



Lesson 9

advantage
əd van' tij

n. Something that is helpful or useful.

It is an **advantage** to be able to speak French when visiting Paris.

take advantage of *v.* To make use of; to benefit oneself by treating others unfairly.

Martina **took advantage of** her position as camp leader by giving all the best jobs to her friends.

astonish
əstā' nish

v. To surprise or amaze.

It **astonished** me to discover that my new friend and I were born on the same day in the same town.

astonishment *n.* Great surprise or amazement.

The children watched in **astonishment** as the magician pulled a rabbit out of a hat.

confirm
kén fém'

v. 1. To show or prove to be true.

Before giving me a library card, the librarian asked me to **confirm** my street address by showing a copy of my phone bill.

2. To approve or give one's agreement to.

The members of Congress vote to **confirm** the appointment of Supreme Court judges.

distant
dis' tǎnt

adj. 1. Very far away in time.

Space travel in the very **distant** future may involve journeys to the stars.

2. Very far away; not near or close by.

Marco Polo's travels took him to many **distant** lands.

distance *n.* The length of the space between two places.

The **distance** between Deneen's home and her school was exactly one mile.

founder
faün' dər

n. A person who sets up something that lasts.

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson are two of the **founders** of our nation.

v. To sink below the surface of the water.

The ship struck a rock and **foundered** before a rescue team could reach it.

hamlet
ham' lət

n. A small village.

A single street ran through the **hamlet**, which had one church, a general store, and about a hundred houses.

host höst	<p><i>n.</i> 1. A large number. Graceland is visited by hosts of people from all over the world who come to see the house where Elvis Presley lived.</p> <p>2. One who greets and entertains guests and takes care of their needs at a party or restaurant. The guests said goodbye to their host and thanked him for a lovely New Year's Eve party.</p>
misgiving mis giv' ing	<p><i>n.</i> A feeling of doubt, uncertainty, or concern about what may happen in the future. If Ellen had any misgivings about joining the group, she gave no sign of it.</p>
parch pärch	<p><i>v.</i> To make or become very dry. The sun parched the fields and made the grass turn brown.</p> <p>parched (pärch't) <i>adj.</i> Lacking water; thirsty. We didn't take enough water with us, and we were parched before we came to the end of our walk.</p>
prospect präs' pekt	<p><i>n.</i> Something that is waited for, expected, or hoped for. All the hotels were full, and there seemed little prospect of our finding a place to spend the night.</p> <p><i>v.</i> To look in the ground for valuable metals like gold and silver. The four men camped alongside the river told us they were prospecting for gold.</p> <p>prospector <i>n.</i> A person who explores an area to look for valuable metals. The prospector let out a whoop of joy when he saw some shiny yellow objects lying on the riverbank.</p>
scarce skers	<p><i>adj.</i> In short supply; not plentiful. When gasoline is scarce, the price goes up.</p> <p>scarcity (sker' sät ē) <i>n.</i> A shortage. Due to the scarcity of candles in the store when the hurricane struck, customers were allowed only two each.</p>
shrewd shrüd	<p><i>adj.</i> Clever; good at understanding what is needed and acting on it. A shrewd lawyer prepares her client to answer questions she knows the client will be asked in court.</p>

sole
sōl *adj.* Being the only one of its kind; belonging to only one person or group.
After her husband died, Mrs. Mazoor became the **sole** owner of the toy store.

n. 1. The bottom surface of the foot or of a shoe or boot.
Shoes with leather **soles** usually cost more than those made of plastic.
2. A flat fish that is caught and eaten for food.
Grilled **sole** is a popular item on the seafood restaurant's menu.

torment
tôr' ment *n.* Great pain or suffering.
I cannot imagine the **torment** suffered by a wild animal caught in a steel trap.
(tôr ment') *v.* To cause pain or suffering.
The thought that she might have been the cause of the accident **tormented** the driver of the car.

typical
tip' i kəl *adj.* Being like others of its kind.
A **typical** home in this area has three bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room, and one bathroom.