

MAKING NEW WORDS YOUR OWN

Lesson 29 CONTEXT: Ecology and Environment

For the People and for the Future: U.S. National Parks

If not for Yellowstone's famous geysers, we might not have a National Park System. In 1870, fabulous tales of these geysers prompted General Henry D. Washburn to visit the area. Another man, Judge Cornelius Hedges, suggested that the land should be protected from mining and lumbering. Two years later, Yellowstone became the first national park. Today, many types of natural and historic sites are preserved.

In the following exercises, you will have the opportunity to expand your vocabulary by reading about the United States' national parks. These ten Vocabulary Words will be used.

anthem	courteous	justify	promotion	rehearsal
compliment	engage	nominate	qualify	specify

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.

anthem

Have you ever heard the song "America the Beautiful"? It is probably the best-known **anthem** to the magnificence of the United States. Do you recall the memorable words praising the sky and mountains?

Context:

Structure:

Sound:

Dictionary:

2.

compliment

Those words of praise are not simply a formal **compliment**. Instead, they express the heartfelt feelings of millions of people.

3.

justify

Today, nature has become precious. Many animals have become endangered. Fragile beaches are at risk. What reason can **justify** their destruction?

4.

nominate

To protect our natural wealth, we must **nominate** and elect people who will conserve our heritage. The future depends on how we manage our resources today.

5.

courteous

In fact, the United States was the first nation to have a national park. Now, over 350 parks are protected. **Courteous** park rangers politely give visitors information about the natural features of the parks.

6.

engage

In the parks, anyone can find sights to **engage** the senses. What tourist has not been charmed and captivated by the majesty of the Grand Canyon?

7.

promotion

The National Park Service need not attract visitors through advertising or other types of **promotion**. In fact, the parks regularly fill up and have to turn campers away.

8.

qualify

Most parks require an entrance fee. However, people sixty-two years of age or older can enter free with a Golden Age Passport. Likewise, people with physical impairments may **qualify** for a Golden Access Passport and free entry.

9.

rehearsal

If you want to visit a national park, be sure to plan ahead. New campers are often surprised at the difficulty. If you want to set up a wilderness camp, you might plan a **rehearsal** near your home as practice for the real thing.

10.

specify

In some areas, cabins, motels, and hotels are available. You need to make your reservations months early! Remember to **specify** dates and your exact needs.

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 song of praise or devotion

_____ 12. word: _____:
n. something said in admiration, praise, or flattery; *v.* to congratulate; to praise

_____ 13. word: _____:
n. a repeating for practice before a future performance or event; a practice

_____ 14. word: _____:
v. to name or appoint to a position

_____ 15. word: _____:
v. to draw into; to fascinate; to enter in conflict with; to take part in; to hire

_____ 16. word: _____:
n. an advancement in rank or pay; the furthering of a cause; the advertisement of a product or event

_____ 17. word: _____:
adj. polite and considerate towards others; well-mannered

_____ 18. word: _____:
v. to show to be just, right, and reasonable

_____ 19. word: _____:
v. to define, mention, or describe in detail; state definitely

_____ 20. word: _____:
v. to explain by narrowing down or describing the specific characteristics of; to be fit for a position

COLUMN B

(A) Before I give an oral report, I like to have a rehearsal. I asked my mother to listen to a run-through of my draft.

(B) “Imagine the last notes of the national anthem fading away,” I told her, to set the tone. Then I began my speech.

(C) “Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to tell you about Big Bend National Park. Its beauty alone **justifies**, or is reason for, its membership in our National Parks System.

(D) “Let me **specify** the benefits it offers. Over 800,000 acres of unspoiled land await visitors. The park contains desert, springs, and the Rio Grande.

(E) “During my visit, we **engaged** a guide to lead us through some of the rougher country. This hired guide led us through Boquillas Canyon.

(F) “Our **courteous** guide was not only thoughtful, he was extremely knowledgeable about the fossils that can be found in the park.

(G) To **qualify** for a job here, you need to be very well informed about the park.

(H) All the wildlife at Big Bend—beaver, deer, and the rare panther—are well protected. I **compliment** the staff of Big Bend. They deserve praise for their good work.

(I) “They **guard** some of our most priceless treasures. In my opinion, they should all receive **promotions** to advance their careers.

(J) “I hope that we continue to **nominate**, or name, such responsible people to safeguard the future of this great bend in the Rio Grande.”

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. to **justify** your actions

- (A) plan ahead
- (B) describe in detail
- (C) show reasons for
- (D) recall to mind

24. the **national anthem**

- (A) constitution
- (B) military
- (C) song
- (D) flag

22. to proudly **nominate**

- (A) approach boldly
- (B) accept a prize
- (C) name as a candidate
- (D) give a speech

25. to **qualify** for a job

- (A) announce in advance
- (B) research in detail
- (C) make a good argument
- (D) be suited for

23. a hurried **rehearsal**

- (A) funeral
- (B) practice
- (C) turnaround
- (D) graduation

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 **specify** details

- (A) generalize
- (B) measure
- (C) memorize
- (D) attend to

29. to **engage** in conflict

- (A) draw swords
- (B) withdraw
- (C) bully
- (D) maintain

27. her **promotion** of the project

- (A) hurrying
- (B) creation
- (C) opinion
- (D) blocking

30. a courteous attitude

- (A) polite
- (B) foolish
- (C) rude
- (D) serious

28. a compliment to the chef

- (A) insult
- (B) tragedy
- (C) message
- (D) essay