

Lesson 9

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



Word List

Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

attitude

n. A way of thinking or feeling about certain things.

Complaining and grouchy before lunch, Tina had quite a different **attitude** after she had eaten something.

confess

v. To say or admit that one has done something wrong.

When my sister accused me of getting spots on her best sweater, I **confessed** that I had, but by accident.

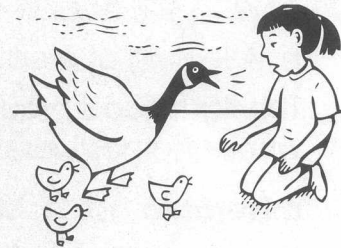
defend

v. 1. To keep from being attacked; to protect.

The mother goose **defended** her young by beating her wings up and down as she ran toward us hissing.

2. To speak for; to argue in favor of.

My cousin **defended** me when my brother complained that I never helped with the dishes.



gradual

adj. Happening slowly; taking place little by little.

The rising sea level is caused by the **gradual** melting of the ice cap in Antarctica.

hint

n. Information given to help someone answer a question; a clue.

Mr. Wang said he would not give us any **hints** until we had tried to solve the puzzle.

v. To suggest something without saying directly what one means.

Rosa had **hinted** so often about wanting a puppy for her birthday that her parents finally got her one.

individual

n. A single person, apart from others in a group.

When the teacher asked everyone in class who knew the answer to stand, only one **individual** stood.

adj. Meant for just one.

At the kennel, the dogs were kept in **individual** cages.

malice

n. The wish to hurt others on purpose.

Although Camilla feels no **malice** toward whoever stole her wallet, she is going to be angry if it is not returned.

malicious *adj.* Done with a wish to harm or cause pain.

Everyone agreed that spray painting words on the side of the new store was a **malicious** thing to do.

misery

n. A feeling of great unhappiness.

The flash flood brought **misery** to hundreds of families whose homes were now standing in four feet of water.

miserable *adj.* 1. Very unhappy or unpleasant.

The mosquitoes were so thick in the woods that I was **miserable** for the entire hike.

2. Very bad; of poor quality.

We discovered what a **miserable** job the roofer had done when we found a leak in the attic after the next rainstorm.

solution

n. 1. The answer to a problem or puzzle.

After filling in all but a few of the blanks in the crossword puzzle, Rico turned to the back of the newspaper for the **solution**.

2. A mixture formed when a liquid and some other materials are mixed together.

Brine, which is a **solution** of salt and water, keeps pickles crisp and fresh.



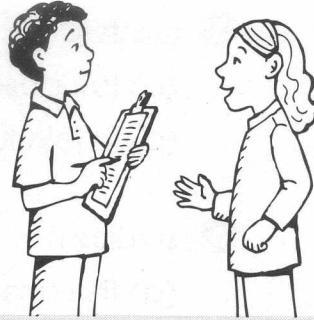
survey

v. To look over; to examine.

From a helicopter, the governor **surveyed** the damage caused by the tornado.

n. A study designed to gather information about a subject.

Our class made a **survey** of all students to find out which lunches were most popular.



9A

Words and Their Meanings

Look at the group of words next to the number. Then circle the letter of the word that has the same meaning.

.....
1 the wish to hurt someone

(a) attitude (b) hint (c) individual (d) malice

.....
2 taking place slowly

(a) malicious (b) miserable (c) gradual (d) individual

.....
3 a way of thinking

(a) misery (b) solution (c) survey (d) attitude

.....
4 an indirect suggestion

(a) solution (b) hint (c) survey (d) misery