



## Word List

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

**adequate** *adj.* Enough; sufficient.  
*ad' ə kwət* One blanket will be **adequate** on such a warm night.

**administer** *v.* 1. To manage or direct.  
*ad min' is tər* The Red Cross **administers** the blood donor program.  
 2. To give out as treatment or assistance.  
 The scout leader **administered** first aid to the child who had cut his hand.

**agitate** *v.* 1. To disturb or upset.  
*aj' ə tāt* Talk of sharks in the water **agitated** swimmers at the beach.  
 2. To move with an irregular, fast, or violent action.  
 Strong winds **agitated** the surface of the lake.  
 3. To stir up interest in and support for a cause.  
 The miners **agitated** for better working conditions.

**capitulate** *v.* To give in; to surrender.  
*kə pich' yōō lāt* The airline **capitulated** to the baggage handlers' demands and granted the pay raise.

**citrus** *n.* 1. A fruit of the family that includes oranges, lemons, grapefruits, and limes.  
*si' trəs* A **citrus** is an excellent source of vitamin C.  
 2. A tree that produces these fruits.  
**Citruses** grow well in Florida.  
*adj.* Of or relating to these fruits or trees.  
 The kumquat is a less well-known member of the **citrus** family.

**disrupt** *v.* 1. To break up the orderly course of.  
*dis rupt'* Angry protesters **disrupted** the president's speech.  
 2. To interrupt; to bring to a temporary halt.  
 A strike by the drivers **disrupted** service on the subway.  
**disruptive** *adj.* Causing confusion or disorder.  
**Disruptive** behavior is not acceptable in the classroom.  
**disruption** *n.* A disturbance that interrupts or causes confusion.  
 Work on the telephone lines caused a temporary **disruption** of service.

**hovel** *n.* An unpleasant, cramped, and dilapidated place to live.  
*huv' əl* The Saxons complained that they were forced to live in **hovels** while their Norman conquerers had fine homes.

**illiterate**  
il lit' ə r ə t

*adj.* Unable to read or write.  
Volunteers are needed to help teach **illiterate** adults how to read.  
**illiteracy** *n.* Inability to read or write.  
**Illiteracy** is practically nonexistent in Japan.

**indifferent**  
in dif' ə r ə nt

*adj.* 1. Not concerned about; not caring.  
The authorities can no longer afford to be **indifferent** to the problem of nuclear waste disposal.  
2. Neither very good nor very bad; passable.  
Her **indifferent** grades in school worried her parents.

**menial**  
mē' nē ə l

*adj.* Of or relating to low-level, humble work.  
Desperate for money, Oliver accepted **menial** work with low pay.

**permanent**  
pər' mən ə nt

*adj.* Lasting or expected to last for a long time.  
A child's first **permanent** teeth appear at about the age of six.

**respite**  
res' pit

*n.* A period of rest; a pause.  
The rain brought a welcome **respite** from the tremendous heat.

**strenuous**  
stren' yoo ə s

*adj.* 1. Needing much effort; using a lot of energy.  
Chopping wood is **strenuous** work.  
2. Very active; vigorous.  
The plan to close the local school met with **strenuous** opposition from parents.

**toil**  
toil

*v.* 1. To work long and hard.  
Sugar cane cutters **toil** in the fields from dawn to dusk.  
2. To make one's way with difficulty.  
We **toiled** up the steep hill.  
*n.* Hard and tiring labor.  
After a lifetime of **toil**, her retirement is a richly deserved reward.

**urgent**  
ər' jə nt

*adj.* Needing quick action or attention.  
The county has an **urgent** need for a new hospital.  
**urgency** *n.* The need for quick action.  
The senator stressed the **urgency** of cleaning up the polluted waters of our country.