

# Lesson 10

For more practice and games, go to [www.WordlyWise3000.com](http://www.WordlyWise3000.com).



## Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**ail**  
āi v. To cause sickness, pain, or trouble.  
"What **ails** you?" the doctor asked.

**ailment** n. An illness; a disease.  
Measles is a common childhood **ailment**.

**ailing** adj. In poor health.  
I have been **ailing** all winter.

**banish**  
ba' nish v. 1. To force someone out of the country.  
When the tsars ruled Russia, lawbreakers were **banished** to Siberia.

2. To get rid of completely.  
Joe was such a cheerful person, he **banished** gloom wherever he went.

**communicate**  
kə myōō' ni kāt v. To make known; to give or exchange information.  
Since I hate to write letters, we **communicate** mostly by telephone.

**communication** (kə myōō ni kāt shən) n. The exchange of information between people.  
The misunderstanding was caused by a lack of **communication** between us.

**communicative** adj. Willing to speak; eager to talk.  
When I asked her where she had been, she was not very **communicative**, replying only, "Out."

**console**  
kən sōl' v. To make less sad; to comfort.  
My parents tried to **console** me when my best friend moved away.

**consolation** (kən sə lā' shən) n. Comfort.  
I knew I could always turn to my aunt for **consolation** whenever I was upset.

**cower**  
kou' əv v. To shrink from, as if from fear.  
When I saw the poor dog **cower**, I knew its master was cruel.

**deliberate**  
di li' bə rət adj. Carefully thought out; not hasty.  
Although my mother was angry, she spoke in a calm and **deliberate** manner.

v. (di li' bə rāt) To think carefully in order to make up one's mind.  
We **deliberated** a long time before deciding to move to Arizona.

**depth** *n.* Distance from top to bottom or front to back; deepness.  
depth The floodwaters reached a **depth** of several feet.

**depths** *n. pl.* The innermost part or the deepest part.  
The treasure chest lay buried in the **depths** of the sea.

**desire** *v.* To wish for; to want very much.  
di zīr' A person who is famished **desires** just one thing—food!

*n.* A strong wish.  
Pizarro's **desire** for gold was so great he ordered the Inca king, Atahualpa, to fill three rooms with it.

**desirable** *adj.* Pleasing, agreeable.  
My new school is in a very **desirable** location.

**livelihood** *n.* The means of supporting oneself.  
liv' lē hood The storekeepers in Key West depend on tourists for their **livelihood**.

**misfortune** *n.* 1. Bad luck; trouble.  
mis fôr' chən He had the **misfortune** to break his leg right before the big game.  
2. An unlucky event.  
The 1992 hurricane was Florida's worst **misfortune** in many years.

**orphan** *n.* A child whose parents are dead.  
ôr' fən Tom Sawyer lived with his Aunt Polly because he was an **orphan**.

**precipice** *n.* A very high and steep cliff.  
pre' sə pəs We stood watchfully on the edge of the **precipice** and looked down.

**precipitous** (pri si' pə təs) *adj.* 1. Very steep.  
The Two-Mile Terror ski trail has many **precipitous** slopes.

2. Hasty; abrupt; done without careful thought.  
Joining the Navy so suddenly was a **precipitous** act.

**regain** *v.* To get back.  
ri gān' By following the doctor's orders, I slowly **regained** my health.

**slay** *v.* To kill violently. (**slain**, past participle)  
slā The scene where Saint George **slays** the dragon comes right at the end of the play.

**symptom** *n.* A sign of something.  
simp' təm Headaches can be a **symptom** of eyestrain.