

## EXERCISE I—Words in Context

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

odium	laudable	connived	verbose	befuddle
fallacy	noxious	chutzpah	crass	pandemonium

- A. If the company representative had arrived another minute later, the crowd would have erupted into \_\_\_\_\_. Since discovering the hidden toxic dump behind a residential neighborhood, most of the residents felt a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_ for Kraytron officials. The whole mess began just two weeks before, when children became ill from \_\_\_\_\_ vapors in the forest next to their development. Two days, one evacuation, and one hazardous material response team later, town officials declared the site to be an illegal dump for hazardous waste. Though a thorough investigation would take months, if not years, most of the town's residents immediately concluded that Kraytron officials must have \_\_\_\_\_ with a few greedy locals in an effort to avoid the cost of waste disposal.

When the booing and taunting finally stopped, the \_\_\_\_\_ Greg Haxton began his ninety-minute speech. Unknown to the public, Haxton had been Kraytron's unofficial crowd control specialist for over ten years.

"Your concern for your environment is indeed \_\_\_\_\_," said Greg. "It's good to see a community that can pull together in a predicament." Greg continued with his positive observations for five minutes before coming to the reason for his speech. "I know that many of you are assuming that Kraytron created the dump because the factory is only two miles from the site. This rumor is a complete \_\_\_\_\_; the officials have already dated the site as being at least twenty years old—ten years before Kraytron even constructed the local facility. The dump can be attributed to the \_\_\_\_\_ decisions of the former Mattingdon Aluminum Mill officials; they ran the mill here for forty years before going bankrupt two decades ago. To those of you who are Kraytron employees, you must understand that Kraytron would never have the \_\_\_\_\_ to commit such a heinous crime against its own family."

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

befuddle	liege	parsimonious
chutzpah	complacent	hypercritical

- B. "Come on, Jennifer, just buy a bag of charcoal! What are you going to save? Maybe a dime? I have never met a teenager as \_\_\_\_\_ as you."

Silently mocking Julie, Jennifer grabbed the first bag of charcoal on the shelf. She knew that they were late for the cookout, but Julie's \_\_\_\_\_ attitude sometimes annoyed her. To Jennifer, it seemed as though Julie was always finding fault. They checked out at the register and walked to the car.

"I'm sorry if this \_\_\_\_\_ you," remarked Jennifer, "but as it stands, we're broke, which means that we need to watch our spending. You've blown way too much money lately."

Julie didn't reply immediately; she just sat in the patchwork seat of the primer-colored subcompact with a[n] \_\_\_\_\_ look on her face. As Jennifer turned the key, she heard Julie mumble a facetious "Yes, my \_\_\_\_\_."