

LESSON 6

■ chiefly ■ coarse ■ commonplace ■ comparatively ■ complex
■ conventional ■ curious ■ exceedingly ■ exclusively ■ immense
■ indeed ■ rigid ■ routinely ■ sufficiently ■ visibly

chiefly *adv.* most importantly or most commonly
adj. chief *Syn.* mostly
Houses are made chiefly of wood products.
Corn is the chief crop of the Midwest.

coarse *adj.* not fine or smooth, not delicate
adv. coarsely *Syn.* rough
n. coarseness
Sandpaper is an extremely coarse material.
Wool clothing has certain coarseness in texture.

commonplace *adj.* ordinary
Syn. frequent
Soon it will be commonplace to see the person to whom you are talking on the phone.
Female lawyers are commonplace in the United States.

comparatively *adv.* being measured or judged by comparison
adj. comparative *Syn.* relatively
v. compare
n. comparison
It was comparatively easy for him to learn baseball because he had been a cricket player.
If you compare algebra and trigonometry, you'll discover that algebra is less complex.

complex *adj.* difficult to understand or explain;
n. complexity *having many parts*
Syn. complicated
The businessmen astutely approached the complex production problem.
The universe has a complexity beyond comprehension.

conventional *adj.* following accepted rules or standards
adv. conventionally *Syn.* traditional
n. convention
Professor Canfield agreed with the conventional theory about the origin of the Basque language.
To become integrated into a society, you must learn the conventions of that society.

curious *adj.* odd or strange; eager to learn
adv. curiously *Syn.* peculiar

n. curiosity

A curious object was discovered in the remains.
Sally was curiously interested in the history of Alaska.

exceedingly

adv. very; to an unusual degree

v. exceed

Syn. extremely

n. excess

adj. excessive

adv. excessively

In tropical zones, it is exceedingly hot and humid.

It is not safe to exceed the speed limit.

exclusively

adv. no one else; nothing else; not shared

adj. exclusive

with others

n. exclusion

Syn. restrictively

v. exclude

This room is used exclusively by the faculty.

They excluded everyone under age 21 from the contest.

immense

adj. extremely large

adv. immensely

Syn. massive

n. immensity

From the mountaintop you can see the immense valley.

She was immensely interested in the idea of teaching a foreign language.

indeed

adv. certainly; really (used to make a statement stronger)

Syn. truly

Did he indeed go to the infirmary.

It is very hot indeed.

rigid

adj. not easy to bend; firm, inflexible

adv. rigidly

Syn. stiff

The teacher was very rigid in his ideas about class attendance.

He adhered rigidly to his opinions about marriage.

routinely

adv. regularly, usually done

adj. routine

Syn. ordinarily

n. routine

She routinely gets a physical examination.

It is routine for students to become homesick at times.

sufficiently

adv. enough, in a satisfying manner

n. sufficiency

Syn. adequately

adj. sufficient

v. suffice

Jenny is sufficiently mature to make her own decisions.

Her income is sufficient for her needs.

visibly

adv. can be seen

adj. visible

* power of imagination or wisdom,
especially with regard to the future

n. vision*

v. view

adj. visionary*

Syn. noticeably

Ken was visibly upset about his performance evaluation.

Stars are more visible on a clear fall evening.

MATCHING

Choose the synonym.

1. stiff
(A) delicate
(B) agile
(C) rigid
(D) astute

2. traditional
(A) arbitrary
(B) astounding
(C) conventional
(D) frequent

3. indeed
(A) truly
(B) albeit
(C) abroad
(D) only

4. curious
(A) apparent
(B) brilliant
(C) peculiar
(D) enhanced

5. adequately
(A) sufficiently
(B) deceptively
(C) intensely
(D) amazingly

6. immense
(A) abrupt
(B) massive
(C) ongoing
(D) complicated

7. exceedingly
(A) resiliently
(B) extremely
(C) assertively
(D) resolutely

8. visibly
(A) noticeably
(B) frequently
(C) persuasively
(D) encouragingly

9. ordinarily
(A) restrictively
(B) coarsely
(C) cautiously
(D) routinely

10. restrictively
(A) exclusively
(B) adversely
(C) roughly
(D) relatively

TEST QUESTIONS

Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. Water is easily the most complex of all the familiar substances that are single chemical compounds.

- (A) conventional
- (B) curious
- (C) valuable
- (D) complicated

2. Contrary to popular opinion, the origin of the circus is comparatively recent, having little in common with ancient Roman circuses.

- (A) apparently
- (B) relatively
- (C) exceedingly
- (D) sufficiently

3. The cotton gin was commonplace on many nineteenth-century farms.

- (A) often required
- (B) sorely needed
- (C) frequently seen
- (D) visibly absent

4. Under the microscope, cultivated silk fibers look coarse.

- (A) rough
- (B) rigid
- (C) delicate
- (D) immense

5. The sweet potato is chiefly grown in the southern United States.

- (A) exclusively
- (B) mostly
- (C) rarely
- (D) successfully