

## Vocabulary List 3

| <b>word</b><br>(part of speech)<br>[pronunciation]         | definition<br><br>alternate choices for words, including synonyms, phrases, and idioms                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>vigilant</b><br>(adjective)<br>[VIH-ju-lent]            | carefully watching for danger or difficulties<br>observant   heedful   circumspect   on the lookout   wary                  |
| <b>pariah</b><br>(noun)<br>[puh-RYE-uh]                    | an outcast<br>persona non grata   undesirable   outsider                                                                    |
| <b>quintessential</b><br>(adjective)<br>[kwin-ta-SEN-chul] | the most perfect or typical example<br>stereotypical   prototypical   archetypal   representative                           |
| <b>mundane</b><br>(adjective)<br>[mun-DAYN]                | 1. dull   2. ordinary and commonplace<br>1. humdrum   tedious   monotonous   ho-hum   2. run-of-the-mill                    |
| <b>rendition</b><br>(noun)<br>[ren-DIH-shun]               | 1. performance or interpretation   2. visual representation<br>1. rendering   delivery   version   2. portrayal   depiction |
| <b>clemency</b><br>(noun)<br>[CLEM-en-see]                 | to show mercy when punishing someone<br>leniency   compassion   sympathy                                                    |
| <b>audacity</b><br>(noun)<br>[aw-DAS-uh-tee]               | 1. fearless daring   2. rude or disrespectful behavior<br>1. boldness   chutzpah   2. effrontery   impertinence             |
| <b>deplete</b><br>(verb)<br>[di-PLEET]                     | to use up a supply<br>exhaust   expend   drain   empty                                                                      |
| <b>fideliy</b><br>(noun)<br>[fi-DEL-i-tee]                 | faithfulness<br>loyalty   dependability   reliability   allegiance                                                          |
| <b>tentative</b><br>(adjective)<br>[TEN-ta-tiv]            | 1. uncertain   2. not fixed; provisional<br>1. unsure   hesitant   2. penciled in   preliminary                             |
| <b>serendipity</b><br>(noun)<br>[ser-un-DIP-i-tee]         | something that happens by chance in a happy or beneficial way<br>a fluke   good luck   fortuity   happy coincidence         |
| <b>legerdemain</b><br>(noun)<br>[LEH-jur-da-mayn]          | skillful use of hands when performing magic tricks<br>sleight of hand   prestidigitation                                    |

**A. Write the best word to complete each sentence.**

1. Frank was a great magician due to his perfection of \_\_\_\_\_.  
clemency      audacity      legerdemain
2. With \_\_\_\_\_, Mary Sue confidently entered the classroom, even though she was new at the school and didn't know any of the students.  
vigilance\*      audacity      depletion\*
3. After the cast was finally removed from Doug's broken leg, he took a few \_\_\_\_\_ steps in the doctor's office.  
mundane      vigilant      tentative
4. "This is definitely \_\_\_\_\_," said Caitlyn when her best friend, Alice, called her at the very moment Caitlyn was thinking about her.  
legerdemain      serendipitous\*      audacious\*
5. Until 1949 in the Hindu society of India, people were divided into four basic castes (classes), and the members of the lowest caste were the untouchables, who were treated like \_\_\_\_\_.  
pariahs      serendipity      legerdemain
6. Hannah \_\_\_\_\_ guarded her diary by locking it each night and hiding it under her pillow.  
audaciously\*      quintessentially\*      vigilantly\*
7. Mike wanted an exciting career, like a Secret Service agent, instead of what he considered the more \_\_\_\_\_ occupation of accountant (a career his parents suggested).  
tentative      mundane      serendipitous\*
8. Aunt Sue is the \_\_\_\_\_ example of calm; even when we got lost on the way to Idaho, she pulled her car to the side of the road, checked the map, laughed, and we were on the way again.  
mundane      vigilant      quintessential

9. After being grounded for a week for coming home two hours after curfew on a Friday night, Shelly begged for \_\_\_\_\_ so she could go on the class trip to Disneyland®. clemency    audacity    vigilance\*
10. Claire played a beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ of Mozart's "Piano Sonata No.11" for her recital. pariah    depletion\*    rendition
11. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ all your energy before you clean your room and take out the trash," Mom warned Tommy before he went out to play baseball with his friends. deplete    audacious\*    vigilant
12. The lawyer for the convicted death row felon made a plea to the governor for \_\_\_\_\_ for his client. audacity    clemency    serendipity
13. The knights of King Arthur's court swore an oath of \_\_\_\_\_ to him as their king. vigilance\*    quintessential    fidelity
14. "Mom," said Tommy, "don't treat me like a \_\_\_\_\_ just because I ate the last three chocolate chip cookies." legerdemain    pariah    rendition
15. For the school Art Fair, Joe, who enjoyed drawing superheroes, submitted a pen-and-ink \_\_\_\_\_ of Spider-Man slinging his web over criminals. clemency    fidelity    rendition
16. Butch was the \_\_\_\_\_ bully—tough and mean—with the power to intimidate those he considered weaker. vigilant    quintessential    audacious\*
17. \_\_\_\_\_, Butch opened the refrigerator at his friend's house and helped himself to a can of soda without asking. Tentatively\*    Audaciously\*    Vigilantly\*

**A.** (continued) Write the best word to complete each sentence.

18. Author Peter H. Reynolds once said, “\_\_\_\_\_ is putting a quarter in the gumball machine and having three pieces come rattling out instead of one—all red.”

Clemency    Audacity    Serendipity

19. While Mr. and Mrs. Salter were on vacation, their \_\_\_\_\_ neighbors spotted a burglar trying to pry open a kitchen window in the Salters’ home, and they called the police.

audacious\*    vigilant    depleted

20. Vacations help people take a break from the sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ routine of daily life.

mundane    serendipitous\*    quintessential

21. The hikers were careful to ration their food and water so that their supplies would not be \_\_\_\_\_ before the end of the twenty-six-day hike.

vigilant    tentative    depleted

22. “Our plans to go to Sea World for a class trip are only \_\_\_\_\_,” said Mr. Clark. “First, I must get permission from the principal.”

audacious\*    vigilant    tentative

23. During the Middle Ages, knights took a pledge of \_\_\_\_\_ to their lord or king.

fidelity    clemency    serendipity

24. When a magician waves his hands over a hat and pulls out a rabbit, he is performing an act of \_\_\_\_\_.

clemency    serendipity    legerdermain

**B. Write the best word from the choice box to complete each sentence.**

serendipitous\*

vigilant

clemency

tentative

mundane

legerdemain

rendition

audacity

pariah

quintessential

depleted

fidelity

1. David Copperfield is considered to be the \_\_\_\_\_ magician.
2. Besides making objects disappear, David Copperfield's phenomenal magic tricks also include \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It was \_\_\_\_\_ when I happened to be at Baskin-Robbins when they were giving out free ice cream sundaes and ice cream cones.
4. She sang a stirring \_\_\_\_\_ of the "Star Spangled Banner," at the baseball game.
5. "Let's make \_\_\_\_\_ plans to meet at the library on Thursday; we can change the day to Friday if one of us can't make it," said Sonia.
6. "I want cereal, but our supply of milk is \_\_\_\_\_," complained Brian.
7. After she spread rumors about Mary, Alice became a/an \_\_\_\_\_ among her group of friends.
8. She had the \_\_\_\_\_ to take the apple from Mrs. Corrigan's desk and start munching on it.
9. The judge showed \_\_\_\_\_ in sentencing the convicted woman, because she seemed sincerely sorry for her crime.
10. The first book was exciting and suspenseful; however, I found the sequel to be boring and \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The knight showed great \_\_\_\_\_ in carrying out his obligations to his king.
12. After many home burglaries were reported in the area, the neighbors became much more \_\_\_\_\_.

### C. Story Challenge

Write the best word from the choice box to fill each blank in the story.

|                  |             |                |          |              |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|----------|--------------|
| serendipitously* | audacious*  | pariahs        | depleted | renditions   |
| tentative        | legerdemain | mundane        | vigilant | vigilantly*  |
| rendition        | clemency    | quintessential | fidelity | audaciously* |

### The Blue Blaze

“Your next creative writing assignment is to invent a new superhero and write an adventure story with your new character,” said Mrs. Corrigan.

Brian’s mind was working quickly, even before Mrs. Corrigan finished giving the details of the assignment. “I want to create the <sup>(1)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ hero, one who has the typical characteristics of other heroes, but my <sup>(2)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of a hero will also have the ability of shapeshifting,” thought Brian. He made some <sup>(3)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sketches in his notebook of what his superhero would look like—young, muscular, tall, and garbed in a bright blue cape covering a white costume with a bright blue blaze adorning the front of the costume. He jotted down a name—the Blue Blaze.

The bell rang and Brian and the other students left language arts class, all talking about ideas for their fictional narratives. They were happy to have an assignment much different from the usual <sup>(4)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ writing assignments that Mrs. Corrigan seemed fond of doling out.

Much later at home, after Brian finished his math and science homework, brushed his teeth, washed his face, and hopped into bed, he found he couldn’t sleep. His mind went back to the Blue Blaze. His hero would be part of the Justice League of America, along with other heroes such as the Green Lantern and the Flash. In his story, the Blue Blaze would take an oath of <sup>(5)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to the Justice League. Because the Blue Blaze would be a teenager, his assignments would deal with protecting kids from bullies, especially kids who were treated like <sup>(6)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by others.

When he was being initiated into the League, the Blue Blaze would promise to be <sup>(7)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_—always alert to situations when kids were unfairly picked on, teased, or taunted by others—and to show no <sup>(8)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in dealing with those who practiced this mean-spirited behavior. One additional promise he would make would be to avoid violence but to deal with bullies in a firm and peaceful way.





After about thirty minutes Brian had <sup>(9)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ all of his ideas and drifted off to sleep. However, his story began to take shape in his dreams. Clad in a white suit with a blue cape and with a bright blue blaze <sup>(10)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ displayed on his costume, the Blue Blaze headed for Jefferson Middle School to deal with a bully named Butch. <sup>(11)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, he found Butch just as he was about to shove a student into a locker. Soon, after an impressive array of <sup>(12)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by the Blue Blaze, Butch ended up being taken to the principal, while the other students stared in disbelief at this amazing superhero.

**D.** The underlined part in each sentence is a synonym, idiom, phrase, or definition for a list word. Unscramble the list word and write the word on the blank.

- |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. After the doctor removed the cast from his leg, Doug took some <u>hesitant</u> steps.                                                                                                    | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | tttaveein      |
| 2. Ms. Berkabile was the <u>stereotypical</u> school librarian; she loved books, was highly organized, and enjoyed introducing students to the wonderful world of literature.               | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | ntniqelutsiase |
| 3. Claire, who was usually shy, <u>boldly</u> walked up to Butch and demanded that he quit teasing her friend.                                                                              | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | ciayudaolsu*   |
| 4. Using <u>sleight of hand</u> , the magician pulled a rabbit from a hat.                                                                                                                  | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | dnleaegemir    |
| 5. Life was anything but <u>monotonous</u> for Todd, who always had some new creative idea.                                                                                                 | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | nemnuda        |
| 6. A Supreme Court justice must swear <u>allegiance</u> to upholding the Constitution of the United States.                                                                                 | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | ydiifelt       |
| 7. Heeding a warning from the park ranger, Shelley and her friends were <u>on the lookout</u> for rattlesnakes when they hiked the canyon.                                                  | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | tgiallvn       |
| 8. Shay almost cried when she learned the trays in the lunchroom containing bowls of macaroni and cheese were <u>empty</u> .                                                                | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | ddeeeplt       |
| 9. <u>Good luck</u> wasn't the reason Todd won first prize for his science project; his project on Earth's layers was simply the best.                                                      | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | presyeidint    |
| 10. Joe's pen-and-ink <u>portrayal</u> of Mr. Sperling, the physical education teacher, blowing his whistle and surrounded by soccer balls made everyone laugh, including Mr. Sperling.     | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | nrndteioi      |
| 11. Some English students in Mrs. Corrigan's class hoped she would show <u>leniency</u> to the students who didn't turn their essays in on time, but instead, she gave them failing grades. | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | cymcenel       |
| 12. "I don't deserve to be treated like a/an <u>persona non grata</u> just because I forgot the cupcakes for the party," said Olivia.                                                       | _____          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | aahipr         |



E. Write the word, idiom, or phrase from the choice box that best defines each list word.

- the perfect example
- lively and cheerful
- to use up
- to show mercy when punishing
- good luck
- skillful use of hands in magic
- depiction
- faithfulness
- ordinary
- daring
- unsure or preliminary
- an inhabitant of a certain place
- an outcast
- watching for danger

1. vigilant \_\_\_\_\_
2. pariah \_\_\_\_\_
3. quintessential \_\_\_\_\_
4. mundane \_\_\_\_\_
5. rendition \_\_\_\_\_
6. clemency \_\_\_\_\_
7. audacity \_\_\_\_\_
8. deplete \_\_\_\_\_
9. fidelity \_\_\_\_\_
10. tentative \_\_\_\_\_
11. serendipity \_\_\_\_\_
12. legerdemain \_\_\_\_\_

F. Use each word from the choice box to write a complete sentence.

1. vigilant

4. mundane

7. audacity

10. tentative

2. pariah

5. rendition

8. deplete

11. serendipity

3. quintessential

6. clemency

9. fidelity

12. legerdemain

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

## A. (p. 22)

1. legerdemain
2. audacity
3. tentative
4. serendipitous
5. pariahs
6. vigilantly
7. mundane
8. quintessential
9. clemency
10. rendition
11. deplete
12. clemency
13. fidelity
14. pariah
15. rendition
16. quintessential
17. Audaciously
18. Serendipity
19. vigilant
20. mundane
21. depleted
22. tentative
23. fidelity
24. legerdemain

## B. (p. 25)

1. quintessential
2. legerdemain
3. serendipitous
4. rendition
5. tentative
6. depleted
7. pariah
8. audacity
9. clemency
10. mundane
11. fidelity
12. vigilant

## C. (p. 26)

1. quintessential
2. rendition
3. tentative
4. mundane
5. fidelity
6. pariahs
7. vigilant
8. clemency
9. depleted
10. audaciously
11. serendipitously
12. legerdemain

## D. (p. 28)

1. tentative
2. quintessential
3. audaciously
4. legerdemain
5. mundane
6. fidelity
7. vigilant
8. depleted
9. Serendipity
10. rendition
11. clemency
12. pariah

## E. (p. 29)

1. watching for danger
2. an outcast
3. the perfect example
4. ordinary
5. depiction
6. to show mercy when punishing
7. daring
8. to use up
9. faithfulness
10. unsure or preliminary
11. good luck
12. skillful use of hands in magic

## F. (p. 30)

Sentences will vary.