

Unit One: Chapter 2

- curt
- demoralize
- dilemma
- inclination
- irate
- retort
- sabotage
- subsequent
- wary
- zeal

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

1 **curt**

(kûrt)

– *adjective*

- The fast-food manager trained workers to give polite, full answers to customers, not **curt** responses.

Curt means

- A.** cautious
- B.** courteous.
- C.** rudely brief.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

1 **curt**

(kûrt)

– *adjective*

- The fast-food manager trained workers to give polite, full answers to customers, not **curt** responses.

Curt means

A. cautious

B. courteous.

C. rudely brief.

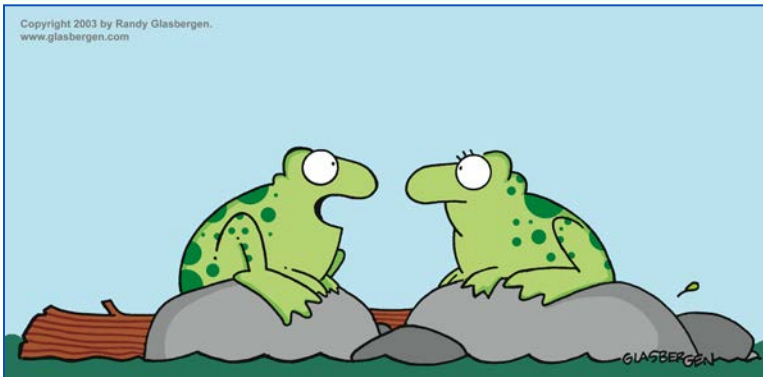
The workers' polite, full answers are contrasted with rudely brief responses. If Betsy says just a few quick words, she could sound as if she were being rudely brief.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

2 demoralized (dĭ-môr'ə-līz') – verb

- When Bonita gained a pound during her diet, it so **demoralized** her that she ate a banana split.



*“Of course I’m **demoralized**! I used to be a handsome prince living in a palace! Now I’m a frog living in a swamp!”*

Demoralized means

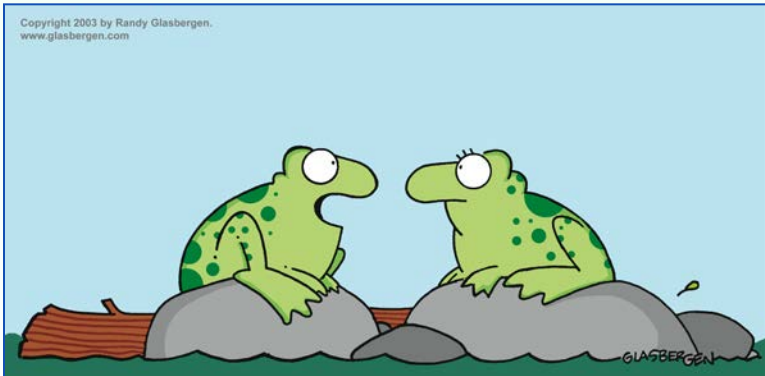
- A.** to cheat.
- B.** to discourage.
- C.** to excite.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

2 demoralized (dĭ-môr'ə-līz') – verb

- When Bonita gained a pound during her diet, it so **demoralized** her that she ate a banana split.



*“Of course I’m **demoralized!** I used to be a handsome prince living in a palace! Now I’m a frog living in a swamp!”*

Demoralized means

- A.** to cheat.
- B.** to discourage.
- C.** to excite.

If he lacked the confidence to ask anyone out for months, the brother must have been **discouraged** by the Cara’s refusal. If Bonita ate a banana split while she was trying to diet, she must have been **discouraged** by the weight gain.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

3 dilemma

(dĭ-lĕm'ə)

– *noun*

- The store manager faced a **dilemma**: either having an elderly, needy man arrested or ignoring store rules about shoplifters.

Dilemma means

- A.** a hard choice.
- B.** a great danger.
- C.** a benefit.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

3 dilemma

(dĭ-lĕm'ə)

– *noun*

- The store manager faced a **dilemma**: either having an elderly, needy man arrested or ignoring store rules about shoplifters.

Dilemma means

- A.** a hard choice.
- B.** a great danger.
- C.** a benefit.

Having to decide whether to have the elderly, needy man arrested or ignore the store rules would be a **hard choice**. Having to choose between a rich boyfriend and a poor man the heroine really loves would be a **hard choice**.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

4 inclination (ĩn-klə-nā'shən) – *noun*

- My **inclination** is to major in nursing, but I'm going to speak to a few nurses before I make my final decision.

Inclination means

- A.** a preference.
- B.** a reason.
- C.** a fate.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

4 inclination (ĩn-klə-nā'shən) – *noun*

- My **inclination** is to major in nursing, but I'm going to speak to a few nurses before I make my final decision.

Inclination means

- A.** a preference.
- B.** a reason.
- C.** a fate.

If the final decision has not been made yet, then majoring in nursing is only the student's preference. It would be an irritating habit if the two-year-old has a preference to say "no" to everything.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

5 irate

(ī-rāt')

– *adjective*

- If Kate got angry only occasionally, I could take her more seriously, but she's always **irate** about something or other.



Irate protesters in Belize

Irate means

- A.** thrilled.
- B.** selfish.
- C.** furious.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

5 irate

(ī-rāt')

– *adjective*

- If Kate got angry only occasionally, I could take her more seriously, but she's always **irate** about something or other.



Irate protesters in Belize

Irate means

- A.** thrilled.
- B.** selfish.
- C.** furious.

In the first item, the word *angry* suggests that *irate* means "furious." In the second item, Ray's getting mad is compared to his wife's becoming furious.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

6 **retort**

(rĭ-tôrt')

– *verb*

- “What do you want?” the young woman asked Dracula. “Only to drink in your charms,” he **retorted**.

Retort means

- A.** to approve.
- B.** to reply.
- C.** to ask.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

6 **retort**

(rĭ-tôrt')

– *verb*

- “What do you want?” the young woman asked Dracula. “Only to drink in your charms,” he **retorted**.

Retort means

- A.** to approve.
- B.** to reply.
- C.** to ask.

In the first item, the father **replies** to the child’s statement about putting the dishes in the dishwasher in the morning. In the second item, Dracula **replies** to the woman’s question.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

7 sabotage

(săb'ə-tōzh')

– *verb*

- Terrorist groups train their members to **sabotage** airports and other public places.

Sabotage means

- A.** to develop.
- B.** to invest in.
- C.** to do harm to.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

7 sabotage

(săb'ə-tōzh')

– *verb*

- Terrorist groups train their members to **sabotage** airports and other public places.

Sabotage means

- A.** to develop.
- B.** to invest in.
- C.** to do harm to.

Terrorists try to do harm to public places. If the fired programmer infected the company's network with a virus, the programmer **did** harm to it.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

8 subsequent (sŭb'sĭ-kwənt') – *adjective*

- The first few times Janet drove on a highway, she was terrified, but on **subsequent** trips, she felt more relaxed.

Subsequent means

- A.** first.
- B.** following.
- C.** previous.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

8 subsequent (sŭb'sĭ-kwənt') – *adjective*

- The first few times Janet drove on a highway, she was terrified, but on **subsequent** trips, she felt more relaxed.

Subsequent means

- A.** first.
- B.** following.
- C.** previous.

The man's progression from stock boy to company president would suggest that his jobs **following** that of stock boy took him up the ladder. The trips **following** the first few on a highway would help Janet feel more relaxed as she got used to the experience.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

9 **wary**

(wâr'ē)

– *adjective*

- I'm a little **wary** of people who, when they first meet me, treat me as if I'm their best friend.

Wary means

- A.** careful.
- B.** tired.
- C.** welcoming.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

9 **wary**

(wâr'ē)

– *adjective*

- I'm a little **wary** of people who, when they first meet me, treat me as if I'm their best friend.

Wary means

- A. careful.**
- B. tired.
- C. welcoming.

We should be **careful** about promises of getting something for nothing. One would be **careful** about people who act like one's best friend on the first meeting.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

10 **zeal**

(zēl)

– *noun*

- Velma attacked her food with such **zeal** that I thought she hadn't eaten for a week!

Zeal means

- A.** resistance.
- B.** passion.
- C.** skill.

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT

Choose the meaning closest to that of the **boldfaced** word.

10 **zeal**

(zēl)

– *noun*

- Velma attacked her food with such **zeal** that I thought she hadn't eaten for a week!

Zeal means

- A.** resistance.
- B.** *passion*.
- C.** skill.

If Velma attacked her food as if she hadn't eaten for a week, she must be eating with a **passion**. Someone who sweeps other people's sidewalks must have a **passion** for keeping the neighborhood clean.