

Lesson 14

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



Word List

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

afford
ə fɔrd'

v. 1. To be able to pay for.

Can you **afford** a new pair of running shoes?

2. To be able to do.

When you're on the soccer team, you can't **afford** to miss a night's sleep.

3. To give; to provide.

Music **affords** me much pleasure.

boast
bɔst

v. 1. To talk with too much pride in oneself or in what one owns or has done; to brag.

Ben **boasted** about all the games he had won.

2. To have and to take a proper pride in having.

San Francisco **boasts** one of the finest bridges in the world, the Golden Gate Bridge.

n. An act of boasting.

"It was just a **boast**," Julio said. "I can't really run five miles."

chord
kɔrd

n. Three or more notes of music played together.

Becca played a few **chords** on the guitar.

exceptional
ek sep' shən əl

adj. Unusually good.

The batik cloth was of **exceptional** quality.

fortunate
fɔr' chə nət

adj. Lucky.

You are **fortunate** to have such kind friends.

fringe
frinj

n. 1. An edge made of short lengths of material such as thread, used to decorate clothes, curtains, etc.

My skirt had a **fringe** down the side.

2. An outside edge.

At the concert, I stood at the **fringe** of the crowd.

humble
hum' bəl

adj. 1. Plain and simple.

Abraham Lincoln was raised in a **humble** log cabin.

2. Not proud; modest.

In her **humble** speech of thanks, the new mayor said she would need all the help she could get.

v. To bring down to defeat.

Our soccer team **humbled** Newton High with a score of seven goals to one.

meadow
me' dō

n. A field of grass or wildflowers.

In the middle of the **meadow** stood a cow and its calf.

melancholy
me' lən kəl ē

adj. Filled with sorrow; very sad.

The movie was so sad it left me in a **melancholy** mood.

n. A state of sadness.

His **melancholy** began to affect my mood and I grew more and more dejected.

obstinate
äb' stə nət

adj. Not willing to give in; stubborn.

You can't persuade him to do anything—he's too **obstinate**.

plead
plēd

v. 1. To ask for something that is felt to be very important; to beg.

The family **pleaded** with reporters to leave them alone.

2. To respond to a charge by a court of law.

The prisoner said he wished to **plead** not guilty.

plunge
plunj

v. 1. To throw oneself into.

We **plunged** into the pool and swam a few laps.

2. To push or force quickly.

I **plunged** the spade into the earth.

3. To drop sharply.

The price of land near the new dump **plunged** last year.

n. A sudden dive or fall.

My spirits took a **plunge** when I saw the first page of the test.

relent
ri lent'

v. To become less strict.

My parents finally **relented** and said I could go to the concert.

submit
sub mit'

v. 1. To give to someone to look over or decide about.

Each student is asked to **submit** a picture for the yearbook.

2. To give in to someone or something.

My sister was always telling me what to do, but I refused to **submit** to her.

trudge
truj

v. To walk slowly and heavily, as though with great effort.

We had to **trudge** through deep snow to reach the door.