

Lesson Nine

1. **emulate** (em' yə lāt) *v.* to strive to be equal to; to imitate
Jonas *emulated* his older brother by pursuing a career in the same business.
syn: copy
2. **sere** (sēr) *adj.* dry and withered
After two weeks without water, the *sere* plant broke at the stem.
syn: desiccated; arid *ant: lush*
3. **enhance** (en hans') *v.* to increase the value or beauty of something
The soft, shimmering moonlight *enhanced* the beauty of the sparkling lake.
syn: improve; heighten *ant: diminish; decrease*
4. **contrite** (kən trīt') *adj.* feeling regret for having committed some wrongdoing
The *contrite* child wished she had never thought of playing baseball near the greenhouse.
syn: repentant; remorseful *ant: shameless; unrepentant*
5. **magnanimous** (mag nan' ə məs) *adj.* noble; generous in forgiving; free from petty feelings or acts
Allowing the man who had insulted him to stay for dinner was a *magnanimous* gesture on Robert's part.
syn: generous *ant: petty; mean*

6. **enunciate** (i nun' sē āt) *v.* to state clearly and distinctly; to pronounce
The speech teacher constantly reminded her students to *enunciate* their words carefully.
syn: articulate
7. **collaborate** (kə lab' ə rāt) *v.* to work with another toward a goal
The lyricist and composer *collaborated* on the stage musical.
syn: cooperate
8. **impound** (im pownd') *v.* to confine; to retain in legal custody
The police *impounded* Dave's car after they found traces of cocaine on the upholstery.
syn: confiscate *ant: release*
9. **impeccable** (im pek' ə bəl) *adj.* faultless; without sin or blemish
Keith's appearance was *impeccable*, from his handsome shoes to his neatly combed hair.
syn: immaculate; faultless; irreproachable *ant: fallible; blameworthy*
10. **evoke** (i vōk') *v.* to summon forth
The comedian was unable to *evoke* much of a response from the crowd.
syn: conjure up; elicit

11. *inane* (in ān´) *adj.* without sense or meaning; silly
Still dazed from the head injury, Catherine made only *inane* comments.
syn: foolish; insipid *ant:* significant; meaningful
12. *unctuous* (ungk´ chōō əs) *adj.* exaggeratedly or insincerely polite
The salesman kept calling me “ma’am” in such an *unctuous* tone that I did not trust him for a minute.
syn: oily *ant:* genuine; sincere
13. *expatriate* (eks pā´ trē ət) *n.* someone who chooses to live outside of, or renounce, his or her native country
Although T. S. Eliot was born in America, he was an *expatriate* for most of his life and is often considered British.
14. *frowzy* (frow´ zē) *adj.* unkempt
The lady’s *frowzy* hair was so tangled that it looked like Spanish moss.
syn: slovenly *ant:* tidy
15. *heinous* (hā´ nəʃ) *adj.* hatefully or shockingly evil
The jury was shocked by the young woman’s *heinous* crimes.
syn: abhorrent; horrid
