

Daily *warm-ups*



VOCABULARY

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Daily Warm-Ups: Vocabulary

Mark Twain once said that the difference between the right word and the one that is almost right is like the difference between lightning and a lightning bug.

Think of five other word pairs like the one in the sentence. Write them below.



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One way to figure out the meaning of an unknown or unfamiliar word is to look for the **context clues** in a sentence. One type of context clue is called *definition*, or restatement. In this, the writer defines the meaning of the word in the sentence or gives enough explanation for the meaning to be clear.

Example: The committee voted to *augment*, or increase, the training program budget.

Use the context clues to figure out the meaning of the words in bold type. Write your definition of the word. Then underline the context clue.

- (a) It was unacceptable for the moderator to **berate**, or scold, the panel members.
- (b) The **contusion** on the patient's arm was one of several bruises on his body.
- (c) The feeling of **melancholy** was evident by the sad, depressed mood of the crowd.



Sometimes, one or more parts of a word are dropped and the remaining part is used alone as a word. These are called **clipped words**. Look at the clipped words below. Write the word from which each clipped word is formed.

- (a) gas _____
- (b) teens _____
- (c) gym _____
- (d) specs _____



Idioms and idiomatic expressions

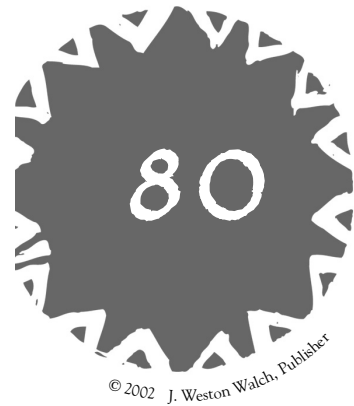
cannot be understood from the literal meanings of their words. They must be explained. They are often used in informal writing and conversation. Read the following sentences and write the meaning of each idiomatic expression.

- (a) Jen gave the teacher a long *song and dance* about the homework assignment.
- (b) The newly released CD *cost me an arm and a leg*.
- (c) There's no doubt that money *burns a hole in Jason's pocket*.
- (d) As part of the restaurant's celebration, pizza was *on the house*.



Match each monetary unit with its country.
If you need help, use a dictionary.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| (a) peso | Japan |
| (b) yen | United States |
| (c) pound | France |
| (d) franc | India |
| (e) guilder | United Kingdom |
| (f) yuan | China |
| (g) dollar | Italy |
| (h) rupee | Mexico |
| (i) lira | Holland |
| (j) krone | Denmark |





Descriptive words can help you in your writing. Look at the list of words. Categorize the words by writing them under the correct heading below. Then try substituting these words for overused words.

wrathful	combative	admired	impatient
devoted	biting	annoyed	giving
worthy	benevolent	hostile	considerable
obnoxious	amiable	brotherly	violent

To Express Affection

To Express Anger



Cross out the word in each pair that is misspelled.

absence

aquire

definate

calender

absense

acquire

definite

calendar

gaity

excitement

incredible

niece

gaiety

excitment

incredable

neice



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Match each commonly-used SAT word with its meaning. If you need help, use a dictionary.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. augment _____ | (a) bare, vacant |
| 2. breach _____ | (b) to pound |
| 3. diurnal _____ | (c) careless |
| 4. inexorable _____ | (d) thoughtful |
| 5. negligent _____ | (e) daily |
| 6. odious _____ | (f) expand |
| 7. pensive _____ | (g) round in shape |
| 8. pummel _____ | (h) unyielding |
| 9. rotund _____ | (i) violation |
| 10. stark _____ | (j) hateful |



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