

EXERCISE I—Words in Context

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

- magnanimous      impeccable      impound      contrite
- expatriate      emulate      collaborate

A. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ me, kid—unless you want to spend time in the slammer, too," Buddy laughed as he put his hands in the air and glanced around. "But if you're really interested, maybe we can \_\_\_\_\_ on familiarizing you with the racing community."

Lucas didn't return his uncle's smirk. He instead directed his \_\_\_\_\_ expression to the table and fiddled with the phone cord. Lucas never really adapted to conversing through a sheet of Plexiglas, and the tinny sound of Buddy's musing through the two-way intercom made him uncomfortable. Lucas came to the prison only because the police were going to \_\_\_\_\_ Buddy's car if no one removed it from the credit union parking lot, and Lucas thought that he was being \_\_\_\_\_ by mentioning that he, like Buddy, had an interest in horse racing.

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

- evoke      expatriate      heinous      frowzy
- inane      sere      enhance      enunciate

B. Jerry squinted and ran his hand through his \_\_\_\_\_ mop of hair. The Pacific sun was already high in the sky, and he had a lot of work to accomplish before his guests arrived that evening. Originally from a Minnesota dairy, Jerry had lived on the tiny Micronesian island for over sixteen years. He never really considered himself to be a[n] \_\_\_\_\_, but then again, he didn't ever plan to return to United States, either. Thinking that it might be a good idea to \_\_\_\_\_ his front yard before his visitors arrived, Jerry grabbed a machete and walked to the coconut grove in front of his shack. Huffing, Jerry chopped at the \_\_\_\_\_, withered fronds hanging against the trunks of the palm trees. When he finished cutting the fronds, he gathered the stray coconuts—some months old—and piled them in the corner of his yard. The yard looked sharp, even with Jerry's dilapidated shack in the background. As a bonus, Jerry decided to place two rows of tiki-torches along the path to the shack. Jerry thought that such trinkets were \_\_\_\_\_, but he wanted his two nieces from Cleveland to get the total island experience.

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enunciate evoke expatriate unctuous heinous impeccable

C. Jordan sat at the helm and surveyed the broken radio before speaking to Candace.

"This is not going to be easy. You're going to have to \_\_\_\_\_ all the strength you have in order to succeed."

In her typical sarcastic manner, Candace responded to Jordan in a[n] \_\_\_\_\_ tone. "Oh, really? Thank goodness you told me; I thought that swimming two miles through an oil slick would be easy!"

"That's enough," snapped Candace as she walked over to the porthole and looked at the horizon. The line where the earth met the sky was tilted by at least seven or eight degrees; the *Nittany* was definitely taking on water. The wounded tanker in the distance wasn't doing much better; from the *Nittany's* bridge, Jordan could tell where the tanker's hull had ruptured by a black swirl slowly meandering through the crystal clear water.

"Do you remember what you're doing?"

Still annoyed, Candace \_\_\_\_\_ the directions as though she were reciting letters in an elementary school spelling bee: "Swim to the reef, walk to the shore, find the radio house, neutralize the guard, and call Boswell. Right?"

"Right," said Jordan. "Be sure to give him the proper coordinates; I'm not going down with the ship."

"Oh, don't worry," snapped Candace. "Any shark that eats you will immediately spit you back out."

"Ha-ha. Thanks for the \_\_\_\_\_ image of my certain death."

"Oh, relax. Once we get out of this I'll treat you to a[n] \_\_\_\_\_ lobster dinner on Maui. See ya later!" With that, Candace walked out of the bridge and jumped over the handrail. Jordan didn't even hear the splash.

**Challenge:** For the Words in Context exercise above, write ONE coherent sentence or paragraph using ALL of the words NOT utilized in the exercise at least once.

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