lightning  A flash of light caused by a discharge of electricity in the sky. 
The lightning flashed and thunder rumbled.

murmur  A soft, low, continuous sound. 
The murmur of the brook lulled the campers to sleep.

pigeon  A bird with a plump body, a small head and short legs; a dove. 
The pigeon cooed in its nest.

wizard  A very clever and skillful person; a magician. 
Thomas Edison was a wizard at invention.

perilous  Dangerous or hazardous; full of or involving risk. 
The ship sailed through a perilous sea filled with drifting icebergs.

crocus  A small plant with a colorful flower that blooms very early in spring. 
The blooming of the crocus is a sign of spring.

courtesy  Politeness; an act or a gesture of politeness. 
When he held the door open for her, she thanked him for his courtesy.

diary  A daily record of personal experiences. 
Anne Frank kept a diary during the two years she hid from the Germans.

translator  A person whose job is to express one language in another. 
The translator worked closely with the Russian novelist on the English edition of his book.

reign  The rule; the period of rule, as by a king or queen. 
The reign of Queen Victoria lasted more than sixty years.

desert  A large, dry, barren region. 
It seldom rains in the desert.

sidle  To move sideways. 
I had to sidle through a narrow opening to get into the cave.

balmy  Mild and pleasant. 
Indian summer brought back balmy weather, and we could go out again in our shirt sleeves.

recipe  A set of directions used in cooking or baking. 
Jane gave me a recipe for chocolate cake.
**DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>canon</strong></td>
<td>A basic principle, rule, or standard. A <em>canon</em> of ethics sets a guideline for lawyers' practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bridal</strong></td>
<td>Of a bride or a wedding. After the wedding, she tossed her <em>bridal</em> bouquet to the cheering young ladies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>icily</strong></td>
<td>Coldly; in an unfriendly way. “Mind your own business,” she told him <em>icily</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>precede</strong></td>
<td>To go before; to come before. Drum majorettes usually <em>precede</em> the band in parades.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>mantle (hom)</strong></td>
<td>A cloak; something that covers like a cloak. A <em>mantle</em> of fresh snow covered the ground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>preceding</strong></td>
<td>Coming just before; previous. Let’s turn back the page and read the <em>preceding</em> paragraphs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>valiant</strong></td>
<td>Brave; courageous. The defenders put up a <em>valiant</em> fight in driving back the enemy’s large army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>develop</strong></td>
<td>To grow; to bring into being. Weight lifting everyday will help <em>develop</em> strong arms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>horde (hom)</strong></td>
<td>A large group; a crowd; a swarm. A <em>horde</em> of grasshoppers ate all the farmer’s crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>channel (hom)</strong></td>
<td>A band of frequencies for radio or television transmission. Diane changed the television <em>channel</em> to one with the evening news.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>plume</strong></td>
<td>A large feather. The Indian wore a <em>plume</em> in his headband.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>eerily</strong></td>
<td>Weirdly; frighteningly; mysteriously. Owls hooted <em>eerily</em> in the dark woods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>buckle</strong></td>
<td>To fasten the two ends of a strap with a clasp. “<em>Buckle</em> your seat belt for safety.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hymn (hom)</strong></td>
<td>A song of praise. The choir sang a <em>hymn</em> of thanksgiving.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>forest</strong></td>
<td>A large area with trees and plants. The woodcutter worked all day in the <em>forest</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>annex (hom)</strong></td>
<td>A building added to another larger building. An <em>annex</em> to the library was built for use as a music room.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
fal\textit{ter} \hspace{1em} To loose strength; to hesitate.  
The intense artillery fire caused the enemy line to \textit{falter} and then retreat.

\textit{waive} (hom) \hspace{1em} To set aside; to give up a claim.  
We decided to \textit{waive} the age rule so that Johnny could join our club.

\textit{essential} \hspace{1em} Basic; very important.  
Fruits and vegetables are \textit{essential} to a balanced diet.

\textit{clamor} \hspace{1em} A loud and continuous noise; a noisy outcry.  
A flock of sea gulls raised a deafening \textit{clamor} at the beach.

\textit{aggressive} \hspace{1em} Energetic; forceful; first to attack.  
The boxer became more \textit{aggressive} and knocked out his opponent in the next round.

canoe \hspace{1em} A light, narrow boat moved by paddles.  
Tom and Jerry paddled their \textit{canoe} down the river.

\textit{guise} \hspace{1em} A false appearance; pretense.  
Robin Hood went to the sheriff’s party in the \textit{guise} of a butcher.

\textit{corps} \hspace{1em} A specially trained group of people.  
The President spoke to members of the White House press \textit{corps}.

\textit{journey} \hspace{1em} A long trip.  
Dorothy and her friends went on a \textit{journey} to see the Wizard of Oz.

\textit{stubborn} \hspace{1em} Refusing to change one’s mind; not giving in.  
“Don’t be so \textit{stubborn}; let me have the ball.”

\textit{council} (hom) \hspace{1em} A group of people chosen to advise or to make rules.  
John was elected to the student \textit{council} as our class representative.

\textit{awkward} \hspace{1em} Clumsy; not graceful in movement.  
Brian looked \textit{awkward} riding his little sister’s tricycle.

\textit{persuade} \hspace{1em} To win over someone to do something.  
Bob was so stubborn we could not \textit{persuade} him to come.

capsize \hspace{1em} To overturn; to turn bottom side up.  
“If you are not careful, you will \textit{capsize} the canoe and get us all wet.”
glisten
To shine or sparkle.
The snow-covered peaks glisten in the sun.

fragile
Easily broken or damaged.
The package is labeled fragile. Handle with care."

afloat
Floating.
The boat remained afloat after it capsized.

faucet
A device for turning on or off the flow of water from a pipe.
I turned the faucet on and filled the bucket with water.

almanac
A book published annually, containing information about the weather,
the sun, the moon and many other different subjects.
The farmer looked in the almanac to find out the best time for planting his crop.

barrel
A large, round container having flat ends and curved sides.
This barrel holds 31 gallons of apple cider.

suspicion
The act of suspecting; the condition of being suspected; a feeling that something
is wrong.
The police confirmed their suspicion that the bank teller helped the robbers
escape.

accustomed
Used to; in the habit of.
The farmer was accustomed to getting up early every morning to milk cows.

accuracy
Correctness; exactness.
I checked the accuracy of his calculations and found no mistakes.

museum
A building in which interesting things are kept and shown to the public.
We went to the art museum to see Picasso’s famous paintings.

jetty
A breakwater; a structure built in the water to protect a harbor.
They built a jetty of rocks around the harbor.

leisure
Not busy; free from work; spare time.
We will have plenty of leisure time in the summer when school is out.

dribble
To flow in small drops; to trickle.
Turn the faucet off completely so it won’t dribble.

islet (hom)
A small island.
They rowed their boat to an islet in the middle of the lake.
thunderous
Like thunder.
The audience burst into thunderous applause when Julie finished singing.

guitar
A six-stringed musical instrument.
Roger strummed his guitar as he sang.

prairie
A region of flat or slightly rolling grassland.
Herds of buffalo grazed on the endless prairie.

abridged
Shortened; condensed.
This abridged dictionary has only the most commonly used words from a larger edition.

soccer
A field game played with a round ball.
Gary scored the winning goal in the soccer game.

argument
A dispute; a quarrel.
The boys’ argument turned into a fight.

squirt
To force out liquid in a jet.
“Don’t squirt your sister with your water pistol.”

chord (hom)
A combination of tones sounded together in harmony.
Julie struck a chord on her guitar.

treadle
A device worked by the foot to operate a machine.
That old sewing machine runs by a treadle instead of a motor.

edible
Fit to eat.
Some mushrooms are edible but many others are poisonous.

collapse
To fall down; to break down.
The earthquake caused the bridge to collapse.

visor
A brim on the front of a cap.
The large visor on her baseball cap shaded her eyes from the sun.

challenge
To ask to take part in a contest.
“I challenge you to a tennis match.”

goalie
A goalkeeper.
The goalie fell on the ball before it could roll into the goal.
genial  Cheerful and friendly.  The tour guide gave us a genial welcome as we boarded the bus.

veil (hom)  A piece of thin cloth like a net, usually worn by women over the head or the face.  An Arab woman peered from behind her black veil.

rhythm  A movement with a regular pattern.  The children clapped their hands to the rhythm of the music.

refrigerator  A box for keeping food cold.  We put the watermelon in the refrigerator to keep it ice-cold.

snooze  To take a short nap.  He would snooze in his armchair, his face covered with the evening paper.

fragrance  A pleasing smell.  The fragrance of roses filled the air in the garden.

crony  A close friend.  An old crony from Grandfather’s hometown came to visit him.

capitol  The building in which Congress or a state legislature meets for business.  Our state capitol is a big white building with a gilded dome.

permanent  Lasting for a long time; not temporary.  Susan got her first permanent tooth when she was six years old.

alliance  A union formed to serve common interests.  The nations formed an alliance to fight against the enemies.

temporary  Lasting for a short-time; not permanent.  The post office hired temporary workers to help handle Christmas mail.

comparison  Examination to find out similarities and differences.  Before buying, I tried on several shoes for comparison.

nuisance  Someone or something that bothers or makes trouble.  Mosquitoes were a real nuisance to his roommate.

pillar  A post that supports a roof.  When the pillar collapsed, the roof caved in.

gnome  An imaginary dwarf living underground.  The gnome guarded hidden treasures in an underground cave.
persistence  The act of keeping on doing something stubbornly. Mosquitoes buzzed around with annoying persistence.

shriek  To utter a loud shrill sound. I heard sirens shriek as police cars raced down the street.

lilac  A shrub with clusters of sweet-smelling purplish or white flowers. The purple flowers of the lilac filled the air with fragrance.

squirrel  A small animal with along bushy tail. The squirrel sat on its haunches, eating acorns.

ambulance  A car or other vehicle for carrying sick or wounded persons to a hospital. An ambulance took the injured driver to the hospital.

cuckoo  A small bird with a whistling call that sounds like its name. Our cuckoo clock has a toy bird that pops out to announce the time.

fawn (hom)  A young deer. I saw a doe and her ting fawn browsing in the park.

harass  To bother or annoy constantly. Mosquitoes harass people on summer nights with their buzzing and biting.

jewelry  Ornaments made of precious stones or metals. She keeps her necklaces in a jewelry box.

committee  A group of persons chosen for a task. Bob was elected chairman of the entertainment committee.

taut  Tightly stretched; tense. The string became taut as the kite soared with the wind.

peculiar  Strange; odd; unusual. Charlie had a peculiar habit of scratching his ear when he was embarrassed.

ambassador  A representative of the highest rank sent by one government to another. The ambassador signed the peace treaty for his government.

performance  The act of carrying out an action; a public entertainment, such as dancing, singing or playing a musical instrument. The teacher praised Katie for her fine performance in the play.

wince  To draw back quickly, as from pain. The sharp needle made me wince as the nurse gave me a shot.
DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6

squall  A sudden violent storm or gust of wind. The snow squall snarled traffic.

caterpillar  A wormlike creature hatched from the egg of a butterfly or a moth. That green caterpillar will become a white butterfly.

gait  A way of moving on foot, as in walking or running. The horse settled into a slow gait.

embassy  The official residence or headquarters of an ambassador. The ambassador and the foreign minister met at the U.S. embassy.

handiwork  Work done by hand. This quilt is very precious to Jenny because it is her grandmother’s handiwork.

boar  A wild pig; a male pig. The savage boar attacked a hunter with its long tusks.

responsibility  Something a person is supposed to do; a duty. It is Larry’s responsibility to care for and feed his dog.

shepherd  A person who tends a flock of sheep. The shepherd led his flock across the green pasture.

vineyard  A place where grapes are grown. They picked grapes in the vineyard.

negotiate  To talk over to reach an agreement; to arrange terms for. The ambassadors worked long and hard to negotiate a peace treaty.

exhibition  A public showing. We went to an exhibition of new paintings at the art museum.

canvass (hom)  To go about asking for donations, seeking votes, or taking polls. Volunteers canvass door-to-door for donations to the March of Dimes.

handkerchief  A soft piece of cloth used for wiping the face or the nose. She wiped her tears off with a handkerchief.

extraordinary  Very unusual; remarkable. Winning a spelling bee is an extraordinary accomplishment.

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
emperor  A man who rules an empire.
Napoleon crowned himself emperor after he conquered most of Europe.

appreciation  Gratitude.
As a token of our appreciation, we are sending you a gift.

eliminate  To get rid of; to remove.
Proofreading helps eliminate errors.

escort  To go along with someone to protect or to show honor.
Secret Servicemen escort the President everywhere he goes.

linen  Household cloth articles, like sheets and towels.
She put the clean towels in the linen closet.

tournament  A series of contests.
Katie advanced to the semifinals of the tennis tournament.

eminent  Outstanding; distinguished.
The eminent scientist was awarded the Nobel Prize.

possession  The owning of something; ownership; something owned.
Police arrested the man for illegal possession of guns.

applause  Approval shown by shouts or clapping hands.
The applause shook the auditorium as the winner was handed the trophy.

nourish  To make grow; to feed.
Babies need milk to nourish their bodies.

satin  A silk, nylon or rayon cloth with a smooth, shiny surface.
The queen wore a shimmering satin dress at the banquet.

vitamin  A substance in food, needed for good health.
Oranges are rich in vitamin C.

magazine  A weekly or monthly publication with articles by different writers.
I read that article in this week’s news magazine.

alley  A narrow street between or behind buildings.
The car entered a dark alley behind the apartment buildings.

ridicule  To make fun of; to laugh at.
"Be gentle. Don’t ridicule your sister about her mistakes."

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>deficit</td>
<td>A shortage of money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Because the club members spent more money than planned, their budget showed a deficit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dominance</td>
<td>A powerful influence; a position or authority or leadership.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Their team continued its dominance in the football league, winning the championship every year for six years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noticeable</td>
<td>Easily seen or heard; easily noticed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The smudge on his white shirt was very noticeable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kangaroo</td>
<td>A leaping animal of Australia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The baby kangaroo crawled into its mother’s pouch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paunch</td>
<td>The belly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>His paunch grew large from overeating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cranny</td>
<td>A small, narrow opening; a crack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A ray of sunlight came through a cranny into the dark cave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exert</td>
<td>To bring into use; to put forth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“You will have to exert all your strength to move that rock.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>routine</td>
<td>Something done the same way every time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My morning routine includes brushing my teeth and making my bed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>revealed</td>
<td>Made known; disclosed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mike revealed his secret to no one but his brother John.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tremor</td>
<td>A shaking; a trembling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The tremor of the earthquake could be felt hundreds of miles away.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recruit</td>
<td>To enlist; to get people to join; to enroll.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The army tries to recruit bright young men and women.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brilliance</td>
<td>Great brightness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The North Star can be easily spotted because of its brilliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awesome</td>
<td>Causing fear, wonder, or respect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The raging storm at sea was an awesome sight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deuce</td>
<td>A tie score in tennis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In tennis you must score twice to win after reaching deuce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>retrieve</td>
<td>To bring back; to get back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I taught my German Shepherd to retrieve a ball I have thrown.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
imaginary
Existing only in the mind; not real.
Elves and gnomes are imaginary beings that live only in fairy tales.

acute
Very serious; very severe; sharp.
The drought caused an acute shortage of drinking water in the city.

murky
Dark; gloomy.
The sky was murky with smoke from factory chimneys.

hue
A color.
The photograph shows the reddish hue of the planet Mars.

raccoon
A tree-climbing animal with masklike markings around the eyes.
A raccoon came out at night to eat the farmer’s corn.

cello
A musical instrument like the violin, but about twice the size and an octave below in pitch.
Julie plays the cello in the string quartet.

obedient
Willing to obey; doing what one is told.
He trained the German Shepherd to be obedient.

scour
To clean by rubbing hard.
I used steel wool to scour the pots and pans.

gallery
A place for showing works of art.
They went to an art gallery to see an exhibition of new paintings.

hoax
A trick or a false story made up to fool people.
The radio report that Martians landed on the earth was a hoax.

feign
To pretend; to give a false story made up to fool people.
Oppossums feign death when they are frightened or attacked.

rehearsal
A practice in preparation for a performance; a practice performance.
Our choir meets every Thursday for rehearsal.

boundary
A dividing line; a border.
The Ohio River forms the boundary between Ohio and Kentucky.

purchase
The act of buying; something bought.
Please save your receipt as a proof of purchase.

squabble
To engage in a petty, noisy quarrel.
“Don’t squabble over who is going to bat first.”

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
inheritance  Property or money received from a parent or another person who has died.  
His inheritance from his uncle was $5,000 and the farm.

achievement  An accomplishment.  
Winning the Super Bowl was a great achievement.

cocoon  A silky case spun by a caterpillar to live in while it changes into a butterfly or a moth.  
The silkworm spins silk to form a cocoon.

winnow  To blow off the chaff from grain; to separate; to sort.  
Farmers harvest wheat with giant reapers that thresh and winnow at the same time.

cedar  An evergreen tree related to the pine.  
The reddish wood of the cedar is often used in making pencils.

admittance  Permission to enter.  
You need a special pass to gain admittance to the power plant.

conceal  To hide; to keep secret.  
Kathy forced a smile to conceal her anger.

contagious  Easily spread by contact; catching.  
Chicken pox is very contagious.

assurance  A statement intended to inspire trust or confidence.  
The captain gave us his assurance that our voyage would be safe.

kennel  A place where dogs are kept or cared for.  
Mike left his collie at a kennel when he and his family went on a vacation.

environment  Natural surroundings.  
We should try to keep our environment free of pollution.

peal (hom)  A loud ringing of bells; any similar sound.  
Lightning flashed, followed by a peal of thunder.

insert  To put in.  
"You insert the key and turn it to the right to unlock the door."

concentrate  To direct one’s whole attention.  
I couldn’t concentrate on my homework because you were making too much noise.

duly  In a due manner; properly.  
He was duly sworn in as the new mayor.
attorney
A lawyer.
The attorney argued so successfully that the judge freed the suspect.

similar
Much the same; almost the same.
The viola is similar to the violin, but is larger in size and produces a deeper tone.

dispirited
Disheartened; discouraged.
Hungry and dispirited, the soldiers surrendered without a fight.

juggler
A person who performs tricks with the hands, such as tossing and catching many objects.
The juggler tossed and caught three balls at a time.

rustle
To make a soft sound of something rubbing together.
We heard the leaves rustle in the wind.

poplar
Any of several tall, fast-growing trees of the willow family.
The cottonwood is a kind of poplar.

mileage
The distance traveled on a unit of fuel; the number of miles traveled.
The gas mileage of this car is about forty miles per gallon.

interruption
A pause; a stopping.
A tornado warning caused a brief interruption in the television program.

fertile
Able to produce plentifully.
The rain, sunshine and fertile soil helped bring a good harvest.

gnat
A small biting fly.
The gnat bites made me very itchy.

stile (hom)
A set of steps placed across a fence.
The farmer built a stile that let him cross the fence but kept his pigs inside.

numerous
Many; large in number.
The icy streets caused numerous accidents all over the city.

quell
To put down; to crush.
The army was sent to quell the riot.

boulder
A large rounded rock.
A boulder rolled down the mountainside and crashed on the highway.

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
generosity  Willingness to give or share.  
We thanked her for her **generosity**.

**suspension**  The act of suspending; the condition of being suspended.  
The principal placed the bully under **suspension** for a week for hitting other children.

**endorsement**  Support; approval.  
Cindy is certain to win the school election because she already has almost everybody’s **endorsement**.

**tonsils**  The lumps of spongy tissue in the throat at the back of the mouth.  
The **tonsils** trap the germs that enter the body through the nose and the mouth.

**wane (hom)**  To grow smaller or weaker.  
The new moon begins to wax, and the full moon begins to **wane**.

**peninsula**  A piece of land that sticks far out into water.  
Florida is a **peninsula** between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

**conqueror**  A person who gains control of another country by war.  
Napoleon’s mighty army helped him become a great **conqueror**.

**arid**  Dry; having little or no rain.  
The desert is an **arid** wasteland.

**oasis**  A place in a desert where water is found and plants grow.  
The desert travelers came to rest at an **oasis** under the shade of palm trees.

**astronomer**  A person who specializes in the study of stars and other heavenly bodies.  
The **astronomer** explained how the Milky Way was formed billions of years ago.

**hammock**  A swinging bed hung by ropes at both ends.  
He took a nap in a **hammock** hung between two oak trees.

**hectic**  Filled with great excitement, activity or confusion.  
“What a **hectic** day! I did not even have time to sit down and eat.”

**yawl**  A two-masted sailboat.  
They sailed to Bermuda in a forty-foot **yawl**.

**winsome**  Charming; attractive; pleasant.  
The girl with a **winsome** smile in the picture is Julie’s sister.

**DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6**
turnstile A post with a revolving arm at an entrance, allowing one person to enter at a time.

We passed through a turnstile to enter the subway station.

care A gentle, loving stroke or patting.
The dog wagged its tail at the caress of Jeff’s hand.

aloof At a distance; not involved.
Dave remained aloof while the other boys quarreled.

repel To drive away; to keep out.
This spray will repel insects.

undoubtedly Surely; certainly.
Robin Hood was undoubtedly the best archer in England.

utensils Tools or containers, like those used in a kitchen.
Pots and pans are cooking utensils.

architect A person who designs buildings and supervises their construction.
A famous architect designed this house.

shawl A large piece of cloth worn over the head or the shoulders.
Sally covered her head with a wool shawl before going outdoors.

incredible Unbelievable; seemingly impossible to be true.
It is incredible that Rip Van Winkle slept for twenty years.

preferable More desirable.
A peaceful solution is preferable to starting a war.

brawny Strong; powerful.
The muscles on his brawny arms are like steel.

management Direction; control.
His company went out of business because of poor management.

galaxy A large group of stars.
The Milky Way is a galaxy made up of millions of stars.

garrison A group of soldiers stationed in a fort or a town.
The town was defended by a garrison of 400 troops.

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>squelch</td>
<td>The act of suppressing; a retort that silences an opponent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A tall wall was constructed to help squelch the noise of the children playing on the playground.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hearth</td>
<td>The floor in front of a fireplace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We sat by the brick hearth watching logs burn in the fireplace.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>encyclopedia</td>
<td>A book or a set of books containing a wide range of information usually arranged in alphabetical order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look in the encyclopedia if you need more information than you find in the dictionary.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enterprising</td>
<td>Ambitious; undertaking risks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The enterprising young man began making and selling the computers he had designed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fizzle</td>
<td>To make a hissing sound momentarily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet matches frizzle out.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reference</td>
<td>A source of information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you need more information, see the reference in the footnote.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>divvy</td>
<td>To share; to divide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The pirates quarreled about how to divvy up the loot.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>engrossed</td>
<td>Completely absorbed; wholly occupied.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue was so engrossed in her reading that she didn’t hear the doorbell.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oblige</td>
<td>To do a favor; to force or compel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the audience requested an encore, she was happy to oblige.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intestine</td>
<td>The long coiled tube below the stomach that helps to digest food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food goes from the stomach to the small intestine.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>escalator</td>
<td>A moving stairway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Hold the handrail when you ride the escalator.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gurgle</td>
<td>To flow with a bubbling sound.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I listened to the water gurgle as I poured it out of the jug.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flexible</td>
<td>Bending easily; not stiff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending exercises will keep your muscles and joints flexible.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outrageous</td>
<td>Shocking; terrible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I won’t pay such an outrageous price for this little hat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>unravel</td>
<td>To disentangle; to clear from complication; to solve. Detectives were called in to unravel the murder mystery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complexion</td>
<td>The skin color of the face. Diane has a fair complexion and gets sunburned easily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resistance</td>
<td>The act of resisting; opposition. The robber gave himself up without resistance when the sheriff caught him.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>suite (hom)</td>
<td>A set of connected rooms. At the hotel they stayed in a three-room suite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sieve</td>
<td>A utensil with a screened bottom for separating large pieces from small. She shook flour through a sieve to take the lumps out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immense</td>
<td>Very large. It took all day to sail across that immense lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cyclone</td>
<td>A whirling, violent windstorm; a tornado. The cyclone whirled through the town, destroying homes and uprooting trees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pliers</td>
<td>A small hand tool used for grasping, holding, twisting or turning. Mike used a pair of pliers to tighten a nut on his bicycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apostrophe</td>
<td>A punctuation mark used to show the possessive case, omission of one or more letters, or the plural of letters or numbers. We use an apostrophe when we write don’t for do not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hurdle</td>
<td>To move with great speed; to rush noisily or violently. When the brakes of the truck failed, it began to hurdle down steep hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eloquent</td>
<td>Forceful and fluent in the use of words. His eloquent speech won the hearts of the crowd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pageant</td>
<td>A play in which a story is told about one or more historical events. George was an Indian chief in the school pageant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>analyze</td>
<td>To study carefully in detail. Coaches reviewed video tapes to analyze last week’s football game.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>luxurious</td>
<td>Rich and comfortable; lavish. His luxurious mansion has Persian rugs in every room.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
shrubbery  A growth of shrubs.
He trimmed the shrubbery after mowing the lawn.

solemn  Very serious; deeply earnest.
He made a solemn promise to tell the truth.

adage  A common saying generally believed to be true.
“Haste makes waste” is an adage worth remembering.

accordance  Agreement.
In accordance with the law the driver was fined for speeding.

tendency  A leaning; a natural disposition.
His old car has a tendency to stall in cold weather.

maize (hom)  Corn
This margarine is made from maize.

privilege  A special right, benefit or favor.
Club members have the privilege of using the swimming pool.

sluggish  Slow-moving; lacking energy; inactive.
She felt very sluggish after eating a big lunch on the hot, humid day.

confiscate  To take something away by authority.
Customs officers may search travelers’ bags and confiscate anything unlawfully brought into the country.

parliament  A national assembly; a national legislature.
The Israeli parliament approved the proposed peace treaty with Egypt.

jovial  Merry; good-humored; jolly.
When Grandfather is in a jovial mood, he likes to tell humorous stories.

characterized  Described
Ebenezer Scrooge is characterized as a penny-pinching old man in Dickens’s “Christmas Carol”.

immediate  Prompt; without delay.
The boy needed immediate medical treatment after a rattlesnake bit him.

literature  Poems, novels, plays and other writings.
When you study English literature, you will read Shakespeare.

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
digestible  Capable of being taken in and used by the body. 
You have to chew your food to make it easily digestible.

sparse  Thinly scattered; not dense or crowded. 
The sparse hair on the baby’s head will thicken as she grows older.

tangerine  A small orange like fruit with a loose skin that peels easily. 
This orange is so small it looks like a tangerine.

fidgety  Restless; uneasy. 
The children became fidgety as the speaker rambled on.

discrimination  An unfair treatment; injustice toward a group of persons. 
When we didn’t let the girls play football with us, they argued that it was discrimination against women.

urban  Of cities, of city life. 
People living in small towns don’t have to deal with urban problems.

talons  The claws of a bird of prey. 
The hawk caught a rabbit in its sharp talons.

haughty  Too proud of oneself; looking down on others. 
The haughty queen wouldn’t lower herself to talk with the servants.

strait (hom)  A narrow waterway connecting two large bodies of water. 
The ship sailed from the Mediterranean Sea, through the strait, and into the Atlantic Ocean.

pension  Money paid regularly to a person after retirement. 
The man lived on a small pension after retiring from the railroad company.

hurrah  A shout of joy or triumph. 
We screamed “hurrah!” as Jack scored the winning goal.

mascot  A person or an animal supposed to bring good luck. 
The team’s mascot is a bulldog.

habitat  A place where an animal lives or a plant grows naturally. 
The Antarctic is the habitat of penguins.

cinnamon  A reddish-brown spice made from the bark of a tree. 
I like the spicy aroma of freshly-baked cinnamon rolls.

DIVISION III - Grades 5 and 6
manor A mansion on a large piece of land. The rich man lived in a fifty-room manor with a swimming pool and tennis courts.

legendary Of a story handed down from earlier times. Robin Hood was a legendary English outlaw who robbed the rich to help the poor.

hilarious Very funny; noisily merry. The comedian told a hilarious joke that made everyone laugh.

appearance A coming into view. The sudden appearance of the ghost frightened Ebenezer Scrooge.

novice A beginner. Even a novice can use this computer after one hour of practice.

tributary A river or a stream that flows into a larger one or into a lake. The Missouri River is the longest tributary of the Mississippi River.

masculine Having the qualities of a man; manly. He has a deep, masculine voice.

plait A flat fold made by weaving together strands of hair, straw or cloth. Mary wears her hair in a long plait with a ribbon tied around it.

cavort To prance about; to jump about playfully. I watched the ponies cavort in the meadow.

nucleus A core; a central part around which other parts are grouped. An atom is made up of a nucleus and electrons spinning around it.

accordion A portable musical instrument with keys, metal reeds and a pleated bellows. Dan played a lively polka on his accordion.

controversy A dispute; a disagreement. A controversy arose over the building of a nuclear plant near the town.

ascent (hom) The act of moving upward; the act of going up. The airplane made a quick ascent into and above the clouds.

consent Agreement; permission. You must have your parents’ consent to join the peewee football team.

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<th>Word</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jealousy</td>
<td>Envy and ill will.</td>
<td>Cinderella’s sisters stared with <em>jealousy</em> at her beautiful new dress and shoes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flail</td>
<td>A tool made of sticks used to thresh grain by hand.</td>
<td>The farmer threshed wheat by beating it with a <em>flail</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gossipy</td>
<td>Fond of idle talk about other people.</td>
<td>The <em>gossipy</em> woman could hardly wait to tell the news to her neighbor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vanilla</td>
<td>A flavoring used in baking and cooking.</td>
<td>I had a slice of apple pie topped with a scoop of <em>vanilla</em> ice cream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kernel (hom)</td>
<td>A grain; a seed of corn or wheat.</td>
<td>A <em>kernel</em> of corn will grow to produce ears of corn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abbreviation</td>
<td>A shortened form of a word or words.</td>
<td>UN is the <em>abbreviation</em> for the United Nations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>questionnaire</td>
<td>A list of questions.</td>
<td>“Please fill out the <em>questionnaire</em> as completely as you can.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>