UNIT 3

Read the following passage, taking note of the **boldface** words and their contexts. These words are among those you will be studying in Unit 3. It may help you to complete the exercises in this Unit if you refer to the way the words are used below.

**This Day in 1923: The *Olympic's* the Thing!**

*<Archived Newspaper Article>*

Before planes whisked people around the world in a day, travelers sailed to their destinations on large ocean liners. Shipping companies such as the Cunard Line and the White Star Line competed with each other to build the largest, most luxurious ships. Today the Times archives presents a 1923 feature article about one of the most glamorous of all sea-going vessels, the *Olympic*.

London, June 24, 1923—As the White Star Liner *Olympic* shoved off from New York last Monday, I stood on its giant deck and gazed at the open sea. I've traveled on big ships before, but never one quite so big. I felt small on its sprawling decks and a bit in awe of the vessel's size. I stood quietly. The *enigma* of the ocean and the equally mysterious grandeur of this gigantic boat surrounded me.

For a time the *Olympic* was the largest ocean liner in the world. She was matched once by her sister ship, the doomed *Titanic*. The *Olympic* has been plying the seas since her maiden voyage in 1910. In World War I she entered military service. She transported troops about the Atlantic. Incredibly, the *Olympic* was the only merchant vessel to sink an enemy warship during the war. She rammed a German submarine, the U-103, and sent it underwater for good. That was five years ago, in the spring of 1918.

Today on the *Olympic*, the war is ancient history. Happy passengers wander the ship. Linger in one spot, and you might be *waylaid* by a passenger who wants a partner for a game of that great racquet sport, squash, or for shuffleboard. And the dining rooms are full of good eating. There's a great *diversity* of food, with English, French, and American cuisine on the menu. A variety of beverages is also available for guests to *sake* their summer thirsts. Open-air settings provide the *illusion* of relaxing at a Mediterranean café. At every turn, there's another surprise, another lounge, another entertainment. I've made several trips between the library and the swimming pool. And I've *vowed* to visit the gym before we get to England. I'm sure I will—just as soon as that *infuriating*
fellow with the squash racquet stops irritating me and sits down for a bite to eat. Perhaps he'll trot off somewhere to gloat about his latest score.

The Turkish baths are a favorite stop for many guests. This area has rooms of the most fantastic decoration. They are decked out from top to bottom. The floors and walls are dressed in colorful tiles. The decoration is so fine and abundant that any more would have been gilding the lily. What sage was it who knew to stop at this perfection? Each day I am motivated to return to the baths. All cares seem to wither away under the barrage of care and attention the attendants shower upon visitors there.

If I could make it my vocation to wander the earth on ships like this, I'd queue up for the job without a moment's hesitation.

But obligation restricts the choices we make. My life's work lies ashore. Tomorrow we'll arrive in Southampton, England. I'll attend to my business there and look forward to the return trip to New York. Then it's back to the usual routine. For the time being, I'm happy to report, the sun is setting, the squash racquets are tucked away, and all's well on the Olympic.
Definitions

1. barrage
   (bærəzhˈ)  
   (n.) a rapid, large-scale outpouring of something
   The governor faced a ______________ of questions about possible budget cuts.
   SYNONYMS: bombardment, shelling, volley, blast

2. bigot
   (bigˈət)  
   (n.) an intolerant, prejudiced, or biased person
   When you speak in that narrow-minded way, you sound like a ______________.
   SYNONYM: racist

3. designate
   (dezˈɪɡ nət)  
   (v.) to indicate, point out; to appoint; (adj.) selected but not yet installed
   Will you please tell me when the coach will ______________ a team leader?
   The new student council ______________ is looking forward to making many changes to the student government.
   SYNONYMS: (v.) name, signify, denote, nominate

4. diversity
   (dɪˈvɜrˈsə tɪ)  
   (n.) difference, variety; a condition of having many different types or forms
   Our science teacher has a ______________ of interests, including an appreciation of Russian literature.
   SYNONYM: dissimilarity
   ANTONYMS: similarity, sameness, uniformity

5. enigma
   (ɪˈnɪɡmə)  
   (n.) someone or something that is extremely puzzling; that which cannot be understood or explained
   Critics complained that the plot twists in the new mystery movie make it an ______________.
   SYNONYMS: riddle, mystery, puzzle, conundrum

6. gloat
   (glōt)  
   (v.) to look at or think about with great intensity and satisfaction; to take great personal joy in
   I will try not to ______________ about winning a scholarship to music camp.
   SYNONYMS: relish, revel in, crow over
   ANTONYMS: regret, bemoan, mourn, feel chagrined
7. global
   (gloʊ' bal) (adj.) of, relating to, or involving the entire world; comprehensive
   E-mail and the Internet have linked the entire world into a
   ____________________________ village.
   SYNONYMS: worldwide, universal, widespread
   ANTONYMS: regional, provincial

8. illusion
   (i lū' zhən) (n.) a false idea; something that one seems to see or to be
   aware of that really does not exist
   Magicians use optical ________________________ to amaze
   their audiences.
   SYNONYMS: delusion, fantasy
   ANTONYMS: reality, truth, actuality

9. infuriate
   (in fyūr' ē āt) (v.) to make very angry, enrage
   It ________________________ most parents when their children
   refuse to listen to them and treat them with disrespect.
   SYNONYMS: provoke, incense, madden
   ANTONYMS: calm, soothe, pacify, please

10. motivate
    (mō' tā vāt) (v.) to provide with a reason for doing; to push on to some goal
    How can we ___________________________ the students to
    undertake more challenging work?
    SYNONYMS: spur on, encourage, prompt, goad
    ANTONYMS: discourage, dissuade, disincline

11. pacifist
    (pas' a fist) (n.) one who is against war or the use of violence;
    (adj.) opposing war or violence
    Martin Luther King, Jr., was a ___________________________ who
    influenced the civil rights movement.
    ___________________________ students protested the war.
    SYNONYMS: (n.) peacemaker, dove; ANTONYM: (n.) warmonger

12. queue
    (kyū) (n.) a line of people waiting for something (such as a bus);
    (v.) to form such a line
    A long ___________________________ formed at the bus stop.
    Eager fans ______________________ up for the best seats.
    SYNONYMS: (n.) column, file, row, line
    ANTONYM: (n.) disorganized crowd

13. restrict
    (ri strīkt') (v.) to keep within set limits; to confine
    Doctors often advise patients to _______________________
    their intake of fatty or salty foods.
    SYNONYMS: hold back, limit; ANTONYM: open up, enlarge, expand
14. **sage**  
(sāj)  
(adj.) wise; (n.) a very wise person

My aunt always gives me ____________ advice.

Let's ask the ____________ for guidance.

**SYNONYMS:** (adj.) sagacious; (n.) philosopher, Solomon  
**ANTONYMS:** (adj.) foolish, unwise; (n.) fool, dunce

15. **slake**  
(slāk)  
(v.) to satisfy, relieve, or bring to an end

Nothing can ____________ thirst better than water.

**SYNONYMS:** gratify, sate, ease, assuage  
**ANTONYMS:** increase, intensify, aggravate

16. **terrain**  
(tə rān′)  
(n.) the landscape, especially its physical features or fitness for some use; a field of knowledge

Mountain bikes are designed to withstand even the most rugged ____________

**SYNONYMS:** ground, topography, territory

17. **vocation**  
(vō kā′ shən)  
(n.) any trade, profession, or occupation; a sense of fitness or special calling for one's work

After many years of searching, she found her true ____________ as a horse trainer.

**SYNONYMS:** career, pursuit  
**ANTONYMS:** hobby, pastime, avocation

18. **vow**  
(vau)  
(n.) a solemn or sacred promise or pledge; (v.) to declare or promise in a solemn way

Prince Hamlet made a solemn ____________ to avenge his father's murder.

A bride and groom ____________ to love each other throughout their marriage.

**SYNONYMS:** (n.) word of honor; (v.) pledge

19. **waylay**  
(wā′ lā)  
(v.) to lie in wait for and attack, ambush

Thugs will often choose to ____________ weary travelers as they make their way home.

**SYNONYMS:** entrap, ensnare

20. **wither**  
(with′ ĕr)  
(v.) to dry up, wilt, sag; to cause someone to feel ashamed, humiliated, or very small

Despite people's best efforts to remain young looking, skin will eventually ____________ with age.

**SYNONYMS:** shrivel, droop, shame, abash  
**ANTONYMS:** bloom, flower, flourish, burgeon
Choosing the Right Word

Select the boldface word that better completes each sentence. You might refer to the passage on pages 32–33 to see how most of these words are used in context.

1. Jane Addams was an outspoken **pacificist**, *enigma*, yet her views about war were not embraced by everyone.

2. No matter what it may cost me to carry out, I will never break my sacred **vow**, *illusion*.

3. Just how and why two people fall in love is a(n) **queue**, *enigma* that no scientist has ever been able to explain.

4. A good loser doesn't sulk over defeat; a good winner doesn't **gloat**, *vow* after victory.

5. A great teacher not only makes the material of the course understandable but also **infuriates**, *motivates* the students to want to learn more.

6. The applicants for the job will have to **queue**, *slake* up in an orderly way and wait their turns to be interviewed.

7. The United States has laws that **restrict**, *waylay* the numbers and kinds of immigrants allowed to enter this country.

8. She is never bored because she has a great **enigma**, *diversity* of interests, ranging from folk dancing to mathematics.

9. Her analysis of what is wrong with our city government seems to me remarkably **sage**, *global* and helpful.

10. Because Sam is so good at stealing bases, he has become the **slake**, *designated* runner for our baseball team.

11. By the time you are old enough to enter the workforce, many **sages**, *vocations* that are important today may not even exist anymore.

12. Many view Shakespeare as the timeless **illusion**, *sage* and constantly use his words to give advice.

13. The children who are admitted free to the ball game will be allowed to sit only in certain **motivated**, *designated* parts of the stands.

14. President Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark to survey water routes, animals, plant life, and the **terrain**, *waylay* of the Louisiana Territory.

15. As the defense attorney left the courtroom, he was **waylaid**, *designated* by a group of eager reporters trying to get a statement from him.
16. Entangled in the trapper's net, the (infuriated, withered) lion thrashed at the ropes and roared in helpless anger.

17. With the other team ten points ahead and only a few minutes left to play, our hopes of victory began to (gloat, wither).

18. As you have so many prejudices of your own, you should think twice before you accuse other people of being (enigmas, bigots).

19. Because I am convinced that violence always creates more problems than it solves, I have become a (pacifist, bigot).

20. To (slake, restrict) our curiosity, you will have to tell us everything that happened during that strange trip.

21. Before we begin our backpacking trip, we should have a good idea of the (terrain, vocation) we are going to cover.

22. Has it ever occurred to you that your belief that you are a superior person and a natural leader may be no more than a(n) (barrage, illusion)?

23. World War II was a truly (global, pacifist) struggle, fought in all parts of the world by people of every race and background.

24. When the speaker asked for opinions from the audience, he was greeted with a (terrain, barrage) of critical remarks and angry questions.

25. Lilies are delicate and will (wither, vow) quickly if not protected from the hot sun.

**Synonyms**

Choose the word from this Unit that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. offering trades on the **international** market

2. quench their cravings for a refreshing drink

3. a plot to **trap** unsuspecting victims

4. close-ups of the **land** of Mars

5. must **assure** to tell the truth

6. ignore the ravings of **prejudiced people**

7. the magician's most unique **deception**

8. was once a **conscientious objector**

9. trying to **irritate** the manager

10. choose it as the team's new **logo**
Antonyms

Choose the word from this Unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. wants to **withdraw** his name as candidate

2. finding particles of pollen in the **atmosphere**

3. tries to be a **fair-minded** person

4. speeches given by a notable **hawk**

5. part of a **local** charity fund

Completing the Sentence

From the words in this Unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the correct word form in the space provided.

1. A person can usually tell how popular a new movie is by the length of the ___________ in front of the box office.

2. Even before the new president took office, he ___________ the men and women who were to serve in his cabinet.

3. Because the show is scheduled to end after midnight, the management will ___________ admission to people over sixteen years old.

4. For better or for worse, as you become older and more experienced, you will lose many of the comforting ___________ of youth.

5. Nothing ___________ my boss more than an employee who is late for work and then offers a foolish excuse for not arriving on time.

6. Our hike was not very long, but the ___________ was so rocky and hilly that we were exhausted by the time we reached our goal.

7. As he greatly enjoys woodworking and also makes a living from it, his hobby and his ___________ are one and the same.

8. I came to regard my grandmother as a(n) ___________ whose wisdom helped solve many family problems.

9. The pollution problem, far from being limited to the United States, is truly ___________ in scope.

10. As she was sworn in, she made a(n) ___________ that she would never use the powers of her office for selfish or unworthy purposes.
11. The police now believe that the mugger __________________ the victim as she entered the elevator of her apartment house.

12. No decent or kind person will __________________ over someone else's failures or misfortunes.

13. The desire to be the world's top tennis player __________________ the young woman to spend hours every day improving her game.

14. Is it possible to be a(n) __________________ in a world where so many people are using force to take unfair advantage of others?

15. The deadly __________________ of shells from our guns pinned down the enemy troops on the narrow beach where they had landed.

16. The animals in the drought area traveled for many miles to reach a body of water where they could __________________ their thirst.

17. The rich __________________ of plant and animal life in a tropical rain forest never ceases to amaze me.

18. How sad it is to see such beautiful flowers __________________ and die!

19. I don't understand what he is aiming at or why he behaves as he does; in fact, his whole personality is a(n) __________________ to me.

20. Like a typical __________________, he believes that any customs different from his own are "wrong" and "uncivilized."

Writing: Words in Action

1. Look back at “This Day in 1923: The Olympic's the Thing!” (pages 32–33). Suppose your job is to write a radio announcement that persuades people to take a cruise on the Olympic. Write an advertisement, using at least two details from the passage and three Unit words.

2. “Experience, travel—these are an education in themselves.”—Euripides

Travel not only provides people with unique and memorable experiences, but it also gives them opportunities to learn about new cultures and consider different outlooks. Think about the quotation from Euripides shown above. Do you agree with this outlook? In what ways can experience and travel be educational? Write a brief essay in which you support your opinion with specific examples, personal experience, your studies, and the reading (refer to pages 32–33). Write at least two paragraphs, and use three or more words from this Unit.
The following excerpts are from Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne. Some of the words you have studied in this Unit appear in **boldface** type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. Commander Farragut was a good seaman, worthy of the frigate he commanded. His ship and he were one. He was its very soul. On the cetacean [whale] question no doubts arose in his mind, and he didn't allow the animal's existence to be disputed aboard his vessel.... The monster existed, and he had **vowed** to rid the seas of it.

   If a person has **vowed**, he or she has
   a. questioned  b. judged  c. promised  d. waited

2. Three seconds after reading this letter from the honorable Secretary of the Navy, I understood at last that my true **vocation**, my sole purpose in life, was to hunt down this disturbing monster and rid the world of it.

   A **vocation** is a(n)
   a. occupation  b. command  c. enemy  d. hobby

3. Science has defined the **global** paths of five chief currents: one in the north Atlantic, a second in the south Atlantic, a third in the north Pacific, a fourth in the south Pacific, and a fifth in the southern Indian Ocean.

   Something that is **global** is
   a. limited  b. native  c. worldwide  d. confined

4. This chase dragged on for about three-quarters of an hour.... At this rate, it was obvious that we would never catch up with it.

   **Infuriated**, Commander Farragut kept twisting the thick tuft of hair that flourished below his chin.

   Someone who is **infuriated** is definitely NOT
   a. furious  b. irate  c. upset  d. serene

5. I wanted to preserve a few specimens of these delicate zoophytes, but they were merely clouds, shadows, **illusions**, melting and evaporating outside their native element.

   **Illusions** are
   a. fantasies  b. studies  c. challenges  d. secrets