

9. **implausible** (im plô' zə bəl) *adj.* difficult to believe; unlikely
 No one on the jury believed the defendant's *implausible* alibi.
syn: doubtful; improbable *ant: credible; likely*
10. **loathe** (lōth) *v.* to dislike intensely
 Max *loathed* waking up so early to do a job that he did not enjoy.
syn: detest; abhor *ant: adore; love*
11. **malice** (mal' is) *n.* a desire to cause harm to others
 His *malice* endured for seven years as he plotted his revenge.
syn: ill will; hatred; spite *ant: benevolence; gentleness*
12. **nostalgia** (no stal' jə) *n.* a sentimental longing for things of the past
 The antique car show is a source of *nostalgia* for many people.
syn: reminiscence
13. **pilfer** (pil' fər) *v.* to steal, especially in small amounts
 The archaeologist hopes to find the ancient treasure room before thieves
pilfer all the artifacts.
syn: filch; purloin; rob *ant: return; replace*
14. **recompense** (rek' əm pens) *n.* payment in return for something,
 especially damages
v. to pay or to pay for
 (n) The victim of the hit-and-run driver received no *recompense* for her
 injuries.
 (v) The king *recompensed* the victorious knights with many acres of land.
 (n) *syn: compensation; remuneration*
 (v) *syn: reward; compensate* *ant: penalize*
15. **volition** (vō lish' ən) *n.* 1. the ability to choose willfully
 2. a choice; the act of making a choice
 (1) Her grades were excellent; she left the university on her own *volition*.
 (2) The type of career he pursues is not his parents' *volition*.
 (1) *syn: discretion; will; option* *ant: coercion*
 (2) *syn: decision*

EXERCISE I – Words in Context

Using the vocabulary list for this lesson, supply the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. The jeweler is very cautious in hiring employees because several former workers have _____ valuables from the shop and then disappeared.
2. A leg injury _____ the player for the remainder of the season.
3. Many people drive through the _____ without even noticing the quaint apartments perched above the shops.
4. The engineer sounded an alarm when he noticed a[n] _____ in the radiation levels around the nuclear reactor.
5. In the middle of the archery tournament, Jim _____ because there was no chance of earning enough points to win.
6. Joshua, a[n] _____ for debate, spends hours arguing politics on his blog.
7. Watching the old, black-and-white movies evokes _____ in Lauren.
8. On her own _____, Nicole stayed with the trapped victim and waited for the firefighters to arrive.
9. The doe _____ her defenseless fawns in a patch of tall grass.
10. Having no relatives, the widow _____ her vast art collection to a local museum.
11. Many people did not believe Meg's _____ story until they read about it in the next day's newspaper.
12. The judge delivered a light sentence because he believed the defendant's crime was more a result of carelessness than true _____.
13. Courtney demanded _____ from the car dealer when her brand-new car broke down.

14. They marked the end of the war with a day of _____ and celebration.
15. Rachel _____ speaking in front of others, so she tries to hide when the teacher calls for class participation.

EXERCISE II – Sentence Completion

Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. Brian's excuse for being late to school was *implausible*, so his teacher...
2. Jose became angry when he learned that his father *bequeathed*...
3. Since he was unable to control his *malice*, the boy was...
4. Though Kelly expected no *recompense* for returning the lost wallet, the owner...
5. An *aberration* in Ashley's classroom performance prompted the teacher to...
6. Four-year-old Kaitlyn *ensconced* herself in a pile of stuffed animals when...
7. The worker *pilfered* products from the factory and then...
8. Someone who *loathes* the outdoors would not...
9. She felt like a *glutton* after she...
10. Samantha was overcome with *nostalgia* when...
11. She *capitulated* to her opponent when...
12. The waitress knew that an appearance of *felicity* would...
13. When a stomach virus *debilitated* Mark, he had no choice but to...
14. It was not her *volition* to move out of the house until...
15. She enjoyed living in the *hamlet* because...

EXERCISE III – Prefixes and Suffixes

Study the entries and use them to complete the questions that follow.

The suffix *-ic* means “characteristic of” or “pertaining to.”

The suffix *-ious* means “full of.”

The suffix *-some* means “tending to.”

The suffix *-y* means “quality of” or “condition of.”

Use the provided prefixes and suffixes to change each root word so that it completes the sentence correctly. Then, keeping in mind that prefixes and suffixes sometimes change the part of speech, identify the part of speech of the new word by circling N for a noun, V for a verb, or ADJ for an adjective.

- (malice) The police forensics specialist must determine whether the death was accidental or the result of _____ intent.
N V ADJ
- (glutton) Sick after eating an entire birthday cake, Larry wished he had not indulged in such _____.
N V ADJ
- (loathe) Heather tries to finish her homework during the school day because she finds it _____ to be indoors during such beautiful weather.
N V ADJ
- (nostalgia) The advertisement claims that the collection of _____ music will transport listeners back to the 1970s.
N V ADJ

EXERCISE IV – Critical Reading

The following reading passage contains vocabulary words from this lesson. Carefully read the passage and then choose the best answers for each of the questions that follow.

If you are a **glutton** for the outdoors, or you simply enjoy the thrill of finding hidden treasure, then know that geocaching (jee'-o-cash-ing) provides you with yet another excuse to disappear into the woods after school or on the weekend. All you will need is a little free time and a decent global positioning system (GPS), which is now obtainable for less than one hundred dollars.

A GPS unit, often no larger than a cellular phone, is a device that can tell you exactly where you are on the planet. The device receives signals from orbiting GPS satellites, triangulates your position, and displays the coordinates for the very spot on which you are standing (or floating or flying, for that matter). All GPS units provide the longitude and latitude of your location, and most new GPS devices include user-friendly electronic map displays and compasses. To go to a location, a user simply enters the coordinates of a target destination, and the GPS guides the user there in what is essentially a high-tech game of "warmer-colder."

The typical GPS will also track your average speed, distance traveled, and course. Geocaching is soaring in popularity as GPS units become cheaper and easier to use. In this game, people **ensconce** geocaches, or weatherproof boxes, in secret locations, sometimes in public parks or just off the beaten path, and sometimes deep in the wilderness or high in the mountains. A geocache usually contains a logbook, perhaps a camera, and an assortment of trinkets that can be left or traded by finders. Once the geocache is camouflaged just well enough to prevent non-players from accidentally finding it and **pilfering** the contents, the hider uses a GPS to acquire the coordinates of the box and then posts them on an Internet site for geocachers, such as www.geocaching.com.

If a GPS owner wants to find a geocache, he or she needs only visit a geocaching Internet site and then write down the coordinates of an interesting geocache. For nature lovers, there are thousands of geocaches hidden in the wilderness all over the world. Geocaching can be an urban experience, too, as many geocaches are hidden in cities. Some sites contain no actual geocache but simply mark a historic or otherwise significant location.

Getting to a geocache ranges in difficulty from effortless to strenuous. Some geocaches might simply be sitting next to a parking lot, covered with leaves, while others might be dangling from tree roots on the side of a cliff. Do not worry about finding out the degree of difficulty when it is too late—each geocache listed on the Internet usually includes a difficulty rating. Also, while GPS technology is always improving, few readings are exact; once a geocacher reaches the coordinates, a search might be necessary to find the hidden item, usually within a fifty-foot circle; however, if someone cannot find a geocache despite having arrived at the coordinates, he or she can always **capitulate** and acquire more specific clues from the geocaching Internet site. Quite often, an **aberration** of the natural scenery, such as an unnatural pile of rocks, is the hiding place for a geocache. It is seldom

buried because players must access the geocache quickly enough to prevent non-players from seeing it.

- 45 Since items in a geocache are typically of little value, the real **recompense** for finding one, especially a difficult geocache, is the simple thrill of discovery and the refreshing (or strenuous) journey to the location. Logbooks allow finders to read messages from people who have found the geocache previously, and cameras allow finders to leave their images as proof that they visited.
- 50 Geocachers are vacationers looking for a unique activity for the whole family, and others are hikers who simply enjoy the wilderness or its challenges. Geocaching is a relatively new sport, but it offers entertainment for everyone; there are plenty of caches for power hikers and extreme sports enthusiasts, and even more caches for people who simply want a good reason to take a pleasant stroll through nature.

1. According to the passage, which choice is *not* something that a GPS can calculate?
 - A. average speed
 - B. present position
 - C. course
 - D. cellular signal
 - E. distance traveled
2. As used in line 17, *ensconce* most nearly means
 - A. bury.
 - B. hide.
 - C. plant.
 - D. place.
 - E. leave.
3. Which choice is a requirement for someone who wants to participate in geocaching?
 - A. a weatherproof box
 - B. a flashlight
 - C. a global positioning system
 - D. access to private property
 - E. a log book
4. As used in line 41, *aberration* most nearly means
 - A. oddity.
 - B. sign.
 - C. exception.
 - D. landmark.
 - E. damage.

5. The tone of the passage is best described as
- A. indifferent and dismissive.
 - B. excited and skeptical.
 - C. distorted and purposeful.
 - D. mocking and playful.
 - E. frank and positive.