



CHAPTER 6

Name _____

Pt. 1 _____

Pt. 2 _____

concurrent
confiscate
constitute
decipher
default

hypothetical
nominal
predominant
prerequisite
recession

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 concurrent

(kən-kûr'ənt)

-adjective

___ *Concurrent* means

- Having mistakenly registered for two **concurrent** classes, Joe had to drop one of them and choose a course that met at a different time.
- **Concurrent** with the closing of the steel mill was the opening of a new toy factory in town. As a result, most of the workers laid off from the mill found jobs at the new factory.

A. occurring at the same time. B. resulting. C. noticeable.

2 confiscate

(kɒn'fɪs-kāt')

-verb

___ *Confiscate* means

- "Hand 'em over," my father said. Just as we were really starting to have fun, he **confiscated** our entire supply of water balloons.
- Kelsey had her phone **confiscated** by the teacher because it was being used to cheat during a quiz. She had to have her parents go into the principal's office and have a meeting to get it back.

A. to distribute widely. B. to take possession of. C. to overlook.

3 constitute

(kɒn'stɪ-tōōt)

-verb

___ *Constitute* means

- In my opinion, a good movie, a pizza, and animated conversation **constitute** a perfect night out.
- Twelve business and professional people **constitute** the board of directors of the women's shelter. Among other things, they help raise funds for the shelter.

A. to repeat. B. to oppose. C. to form.

4 decipher

(dɪ-sɪ'fər)

-verb

___ *Decipher* means

- Why do contracts have to use language that's so difficult to **decipher**?
- If your teacher can't **decipher** your handwriting, you'll need to write your papers on a computer.

A. to figure out. B. to find. C. to improve.

5 default

(dɪ-fôlt')

-verb

___ *Default* means

- We won our case against the appliance repairman because he **defaulted** by failing to appear in court.
- Eli's mother said, "I'll co-sign on your car loan, but you have to make every payment. If you **default**, it will hurt my credit rating."

A. to act as expected. B. not to do something required. C. to begin.

6 hypothetical

(hɪ'pō-thēt'ɪ-kəl)

-adjective

___ *Hypothetical* means

- Imagine the **hypothetical** situation of going to live alone on an island. Which books and CDs would you take along?
- Law schools hold pretend court sessions with **hypothetical** cases so that students can practice their skills.

A. sure to happen. B. dangerous. C. imaginary.

7 nominal
(nŏm'ə-nəl)
-adjective

___ *Nominal* means

- ⊛ Except for a **nominal** registration fee, the camp for needy children is entirely free.
 - ⊛ Professor Banks gave us only **nominal** extra credit for participating in psychology experiments. She wanted our course grade to be based mainly on our test scores.
- A. enormous. B. very little. C. helpful.

8 predominant
(prĭ-dŏm'ə-nənt)
-adjective

___ *Predominant* means

- ⊛ Rock is the **predominant** music on that radio station, but country music is also played.
 - ⊛ Although the **predominant** type of car in New York City in 1900 used gasoline, a third of the cars ran on electricity.
- A. rare. B. main. C. temporary.

9 prerequisite
(prĕ-rĕk'wĭ-zĭt)
-noun

___ *Prerequisite* means

- ⊛ You can't take Spanish Literature I unless you've taken the **prerequisite**, Spanish III.
 - ⊛ Since she was allergic to cigarette smoke, Kaylin told Troy that his quitting smoking was a **prerequisite** for their marrying.
- A. a requirement. B. a penalty. C. a method.

10 recession
(rĭ-sĕsh'ən)
-noun

___ *Recession* means

- ⊛ While seashore businesses in the North suffer a **recession** in the winter, they do very well from spring to fall.
 - ⊛ The department store laid off twenty workers during the **recession**, but it rehired them when business improved.
- A. a rapid growth. B. a sale. C. an economic setback.

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. _____ To make up; be the parts of
2. _____ To fail to do something required
3. _____ Most common or most noticeable
4. _____ Something required beforehand
5. _____ To seize with authority; legally take possession of
6. _____ To interpret or read (something confusing or hard to make out)
7. _____ Slight; very small compared with what might be expected
8. _____ Happening or existing at the same time; simultaneous
9. _____ A temporary decline in business
10. _____ Supposed for the sake of argument or examination; imaginary; theoretical

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. concurrent | B. confiscate | C. constitute | D. decipher | E. default |
| F. hypothetical | G. nominal | H. predominant | I. prerequisite | J. recession |

- _____ 1. Anger was the ___ emotion among voters when they first heard that their taxes would be raised again.
- _____ 2. Although the two robberies were ___—both occurred at midnight on Friday—one man had planned them both.
- _____ 3. One hundred senators and 435 members of the House of Representatives ___ the United States Congress.
- _____ 4. A ___ for taking the driver's road test is passing a written test on the state's driving laws.
- _____ 5. The town library charges only a ___ fine for late books but a higher fine for late DVDs.
- _____ 6. Karim has such terrible handwriting that his wife couldn't ___ his message saying she should meet him at the restaurant.
- _____ 7. When the shoe factory closed, our little town went into a ___ because the laid-off workers had no money to spend at local businesses.
- _____ 8. The phone company refused to install a phone in Glen's new apartment because he had ___(e)d on several of his previous bills.
- _____ 9. After Justine borrowed the family car without permission for the third time, her parents ___(ed) her driver's license.
- _____ 10. To teach young children safety, many parents explain what to do in ___ situations, such as if a stranger asks them to go for a ride.

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. This summer, local children can sign up for art or music lessons for a ___ fee of \$3. They can't take both, though, since the classes will be ___.
- _____ 3–4. Although cancer and heart disease ___ the leading threats to life in the United States, car accidents are the ___ cause of death for teenagers.
- _____ 5–6. "It seems as if a degree in accounting is a ___ for understanding our tax laws," said Ken. "How else could anyone ___ the tax codes?"

_____ 7–8. The small print on the Bryants' mortgage stated that if they should _____ on payments, the bank had the right to _____ their house.

_____ 9–10. When Ms. Howe was interviewed for the job of store manager, the regional manager asked her a question about a _____ situation. "Imagine that our business is in a _____," he said. "What would you do to enhance° sales?"

Final Check: Money Problems

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.

My neighbor, Martha, ran into my house crying and angry. "My car has been stolen!" she gasped. "I saw them take it!"

I called the police for her, and she told an officer the license number and car model. "The (1) _____ color of the car is brown," she added, "but it has a black roof. I had it parked in the lot adjacent° to the beauty shop I own. I saw two men tow it away."

"You saw them tow it away?" the officer asked. "Have you (2) _____ (e)d on your car loan?"

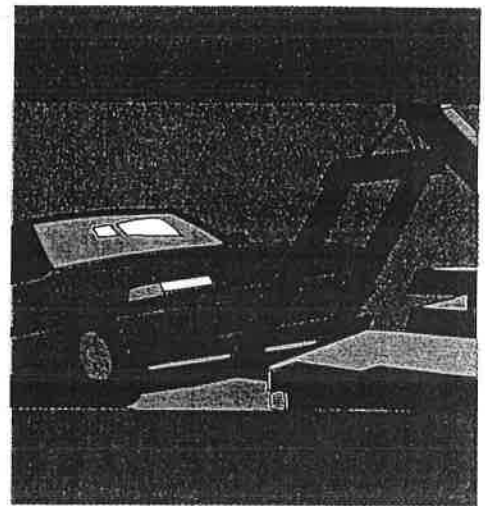
"What do you mean?" Martha asked.

"If you haven't been making your payments, the bank or dealer has the right to (3) _____ the car."

Martha admitted that she hadn't made any payments for three months. Later she told me she'd gotten notices in the mail but threw them away because their language was too complicated to (4) _____. She also said she was having money problems. (5) _____ with the car loan was a big home-improvement loan. She also had five credit-card bills and regular living expenses to pay. To top it all off, the city was suffering from a (6) _____, so her income was down, something her laid-off employees could certainly attest° to. She was about \$12,000 in debt.

At my suggestion, Martha visited a debt counselor, who helped her develop a comprehensive° plan to pay her bills. The only (7) _____s for this free service were a regular job and a willingness to pay one's debts in full. The counselor and Martha planned what would (8) _____ a reasonable budget, based on Martha's income and expenses. They then wrote to the companies she owed to arrange to pay a (9) _____ amount each month until the whole debt was paid. They also discussed what she would do in several (10) _____ situations, such as if her refrigerator died or her income changed.

Now, Martha is getting back on her feet again—in more ways than one, since she never got the car back.



Scores Sentence Check 2 _____ % Final Check _____ %

Enter your scores above and in the Vocabulary Performance Chart on the inside back cover of the book.