



# CHAPTER 5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pt. 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Pt. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

attest  
attribute  
discern  
dispatch  
enhance

enigma  
exemplify  
mobile  
nocturnal  
orient

## Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

1 **attest**  
(ə-tĕst')  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Attest to* means

- Anyone who has seen the Golden Gate Bridge in the rose-gold light of sunset can **attest** to its beauty.
- Witnesses **attest** to the fact that rainfall makes the ground of Death Valley so slippery that boulders slide across it.

A. to declare to be true.      B. to wish for.      C. to forget easily.

2 **attribute**  
(ă-t' rə-byōōt')  
-noun

\_\_\_ *Attribute* means

- A three-hundred-page novel written in 1939 has the odd **attribute** of containing no *e*, the most common letter in English.
- Some cars have computerized **attributes** such as windshield wipers that automatically turn on when it rains.

A. a tendency.      B. a defect.      C. a characteristic.

3 **discern**  
(dĭ-sŭrn')  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Discern* means

- An experienced jeweler can easily **discern** whether a diamond is genuine or fake.
- People who are red-green colorblind can **discern** the colors of traffic lights by recognizing shades of gray.

A. to see clearly.      B. to disregard.      C. to change.

4 **dispatch**  
(dĭ-spăch')  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Dispatch* means

- I wanted to **dispatch** the letter as quickly as possible, so I took it to the post office instead of dropping it into a mailbox.
- At work Harold is treated like an errand boy. His boss often **dispatches** him to the deli for sandwiches or donuts.

A. to represent.      B. to send.      C. to drive.

5 **enhance**  
(ĕn-hăns')  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Enhance* means

- Our gym teacher **enhanced** her appearance with a more attractive hairstyle.
- The college catalogue stated that the writing course would "**enhance** all students' writing skills" by improving their grammar and style.

A. to make better.      B. to recognize.      C. to reduce.

6 **enigma**  
(ĭ-nĭg'mə)  
-noun

\_\_\_ *Enigma* means

- How the thief entered our house was an **enigma** until we remembered that the cellar door had been left unlocked.
- The "singing sands" of Scotland remained an **enigma** until scientists learned that footsteps caused the round grains of sand and the surrounding air pockets to make musical vibrations.

A. a comfort.      B. a puzzle.      C. an error.

**7 exemplify**  
(ĭg-zĕm'plĕ-fĭ')  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Exemplify* means

- ⊛ The many IRS employees who give citizens inaccurate information **exemplify** governmental incompetence.
- ⊛ Mr. Ramirez, who emphasizes original thinking and freedom of expression, **exemplifies** the best in teaching.

A. to illustrate.                      B. to save.                      C. to oppose.

**8 mobile**  
(mō'bəl)  
-adjective

\_\_\_ *Mobile* means

- ⊛ My parents own a **mobile** home, which can be moved from place to place.
- ⊛ Every morning when I was in the hospital, a volunteer wheeled a **mobile** library into my room.

A. active.                      B. expensive.                      C. movable.

**9 nocturnal**  
(nŏk-tŭr'nəl)  
-adjective

\_\_\_ *Nocturnal* means

- ⊛ I know when my brother has enjoyed one of his **nocturnal** feasts because I find a stack of dishes in the sink in the morning.
- ⊛ Since owls are **nocturnal**, they are rarely seen during the day.

A. noisy.                      B. busy.                      C. of the night.

**10 orient**  
(ŏr'ĕ-ĕnt)  
-verb

\_\_\_ *Orient* means

- ⊛ When coming up from the subway, I often need to look at a street sign to **orient** myself.
- ⊛ Certain cars let drivers **orient** themselves in unfamiliar places with the help of an electronic map that shows the car's location.

A. to locate.                      B. to welcome.                      C. to question.

## Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ A mystery or puzzle
2. \_\_\_\_\_ To send to a specific place or on specific business
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Of, about, or happening in the night; active at night
4. \_\_\_\_\_ To make a statement about something on the basis of personal experience; bear witness; testify
5. \_\_\_\_\_ To determine one's location or direction; to locate in relation to a direction (east, west, etc.)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ To recognize; detect
7. \_\_\_\_\_ To improve; add to the strength, beauty, or value of something
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Moving or able to move from place to place
9. \_\_\_\_\_ A quality or feature of a person or thing
10. \_\_\_\_\_ To be an example of; represent; be typical of

CAUTION: Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.



## Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

A. attest  
F. enigma

B. attribute  
G. exemplify

C. discern  
H. mobile

D. dispatch  
I. nocturnal

E. enhance  
J. orient

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Fresh garlic may not \_\_\_ the breath, but it certainly improves spaghetti sauce.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A witness \_\_\_(e)d to the truth of the statement that she had indeed seen the robber drive away in the stolen car.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When I was younger, my mother used to \_\_\_ me to the store for milk or some missing cooking ingredient as often as twice a day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The lives of such reformers as Susan B. Anthony, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King \_\_\_ greatness.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Science does not have enough evidence to solve the \_\_\_ of whether or not there is other intelligent life in the universe.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The kids playing hide and seek decided on a(n)\_\_\_ escape. The darkness would hide them as they ran through the forest.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Sue's hairpiece is so natural-looking that it's impossible to \_\_\_ where the hairpiece ends and her own hair begins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The positions of the stars help sailors \_\_\_ themselves on the open seas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. My mother is unable to walk, but with her wheelchair she is \_\_\_ enough to get around her apartment, move along a sidewalk, and even shop at a mall.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Giant kelp, a form of seaweed, has some amazing \_\_\_s. Not only is it the world's fastest-growing vegetable, but the more it is cut, the faster it grows.

NOTE: Now check your answers to these items by turning to page 129. Going over the answers carefully will help you prepare for the next two practices, for which answers are not given.



## Sentence Check 2

Using the answer lines provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

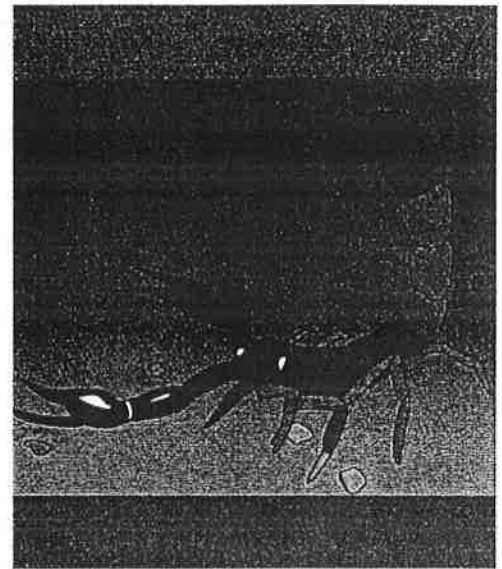
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1-2. Because Helen Keller could not hear or see, the keenness of her other senses was \_\_\_(e)d by use. It is said that she could \_\_\_ who was in a room simply by using her sense of smell.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3-4. A \_\_\_ robot that collects and delivers mail throughout the office building \_\_\_s itself with electric eyes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5-6. In fables, animals often illustrate human \_\_\_s. In the story of the race between the tortoise and the hare, the tortoise is meant to \_\_\_ the human qualities of being slow but steady. Despite competing against a much speedier antagonist<sup>o</sup>, he perseveres<sup>o</sup> and defeats the overly confident hare.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 7-8. The reason the boss likes to \_\_\_\_\_ Oliver on lengthy errands is no \_\_\_\_\_.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone knows that the office functions better with Oliver out of the way.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9-10. Anyone who has ever gone to college can \_\_\_\_\_ to the fact that during final  
 \_\_\_\_\_ exams, many students become \_\_\_\_\_ animals. They study all night before an  
 \_\_\_\_\_ exam and then, once the test is over, sleep the rest of the day.

## Final Check: *Animal Senses*

Here is a final opportunity for you to strengthen your knowledge of the ten words. First read the following selection carefully. Then fill in each blank with a word from the box at the top of the previous page. (Context clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank.) Use each word once.

Animals possess sensory powers that humans lack. Homing pigeons fly with great speed and accuracy when (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (e)d with messages to faraway places. How do pigeons (2) \_\_\_\_\_ themselves in unfamiliar regions? This remains something of a(n) (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The mystery, however, is partly explained by a pigeon's ability to see ultraviolet light, which reveals the sun's position even through clouds. In addition, pigeons can hear sound waves that have traveled hundreds of miles. These waves (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a pigeon's sense of direction by indicating distant mountains and seas. Pigeons even appear to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ changes in the earth's magnetic field.



Bats have impressive (6) \_\_\_\_\_ s equally worthy of acclaim°. As (7) \_\_\_\_\_ animals, they search for food in complete darkness. They do so by screeching in tones higher than any human can hear and then locating prey by the returning echoes.

Scorpions also (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the night hunter. Tiny leg hairs enable them to feel vibrations in the sand made by a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ insect as far as two feet away.

People with knowledge of the pigeon, bat, and scorpion can (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to the fact that such "inventions" as the magnetic compass, radar, and the motion detector are nothing new.

Scores      Sentence Check 2 \_\_\_\_\_%      Final Check \_\_\_\_\_%