

Word List



alley [æli] *n.*

An **alley** is a narrow road behind houses or buildings.

→ *The **alley** behind my house looks dirty.*



ax [æks] *n.*

An **ax** is a tool used to cut wood.

→ *She used an **ax** to cut some wood for the fire.*



bunch [bʌntʃ] *n.*

A **bunch** is a group of the same things.

→ *She was hungry, so she ate the entire **bunch** of grapes.*



chore [tʃɔːr] *n.*

A **chore** is a job that you have to do but don't like.

→ *It's Nikki's **chore** to do the dishes every Tuesday and Wednesday night.*



decent [diːsənt] *adj.*

When something is **decent**, it is OK or good enough.

→ *Eric did a **decent** job painting the fence.*



disgrace [disgrɛis] *n.*

Disgrace is a feeling of shame.

→ *He felt a sense of **disgrace** after failing his big exam.*



elbow [ɛlbou] *n.*

The **elbow** is the middle part of a person's arm that lets you bend it.

→ *She pointed to her **elbow** to show me where she hurt herself.*



grateful [grɛɪtfəl] *adj.*

When you are **grateful** for something, you are happy that it happened.

→ *The girls were **grateful** to have a chance to spend time with their grandfather.*



irritate [ɪrɪteɪt] *v.*

To **irritate** means to annoy someone.

→ *She was **irritated** when her brother told her that he had lost her camera.*



kid [kid] *v.*

To **kid** is to make a joke to make someone believe something which is not true.

→ *I am not really mad. I was **kidding** when I said I was angry.*



loose [lu:s] *adj.*

When something is **loose**, it is not held in place well.

→ *The bolt was **loose**, so I tightened it with the wrench.*



offend [əfend] *v.*

To **offend** someone means to make them angry or upset.

→ *They were both **offended** by what they had said to each other.*



overnight [əuvərnáit] *adv.*

When something happens **overnight**, it happens during the night.

→ *The campers stayed in the tent **overnight**.*



persist [pərsist] *v.*

To **persist** means to keep doing something even when it is hard.

→ *Even though the lesson was difficult, he **persisted** until he understood.*



pine [pain] *n.*

A **pine** is a type of tree that is tall and thin.

→ *There were many beautiful **pine** trees in the forest.*



scar [ska:r] *n.*

A **scar** is a mark on the skin after a wound heals.

→ *The monster had horrible **scars** on his cheek and forehead.*



sensation [senséifən] *n.*

A **sensation** is a feeling a person gets from their senses.

→ *Mom got a painful **sensation** in her head from the loud noise.*



sled [sied] *n.*

A **sled** is a small vehicle that you use on snow.

→ *Marvin likes to ride his **sled** down the hill in winter.*



tease [ti:z] *v.*

To **tease** someone means to laugh at or make fun of them.

→ *Jake **teased** Charlie because he was the new student.*



valentine [væləntáin] *n.*

A **valentine** is someone you love or admire with great affection.

→ *Harry wanted Molly to be his **valentine**.*

Exercise 1

PART A Choose the right word for the given definition.

1. not strongly put in place
a. kid b. loose c. disgrace d. sensation
2. thankful
a. decent b. irritate c. grateful d. offend
3. a job or task
a. sled b. chore c. alley d. ax
4. someone you love or admire
a. valentine b. pine c. bunch d. elbow
5. to make angry
a. offend b. scar c. persist d. overnight

PART B Choose the right definition for the given word.

1. bunch
a. a group of things
c. a narrow road
b. a tool
d. wood from a tree
2. elbow
a. a picture
c. a part of the arm
b. a mark on the skin
d. a vehicle for snow
3. irritate
a. to keep trying
c. not being serious
b. to annoy
d. full of thanks
4. disgrace
a. shame
c. during the night
b. to make angry
d. not strongly attached
5. decent
a. to make fun
c. a job or task
b. a feeling from the senses
d. good or correct
6. overnight
a. happening during the night
c. not held in place
b. to make fun of someone
d. a feeling one gets from their senses
7. ax
a. a tall tree
c. a part of the arm
b. a tool used for cutting
d. a feeling of shame
8. tease
a. a group of things
c. when something is enough
b. to make a joke
d. to make fun of someone
9. pine
a. a job one has to do
c. a mark left on the skin
b. a tall tree
d. a vehicle used in the snow
10. sensation
a. someone one loves or admires
c. a feeling
b. to make someone angry or mad
d. a scar

Exercise 2

3

Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

1. ax / pine

The man bought a big _____. He needed it to cut down a(n) _____ tree in his yard.

2. offend / tease

The bully likes to _____ the smaller children. He does not know that his actions _____ them.

3. overnight / loose

The door to the shed is _____. It will be windy tomorrow, so I must work _____ to fix it so it does not blow away.

4. chore / grateful

The _____ of cutting the grass was difficult. However, the boy was _____ when he was paid for his hard work.

5. alley / sled

After the snow storm, the _____ was covered with snow and ice. It was fun to ride our _____ down the path.

6. elbow / scar

She hurt her _____ and had to go to the doctor. There is a large _____ where the cut healed.

7. persist / bunch

She must put all of the leaves into a _____. It will not be easy, but she must _____ to get the job done.

8. kids / irritate

The boy always _____ his friend about things that aren't true. But he will _____ his friend if he continues this action.

9. valentine / decent

He thought that until he got a _____ haircut, Elena would never be his _____.

10. sensation / disgrace

The runner felt _____ when he lost the race. He had a terrible _____ in his stomach.

The Boy and his Sled

Mike was the smallest child in school. Another boy, Joe, always **teased** Mike. Joe had a large **scar** on his face from fighting other children. One day, Joe **offended** Mike when he made fun of Mike's **valentine**, Jane. Mike felt **disgrace**, but he didn't know how to make Joe stop.

That day, Mike walked home down an **alley**. He found a **bunch** of wood boards next to a **pine** tree. He thought to himself, "I could build a **decent sled** from this. If I let Joe use it, he will be nicer to me and Jane." He took the wood home.

Mike got an **ax** and cut the wood. He used nails to make sure that the pieces were not **loose**. As he worked, he bumped his **elbow** on the boards. The painful **sensation** made him want to cry. It was a hard **chore**, but he **persisted**. He worked **overnight**. By morning, the sled was finished.

Mike called Joe on the telephone. He said, "Hi Joe. Come over to my house right away."

Joe didn't know why Mike wanted him to come over. When Joe arrived, Mike told him, "Joe, it **irritated** me the other day when you said mean things about my card to Jane. You weren't **kidding** when you said those mean things. But I'm not like you. I just built this sled, and I'll let you ride it with me if you are nice."

They became friends, and Joe was **grateful** that Mike was so nice to him. He learned that it is more fun to be nice than to be mean.



Reading Comprehension

3

PART A Mark each statement T for true or F for false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. ____ Joe offended Mike by saying mean things about his valentine, Jane.

2. ____ Mike found a bunch of pine trees.

3. ____ Joe was a decent person at the beginning of the reading.

4. ____ Mike persisted even though the chore was very hard.

5. ____ Mike used his elbows to put together loose pieces.

6. ____ Mike told Joe he was sharing his new sled because he was a civil person.

PART B Answer the questions.

1. Which item did Mike NOT use when building the sled?
 - a. Ax
 - b. Nail
 - c. Alley
 - d. Valentine
2. At the end of the reading, Joe _____.
 - a. was grateful that Mike was nice
 - b. did not get to ride on the sled
 - c. irritated Mike again
 - d. said he was kidding
3. Why did Mike feel a painful sensation?
 - a. Joe teased him with the hammer.
 - b. He dragged the wood home.
 - c. He got a scar on his face.
 - d. He bumped his elbow on the boards.
4. According to the reading, when did Mike build the sled?
 - a. The next morning
 - b. Overnight
 - c. Before school
 - d. Throughout the day