

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

abolish

ə bäl' ish

v. To bring to an end; to do away with.

Some people support a plan to **abolish** violence in movies.

agony

ag' ə nē

n. Great pain of mind or body; suffering.

The sprained ankle caused him **agony** for several weeks.

agonizing *adj.* (ag' ə nīz īn) Very painful.

Watching their sick child in the hospital bed was **agonizing** to the parents.



Tell your partner about a time you were in agony when you got hurt.

catapult

kat' ə pult

n. A machine used in ancient wars that threw objects with great force.

Roman **catapults** could throw six-pound objects almost a third of a mile.

v. To move or be moved suddenly and with great force, as if by a catapult.

The Stones' latest song **catapulted** them to the top of the music charts.

character

kâr' ək tər

n. 1. The qualities that make a person or place different or special.

Your friend's support during your long illness demonstrates her true **character**.

2. A person in a story, movie, or play.

There are so many **characters** in the book, it's hard to remember who everyone is.

3. A letter or symbol used in writing or printing.

The license-plate number NKT605 contains six **characters**.



Discuss with your partner your favorite character from a TV show or a movie.

denounce

dē nouns'

v. 1. To speak out against something; to criticize.

The principal **denounced** the students who acted out during the school assembly.

2. To accuse someone of doing wrong.

Carla **denounced** Victor, who sat next to her, for cheating on the test.



Talk to your partner about how you would feel if someone denounced you for something you didn't do.

escalate

es' kə lāt

v. To go up or increase in size or scope.

If house prices continue to **escalate**, many people will be unable to afford to buy a home.

grim
grim

adj. 1. Cruel; fierce.

There were many **grim** battles during the Civil War.

2. Unfriendly or threatening; stern.

The coach's **grim** face expressed his displeasure at our team's poor performance.

3. Unpleasant; disturbing.

We heard the **grim** news that our class hamster has gotten very sick.



Make a grim face at your partner.

harbor
här' bär

n. A protected place along a seacoast where ships can find shelter.

In the summer the **harbor** is busy with sailboats going in and out.

v. 1. To give shelter to; to take care of by hiding.

We **harbored** the injured baby rabbit in my sister's room until our mother found it.

2. To hold and nourish a thought or feeling in the mind.

Try not to **harbor** anger against the person who stole your bike.

inflict
in flikt'



v. To cause something painful to be felt.

The hurricane **inflicted** severe damage on coastal areas.

Tell your partner what you would do if a storm inflicted damage on your home.

loathe
lōth

v. To hate or dislike greatly.

Gandhi, the great Indian leader, **loathed** violence.

loathing *n.* A feeling of hatred.

Their **loathing** of cruelty to animals led them to set up a shelter for unwanted pets.



Discuss with your partner the type of weather you loathe.

meddle
med' əl

v. To involve oneself in other people's affairs without being asked.

When my grandparents retired, they could have **meddled** in my parents' lives, but they didn't.

meddlesome *adj.* Given to taking part in others' affairs without being asked.

If you think I am being **meddlesome**, just tell me to mind my own business.

monstrous

män' strəs

adj. 1. Causing shock; horrible; wicked.Mikaela begged her parents not to carry out their **monstrous** plan to move her family to another country.

2. Extremely large.

A **monstrous** roller coaster was the most exciting ride at the fair.**rouse**

rouz

v. 1. To awaken, to wake up.The children were sleeping so soundly that it was difficult to **rouse** them.

2. To stir up; to excite.

Martin Luther King Jr. **roused** the American people with his 1963 speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.**steadfast**

sted' fast

adj. Unchanging; steady; loyal.Rigo and Moni remained **steadfast** friends throughout their school years.**translate**

trans' lāt

v. To put into a different language.*The Little Prince*, which was written in French, was **translated** into English by Katherine Woods.*Tell your partner a word or phrase you can translate from another language.***6A****Using Words in Context**

Read the following sentences. If the word in bold is used correctly, write C on the line. If the word is used incorrectly, write I on the line.

1. (a) The eggs were **abolished** in the frying pan. ____
(b) Slavery in the United States was **abolished** in 1863. ____
(c) Ancient laws need to be looked at and, in some cases, **abolished**. ____
(d) The old library was torn down, and a new one was **abolished** in its place. ____
2. (a) The novel was written in Spanish but has been **translated** into English. ____
(b) He was **translated** across the street on his skateboard. ____
(c) There's a place online where you can **translate** words. ____
(d) Manuel had **translated** himself into someone we did not recognize. ____

3. (a) The students **harbored** hopes of getting out of school early. ____
 (b) The **harbor** was a safe place for boats to anchor. ____
 (c) We **harbored** the baby bird until it was old enough to fly. ____
 (d) Diego had worked as a **harbor** when he was younger. ____
4. (a) Who is your favorite cartoon **character**? ____
 (b) Help me pry the **character** off this container. ____
 (c) How you treat others shows your true **character**. ____
 (d) I couldn't read the tiny **characters** on the sign at the park. ____
5. (a) The **grim** look on the doctor's face was not a good sign. ____
 (b) Did you hear the **grim** news about my amazing new soccer ball? ____
 (c) Bastian knew from the **grim** way his mother glared at him that he was in trouble. ____
 (d) We always bring delicious **grim** food to our annual family reunion. ____
6. (a) The team **roused** all night to rest up for the game the next day. ____
 (b) We were **roused** at four a.m. by the ringing of the alarm bell. ____
 (c) The student **roused** the class with her speech. ____
 (d) The volcano began to **rouse** yesterday morning. ____
7. (a) Shireen is trying to **denounce** her TV time so she can read more. ____
 (b) My teacher **denounces** the idea that homework is a bad thing. ____
 (c) Potato chips were **denounced** by the school parents as unhealthy. ____
 (d) It was **denounced** over the speaker that the bus would depart. ____
8. (a) The statue has been strong and **steadfast** for many years. ____
 (b) When the wind stopped, the boat was **steadfast** in the water. ____
 (c) A dog can be a **steadfast** friend. ____
 (d) This rain has been **steadfast** for five days now. ____
9. (a) Liam was awarded a **meddle** for first place. ____
 (b) The room was such a **meddle**, it took us all day to clean up. ____
 (c) I try never to **meddle** in other people's lives. ____
 (d) **Meddlesome** people do things without asking. ____
10. (a) The **inflict** caused by the tornado wasn't too bad. ____
 (b) The tornado **inflicted** damage on only a few buildings. ____
 (c) I do not want to **inflict** my sickness onto others. ____
 (d) I was **inflicted** with guilt because I didn't help my best friend. ____

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Making Connections

Circle the letter next to each correct answer. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. Which word or words go with *suffering*?
(a) character (b) misery (c) agony (d) steadfast
2. Which word or words go with *weapon*?
(a) beverage (b) catapult (c) harbor (d) horizon
3. Which word or words go with *weather*?
(a) gale (b) character (c) blizzard (d) hail
4. Which word or words go with *move*?
(a) elevate (b) descend (c) denounce (d) escalate
5. Which word or words go with *hate*?
(a) loathe (b) abolish (c) detest (d) revive
6. Which word or words go with *size*?
(a) meddlesome (b) gigantic (c) accurate (d) monstrous
7. Which word or words go with *cause pain*?
(a) escalate (b) impose (c) inflict (d) abolish
8. Which word or words go with *sailing*?
(a) navigate (b) harbor (c) voyage (d) catapult
9. Which word or words go with *strong dislike*?
(a) detest (b) meddle (c) loathe (d) despise
10. Which word or words go with *imposing*?
(a) sullen (b) meddlesome (c) obstinate (d) stingy

Determining Meanings

Circle the letter next to each answer choice that correctly completes the sentence. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. We **roused** our sisters
- (a) at seven in the morning.
 - (b) in separate rooms.
 - (c) into cleaning their rooms.
 - (d) by telling them we were going to an amusement park.

2. You were **inflicting**
- (a) punishment on someone who had broken the rules.
 - (b) harm even though you didn't mean to.
 - (c) your best friend in what you were doing.
 - (d) the meaning of what I had said.

3. We **loathed**
- (a) the dishes until they were clean.
 - (b) the idea of moving somewhere new.
 - (c) leaving such a delightful spot, but we had to.
 - (d) those scoundrels who tricked people.

4. Each **character**
- (a) in the movie has something to hide.
 - (b) on the sign must be easy to see.
 - (c) had room for just four people.
 - (d) was mixed together to make green paint.

5. The astronauts were **catapulted**
- (a) into space aboard a rocket ship.
 - (b) from the rocket into the ocean with a parachute.
 - (c) food that didn't taste very good.
 - (d) a blanket when it got too cold.

6. His friends were **steadfastly**
- (a) loyal, even though he had let them down.
 - (b) staying away from him until he apologized for his rude joke.
 - (c) running and stopping because they didn't know where to go.
 - (d) changing their minds again and again.

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7. A **monstrously**

- (a) large whale surfaced on the water and then dove down again.
- (b) severe storm threatened to wreck dozens of boats.
- (c) false lie was told by Felix about the teacher.
- (d) white piece of paper was on the shelf.

8. Anger **escalated** when

- (a) the elevator got stuck.
- (b) the two best friends wouldn't stop fighting.
- (c) everyone relaxed.
- (d) Tio Domingo accused Felipe of cheating.

6D

Completing Sentences

Complete the sentences to demonstrate your knowledge of the words in bold.

1. It would be **agonizing** to

_____.

2. My favorite fictional **character** is

_____.

3. Something a **steadfast** friend might do is

_____.

4. If I could, I would **abolish**

_____.

5. I would **denounce** a friend if

_____.

6. A **grim** face looks

_____.

7. When an argument **escalates**, that means it

_____.

8. I sometimes **harbor** thoughts about

_____.

9. A food that I feel **loathing** for is

10. Right after I **rouse** myself in the morning, I

6E

Vocabulary in Context

Read the passage.



The Pen Is Mightier Than the Sword

In the early nineteenth century, a number of Americans supported slavery, a practice that had been widely accepted since ancient times. Even people who **loathed** slavery, and there were a great many, thought that there was little that one person could do about it. They were wrong. Harriet Beecher Stowe, who was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1811, was someone who caused important changes. She believed that slavery was a **monstrous** crime. While living in Ohio in the 1840s, she used her house to **harbor** enslaved people. These people had escaped from their Southern owners and were making their way north to freedom. In 1850, Harriet moved to Maine with her minister husband. There she wrote a novel called *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The book not only awakened people to the horrors of slavery but also **catapulted** her to world fame.

Her book painted a **grim** picture of enslaved life. Readers shared the **agony** that the enslaved mother Eliza felt when she accidentally overheard that her only child was to be sold to a slave trader. They eagerly followed Eliza's adventures. First Eliza escaped with her child. Together they crossed the half-frozen Ohio River by jumping from one broken piece of ice to the next. Armed men and yelping dogs were close behind. Readers breathed a sigh of relief when Eliza and her child reached Canada and freedom.

Another **character** in the book is the wise and kindly enslaved man, Uncle Tom. He was sold to Simon Legree. Legree was a man who took pleasure in **inflicting** severe punishment on the people he enslaved. He ordered Uncle Tom to give a whipping to a sick and weak woman who had failed to pick enough cotton. Tom refused. So Legree had him whipped instead. Later, Uncle Tom **steadfastly** refused to tell Legree where two

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runaway enslaved people were hiding. Legree had him beaten so severely that he died. Readers wept.

Uncle Tom's Cabin sold millions of copies. It was **translated** into many different languages. It was also made into a stage play. The play was performed all over the world. The book helped **rouse** the people of America, especially those in the North, into demanding an end to slavery. Of course, not everyone looked with favor on *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. It was banned in the South. Slave owners and their supporters accused Harriet Beecher Stowe of **meddling** in their lives. She ignored their protests; she continued to **denounce** slavery in speeches, articles, and books.

The quarrel between the North and the South over the question of slavery **escalated**. In 1863, in the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed an order **abolishing** slavery in states then under Confederate control. Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel played no small part in bringing about the war that ended slavery. Her life shows that just one determined person can make a difference.

► Answer each of the following questions with a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. What differing views did Americans have of slavery?

2. What happened to the quarrel between the North and the South over slavery?

3. What event occurred thirteen years after *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was written?

4. Why did Harriet Beecher Stowe suddenly become famous?
