

## Unit 3 Vocabulary Green Level

### Chapter 11

#### advocate

(ăd' və-kāt')

-to speak or write in favor of; support

Some gardeners consider chemicals and pesticides harmful; instead, they **advocate** using “organic” methods of growing fruits and vegetables.

#### antipathy

(ăn-tī' pə-thē)

-a strong dislike or distaste; hatred

Bud's parents didn't understand why he hated school until they found that the reason for his **antipathy** was poor eyesight: he couldn't see the chalkboard.

#### emancipate

(ē-măn' sī-pāt')

-to set free from slavery, captivity, or opposition

When the Allies entered Germany at the end of World War II, they **emancipated** many foreign and political prisoners who had been used as slave laborers in German industries

#### idiosyncrasy

(īd' ē-ō-sīng' krə-sē)

-a personal peculiarity; quirk

For as long as I've known Clara, she's had the unusual idiosyncrasy of dressing only in black.

#### imminent

(īm' ə-nənt)

-about to happen

We canceled the picnic because a thunderstorm seemed **imminent**.

#### impede

(īm-pēd')

-to delay or slow; get in the way

Muddy roads **impeded** the progress of the trucks bringing food to the refugees.

#### inclusive

(īn-klōō' sīv)

-including much or everything; broad or complete in coverage

The medical center's annual fee is **inclusive**, covering all visits, tests, treatments, and other services.

#### jurisdiction

(jūr' īs-dīk' shən)

-the authority to administer justice; authority; range or extent of authority

The United States has no **jurisdiction** over foreign embassies on American soil; those embassies are under their own governments.

#### precarious

(prē-kâr' ē-əs)

-dangerous; risky; dangerously uncertain

The icy roads made travel **precarious**.

#### preposterous

(prē-pōs' tər-əs)

-contrary to nature or reason and thus laughable; absurd

The discovery of x-rays in 1895 was followed by some **preposterous** idea and fears. For example, merchants in England sold “x-ray-proof” underwear.

### Chapter 12

#### austere

(ô-stīr')

-without decoration or luxury; severely simple

Ms. Stone's appearance was **austere**. She wore plain, quiet clothing with no jewelry, and she never used makeup.

#### esoteric

(ēs' ə-tēr' īk)

-intended for or understood by only a certain group; beyond the understanding of most people

The instruction manuals that come with computer software often use such **esoteric** terms that they seem to be written in a foreign language.

#### facsimile

(fāk-sīm' ə-lē)

-an exact copy or reproduction

When a **facsimile** of an old Sears-Roebuck catalog was published recently, it became a bestseller. People enjoyed seeing what was for sale a century ago.

- grotesque** (grō-tĕsk') -distorted or strikingly inconsistent in shape; appearance, or manner  
Most people found the movie character E.T. adorable, but I thought the little alien was **grotesque**, with its weird combination of babyish features and old, wrinkled skin.
- mesmerize** (mĕz' mĕ-rīz') -a great or complete change; transformation  
The intense eyes of the woman in the photograph **mesmerized** me. I couldn't take my eyes off the picture.
- metamorphosis** (mĕt' ə-mōr' fĕ-sīs) -a great or complete change; transformation  
A caterpillar's transformation into a butterfly is a well-known example of **metamorphosis**.
- notorious** (nō-tōr' ĕ-əs) -known widely but unfavorably; having a bad reputation  
The local diner is notorious for bitter coffee, soggy vegetables, limp salads, and mystery meat.
- perfunctory** (pər-fŭnk' tə-rĕ) -done only as a routine, with little care or interest; performed with no interest or enthusiasm  
The doctor's examination was **perfunctory**. He seemed to be just going through the motions without taking any interest in the patient.
- provocative** (prō-vōk' ə-tīv) -tending to arouse interest or curiosity  
"A good essay is **provocative**," said our English instructor. "It gets the readers interest and attentive starting with the very first paragraph."
- travesty** (trāv' ĩs-tĕ) -a crude, exaggerated, or ridiculous representation; mockery  
The musical-comedy version of Hamlet was a **travesty**. The critics and audience agreed that it made a mockery of Shakespeare's profound tragedy.
- Chapter 13**
- connoisseur** (kōn' ə sūr') -an expert in fine art or in matters of taste  
My sister is a **connoisseur** of Southern Novels. She's read dozens of them, and she knows all about the authors and their different styles.
- conspiracy** (kən-spīr' ə-sĕ) -a secret plot by two or more people, especially for a harmful or illegal purpose  
The **conspiracy** to overthrow the government was started by two of the premier's own advisors.
- contrite** (kən-trīt') -truly sorry for having done wrong; repentant  
Dolores was especially **contrite** about tearing her sister's dress because she'd borrowed it without permission.
- distraught** (dī-strōt') -very troubled; distressed  
-The parents of the little girl who wandered off in the crowded mall were **distraught** until she was found.
- germane** (jər-mān') -having to do with issues at hand; relevant  
-Stacy went to the law library to look up information that might be **germane** to her client's case.
- lucid** (lōō' sīd) -clearly expressed; easily understood  
The scientist's explanation of the greenhouse effect was so **lucid** that the entire audience was able to grasp it.
- plight** (plīt) -a situation marked by difficulty, hardship, or misfortune  
The **plight** of the homeless can be somewhat relieved by decent shelters.

**superficially** -in an on-the-surface manner; not thoroughly  
(sōō' pār-fīsh' əl-lē) -Leah spent a fully week studying for the exam. Joyce, however, reviewed **superficially**, flipping through the pages of her textbook an hour before the test.

**symmetrical** -well proportioned; balanced; the same on both sides  
(sī-mē' trī-kəl) The children's sandcastle was **symmetrical**, with a wall on each side and a tower and flag at each end.

**verbose** -using or containing too many words  
(vər-bōs') Gabe is the most **verbose** person I know. He always uses ten words when one would do.

## **Chapter 14**

**adept** -highly skilled; expert  
(ə-dēpt') People enjoy visiting my parents, who are **adept** at making guests feel welcome and at home.

**encompass** -to include; contain  
(ən-kūm' pəs) Our history teacher's broad knowledge of the subject **encompasses** details of life in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

**entrepreneur** -a person who organizes, manages, and takes the risk of a business undertaking  
(ōn' trə-prə-nūr') My ten-year-old neighbor is already an **entrepreneur**. He set up a lemonade stand last summer and sold homemade cookies at Halloween.

**eradicate** -to get rid of altogether; wipe out  
(ī-rād' ī-kāt') In recent years, smallpox has been **eradicated** –the first time in history that humans have been able to wipe out a disease. Today many fear the virus may return to the world in the form of biological warfare.

**homogeneous** -made up of similar or identical parts; uniform throughout  
(hō' mō-jē' nē-əs) The student body at Eastman College appears quite **homogeneous**, but there are significant social and economical differences among the students.

**presumptuous** -too bold; overly confident  
(prē-zūmp' chōō-əs) It was **presumptuous** of Eric to announce his engagement to Sarah before she had actually agreed to marry him.

**sordid** -indecent; morally low; corrupt  
(sōr' dīd) Supermarket tabloids sell well because many people want to know the **sordid** details of celebrities' addictions and messy divorces.

**standardize** -to make uniform; cause to conform to a model  
(stān' dēr-dīz') When the company **standardized** its pay scale, the salary of each type of job became identical throughout all its departments.

**stint** -a period of work or service  
(stīnt) My **stint** serving hamburgers and fries at a fast-food restaurant convinced me that I needed to get a college degree.

**stringent** -strictly controlled or enforced; strict; severe  
(strīn' jənt) Ms. Jasper has the most **stringent** standards in the department. Passing her course is difficult; getting an A is next to impossible.

## **Chapter 15**

### **exhort**

(ĕg-zôrt')

-to urge with argument or strong advice; plead earnestly

The school counselor gave an impassioned speech to the parents, in which she **exhorted** them to make every effort to keep their children off drugs.

### **flamboyant**

(flăm-boi 'ənt)

-very showy; strikingly bold

Lily can't resist **flamboyant** clothes. She's wear a hot-pink dress with gold satin trim to a funeral.

### **foible**

(foi' bəl)

-a minor weakness or character flaw; a minor fault in behavior

-Serious character flaws – such as abusiveness – are hard to overlook, but **foibles** –such as drinking soup through a straw –can often be overlooked.

### **innocuous**

(ĭn-nŏk' yŏŏ-əs)

-harmless; inoffensive

Although most children engage in **innocuous** pranks on Halloween, some get out of hand and do serious damage.

### **magnanimous**

(măg-năn' ə-məs)

-noble in mind and spirit; especially generous in forgiving

At age 5, John is already learned to be **magnanimous**. He forgives and hugs his baby sister when she hits him on the head with a wooden block.

### **masochist**

(măs' ə-kĭst)

-a person who gains satisfaction from suffering physical or psychological pain

Psychologists are trying to understand why **masochists** obtain satisfaction from suffering.

### **meticulous**

(mə-tĭk' yŏŏ-ləs)

-extremely carefully and exact; showing great attention to detail

When you proofread your own writing, be **meticulous** –check every detail.

### **rancor**

(răn' kər)

-intense hatred or ill will; long0lasting resentment

-The **rancor** between my uncles has lasted for twenty years, ever since Uncle David married the woman to whom Uncle Matt had proposed.

### **recrimination**

(rĭ-krĭm' ə-nă' shən)

-an accusation made in response to an accuser; countercharge

When Lexie's father and her teacher met to discuss Lexie's poor grades, they exchanged **recriminations** –each accused the other of not helping her to do better.

### **repugnant**

(rĭ-pŭg' nənt)

-offensive; distasteful; repulsive

My parents find some of my eating habits **repugnant**, but I see nothing offensive about mixing peas and ketchup into mashed potatoes.