

Unit One Vocabulary Words**Purple Level****Chapter One**

- absolve** -to find innocent or blameless
(ăb-zōlv') Having insufficient evidence of his guilt, the jury had to **absolve** Mr. Melman of the murder.
- adamant** -not giving in; stubborn
(ăd' ə -mənt) Ron is **adamant** about not changing plans. He insists we still camp out even though the weather report now says it will be cold and rainy.
- amiable** -good-natured; friendly and pleasant
(ā' mē-ə-bəl) My **amiable** dog greets both strangers and old friends with a happy yip and energetic tail-wagging.
- amoral** -lacking a moral sense; without principles
(ā-mōr' əl) Jerry is almost totally **amoral**. He cares only about making money and having fun and couldn't care less about right or wrong.
- animosity** -bitter hostility
(ăn' ə-mōs' ə-tē) I was shocked when Sandy said she hated Lionel. I'd never realized she felt such **animosity** towards him.
- antagonist** -an opponent; one who opposes or competes
(ăn-tăg' ə-nīst) At the divorce hearing, the husband and wife were such bitter **antagonists** that it was hard to believe they had once loved each other.
- eccentric** -differing from what is customary; odd
(ĭk-sĕn' trĭk) Florence Nightingale, the famous nursing reformer, had the **eccentric** habit of carrying a pet owl around in one of her pockets.
- encounter** -a brief or an unexpected meeting
(ĕn-koun' tər) My **encounter** with matt in an LA supermarket surprised me, since I thought he still lived in Chicago.
- epitome** -a perfect or typical example of a general quality or type
(ĭ-pĭt' ə-mē) To many, the **epitome** of cuteness is a furry, round-eyed puppy.
- malign** -to make evil and often untrue statements about; speak evil of
(mə' lĭn) Stacy refuses to **malign** her ex-husband, even though he was the one who insisted on the divorce.

Chapter Two

- curt** -rudely brief when speaking to someone
(kûrt) The fast-food manager trained workers to give polite, full answers to customers, not **curt** responses.
- demoralize** -to lower the spirits of; weaken the confidence or cheerfulness of
(dĭ-môr' ə-lĭz') Cara's refusal to date my brother **demoralized** him to the point that for months he lacked the **confidence** to ask another woman out.
- dilemma** -a situation requiring a difficult choice
(dĭ-lĕm' ə) In old romantic movies, the heroine's **dilemma** often involves choosing between a rich boyfriend and the poor man she really loves.

inclination -a tendency to think, act, or behave in a certain way
(ĩn-klə-nā' shən) My **inclination** is to major in nursing, but I'm going to speak to a few nurses before I make my final decision.

irate -very angry
(ī-rāt') If Kate got angry only occasionally, I could take her more seriously, but she's always **irate** about something or other.

retort -to reply, especially, in a quick, sharp, or witty way
(rī-tôrt') "What do you want?" the young woman asked Dracula. "Only to drink in you charms," he **retorted**.

sabotage -to deliberately destroy or damage
(săb' ə-tôzh') Terrorist groups train their members to **sabotage** airports and other public places.

subsequent -following, in order or time; next; later
(süb' sī-kwənt') The first time Janet drove on a highway, she was terrified, but on **subsequent** trips, she felt more relaxed.

wary -cautious; on one's guard
(wâr' ē) I'm a little **wary** of people who, when they first meet me, treat me as if I'm their best friend.

zeal -enthusiastic devotion; intense enthusiasm
(zēl) Beth attacked her food with such **zeal** that I thought that she hadn't eaten for a week!

Chapter Three

acclaim -great praise or applause; enthusiastic approval
(ə-klām') Any subway system that is clean, quiet, and safe deserves **acclaim**.

adjacent -close; near (to something)
(ə-jā' sənt) Since their desks were **adjacent**, Jeff and Kellie often exchanged looks and comments.

elicit -to draw forth
(ĩ-lis' ít) Elizabeth Taylor's violet eyes always **elicit** admiration and wonder.

engross -to hold the full attention of; absorb
(ěn' grōs') The suspenseful TV movie so **engrossed** Bryan that he didn't even budge when he was called for dinner.

escalate -to increase or intensify
(ěs' kə-lāt') The fight between the two hockey players **escalated** into an all-out battle among members of both teams.

exploit -to use selfishly or unethically; take unfair advantage of
(ěks-ploit') At the turn of the century, factory owners **exploited** children by making them work in terrible conditions for as many as eighteen hours a day.

methodical -orderly; systematic
(mə-thōd' ĩ-kəl) A **methodical** way to store spices is to shelve them in alphabetic order.

obsolete -no longer in use or practice; out of date
(ōb' sə-lēt') Computers are so common now that they have made typewriters almost **obsolete**.

tangible -able to be touched; having form and matter
(tãn' jə-bəl) The sculptor loved making her ideas **tangible** by giving them form in metal and stone.

terminate -to stop; to bring to an end
(tûr' mə-nāt) As the clock's hands inched toward 3:06, the students waited impatiently for the bell to **terminate** the last class before spring vacation.

Chapter Four

deterrent -something that discourages or prevents a certain action
(dī-tûr' ənt) As a **deterrent** to burglars, my father put a sign on our lawn that says, "Beware of pit bull."

implication -an idea that is communicated indirectly, through a suggestion or hint
(ĩm-plĩ-kā' shən) When the boss said that the company profits were down, the **implication** was that nobody would be getting a raise.

inequity -an injustice; unfairness; an instance of injustice
(ĩn-ĕk' wīt-ē) Most Americans consider it an **inequity** that some millionaires pay less in taxes than ordinary citizens do.

infirmity -a physical weakness or defect; ailment
(ĩn-fûr' mə-tē) Rick used a wheelchair, but he doesn't let his **infirmity** keep him from traveling.

infringe -to intrude or trespass on; to go beyond the limits considered proper
(ĩn-frĩnj') When my mother is doing her homework, no one is allowed to **infringe** on her quiet time.

innovation -a new custom, method, or invention; something newly introduced
(ĩn-' ə -vā' shən) When commercial bakers first offered sliced bread, it was considered an exciting **innovation**.

revitalized -to renew the strength and energy of; restore to a vigorous, active condition
(rē-vīt' əl-īz') When Darcy is tired after work, he finds a brief nap **revitalizes** him for an evening out with friends.

sparse -distributed thinly; not thick or crowded
(spãrs) There are thick pine forests at the foot of the mountain, but higher up, the trees become **sparse**.

subjective -based on personal opinions, feelings, and attitudes; not objective
(səb-jĕk' tĩv) Mary, a highly **subjective** judge of her son's abilities, feels he's brilliant in every respect. They boy's father, however, has a less emotional view of him.

succinct -expressed clearly in a few words; to the point; concise
(sək-sĩŋkt') Your telegram should be **succinct** so that you get your message across clearly without paying for more words than necessary.

Chapter Five

allusion -an indirect reference
(ə-lōō' zhən) Ray didn't have the courage to come right out and ask Lucy to marry him. Instead, he made only an **allusion** to marriage by asking, "Wouldn't it be easier if we had to fill out just one tax form?"

altruistic -unselfishly concerned for the welfare of others; unselfish
(ăl' trōō -īs' tĩk) "I'm not often **altruistic**," Ashton admitted. "I usually put my own welfare first."

appease (ə-pēz')	-to calm; especially by giving in to the demands of My sister was so outraged when I accidentally scratched her favorite old Beatles record that nothing I could say or do would appease her.
arbitrary (är' bī-trēr' ē)	-determined by personal judgement, not by rule or reason; based on impulse Professor Miller's students were angry that he graded essays in an arbitrary way, rather than using clear-cut standards.
assail (ə-sāl')	-to attack physically or verbally The storm assailed us with hail and heavy rain.
banal (bə-nāl')	-lacking originality; over used; commonplace The film, with its overused expressions and unimaginative plot, was the most banal I had ever seen.
euphemism (yōō' fə-mīz' əm)	-a mild or vague term used as a substitute for one considered offensive or unpleasant The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is on record as having referred to assassinations with the euphemism "change of health."
mercenary (mūr' sə-nēr' ē)	-motivated only by financial gain; greedy Ed is totally mercenary . His philosophy is, "Pay me enough, and I'll do anything."
syndrome (sīn' drōm)	-a group of symptoms typical of a particular disease or condition Jet lag is a syndrome resulting from flying long distances; it often includes exhaustion, headache, and loss of appetite.
taint (tānt)	-to stain the honor of a someone or something The involvement of organized crime has tainted many sports, including boxing and horse racing.