

# Lesson 12

## Word List

Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

- accede**  
ak sēd'  
*v.* To agree to; to consent to, often after urging from another.  
[Myron *acceded* to the wishes of his colleagues when he stopped smoking in the office.]
- affluent**  
af' lōō ənt  
*adj.* Generously supplied with money or possessions; wealthy.  
[Although Cicely was not from an *affluent* family, she could attend an excellent but expensive school because of the scholarship she had won.]
- affluence** *n.* Wealth.  
[Mrs. Winn's *affluence* is due to oil being discovered on her land.]
- arbitrary**  
ār' bi trer ē  
*adj.* Determined by chance or whim rather than by reason or necessity.  
[Even though our choice of restaurant was *arbitrary*, the food was delicious.]
- artisan**  
ärt' ə zən  
*n.* One able to do skilled work with the hands; a craftsperson.  
[*Artisans* working with leather, yarn, and clay displayed their products at the local crafts fair.]
- dismantle**  
dis mant' l  
*v.* To take apart.  
[Bert helped Matt *dismantle* the engine so they could begin work on the repair.]
- immerse**  
im mers'  
*v.* 1. To cover with liquid.  
[To prepare the salad, Genevieve first blanched the vegetables by *immersing* them in boiling water.]  
2. To completely engage the attention of.  
[Sophie, *immersed* in her book, did not notice when Jaime boarded the bus and sat down beside her.]
- irksome**  
irk' səm  
*adj.* Annoying; tedious.  
[All the steps preliminary to painting the ceiling—scraping, patching, and sanding—were *irksome* to Samantha who wanted to finish the job quickly.]
- legacy**  
leg' ə sē  
*n.* 1. Money or property left to another in a will.  
[This silver pocket watch is my *legacy* from Grandfather Gomez.]  
2. Something passed on to those who come after.  
[Catholicism and the Spanish language are *legacies* of Spanish rule in Guatemala.]
- ostentatious**  
əs tən tā' shəs  
*adj.* Extravagantly showy or ornate.  
[The Amish shun *ostentatious* furnishings for their homes.]
- panorama**  
pan ə ram' ə  
*n.* 1. A complete view of a surrounding area.  
[In one bedroom of the old mansion, the four walls had been painted with a lively *panorama* of Chesapeake Bay.]  
2. A thorough presentation of a subject.  
[One course my aunt teaches at the university is a *panorama* of civil rights law in the United States.]

- philanthropy** *n.* The attempt to improve the well-being of those in need by donating money or aid.  
fi lan' thro pē  
[The *philanthropy* of the Tan family has provided the money for this cancer research center.]
- philanthropist** *n.* One who makes substantial contributions to those in need.  
[Andrew Carnegie, a renowned *philanthropist*, established many public libraries in the early 1900s.]
- prestige** *n.* High standing; respect earned by accomplishments.  
pres tēzh'  
[Winning the Nobel Prize brings much *prestige*.]
- prestigious** *adj.* (pres tīj' əs) Honored; esteemed.  
[An Oscar is the most *prestigious* award in the movie industry.]
- prolific** *adj.* Abundantly productive.  
prō lif' ik  
[Although Robert Graves was a *prolific* poet, he is remembered primarily for his few novels.]
- reticent** *adj.* Inclined to keep one's thoughts and feelings to oneself; quiet and reserved.  
ret' ə sənt  
[When we asked her about her parents, Adriana grew *reticent*.]
- reticence** *n.* Silence or reserve.  
[Karl's *reticence* about his plans for the summer made us even more curious.]
- tycoon** *n.* A wealthy and powerful businessperson.  
tī kōōn'  
[Blithewold, once the summer residence of a coal-mining *tycoon*, now is open to tourists.]

## 12A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 12. Write each sentence in the space provided.

- (a) A panorama is  
(b) An artisan is

(c) a powerful businessperson.  
(d) a complete view in all directions.

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- (a) An ostentatious poet is one who  
(b) produces a large body of work.

(c) is greatly honored and respected.  
(d) A prolific poet is one who

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- (a) A reticent person  
(b) is conscientious and reliable.

(c) An affluent person  
(d) is quiet and says little.

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- (a) a person with refined taste.  
(b) A tycoon is

(c) An artisan is  
(d) a worker skilled at a trade or craft.

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5. (a) put it back together.  
(b) To immerse something is to
- (c) To dismantle something is to  
(d) cover it with water.
- 
6. (a) Philanthropy is  
(b) Affluence is
- (c) a willingness to take risks.  
(d) making contributions to those in need.
- 
7. (a) a wind of hurricane force.  
(b) a sum of money left to a person.
- (c) A legacy is  
(d) A tycoon is
- 
8. (a) An irksome position  
(b) A prestigious position
- (c) is one that is annoying.  
(d) is one that pays a great deal.
- 
9. (a) An ostentatious review  
(b) An arbitrary review
- (c) is one designed to draw much attention.  
(d) is one that can be shown to be in error.
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10. (a) To accede to something  
(b) is to agree to it.
- (c) To dismantle something  
(d) is to find fault with it.
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## 12B Just the Right Word

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the italicized phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 12.

- The objects excavated from the ruins of Pompeii suggest that many people who lived there had been *in possession of great wealth*.
- Dora recommends this book because it provides a *complete and unbroken view* of Polish history.
- Blanca's *tendency to keep her thoughts to herself* makes it difficult to get to know her.
- My bicycle is easy to *break down into its separate parts* if I want to take it on the plane.

5. Giselle was *completely absorbed* in her science project when the phone rang.
6. Umpire Heller denied that his call was *based on personal whim*.
7. Mount Helos Hospital is the most *respected because of its high standing* in the state.
8. In the 1940s the Lee family, local *people who gave to those in need*, built this concert hall, which still serves the community.
9. This book suggests that one *of the things handed down as a result* of the 1960s was a greater awareness of equal rights for all Americans.
10. A *rich and powerful businessperson* from Brazil is interested in buying this jewelry factory.

## 12C Applying Meanings

Circle the letter of each correct answer to the questions below. Questions may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might describe the actions of a *philanthropist*?
 

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| (a) benign  | (c) despicable  |
| (b) prudent | (d) spontaneous |
2. Which of the following might be a *legacy*?
 

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| (a) a coin collection       | (c) a savings bond |
| (b) a democratic government | (d) a tirade       |
3. Which of the following might earn you *prestige*?
 

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) buying a new bicycle  | (c) doing your chores      |
| (b) winning a scholarship | (d) beating a track record |
4. Which of the following can be *dismantled*?
 

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| (a) a sewing machine | (c) a book          |
| (b) a light bulb     | (d) a loaf of bread |
5. In which of the following could one be *immersed*?
 

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| (a) laughter       | (c) a movie |
| (b) a conversation | (d) water   |
6. Which of the following is an *artisan*?
 

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| (a) a stonemason | (c) a basket weaver |
| (b) a bus driver | (d) a firefighter   |
7. Which of the following might be considered a *tycoon*?
 

|                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) an oil billionaire  | (c) a state governor               |
| (b) a college president | (d) the head of a computer company |

8. Which of the following suggests *affluence*?
- (a) owning expensive jewelry      (c) flying on one's own jet  
 (b) living in an apartment      (d) buying a pair of shoes

## 12D Word Relationships

Each group of four words below contains two words that are either synonyms or antonyms. Circle these two words; then circle the S if they are synonyms, the A if they are antonyms.

- |                 |                |   |   |
|-----------------|----------------|---|---|
| 1. MISER        | PHILANTHROPIST |   |   |
| ARTISAN         | CONNOISSEUR    | S | A |
| 2. IRKSOME      | GRUESOME       |   |   |
| PLEASANT        | PROLIFIC       | S | A |
| 3. IMMERSE      | CONSENT        |   |   |
| ACCEDE          | SURRENDER      | S | A |
| 4. CAPRICIOUS   | PRESTIGIOUS    |   |   |
| WHOLESOME       | ARBITRARY      | S | A |
| 5. OSTENTATIOUS | PROLIFIC       |   |   |
| NEGLIGIBLE      | MODEST         | S | A |
| 6. METICULOUS   | TALKATIVE      |   |   |
| HUMDRUM         | RETICENT       | S | A |
| 7. FERTILE      | PROLIFIC       |   |   |
| ORNATE          | FLAGRANT       | S | A |

Complete the analogies by selecting the pair of words whose relationship most resembles the relationship of the pair in capital letters. Circle the letter in front of the pair you choose.

8. PANORAMA : LOOK ::
- (a) poem : memorize      (c) water : swim  
 (b) tune : hear      (d) photograph : develop
9. AFFLUENCE : POVERTY ::
- (a) money : wealth      (c) stupidity : inanity  
 (b) agility : speed      (d) happiness : despair

## 10. ASSEMBLE : DISMANTLE ::

(a) augment : increase

(b) pilfer : steal

(c) entangle : extricate

(d) interrogate : question

**12E Narrative**

*Read the narrative below; then complete the exercise that follows.*

## HEARST CASTLE'S MASTER BUILDER

As part of their tour, visitors to Hearst Castle, also known as San Simeon, in southern California, are shown home movies of the many celebrities who were guests there during the 1930s and 1940s. In one film, a tiny, bespectacled woman hiding her face behind a sheaf of papers is mistakenly identified by the narrator as William Randolph Hearst's secretary. In fact, she was Julia Morgan, the architect who designed and supervised the building of the castle, which some have described as the most ostentatious residence of the twentieth century.

There is an explanation for the error. Julia Morgan, despite being an extremely prolific architect, with over seven hundred buildings to her credit, was a very reticent person who actively avoided publicity for herself. From early in her career, she rarely gave interviews. When she retired at the age of 79, she had all her architectural drawings destroyed, declaring that the buildings themselves would be her legacy. As a result, very little was written about her for many years.

Julia Morgan was born into an affluent San Francisco family in 1872. Although it was not common for young women to attend college, she entered the engineering school at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduation, she became the first woman admitted as an architectural student to the prestigious École des Beaux Arts in Paris, France. When her studies were completed, she returned to California, ready to open her own firm. First, however, she had to pass the state licensing exam, which she did in 1904, becoming the first woman to receive an architectural license to practice in that state.

Morgan had great skill in understanding her clients' wishes and in carrying them out successfully as she designed and built private homes as well as public buildings. One of her clients was Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, a wealthy widow and philanthropist. When Mrs. Hearst died in 1919, her only child, the publishing tycoon William Randolph Hearst, inherited her enormous fortune. To match his great wealth, he had extravagant plans—a home to be built on his 275,000-acre ranch, midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. For this project, he hired Julia Morgan.

For the next twenty years, Morgan immersed herself in every aspect of the design and construction of the main house and three guest houses. Early in the project she

supervised the laying of five miles of road to provide access to the site and arranged for a dock to be built to receive building materials arriving by ship. As the buildings were completed, she brought skilled **artisans** from Europe to execute the wood and stone carvings that embellish many of the rooms.

From the beginning, Hearst was actively involved in the building of “the ranch,” as he called it. At times, this must have been **irksome**; for example, when an elaborate fireplace that had been completed had to be **dismantled** and moved to a different place in the same room because Hearst was dissatisfied with its location. Morgan had no choice but to **accede** to Hearst’s wishes when he **arbitrarily** changed his mind, as he frequently did.

The scope of the project provided Morgan with a unique challenge as an architect. Casa Grande, the main house, contains 115 rooms, filled with art treasures collected in Europe. Its twin towers, 137 feet high, offer a fine **panorama** of the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Lucia mountains. The outdoor Neptune pool, lined with green and white marble, is not only breathtakingly beautiful but also soundly constructed on its hillside site. In addition to the buildings, Morgan directed the creation of numerous gardens and a private zoo that grew to include more than 100 species.

By the late 1930s, construction at San Simeon ceased. Morgan continued to work on other projects for Hearst as well as for other clients, until 1951, when she retired. In 1958, San Simeon became one of California’s state historical monuments. With over one million visitors a year, it is now one of the nation’s most popular tourist attractions. Everyone knows that it was Hearst’s millions that paid for it, but very few know the name of the person who designed and supervised its building. And that is the way Julia Morgan would have wanted it.

*Answer each of the following questions in a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word, use a vocabulary word in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words) from this lesson’s word list.*

1. Give some details of the San Simeon project that show that William Randolph Hearst was an **affluent** man.

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2. What has been the result of Julia Morgan’s **reticence**?

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3. Why do you think Morgan brought **artisans** from Europe to do the carvings?

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4. How do you know that Hearst was successful with his business?

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5. How do you know that Morgan did not find Hearst too **irksome** to work with?

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6. Why might fireplaces have to be **dismantled** before being moved?

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7. What details in the narrative suggest that Hearst's taste was rather **ostentatious**?

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8. Was Hearst Castle Morgan's only project? Explain.

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9. Why would Morgan have to **accede** to Hearst's decisions about the Castle?

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10. Why must Hearst's frequent changes have been hard to accept?

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11. Why do you think Morgan included towers as part of the design of the main house?

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12. What is the meaning of **immersed** as it is used in the narrative?

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13. Why would it be inaccurate to describe San Simeon as a **philanthropic** project?

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14. What is the meaning of **legacy** as it is used in the narrative?

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15. What details in the narrative suggest that Morgan deserves a position of **prestige** among American architects?

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