

Unit 2 Vocabulary Green Level

Chapter 6

equivocate -to be deliberately vague in order to mislead
(ē-kwīv' əkāt') Bob can't get his boss to say whether or not he intends to give him a raise. When Bob asks him, he **equivocates**, saying, "You've been doing good work, Bob."

fortuitous -happening by chance, by accident, or at random; lucky
(fōr-tōō' ə-tās) It was strictly **fortuitous** that Vince found his missing class notes. They happened to drop out of his dictionary when it fell to the floor.

impeccable -faultless; perfect
(īm-pĕk' ə-bəl) My aunt always looks stylish by never overdressed. Her taste in clothes is **impeccable**.

liaison -a person who serves as a connection between individuals or groups; a go-between
(lē' ə-zōn') The president of the Student Council acts as a **liaison** between the Spanish and English-speaking personnel in her office.

predisposed -tending toward or open to something beforehand
(prē' dīs-pōzd') Having asthma, I'm **predisposed** to catching colds in the winter.

propensity -a natural preference or tendency
(prə-pĕn' sī-tē) Because Isaac has a **propensity** to gain weight, he watches what he eats.

reprehensible -deserving of blame, criticism, or disapproval
(rĕp' rī-hĕn' sə-bəl) The Richardsons never discipline their son. No matter how **reprehensible** his behavior is, they just say, "Kids will be kids."

sham -a pretense or counterfeit; something meant to deceive
(shām) Karen's apparent affection for Paul is a **sham**. He's rich, and she cares only about his money.

solace -comfort in sorrow or misfortune; consolation
(sōl' ĩs) After a family quarrel, Tamara finds **solace** in the privacy and quiet of her own room.

solicitous -showing or expressing concern, care, or attention
(sə-līs' ə-tās) The waiter was overly **solicitous**. He kept interrupting our conversation to ask, "Is everything all right here?"

Chapter 7

attrition -a gradual natural decrease in number; becoming fewer in number
(ə-trīsh' ən) Sports teams are constantly looking for new talent to replace players lost through **attrition** – those who retire, quit because of injuries, and so on.

circumvent -to avoid by going around or as if by going around; to escape from, prevent, or stop through cleverness
(sūr' kəm-vĕnt') If we take this roundabout route, we can **circumvent** the rush-hour traffic and get home early.

cohesive -sticking or holding together; unified
(kō-hēs' ĩv) For a **cohesive** pie dough, one that doesn't fall apart, be sure to add enough liquid.

grievous -causing grief or pain; very serious or severe
(grĕv' əs) The death of a beloved pet is a **grievous** loss for a child.

inundate -to cover, as by flooding; overwhelming with a large number or amount
(ĭn' ũn-dāt') During the heavy rain, the river overflowed and **inundated** the fields, destroying all the crops.

oblivious (ə-blīv' ē-əs)	-unaware; failing to notice The driver continued into the intersection, apparently oblivious to the fact that the light had turned red.
reticent (rēt' ə-sənt)	-quiet or uncommunicative; reluctant to speak out Paul is very reticent about his first marriage; he never talks about his former wife or what led to their divorce.
robust (rō-büst')	-healthy and strong; vigorous Once and energetic robust man, Mr. Rand has been considerably weakened by illness.
sanction (sāngk' shən)	-to authorize, allow, or approve Many people whose children attend religious schools would like the government to sanction the use of public funds to help pay for their education.
vociferous (vō-sīf' ə-əs)	-noisy; expressing feelings loudly and intensely The principal became angry and vociferous , shouting at students who tried to sneak out of the fire drill.

Chapter 8

bolster (bōl' stər)	-to hold up, strengthen, or reinforce; to support with a rigid object When Lisa was in the hospital, visits from friends bolstered her spirits.
depreciate (dī-prē' shē-āt')	-to fall or decrease in value or price; to lower the value of The property depreciated when the city built a sewer plant nearby.
indiscriminate (in' dī-skrīm' ĩ-nīt)	-not chosen carefully; not based on careful selection Some people end up hopelessly in debt because of indiscriminate spending so be selective about what and how much you buy.
inquisitive (in-kwīz' ə-tīv)	-curious; eager to learn Inquisitive students usually do better than those who are less curious and less eager to learn.
nebulous (nēb' yə-ləs)	-vague; unclear “Don’t give nebulous answers on the exam,” said the history instructor. “Be specific.”
relegate (rēl' ə-gāt')	-to assign to a less important or less satisfying position, place, or condition At family gatherings, we kids were always relegated to the kitchen table while the adults are in the dining room.
replete (rī-plēt')	-plentifully supplied; well-filled The show was replete with dazzling effects, including gorgeous scenery, glittering costumes, dramatic, lighting, and thrilling music.
sedentary (sēd' n-tēr' ē)	-marked by much sitting; requiring or taking little exercise People in sedentary occupations, such as bus drivers and writers, need to make a special effort to exercise.
tenet (tēn' ĩt)	-a belief or principle held to be true by an individual or group A basic tenet of Islam is “There is not God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.”
terse (tûrs)	-brief and clear; effectively concise I was hurt by Roger’s terse response to my invitation. All he said was “No thanks.”

Chapter 9

autonomy

(ô-tôn' ə-mē) -independence; self-government
In 1776, the American colonists, tired of being ruled by England, fought for their **autonomy**.

bureaucratic

(byōōr' ə-krăt' ik) -insisting on strict rules and routine, often to the point of hindering effectiveness
Bureaucratic organizations can become so bogged down in regulations that almost no work gets done.

mandate

(man' dāt') -a group's expressed wishes; clear signal to act; vote of confidence
All the union members voted for the strike, giving their leaders a clear **mandate**.

ostracize

(ōs' trə-sīz') -to expel or exclude from a group
Children who look or act "different" are often **ostracized** by their classmates.

raucous

(rô' kəs) -noisy and disorderly; boisterous
The audience at the rock concert was so **raucous** that we feared the noise and commotion would lead to violence.

recourse

(rē' kōrs) -a source of help, security, or strength; something to turn to
"Unless you pay your bill," the company threatened, "we'll have no **recourse** but to sue you."

reiterate

(rē-īt' ə-rāt') -to state again or repeatedly
I hate it when a speaker **reiterates** the same point over and over, as if the listeners weren't paying attention or were just too stupid to understand.

tantamount

(tānt' ə-mount') -equal in effect or value; the same as
Charging three dollars for a cup of coffee is **tantamount** to robbery.

tenacious

(tə-nā' shəs) -holding firmly; persistent; stubborn
The cat's grip on the ledge was **tenacious**, but we weren't sure how long could keep hanging on so firmly.

utopia

(yōō-tō' pē-ə) -an ideal or perfect place or state; a place achieving social or political perfection
Everyone has a different idea of **utopia**. A situation that seems perfect to me might make you miserable.

Chapter 10

clandestine

(klän-dēs' tīn) -done in secret; kept hidden
In a **clandestine** meeting in an alley, Steve sold his employer's valuable anti-aging formula to a competitor.

contingency

(kən-tīn' jən-sē) -a possible future event that must be prepared for or guarded against; possibility
Faye thought her company might transfer her to another city. With that **contingency** in mind, she decided to rent a house rather than buy one.

egocentric

(ē' gō-sēn' trīk) -self-centered; seeing everything in terms of oneself
Denise is completely **egocentric**. Whenever event takes place, she thinks only of how it will affect her personally.

exonerate

(ēg-zōn' ər-āt') -to clear of an accusation or charge; prove innocent
Saul was suspected of robbing a bank, but he was **exonerated** when the hidden camera's photos clearly showed someone else holding up the teller.

- incongruous** (ĩn-kõng' grõõ-əs) -out of place; having parts that are not in harmony or that are inconsistent
The cuckoo lays eggs in other birds' nests. This practice can result in the **incongruous** sight of one large cuckoo chick among several tiny baby robins.
- indigenous** (ĩn-dij' ə-nəs) -living, growing, or produced naturally in a particular place; native
Kangaroos are **indigenous** only to Australia. They have never been found living anywhere else in the world.
- liability** (lī ' ə-bil' ə-tē) -something that acts as a disadvantage; a drawback
My shyness with strangers would be a **liability** in any job that involved meeting the public, such as sales.
- prolific** (prõ-lif' ik) -producing many works, results, or offspring; fertile
Rabbits deserve their reputation for being **prolific**. A female can produce three families each summer.
- reinstate** (rē' ĩn-stāt') -to restore to a previous position or condition; bring back into being or use
The college had canceled the course in folklore, but the demand was so great that the class had to be **reinstated**.
- superfluous** (sõõ-pûr' flõõ-əs) -beyond what is needed, wanted, or useful; extra
In the phrase "rich millionaire," the word *rich* is **superfluous**. All millionaires are rich.