lungs **ventilate** the blood.
 - c. There is merit* in **ventilating** the topic* of the prom before the entire senior class.
7. **jeopardize** (jep' ə r dīz) risk; endanger
 - a. Soldiers **jeopardize** their lives in war.
 - b. Mr. Marcos revised* his opinion of police officers after two of them had **jeopardized** their lives to save his drowning child.
 - c. Though it **jeopardized** his chance for a promotion,* Mr. Rafael ventured* to criticize his boss.
8. **negative** (neg' ə tiv) saying no; minus; showing the lights and shadows reversed
 - a. The captain gave a **negative** response* to the request for a leave.
 - b. Three below zero is a **negative** quantity.*
 - c. A **negative** image is used to print a positive picture.
9. **pension** (pen' shən) regular payment which is not wages; to make such a payment

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- a. **Pensions** are often paid because of long service, special merit,* or injuries received.
 - b. The **pension** is calculated* on the basis of your last year's income.
 - c. Mrs. Colby **pensioned** off her employee after thirty years of loyal* service.
10. **vital** (vī' tl) having to do with life; necessary to life; causing death, failure or ruin; lively
- a. We must preserve* and protect our **vital** resources.
 - b. Eating is a **vital** function, the obese* man reminded me.
 - c. The valiant* soldier died of a **vital** wound.
11. **municipal** (mū nis' ə pl) of a city or state; having something to do in the affairs of a city or town
- a. The State police assisted the **municipal** police in putting down the riot.
 - b. There was only a mediocre* turnout for the **municipal** elections.
 - c. The **municipal** government placed a ban* on parking during business hours.
12. **oral** (ô' rəl) spoken; using speech; of the mouth
- a. An **oral** agreement is not enough; we must have a written promise.
 - b. **Oral** surgery is necessary to penetrate* to the diseased root.
 - c. His unique* **oral** powers made Lincoln a man to remember.

Read the following story to see how the new words are used in it.

Weight-watchers

Judging from the popularity* of books on dieting, one would think an **epidemic** of **obesity** is sweeping the nation. Although being fat is not contagious,* it is a condition not to be sneered* at since it affects one-fourth of all Americans. Without **magnifying** the problem, professionals concerned* with the nation's health, from **chiropractors** to medical specialists, agree that being overweight is a major **obstacle** to good health. They point out that people will readily see the need to **ventilate** their homes for fresh air to get rid of vermin* which may cause disease, but they **jeopardize** their health by eating the wrong foods or the wrong amount of foods.

Coincidentally,* a recent survey of employment agencies showed that obesity* has a **negative** effect on a person's chances of landing a job. While the job-seeker is asking about salary and **pensions**, the employer is thinking about the worker's health—and weight is a **vital** consideration when it comes to injuries, disease, and absenteeism.

Some **municipal** jobs, in fact, do require an applicant to be within normal weight range, and one New York bank insists on an **oral** understanding that applicants will take off excess weight. As the *Wall Street Journal* put it, "Fat people often find slim pickings in the job market."

Place one of the new words in each of the blanks below.

1. Intemperate* eating habits can lead to _____.
2. To avoid* an _____, the Surgeon-General ordered a thorough* study of the situation.
3. At a recent* meeting of _____, a new treatment for arthritis was discussed.
4. The humid* air in this room must be _____.
5. One thousand angry voters loudly signified* an _____ objection to the motion.
6. The frightened man tormented* himself by _____ every unpleasant experience into a calamity.*
7. If used as a precedent,* this verdict* will prove to be an _____ to justice.*
8. Without the _____ he had confidently* expected, Mr. Halcroft faced hardships* in his retirement.
9. The sale of the vacant* lot for construction of an office building will _____ the residential character of the neighborhood.
10. Preserve* the _____ in case we need more prints.
11. We should all attend the meeting at the _____ center for the issues are of vital* concern to every citizen.
12. The heart and the brain are considered* the most _____ organs in the human body.