

EXERCISES - UNIT TWO

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. The judges were impressed by the spelling-bee contestant's *composure* when...
2. The *exponential* growth of the residential area in Hinsburg was a result of...
3. My extended stay at my sister's house may be an *imposition* on her because...
4. Room 145 of the school is being used as a *repository* for...
5. The weightlifting coach told her students that muscle growth would not be *instantaneous*, but rather...
6. The committee decided to *reinstate* Chairman Dorchester when it learned that...
7. PJ was an *inconstant* supporter of the political party to which he belonged, so he often...
8. Based on the plants' amazing growth in the presence of Chemical RK-200, we formed the *hypothesis* that...
9. The composer's new style *synthesizes* both...
10. Joey felt that he needed to add some *parenthetical* remarks to his speech because...

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

imposition synthesize composure reinstate repository

1. Marisa feared her _____ would fail her during an especially tough interview.
2. After several students came to school in clothing that was unacceptable, Principal Levin decided to _____ the dress code.
3. If doctors are able to _____ the old and new allergy medicines, the result will be a powerfully effective drug.
4. Hannah's car became a(n) _____ for all the junk that her neighbors threw out.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

parenthetical instantaneous hypothesis exponential

5. The effects of the witch's spell were _____, creating a monster where a man had stood one second before.
6. The increase in people with the disease was not _____, as the doctors had feared; in fact, the disease had begun to disappear.
7. The botanist's new _____ about marigolds is intriguing, but will probably be proven false.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

imposition instantaneous inconstant parenthetical

8. Darlene's _____ affection led her to break up with Jeff several times.
9. I considered Marvin's constant borrowing of office supplies a major _____ upon our department.
10. Many of Ben's observations were _____ sentences rather than direct remarks.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. Agricultural researchers are currently testing the _____ that the modified fertilizer will cause _____ growth in soybeans.
 - A. hypothesis; exponential
 - B. imposition; parenthetical
 - C. repository; inconstant
 - D. imposition; instantaneous
2. Because Rina had dealt with Carl's _____, unreliable emotions one time too many, she lost her _____ and started screaming at him.
 - A. parenthetical; repository
 - B. inconstant; composure
 - C. instantaneous; hypothesis
 - D. exponential; imposition
3. Be aware that in attempting to _____ the two unstable substances, you may cause a(n) _____ and deadly chemical reaction.
 - A. reinstate; inconstant
 - B. synthesize; parenthetical
 - C. reinstate; exponential
 - D. synthesize; instantaneous

4. "If it is no _____ on the honorable members of this House," said the member of Parliament, "I propose that we _____ the speaker who was dismissed last week."
- hypothesis; reinstate
 - repository; synthesize
 - imposition; reinstate
 - composure; synthesize
5. In a(n) _____ addition to his previous statement, the speaker explained that the building in question had once been used as a(n) _____ for ammunition.
- parenthetical; repository
 - instantaneous; composure
 - exponential; hypothesis
 - exponential; repository

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.

- Because Barbara is an *inconstant* friend, Pete will most likely...
- When the report notes that gas prices have increased *exponentially*, the data it includes probably...
- After the professor explains the complicated *hypothesis*, students will be able to...

Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

Composing popular music is not only an art form, but a gift. Songwriters must tell a very detailed story with a beginning, a middle, and an end, and do it all within just a few minutes. On top of that, they must remember that the music should be appealing to the people who will listen to it. That may mean writing a song about a subject a lot of people understand or creating a song with a great sound. Does writing what the public wants to hear, though, take away from the craftsmanship of songwriting? Should songwriting be a matter of creativity, or should it be a matter of business?

Many songwriters today treat their "art" as a day-to-day job. Just like any other working person, some songwriters get up in the morning, get dressed, and drive to an office. Once in the office, they consider it no _____ (POS) to spend eight hours a day working. They might work for years until they can come up with a hit song, but the pressure to write good songs is constant. Although songwriters are paid a little bit of money every time one of their songs is played on the radio, they really cannot expect to make an _____ (STAN) fortune from one hit song. Instead, they need to write dozens of great songs to be able to make a living.

However, all this pressure to succeed and write hits is destroying the artistry of songwriting. Because songwriters are always trying to write the next big hit song, they do not write about what they feel. Instead, they write only the songs that they think will sell CD's. They may write songs that have a good beat and catchy words, but the songs lack emotional substance. Many of the songs that are popular today seem synthetic because they lack any feelings. If the public seems to want loud, harsh music, songwriters will write about anger or pain; if calm, easy-sounding songs are popular, songwriters concentrate on writing composed, tranquil lyrics.

When songwriters were first paid for their songs, they wrote about their observations of life or about things that had happened to them or to people they knew. They wrote songs that made people happy or made people cry. They wrote from their hearts. Now, however, because songwriting has become a job like any other, with money as the only reward, there is little room for songwriters to be creative. Instead, they must write whatever they think the public wants. Otherwise, they have no chance to sell their songs. It is because of this need to succeed that songwriting, as a craft, is being lost.

1. After reading this selection, we can assume that the author
 - A. thinks that few people like music.
 - B. thinks that songs should not be played on the radio.
 - C. thinks that the art of writing music is very important.
 - D. thinks more people should become songwriters.

2. According to the passage, many songwriters are not rich because
 - A. they must write a lot of hit songs to make a lot of money.
 - B. it takes years to write a good song.
 - C. they are not serious about succeeding.
 - D. they are not good businesspeople.

3. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Writing songs is hard work.
 - B. Being a successful songwriter is easy.
 - C. Songwriters are not appreciated.
 - D. More songwriters are writing music for money, not for art.

4. In this passage, songwriters are compared to what other kind of workers?
 - A. office workers
 - B. construction workers
 - C. singers
 - D. musicians

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the *italicized* words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Note that *ex* means "out" and *anti* means "against, opposite."

Though the majority of the works in the great library were destroyed, some are still *extant*. Of these remaining books and manuscripts, one, in particular, has a past shrouded in mystery. Whoever wrote it chose to remain anonymous, probably because the ideas discussed were the *antithesis* of those held by some very powerful political figures. To have such clashing ideas was cause enough for punishment; to publish them would certainly have meant death.