

MAKING NEW WORDS YOUR OWN

Lesson 7 | CONTEXT: Amazing Nature

Horses: Galloping Through History

Fossil records show that the first horses appeared about fifty million years ago. About six thousand years ago, people began taming horses. That was the start of a long, productive, and friendly relationship. Over the years, horses have carried people in battle, worked their fields, provided transportation, run races, inspired art, and given friendship.

In the following exercises, you will have the opportunity to expand your vocabulary by reading about horses and their relationship to people throughout history. Below are ten Vocabulary Words that will be used in these exercises.

dainty	discourage	inhale	regulate	vacuum
discomfort	earnest	linger	requirement	vault

EXERCISE 1 Wordbusting

Directions. Follow these instructions for this word and the nine words on the next page.

- Figure out the word's meaning by looking at its **context**, its **structure**, and its **sound**. Fill in at least one of the three **CSS boxes**. Alternate which boxes you complete.
- Then, look up the word in a dictionary, read all of its meanings, and write the meaning of the word as it is used in the sentence.
- Follow this same process for each of the Vocabulary Words on the next page. You will need to draw your own map for each word. Use a separate sheet of paper.

1.

dainty

The first horses, now known as *eohippus* ("dawn horse"), were about the size of foxes. They were not dainty, though; they did not have delicate features.

Context:

Structure:

Soundz

Dictionary:

2.

discomfort

Greek warriors around 1500 B.C. may have experienced some discomfort while riding in horse-drawn chariots. Bumping along on rough roads must have been painful at times.

3.

linger

Even the bravest fighters would not linger when they saw a war horse charging at them. Ancient stone carvings show soldiers fleeing from archers shooting arrows while riding fierce-looking horses.

4.

discourage

Christopher Columbus's advisors did not discourage him from bringing horses to the New World in 1493, so they were evidently in favor of it.

5.

earnest

When American Indians first saw European horses in the 1400s, their surprise was no doubt earnest. Their response was sincere because horses had not been seen in the Americas since 9000 B.C.

6.

inhale

In King Louis XIV's enormous stables at Versailles, a visitor could inhale without breathing in unpleasant fumes. The horses were so well cared for that a German prince once said they lived better than he did.

7.

requirement

Before motorized transportation, owning a horse was a requirement for many professionals. For example, most doctors had to ride horses while making their rounds to patients.

8.

vacuum

Removing horses from a pioneer's farm certainly would have left a vacuum. What other animal could have taken its place?

9.

vault

Horses were once used for mail services, such as the famous Pony Express, because they could run fast and even vault obstacles in the roads. For example, the horse's ability to jump over a fallen tree would save the rider time.

10.

regulate

The golden age of horse travel was from 1700 to 1900 in both Europe and North America. During that time, companies were formed to regulate and manage the stagecoach systems.

EXERCISE 2**Context Clues** 

Directions. Scan the definitions in Column A. Then, think about how the boldface words are used in the sentences in Column B. To complete the exercise, match each definition in Column A with the correct Vocabulary Word from Column B. Write the letter of your choice on the line provided. Finally, write the Vocabulary Word on the line before the definition.

COLUMN A

____ 11. word: _____
v. to continue to stay; to delay or loiter

____ 12. word: _____
n. uneasiness; minor pain; lack of comfort

____ 13. word: _____
n. an arched ceiling; a secure room for storing valuables; a burial chamber; a jump; *v.* to jump over

____ 14. word: _____
v. to draw into the lungs; to breathe in

____ 15. word: _____
adj. serious; not joking; sincere

____ 16. word: _____
v. to take away courage or confidence; to advise (a person) against something

____ 17. word: _____
n. something that is necessary or demanded; a necessity

____ 18. word: _____
adj. delicate and pretty

____ 19. word: _____
n. a completely empty space; a space left empty by the removal of something usually in it; *v.* to clean with a machine that works by suction

____ 20. word: _____
v. to control, govern, or direct according to rule or system; to adjust to a certain standard

COLUMN B

(A) Knowledge of horses in art is a **requirement** in this class. Also needed is a knowledge of horses in sports.

(B) Throughout history, horses have been subjects of artists. Some paintings portray **dainty** show horses, and others show large, heavy workhorses.

(C) On the arched ceiling is a beautiful painting of horses. The artist used a very tall ladder to reach the **vault** to paint it.

(D) At the museum, I lingered to look at the bronze horses created by Frederic Remington while the rest of the group moved on.

(E) The **earnest** guide pointed out how realistic Remington's sculptures are. I could tell that the guide loved his job and took it seriously.

(F) President Andrew Jackson loved racing horses. Not being able to race horses would have left a **vacuum** in his life—a space that politics alone could not have filled.

(G) The best jockeys are confident of their abilities. They are not **discouraged** when they ride horses that have never won.

(H) I would not want to be a jockey because of the **discomfort** of bouncing on a racing horse—it seems very uncomfortable.

(I) Most horses used in polo matches tire after fifteen minutes of play. You can see them **inhale** deeply in frantic attempts to pull air into their lungs.

(J) The temperature must be **regulated** in some stables for the comfort of the horses. Adjusting the temperature is also important for their health.

EXERCISE 3***Like Meanings and Opposite Meanings***

Directions. For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the same, or about the same, as the boldface word.

21. **vaulted** the hurdle
 (A) jumped over
 (B) stood on
 (C) looked over
 (D) sat on

22. **a vacuum** left by a retired racehorse
 (A) filled space
 (B) deep space
 (C) last place
 (D) empty space

23. to regulate the American quarter
 horse show
 (A) neglect
 (B) approve
 (C) control
 (D) help

24. to **discourage** the young jockey
 (A) discover
 (B) praise
 (C) help out
 (D) advise negatively

25. a **requirement** for horse ownership
 (A) suggestion
 (B) necessity
 (C) plan
 (D) request

Directions. For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the opposite, or about the opposite, of the boldface word.

26. the circus pony's **dainty** costume
 (A) new and costly
 (B) delicate and pretty
 (C) heavy and ugly
 (D) old and cheap

27. to linger by the Clydesdales
 (A) hurry
 (B) live
 (C) stay
 (D) sing

28. the horse's **discomfort**
 (A) uneasiness
 (B) dance
 (C) ease
 (D) expression

29. **inhaled** the dust from the racetrack
 (A) breathed in
 (B) blinded by
 (C) go around
 (D) breathed out

30. an **earnest** knight
 (A) serious
 (B) concerned
 (C) joking
 (D) happy