

# Lesson 5

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.

**abrupt**  
ə brupt'

*adj.* Happening suddenly, without warning.

When the bus made an **abrupt** stop, several people were thrown off balance.

**achieve**  
ə chev'

*v.* To do what one sets out to do.

Even though she was blind and deaf, Helen Keller **achieved** her goal of graduating from college.

**achievement** *n.* Something done that takes skill or effort.

Landing astronauts on the moon was a great **achievement**.

**attempt**  
ə tempt'

*v.* To try; to make an effort.

When I **attempted** to leave class early, the teacher asked me to wait until the period was over.

*n.* A try.

The athlete cleared the bar in the high jump on her third **attempt**.

**contempt**  
kən tempt'

*n.* A feeling that someone or something is bad or unworthy.

Their classmates felt nothing but **contempt** for those who refused to help the new student.

**entertain**  
en tər tăn'

*v.* 1. To interest and amuse.

My little brother Ramon **entertained** himself for hours with his new paints.

2. To have guests.

We **entertained** some old friends on Thanksgiving weekend.

3. To have in mind.

Lin is **entertaining** the idea of going to soccer camp next summer.

**glimpse**  
glimps

*v.* To get a quick look at.

I **glimpsed** a black bear near our campground.

*n.* A quick or hasty look.

I was thrilled to get a **glimpse** of Pavarotti leaving the opera house.

**mock**  
mək

*v.* To make fun of.

Cinderella's stepsisters **mocked** her for thinking she could go to the ball.

*adj.* Not real; pretended.

**Mock** turtle soup is really made of veal broth, not turtle meat.

**sensitive** *sen' sə tiv*  
*adj.* 1. Quick to notice or feel.  
My doctor is very **sensitive** to my feelings.  
2. Easily affected by even slight change.  
Film used in cameras is very **sensitive** to light.

**persist** *pər sist'*  
v. 1. To keep on doing or trying.  
In spite of many falls on the ice, I **persisted** and finally did a figure-eight.

2. To go on and on.  
If this rain **persists**, we'll have to cut our vacation short.

**persistence** *n.* Sticking to something; not giving up.  
Emil's **persistence** was rewarded when the tenth law school he applied to accepted him.

**persistent** *adj.* Refusing to give up.  
The **persistent** reporter kept asking questions until she had found out all there was to know about the case.

**persuade** *pər swād'*  
v. To win someone over by arguing or asking.  
Frank finally **persuaded** me to read *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

**persuasive** *adj.* Having the power to persuade.  
Mary was so **persuasive** that we agreed to help her paint her room.

**phase** *fāz*  
*n.* A stage in a series of changes.  
The full moon is one of the **phases** of the moon.

**quaint** *kwānt*  
*adj.* Odd or unusual in a pleasing or old-fashioned way.  
Wooden shoes seem **quaint** to Americans, but not to the people of Holland.

**recall** *ri kōl'*  
v. 1. To remember.  
Do you **recall** what time we left for the soccer game?  
2. To call or take back.  
The manufacturer **recalled** the cars because of a problem in the steering.

**reject** *ri jekt'*  
v. To refuse to accept or use.  
The school board **rejected** the plan for the new gym because its cost was excessive.  
*n.* (*rē' jekt*) Something that falls short of what is acceptable.  
Peter buys factory **rejects** at the pottery store for much less than the price of perfect pieces.

**revise** *ri vīz'*  
v. 1. To go over carefully in order to correct or improve.  
I don't like to **revise** my stories, but I have to admit they get better when I do.

2. To change in order to bring up to date.  
The publishers of that dictionary **revise** it every eight or ten years.