



CHAPTER 28

deride
derogatory
fabricate
impending
macabre

misconstrue
paramount
quandary
turbulent
validate

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 **deride**
(dĭ-rĭd')
-verb

___ *Deride* means

- One nightclub comedian **derides** members of the audience, poking fun at their looks, clothing, and mannerisms. He says they know it's just part of the act.
 - Walter went on a diet after several classmates **derided** him by calling him "Lardo" and "Blimpy."
- A. to misunderstand. B. to mock. C. to argue with.

2 **derogatory**
(dĭ-rŏg'ə-tŏr'ē)
-adjective

___ *Derogatory* means

- Lorenzo's **derogatory** remark about his boss—he called her an airhead—caused him to get fired.
 - Charisse makes **derogatory** comments about Deion behind his back, saying that he's vain, sloppy, and lazy. But she never says such things to his face.
- A. uncomplimentary. B. mistaken. C. provable.

3 **fabricate**
(făb'ri-kăt')
-verb

___ *Fabricate* means

- Supermarket tabloids often **fabricate** ridiculous stories, such as "Boy Is Born Wearing Green Sneakers."
 - When she handed in her term paper late, Diane **fabricated** a story that her computer had crashed. The truth is that she doesn't even use a computer.
- A. to avoid. B. to prove. C. to invent.

4 **impending**
(ĭm-pĕnd'ĭng)
-adjective

___ *Impending* means

- Gary never studies until an exam is **impending**. If he'd start sooner, he wouldn't have to cram so hard, and he'd get better grades.
 - "Because of the company's **impending** move," the office manager said, "I'm not ordering any supplies until next month, when we'll be in the new office."
- A. approaching. B. apparent. C. important.

5 **macabre**
(mə-kŏb'rə)
-adjective

___ *Macabre* means

- Edgar Allan Poe's story "The Fall of the House of Usher" is a **macabre** tale in which someone is buried alive.
 - The movie opened with a **macabre** scene: a row of bodies lying in drawers in the city morgue.
- A. confusing. B. mocking. C. gruesome.

6 **misconstrue**
(mĭs'kən-strŏō')
-verb

___ *Misconstrue* means

- Carla would like to date Matt, but when she told him she was busy **last** weekend, he **misconstrued** her meaning, thinking she wasn't interested in him.
 - Many readers **misconstrue** Robert Frost's well-known line "Good fences make good neighbors." They think it's Frost's own opinion, but the line is spoken **by** an unneighborly character.
- A. to misunderstand. B. to understand. C. to ignore.

- 7 paramount**
(pär'ə-mount')
-adjective
- *Paramount* means
- When you are driving on rain-slick, icy, or winding roads, good traction is of **paramount** importance, so always be sure your tires are in top condition.
 - **Paramount** Pictures must have chosen its name to suggest that its movies were superior to all others.
- A. supreme. B. growing. C. successful.
- 8 quandary**
(kwŏn'də-rē)
-noun
- *Quandary* means
- Bonita was in a **quandary**—she couldn't decide whether to return to school, take a job she had just been offered, or move to Alaska with her family.
 - Aaron is in a **quandary** over financial matters: he is baffled by the problems of making a budget, handling credit, and paying taxes.
- A. a state of confusion. B. a state of anger. C. a state of confidence.
- 9 turbulent**
(tûr'byŏ-lənt)
-adjective
- *Turbulent* means
- The **turbulent** air made the plane rock so wildly that passengers felt as if they were on a roller coaster.
 - The Warreners' household tends to be **turbulent**. Whenever Mr. Warrener gets upset, he yells and throws things.
- A. violent. B. distant. C. unusual.
- 10 validate**
(văl'ə-dāt')
-verb
- *Validate* means
- Many people believe Columbus sailed west to **validate** the theory that the world is round. But in 1492, the fact that the world is round was already well known.
 - There is no real doubt about the dangers of smoking; the claim that smoking is a serious health risk has been **validated** by many studies.
- A. to misinterpret. B. to prove. C. to invent.

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. _____ Full of wild disorder or wildly irregular motion; violently disturbed
2. _____ Suggestive of death and decay; frightful; causing horror and disgust
3. _____ A state of uncertainty or confusion about what to do; predicament
4. _____ Expressing a low opinion; belittling
5. _____ To show to be true; prove; confirm
6. _____ To misinterpret; misunderstand the meaning or significance of
7. _____ To make fun of; ridicule
8. _____ To make up (a story, information) in order to deceive; invent (a lie)
9. _____ About to happen; imminent
10. _____ Of greatest concern or importance; foremost; chief in rank or authority

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.