



## Word Lists

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

**apparent**  
ə par' ənt

*adj.* 1. Clear.

It's **apparent** that no one's home.

2. Seeming or appearing to be.

The **apparent** cause of increase in the price of lettuce was the spring freeze.

**ban**  
ban

*v.* To forbid, especially by passing a law or making a rule.

The hospital **bans** children from visiting patients.

*n.* A law or rule that forbids something.

There is a **ban** on wearing hats in class.

**concentrate**  
kən' sən trət

*v.* 1. To focus all one's thoughts or efforts on.

It's hard for me to **concentrate** on homework when I hear the kids outside.

2. To bring or come together in one place.

Factories were **concentrated** along the east side of the Harlem River.

**concentration** (kən sən trə shən) *n.* Giving total attention to something.

Don't sing! It ruins my **concentration**.

**concentrated** *adj.* Of increased strength or thickness.

For breakfast, mix one part of **concentrated** orange juice to three parts water.

**concern**  
kən sɜrn'

*v.* 1. To be about; to interest.

Homelessness is a subject that should **concern** everyone.

2. To trouble or worry.

My parents are **concerned** about my brother's health.

*n.* 1. Something that involves a person or people.

Health care is a big **concern** for most people.

2. A business organization.

After college she got a job with a banking **concern**.

**consider**  
kən si' dər

*v.* 1. To think about carefully.

Since my teaching job is a temporary one, it's time to **consider** what I should do next.

2. To take into account.

Please **consider** my feelings when you comment on the story I wrote.

3. To believe.

I may only be seventeen, but I **consider** myself an adult.

**contrast**  
kən trɑst' v. 1. To compare in order to show the differences.  
Before deciding on the design for the new gym, we are going to **contrast** the two suggested plans.  
2. To show differences when compared.  
His actions **contrast** greatly with his words.  
n. (kən' trɑst) A difference.  
Our new apartment is a welcome **contrast** to our old one.

**fragile**  
frɑ' jəl *adj.* Easily broken or damaged.  
This antique chair is so **fragile** that it would break if anyone sat on it.

**menace**  
me' nəʃ *n.* Something that is likely to do harm or is regarded as dangerous.  
Icebergs are a **menace** to ships in the North Atlantic.  
*v.* To be a danger to; to put at risk.  
The approaching hurricane **menaces** the entire South Carolina coast.

**pounce**  
paʊns *v.* To swoop down on and seize.  
The cat **pounced** on the mouse as soon as it ventured from its hole.

**prompt**  
prɑmpt *adj.* Quick; without too much time passing.  
I sent a **prompt** reply to Ahmed's letter.  
*v.* To cause to act.  
Seeing ants all over the counter **prompted** me to spend the afternoon cleaning the kitchen.

**recent**  
ri's ənt *adj.* Of a time just before the present.  
The **recent** outbreak of measles resulted in the temporary closing of our school.

**symbol**  
sɪm' bəl *n.* Something that stands for something else.  
The dove is a **symbol** of peace.

**talon**  
tə' lən *n.* The claw of a bird, usually one that kills animals for food.  
The hawk clutched its victim firmly in its **talons**.

**trophy**  
trɒ' fi *n.* Something, such as a prize or award; given to show success in an activity.  
The Heisman **trophy** is a top football honor.

**widespread**  
wɪd' spred' *adj.* 1. Spread or stretched out over a large area.  
The **widespread** wings of the condor can reach ten feet from tip to tip.  
2. Happening or found over a large area.  
There was **widespread** frost last night.