

MAKING NEW WORDS YOUR OWN**Lesson 25****CONTEXT: Ecology and Environment*****The Arabian Oryx and Other Endangered Species***

The Arabian oryx is a kind of antelope with long, straight horns. It is one of the few animals that live in the Arabian desert. For years, it has been hunted for sport. The Phoenix Zoo saved the animal from extinction by starting a breeding herd. The antelopes were then reintroduced into their native habitat. Many species, however, have become extinct, or wiped out, while the populations of others have declined. What can be done to save these animals?

In the following exercises, you will have the opportunity to expand your vocabulary by reading about endangered wildlife. These ten Vocabulary Words will be used.

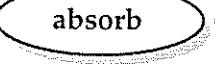
absorb cooperate mourning omit security
 complaint debt offense regret tension

EXERCISE 1**Wordbusting**

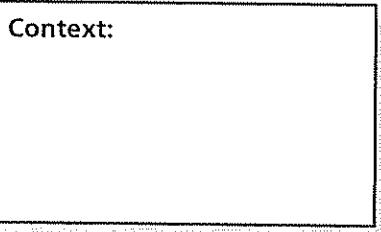
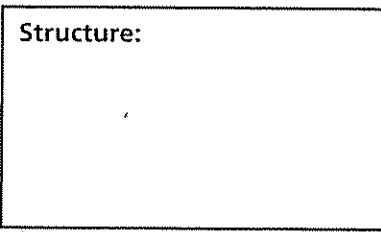
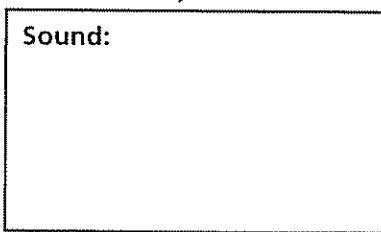
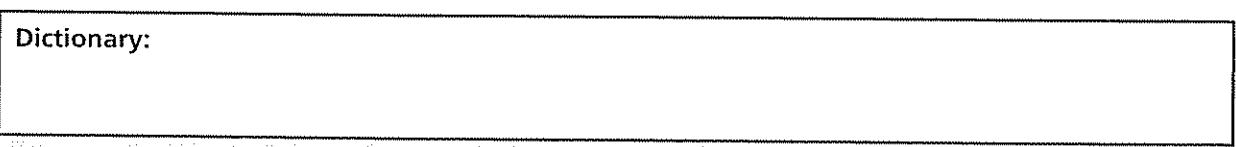
Directions. Follow these instructions for this word and the nine words on the next page.

- 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.




Because so many of the earth's species are threatened with extinction today, it is hard to absorb all the facts about them. It takes some time for the information to sink in and make sense.

2.

complaint

Many **complaints** are filed against people who export endangered animals such as the woolly monkey. These protests rarely lead to action, however.

3.

tension

People await the return of the whooping cranes to the Texas coast every year with great **tension**. They feel a strain not knowing how many birds will survive the long journey from Canada.

4.

omit

It would be a mistake to **omit** the Japanese crested ibis and the noisy scrub bird from the endangered species list. They are both in danger of extinction.

5.

regret

Those people who nearly wiped out the oryx should **regret** their actions. I wonder how many of them feel sorry about what they did.

6.

security

Some endangered animals find **security** only in zoos, where they are protected from danger.

7.

mourning

When endangered species in zoos do not bear live young, there is **mourning**, or grief, for the loss of a species.

8.

offense

Some biologists have taken the **offense** in the fight to save endangered animals. They think more animals might become extinct unless the problems are attacked right away.

9.

cooperate

Several nations began to **cooperate** in wildlife conservation after the United Nations was formed in 1945. They realized they needed to work together in order to protect endangered species.

10.

debt

The Nature Conservancy and other groups have been buying wilderness land from countries that are in **debt**. The countries then use the money to pay what they owe, and land that endangered species live on is protected.

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: _____ :
n. a protest; a written or spoken expression of pain, annoyance, or discontent

_____ 12. word: _____ :
n. the expression of grief at someone's death; the period during which one grieves for the dead; *adj.* of grief

_____ 13. word: _____ :
v. to soak up; to take up the attention of

_____ 14. word: _____ :
n. a strain; a state of strained relations

_____ 15. word: _____ :
v. to feel sorry about or mourn; to feel remorseful; *n.* a troubled feeling

_____ 16. word: _____ :
n. something owed by one person to another; the state of owing

_____ 17. word: _____ :
v. to leave out

_____ 18. word: _____ :
n. the feeling of being safe or certain; safety; an organization that guards an area; an assurance of repayment of a loan or debt

_____ 19. word: _____ :
v. to work with others for a shared cause or purpose

_____ 20. word: _____ :
n. a crime; the feeling of hurt; something that greatly upsets; the side that attacks

COLUMN B

(A) Many people live with a false sense of **security** about endangered animals. They are not aware that the numbers of certain species are dangerously low.

(B) There was a period of **mourning** when the last Carolina parakeet died in 1910. Many people grieved the loss of this beautiful bird.

(C) The hunting of the Javan rhinoceros is a **serious offense**, or crime.

(D) When talking about endangered animals, do not **omit** the Bali tiger of Indonesia. No endangered creature should be overlooked.

(E) Scientists are **absorbed** with the study of the pink pigeon of Mauritius. They pay close attention to how many of these pigeon chicks are hatched each year.

(F) **Tension** exists between poachers and those who want to protect endangered animals. These uneasy relations have sometimes resulted in violent conflicts.

(G) Scientists and government officials have **cooperated** in order to help the wild nenes of Hawaii. By working together, they have helped increase the population of this bird.

(H) Because humans have caused many species' disappearance, some environmentalists feel that we owe a **debt** to the species that remain.

(I) One way to help endangered animals is to send a written **complaint** to your local newspaper. Your letter should express your feelings about the trouble facing these animals.

(J) Feeling troubled about extinct animals will not bring them back. **Regret** can, however, cause people to act to protect today's endangered species.

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. the biologists' **complaint**
 (A) supporting statement
 (B) explanation
 (C) protest
 (D) key interview

22. a large **debt**
 (A) antelope
 (B) popular movement
 (C) woods beetle
 (D) amount owed

23. to **cooperate** to help the oryx
 (A) work together
 (B) protest
 (C) think of ways
 (D) decide

24. **mourning** extinct animals
 (A) painting
 (B) looking for
 (C) studying
 (D) grieving for

25. to **absorb** the information
 (A) present
 (B) soak up
 (C) dismiss
 (D) ask about

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

26. to **regret** the outcome
 (A) feel worried about
 (B) feel sorry about
 (C) feel afraid of
 (D) feel good about

27. to **omit** the giant panda
 (A) hunt
 (B) include
 (C) study
 (D) sketch

28. **security** for all animals
 (A) protection
 (B) hope
 (C) danger
 (D) zoos

29. the biologists' **offense**
 (A) fighters
 (B) offering
 (C) losers
 (D) defense

30. the **tension** between biologists and poachers
 (A) state of ease
 (B) discussions
 (C) state of strain
 (D) payment of debt