

## Unit 1 Vocabulary Words Blue Level

### Chapter 1

**acknowledge** -to admit or confess

(ăk-nŏl'ij) Even after most of the votes had been counted, Senator Rice refused to **acknowledge** that he had lost.

**alternative** -a choice

(ôl-tûr'nə-tĭv) The teacher stated the **alternatives** to Tim –retake the test or get a D for the quarter.

**anecdote** -short, interesting story about an event

(ăn'ĭk-dŏt') Dad told the children an **anecdote** about getting his tie caught in a file cabinet at work just as the boss walked in.

**appropriate** -proper, suitable to the situation

(ə-prŏ'prē-ĭt) Although it is **appropriate** for a man to take his hat off in church, in a synagogue it is proper for a man to cover his head.

**avert** -to prevent; to avoid

(ə-vûrt') Rachel **averted** an unpleasant meeting with her ex-boyfriend by leaving the store before he saw her.

**candid** -very honest

(kăn'dĭd) I'll give you my **candid** opinion, but you may not like what you hear.

**compel** -to force

(kəm-pĕl') If the law didn't **compel** people to pay taxes, no one would pay them.

**comply** -to do as commanded or asked

(kəm-plĭ ') If someone with an iron pipe demands your wallet, it is safer to **comply** than to resist.

**concise** -clear and brief; saying much in a few clear words

(kŏn-sĭs') Unlike many politicians, our mayor is **concise** –his speeches are short but say much.

**drastic** -extreme; harsh or intense

(drăs'tĭk) The company's new president took **drastic** steps, closing two factories and laying off three hundred employees.

### Chapter 2

**dialogue** -a conversation; a conversation between characters in a story, novel, or play

(dĭ 'ə-log') The movie was shown with English subtitles because all of its **dialogue** was in French.

**erratic** -irregular; not consistent

(ĭ-răt ' ĭk) The driver ahead of me was **erratic** –he kept changing his speed and his lane.

**extensive** -large in amount or space

(ĕk-stĕn'sĭv) To save the wounded police officer, doctors performed **extensive** surgery that lasted for hours.

**forfeit** -to give up; lose through some fault; to be forced to give up by way of penalty

(fŏr'tə-fĭ ') If Phil damages his parents' car again, he will **forfeit** the right to drive it any more.

**fortify** -to strengthen

(fŏr ' tə-fĭ ') The builder's plan was to **fortify** the old tower with steel beams.

**illuminate** -to light up  
(ĩ-lōō' mə-nāt') Before electricity, streets were **illuminated** by gaslight.

**isolate** -to separate; to separate from others  
(ī' sə-lāt') I thought I would enjoy **isolating** myself at the vacation cabin, but I soon felt lonely.

**refuge** -a shelter; protection  
(rēf 'yōōj) My boyfriend and I first met when we took **refuge** in the same doorway during a sudden rain.

**reminisce** -to remember; to remember and talk about the past  
(rēm'ə-nīs') My father showed me his trophy and **reminisced** about his years as a star basketball player.

**urban** -city; of or in the city  
(ûr' bən) Gladys likes **urban** living because she grew up in the city, but Ellen, who grew up on a farm, prefers country life.

### Chapter 3

**delete** -to erase; to cross out or erase  
(dī-lēt ') When I accidentally **deleted** several paragraphs of my research paper from the computer, it took ten minutes to retype them.

**impartial** -fair; not biased; without prejudice  
(ĩm-pär' shəl) Too much publicity before a trial makes it difficult for lawyers to find **impartial** jurors, people with no opinion about the case.

**integrity** -honesty; strong moral sense  
(ĩn-tēg' rə-tē) Our boss trusts Ramon with the key to the cash register because she knows that he has **integrity**.

**legitimate** -considered proper; in accordance with accepted laws, rules, and standards  
(lē-jīt' ə-mīt) Any company that guarantees to make all investors millionaires can't possibly be **legitimate**.

**lenient** -easygoing; not strict or harsh in disciplining or punishing; merciful  
(lē' nē-ənt) Mom wouldn't let us feed our poodle during dinner, but Dad, who was more **lenient**, would look the other way when we slipped the dog something under the table.

**menace** -a danger or threat  
(mēn' ĩs) Acid rain is the biggest **menace** to the survival of freshwater fish.

**morale** -spirit or state of mind of a group  
(mə-rāl') Art class was good for Tyrone's **morale**. Each time the teacher praised his drawings, his confidence and enthusiasm increased.

**naïve** -lacking worldly experience; unsuspecting; unsophisticated  
(nä-ēv') Having had little experience with salespeople, my younger sister is so **naïve** that she believes everything they say.

**overt** -obvious or not hidden  
(ō-vûrt ') Sometimes **overt** racism is easier to deal with than the hidden kind. You can better fight what is out in the open.

**undermine** -to weaken; to gradually weaken or damage  
(ûn'dər-mīn') Numerous floods had **undermined** the foundation so greatly that the house was no longer safe.

#### Chapter 4

**agenda** -a schedule; a list of things to be done  
(ə-jĕn' də) There are two items on the **agenda** for today's office meeting: the company's new product and the Christmas party.

**antidote** -a remedy; something that reduces the effects of a poison; anything that relieves a harmful situation  
(ăn' tī-dōt ') Since there was no **antidote** for the snake's poison, the cat that was bitten died.

**apathy** -lack of interest and concern  
(ăp' ə-thĕ) Voter **apathy** was high, causing a low turnout on Election Day.

**bland** -dull; not interesting or exciting  
(blănd) The addition of a bright red scarf changed Linda's gray outfit from **bland** to striking.

**propaganda** -publicity; ideas spread to support or oppose a cause  
(prŏp' ə-găn' də) The **propaganda** put out by cigarette companies says that nicotine doesn't harm people's health.

**prospects** -chances of success  
(prŏs' pĕkts) The movie's **prospects** for doing well at the box office were harmed by several bad reviews in the newspapers.

**radical** -extreme; favoring extreme changes, especially in politics and government  
(răd' kəl) Most students tried to change school policy through peaceful compromise, but a **radical** group wanted to take over the president's office by force.

**reinforce** -to strengthen; to add support to  
(rĕ' ĩn-fŏrs') Jonathan's wisecrack **reinforced** the teacher's opinion that he was interested only in fooling around.

**relevant** -related to the matter at hand; to the point  
(rĕl' ə-vənt') History is always **relevant** to our lives because it shows us what results can follow certain actions.

**ruthless** -without mercy; lacking pity  
(rŏŏth' līs) Barry is so **ruthless** that he would step on coworkers to advance his career.

#### Chapter 5

**endorse** -to support; express approval of  
(ĕn-dŏrs') "If you **endorse** the new shopping mall," said the speaker, "you're supporting a large increase in neighborhood traffic."

**erode** -to wear away; to gradually wear away (something)  
(ĭ-rŏd') As water **eroded** the topsoil, the tree roots beneath it became more and more visible.

- gruesome** (grōō' səm) -frightening; horrible; shocking  
The automobile accident was so **gruesome** that I had to look away from the horrible sight.
- hypocrite** (hīp' ə-krit') -an insincere person; one who claims to be something he or she is not  
I feel that the worst **hypocrites** are those who preach love and then attack anyone of a different culture or faith.
- idealistic** (ī-dē' ə-līs' tīk) -tending to emphasize ideals and principles over practical concerns  
Very **idealistic** people are drawn to professions like teaching or the ministry, in which they feel they can help make the world a better place.
- illusion** (ī-lōō' zhən) -a false impression; a mistaken view of reality  
People lost in the desert sometimes experience the **illusion** that there is a lake right in front of them.
- impact** (īm' pākt) -a force; the force of something striking another thing  
When birds accidentally fly into windows, the **impact** of hitting the glass often kills them.
- imply** (īm-plī ') -to suggest; to express indirectly  
To Sherlock Holmes, the clues **implied** that the murderer was an elderly man who carried a cane.
- novice** (nōv' ĩs) -a beginner; someone new to a field or activity  
“Don't buy an expensive camera for a **novice**,” said the saleswoman. “Let your son first get some experience with a cheap camera.”
- obstacle** (ōb' stə-kəl) -something that gets in the way; a barrier  
The major **obstacle** to Hal's getting a promotion is his laziness.