# Confidence-In-Context Coaching

# Lesson 9 Workbook

# A. Words For Describing The Educational Process

Your studies are paying off, and you're learning more and more powerful vocabulary words, and how to use them in context. Here are five words that will help you describe this educational process: annals, pedagogy, matriculate, mnemonic, tutorial

## *Your words for describing the educational process explained*

Do you have any little tricks for memorizing these vocabulary words? If you've ever studied piano, you might have used the phrase "Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge" to remember that the lines on the treble clef staff are E, G, B, D, and F. There are lots of little rhymes and phrases like this, and some people even use pictures or sounds as mnemonic aids. A "**mnemonic**" is something that helps you remember something else.

**Example**: "I have a little mnemonic trick to help me remember that you don't pronounce the 'm' at the beginning of the word 'mnemonic': I just remember the phrase 'there's NO EM when you say NEM-ON-ic.'"

Mnemonics are one way of helping people learn, but there are as many styles of teaching as there are teachers and students. A good class in pedagogy will describe the differences between adult education techniques and methods for teaching children. "**Pedagogy**" means teaching, or more precisely the activity of educating or instructing, and the methods used to instruct.

**Example**: "There is a great difference in pedagogy when dealing with people who are visual learners – those who need to see something to learn – and with people who are kinesthetic learners – those who need to do something physical to learn."

Anyone who wants to be a professional teacher needs to matriculate in an accredited degree program. "**Matriculate**" means to enroll in a college or university in order to study for a degree. To matriculate means to become a student.

**Example**: "At some universities such as Harvard and Oxford, there is a yearly ceremony where new students are officially matriculated and added to the university's listing."

Getting into a good college or university is only the first step; in order to graduate with a degree, you'll need to study hard. Most degree programs will offer several opportunities to participate in a tutorial, especially for students who are having trouble with a class. A "**tutorial**" is a private session with a teacher or tutor where you can get intensive coaching on a subject.

**Example**: "The foreign languages advisor recommends that each student either take a term abroad or in a tutorial session with a native speaker in order to perfect their pronunciation."

Matriculate, buy books, complete the first-year requirements, sign up for tutorials – anyone writing the annals of student life would be recording much the same thing every year. From the Latin word "**annus**", or "a year", "annals" are a recording of events, a reporting of history that is just a chronological recitation of facts. Annals do not contain opinions or explanations. Annals can also be documentation of the work of researchers or scientists, but again, without editorialization.

**Example**: "While the annals of the military base hospital might be interesting to statisticians, I quickly grew bored with the daily listings of surgical supplies ordered and used."

## B. Words For Describing A City

New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, Mexico City – these large cities are full of things to do and places to see, new people to meet, and historical landmarks to visit. Here are five words you might use to describe a city: metropolitan, heterogeneous, amenity, urbane, denizen

### *Your vocabulary for describing a city explained*

While many of the Ultimate Vocabulary words you've learned can have multiple meanings depending on their context or use, our first word in this section, "**metropolitan**," really only has one meaning. "Metropolitan" means pertaining to a city, or a larger urban settlement. The word can be used to describe the city itself, or something or someone that comes from the city.

**Example**: "The public transportation system uses buses, trolleys, and trains to provide services to people in the entire three-county metropolitan area."

If you don't have a car, having access to a bus or train that allows you to commute to work is an amenity appreciated by many city dwellers. An "**amenity**" is something that makes your life easier or more pleasant, a convenience that is a welcome part of your life. You may be used to hearing this word in connection with vacation spots or hotels that offer amenities such as free drinks or dry cleaning.

**Example**: "The competition for customers has gotten so fierce that even the smallest coffee shops offer amenities like free wireless connections and comfortable sofas."

Every neighborhood has its own coffee shops; when you're visiting a new city, stop in at one and ask the denizens for recommendations on things to do and see in the area. A "**denizen**" is someone who lives in a certain place, a local inhabitant. When you use this word, you're referring to someone who's lived in a place long enough to be completely familiar with almost everything about it.

**Example**: "The summer weather in Hong Kong is unpredictable, and the denizens of that city are usually prepared for any sudden rain showers, but tourists often end up getting soaked in an unexpected downpour."

Large cities like Hong Kong and London have a diverse population, with people coming from all over the world to live there. Another word for diverse is "**heterogeneous**" – this means coming from different sources, made up of things that are not the same kind. The opposite of heterogeneous is homogenous.

**Example**: "The ad campaigns for Benetton clothes feature a heterogeneous cast of models, who differ widely in age and nationality, but who are of course all remarkably attractive."

Benetton is an Italian clothing company, one of many companies in Italy that produce trendy clothing for high-end retailers. Italy has a reputation for beautiful clothing, and for the sophisticated Italians who wear it. "**Urbane**" is another word for sophisticated. "Urbane" means refined, polished, or suave, and can refer to a person's appearance or their manner.

**Example**: "All of the actors who have played James Bond in the movies over the years have been known for their urbane good looks and perfect manners – at least until it's time to kill someone."

## C. Words For Talking About The Countryside

Composers have written lush orchestral pieces describing it. Painters have used it as subject or background for hundreds of years. Poets speak lovingly of its purity and beauty. It's the countryside, where – at least in the ideal – the air is clean, the people are healthy and happy, and the animals frolic in the fields. In this section, you'll learn five words that you might use to talk about the countryside: bucolic, flora, fauna, microcosm, and dearth.

### *Your words for talking about the countryside explained*

The first word, "**bucolic**", means "of the country side. Originally, this word was used primarily to refer to shepherds, and comes from the Greek word "boukolos" meaning "herders." Now, however, it is used when talking about any thing, or place, or person that is rustic or rural in manner or appearance. Another word for "bucolic" is "pastoral".

**Example**: "The organic gardening workshop ended with a dinner held in the lovely bucolic setting of the farm's herb garden, right next to the duck pond, and looking out over the fields of hay and clover."

Although perhaps not originally native to many areas, clover is often planted to support bees or to provide fodder for cows, sheep, and rabbits, and is now commonly found as part of the flora nearly everywhere people have settled to farm. "**Flora**" means the

vegetation or plant life that grows in a certain area, and usually refers more to the native plants than, for example, to an ornamental cactus grown in a garden in Sweden.

**Example**: "The students in the first-year botany class took several field trips to study the flora of the local ecosystems, including the riverside wetlands and the nearby mountain foothills."

And of course, where we have flora, we usually have "**fauna**" – the animals that are native to a certain area. Again, this word usually means animals that are part of the natural landscape, and not family pets or creatures in a zoo.

**Example**: "One reason I enjoy going on the expeditions sponsored by the World Wildlife Federation is that it gives me an opportunity to see the fauna of many regions around the world."

With its variety of rare and common animals from many different countries, a big zoo might be seen as a microcosm of the world itself. "**Microcosm**" means a miniature version of something larger. It can also refer to a small closed system that is complete in and of itself.

**Example**: "Now that the airport has its own permanent employee housing, it's almost a microcosm of the city, with the restaurants, shops, and services you might find just as easily downtown."

Airports may have all of the amenities of a downtown city centre, but there's usually a dearth of comfortable places to wait when your flight has been delayed. A "**dearth**" is a lack of something, or an insufficient number of things that are needed. Another way to say "dearth" is "scarcity" or "short supply."

**Example**: "Although there were many little jobs that needed to be done around the office, there was a dearth of willing volunteers to do them."

## D. Words That Talk About Talking

Let's talk about talking! Here are five words that you might use when discussing, chatting, conversing, or otherwise communicating: garrulous, pontificate, candor, aver, dissertation

### *Your words that talk about talking explained*

We're sure that at some point in your life you've been seated next to a garrulous person on a plane, or worked in the next cubicle over, or been standing behind them waiting to pay for your purchases at a shop. A "**garrulous**" person is someone who is too talkative, too chatty. They're always talking about trivial things, rambling on and on without paying much attention to their listeners. Someone who is garrulous is overly wordy.

**Example**: “I only had a five-minute break to run to the post office to mail my package, but the man in front of me was so garrulous it took me fifteen minutes to get everything signed, and I was late for the meeting.”

When you’re being delayed by someone who’s chatting away, you do have the option to tell them that you’d appreciate it if they would finish their personal conversation later so that you can complete your business. They may not appreciate your candor, but at least you’ll have called it to their attention. “**Candor**” means frankness or outspokenness. Another word for “candor” is “sincerity.” This quality of being straightforward and honest in speech is something that is not always a good thing, however.

**Example**: “Elaine had told her sister-in-law that she’d be at church on Sunday and couldn’t help with the wedding preparations, but with childish candor her young daughter spoke up and said, ‘no, Mama, that’s the day we’re going to the zoo!’”

If you’re going to aver something, it had best be true – or you’d better make sure that no one can catch you in a lie. To “**aver**” means to declare or assert something is true. It means to swear to something, to report as fact, or to affirm.

**Example**: “The first witness continued to aver that the thief was a tall man wearing a green jacket, but the other bystanders reported that they saw a short man in a white raincoat running away from the scene.”

Even if they’re wrong, a stubborn person might continue to speak as if they’re absolutely right, no matter what. Someone who does this is said to “**pontificate**.” “Pontificate” also means to speak in a patronizing manner, or to speak down to someone. Other ways to describe this manner of speech are “pompous” and “dogmatic.”

**Example**: “The relationship between industrial pollution and climate change has been widely accepted in the scientific community, but some politicians continue to pontificate about cows, trees, and the natural order of things to try to prevent effective legislation from passing.”

Many a scientific dissertation has been written so far about global warming and climate change, and many more will follow as new research is done. A “**dissertation**” is a formal document that presents original research to a panel, and to the public. Often known as a “thesis”, this is a paper that is often required of people who are completing a doctoral degree.

**Example**: “Kenneth will be ready to present his dissertation to the board of examiners once the final computer simulations are run and the results tabulated.”

# E. Words For Describing Conflict

You're going to have a difficult time of it in this session! These five Ultimate Vocabulary words describe conflict: misanthropic, animosity, contentious, adverse, punitive

## *Your words for describing conflict explained*

If you don't like our choice of words this time, you might want to argue with us about it. We'd like to avoid this quarrel by explaining that the word "**contentious**" means quarrelsome or argumentative, when speaking of a person. "Contentious" can also be used when referring to a situation or action, in which case it means "likely to cause controversy." A contentious person has a tendency to dispute others, often just to pick a fight.

**Example**: "The twelfth member of the jury was so contentious, arguing about issues that were clearly disproven, that the deliberation process took many more hours than usual."

Someone who likes to argue just for the sake of the argument is likely to gain the **animosity** of others. "Animosity" means dislike or hostility. Synonyms for animosity are "hatred" and "enmity."

**Example**: "The movie star was wearing a fur coat when she arrived at the opening gala for the new animal rights exhibit at the convention center, but the animosity of the crowd quickly led her to take it off and apologize."

Some animal rights activists resort to punitive measures when they see people wearing fur coats, and throw red paint on the coats to symbolize blood. Others prefer to punish the shops that sell the coats by marching and protesting in front of them. "**Punitive**" means punishing or imposing a penalty on someone. This word implies a certain level of harshness or severity in discipline.

**Example**: "The airport security guards don't appreciate pranks about carrying guns or bombs, and will immediately take punitive action against anyone making a joke about such things."

There may or may not be more danger in flying these days, but the threat of terrorist acts has definitely had an adverse effect on the ease of airplane travel. "**Adverse**" means in a negative way, or in the opposite direction. When you experience something that is adverse, it is often because it is working against your best interests.

**Example**: "Bad news about the falling stock market and rising unemployment generally has an adverse impact on government officials' popularity, and no politician wants to run for re-election during such a time."

Many people distrust and dislike politicians even in the best of times, but few people are truly misanthropic. "**Misanthropic**" means disliking everyone, distrusting everyone, hating all mankind. Someone who is misanthropic always believes the worst of everyone.

**Example**: "In Charles Dickens' classic 'A Christmas Story,' Ebenezer Scrooge is transformed from a misanthropic and hateful man to a generous and happy person who loves everyone."

## F. Words For Talking About The Mind

A mind is a terrible thing to waste. We're glad that you're improving your mind with these powerful Ultimate Vocabulary words, and practicing how to use them in context with confidence. The five words in this section will be useful when you're talking about the mind: cognitive, intuition, esoteric, deduce, perspicacious

### *Your words for talking about the mind explained*

Our first word, "**cognitive**," refers to the process of thinking itself. The word "cognitive" is used when speaking of the logical part of the functioning of your brain, as you learn, or perceive, or reason. To be cognitive of something is to be aware of it.

**Example**: "The patient had been in a coma for four years, but his family was convinced that he was still showing signs of cognitive function, as he seemed to respond to voices and would move his eyes away from bright light."

Sometimes you just have to rely on a gut feeling to tell you whether something is true or not. In that case, you're relying on intuition. "**Intuition**" means instinctive knowledge, rather than learned knowledge. When you do something on intuition, you are doing it without consciously thinking about the reasons for your action.

**Example**: "The police were unable to locate the hidden will, but Detective Jones had known the old woman for decades, and her intuition led her straight to the kitchen, where she found the will buried in a jar of sugar."

Detectives rely on intuition, but they also solve crimes by using their reason to deduce the answer. "**Deduce**" means to apply logic to a problem to come to a conclusion, to use reason, or to base your opinion on facts rather than feelings.

**Example**: "Sherlock Holmes is a fictional character best known for his ability to deduce the circumstances of a crime and the identity of a criminal from what seem to be unimportant details and random facts."

One of Sherlock Holmes' most famous opponents, the master criminal Moriarty, belonged to a secret group who studied esoteric methods of committing crimes. "**Esoteric**" means

mystical or hidden knowledge. Something that is esoteric is only understood or known by a select group of people, usually part of a secret society.

**Example**: "Abraham decided to go to Israel and join a group of scholars who study the esoteric teachings of the Kabbalah, the deepest meanings of the Judaic philosophy and religion."

Some things that are hidden or obscure are revealed after years of study and observation, but if a person is exceptionally perspicacious, they might find the answers more quickly. "**Perspicacious**" means able to perceive hidden things. Someone who is perspicacious has a keen mind. Synonyms of perspicacious include "wise" and "insightful."

**Example**: "Lisa was having difficulty identifying the correct charges on the billing statement, but her co-worker was more perspicacious and was able to tell which ones had been made by the client and which had been incorrectly credited to the account."

# Tests for Reinforcing What You Have Learnt

## A. Words For Describing the Educational Process

One of the best ways we've found to remember things is to practice them over and over again. Here are five practice sentences; put one of your newly-learned Ultimate Vocabulary words in the blank spot in each:

### *Test Sentences*

1. This exclusive primary school has a formal ceremony in which the students _____ after their fourth class year to become part of the advanced class, when they pick their focus area for the next two years.

2. We can get a very good idea of what life was like in the Middle Ages by studying the _____ kept by the monasteries in England, France, and Spain.

3. In many modern classrooms, _____ is believed to be less important than student participation.

4. When my mother was studying for her Master's in geology, she used _____ devices to help her remember the correct order of eras, periods, epochs, and ages.

5. Frances was determined to get the highest possible grade on her maths tests, and signed up for all of the extracurricular _____ sessions she had time for.

**Answers**:

1. This exclusive primary school has a formal ceremony in which the students **matriculate** after their fourth class year to become part of the advanced class, when they pick their focus area for the next two years.

   *When a student is officially enrolled in a degree program, or as part of a school, college, or university, they are entered into the school's list. The word "matriculate" comes from the Latin "matricula", meaning list.*

2. We can get a very good idea of what life was like in the Middle Ages by studying the **annals** kept by the monasteries in England, France, and Spain.

*"Annals" are records of historical events, reported factually and in chronological order. This word has a Latin root as well, coming from the word "annus" meaning year.*

3. In many modern classrooms, **pedagogy** is believed to be less important than student participation.

   *It is important that the instructor's teaching methods, or pedagogy, are skilled enough that the students learn, but experts agree that it's best to get the students involved actively in the learning process. "Pedagogy" refers to a person's style of teaching.*

4. When my mother was studying for her Master's in geology, she used **mnemonic** devices to help her remember the correct order of eras, periods, epochs, and ages.

   *You might find it easier to remember the six periods of the Paleozoic era (Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous, and Permian) by remembering this phrase: "Camels Or Silly Devils Carry Persians". Or maybe not – everyone has their own tricks to help them remember things. A "mnemonic" is a phrase, acronym, image, or other device to help you remember something else.*

5. Frances was determined to get the highest possible grade on her maths tests, and signed up for all of the extracurricular **tutorial** sessions she had time for.

   *Getting some focused one-on-one assistance in a class can make all the difference to your final scores. A tutorial is a private or small-group teaching session with the focus on a particular subject.*

You'll graduate with honors now that you've learned these five new Ultimate Vocabulary words:

- tutorial
- matriculate
- pedagogy
- mnemonic
- annals

## B. Words For Describing a City

No matter where you live, you use language to communicate. Practice your communications skills by using each of your five new Ultimate Vocabulary words in context correctly in one of the following sentences:

### *Test Sentences*

1. We knew that the company was starting to really pick up business when our manager announced that we'd be moving from the outer suburbs to a more _____ location.

2. James was startled to find himself standing next to a famous movie actor at the Hollywood premiere, but managed to keep the conversation going in his usual _____ manner, even with all of the cameras flashing.

3. I like going on long sea cruises; it's nice to travel in comfort, with every possible _____ at your fingertips.

4. When the _____ of the small border town were told about the new motorway plans, they didn't realize it would result in so much traffic, and the town had to hire two new patrol officers.

5. The student body at this institution is a _____ blend of children from wealthy out-of-state families, first-generation immigrants, and locals who can trace their roots back to the days of the pioneers.

**Answers:**

1. We knew that the company was starting to really pick up business when our manager announced that we'd be moving from the outer suburbs to a more **metropolitan** location.

   *"Metropolitan" means in or of a city.*

2. James was startled to find himself standing next to a famous movie actor at the Hollywood premiere, but managed to keep the conversation going in his usual **urbane** manner, even with all of the cameras flashing.

*Someone who is smooth, suave, and sophisticated even in situations where it would be easy to get flustered or confused is said to be "urbane." Some synonyms for urbane are "refined" or "polished."*

3. I like going on long sea cruises; it's nice to travel in comfort, with every possible **amenity** at your fingertips.

   *What could be better than room service, restaurants, and recreation all in the same place? These are all pleasant things that make your life enjoyable. In other words, they are amenities. An "amenity" is something that makes your life easier or more comfortable.*

4. When the **denizens** of the small border town were told about the new motorway plans, they didn't realize it would result in so much traffic, and the town had to hire two new patrol officers.

   *People who live in a certain place are called "denizens" of that place. This word usually refers to someone who has lived in a place for a long time. Another word for "denizen" is "inhabitant."*

5. The student body at this institution is a **heterogeneous** blend of children from wealthy out-of-state families, first-generation immigrants, and locals who can trace their roots back to the days of the pioneers.

   *"Heterogeneous" means coming from many different sources, or made up of many different elements. A synonym for "heterogeneous" is "diverse."*

The more diverse your vocabulary, the easier it will be to express exactly what you mean. You'll be able to hold your own with any conversational partner as you gain confidence in using these powerful vocabulary words in context. Keep practicing your five new Ultimate Vocabulary words:

- urbane
- heterogeneous
- metropolitan
- denizen
- amenity

## C. Words For Talking About The Countryside

It's like a breath of fresh air, introducing these descriptive and sophisticated new vocabulary words into your conversation. You'll find that the more you practice them, the more confidence you'll have in using them in context. Start practicing now by putting the correct word in each of the following five sentences:

### *Test Sentences*

1. I don't like driving into the city on the weekend for a show because there's generally a _____ of convenient parking places; I'd rather take the bus downtown.

2. One of the distinguishing features of the _____ that populate the desert is their ability to absorb water through their skin.

3. That property in southwestern Spain certainly seems like a _____ paradise, but before you buy it, be sure that it has a good water source and a connection to the electrical grid.

4. This aquarium is a perfect _____ of the ocean, with everything from corals to scavengers, fish and aquatic plants.

5. The nomadic tribes of the steppes are so familiar with the _____ of the region that they can tell exactly where they are just by looking at the ground.

**Answers:**

1. I don't like driving into the city on the weekend for a show because there's generally a **dearth** of convenient parking places; I'd rather take the bus downtown.

   *As most city-dwellers know, parking is at a premium when there's a show in town, and it's hard to find a place to leave the car. "Dearth" means "in short supply" and refers to situations where there is not enough of something that is necessary.*

2. One of the distinguishing features of the **fauna** that populate the desert is their ability to absorb water through their skin.

   *The natural world is amazing; animals have evolved over thousands of years to perfectly suit the land they live in. "Fauna" are the animals that are native to a particular area or region.*

3. That property in south western Spain certainly seems like a **bucolic** paradise, but before you buy it, be sure that it has a good water source and a connection to the electrical grid.

   *Many people want to retire to a sunny land where the food is good and the wine is cheap, but unless they're careful, they might get stuck in an isolated area of the countryside, surrounded by nothing but wild sheep. "Bucolic" means rural or rustic, in the countryside. You can use this word to describe something in either a positive or a negative sense.*

4. This aquarium is a perfect **microcosm** of the ocean, with everything from corals to scavengers, fish and aquatic plants.

   *A "microcosm" is literally a "miniature world," or a smaller version of a larger environment.*

5. The nomadic tribes of the steppes are so familiar with the **flora** of the region that they can tell exactly where they are just by looking at the ground.

   *"Flora" means the plants and vegetation that grow in a specific place or region.*

Now that you're completely familiar with these five Ultimate Vocabulary words, you'll have everything you need to describe your next trip to the countryside. Keep practicing these words and you'll never have a dearth of subjects to talk about, or powerful vocabulary words to use:

- microcosm
- flora
- fauna
- dearth
- bucolic

## D. Words That Talk About Talking

Many things require a lot of hard work, and getting completely comfortable using new vocabulary words in context is no exception. Here are five sentences for you to practice with; put the correct word in each blank:

### *Test Sentences:*

1. Everyone likes the new receptionist because she's so friendly and helpful, but she's so _____ that the workflow in the office has slowed down considerably since she started.

2. James will make an excellent psychotherapist; his qualities of empathy and _____ will allow him to help people through difficult times.

3. Candidates for public office typically have to _____ that they have no current ties to corporations or other private entities, to avoid conflict of interest.

4. I got into the habit of only showing up for the last half of the weekly meeting because the CEO would _____ for at least twenty minutes at the beginning of the meeting on his opinions about the company forecast, even though the financial officer's report usually contradicted his statements.

5. Janet's test scores were never more than average at university, but her _____ was widely admired, and helped her get a job with one of the country's leading scientific laboratories.

**Answers:**

1. Everyone likes the new receptionist because she's so friendly and helpful, but she's so **garrulous** that the workflow in the office has slowed down considerably since she started.

   *We're sure you've had co-workers who seem to have all the time in the world to stand by your desk and chat. "Garrulous" means chatty and too talkative, especially if the talk is about trivial things.*

2. James will make an excellent psychotherapist; his qualities of empathy and **candor** will allow him to help people through difficult times.

   *When you're in a field that requires you to talk about topics that might make people feel uncomfortable, it helps if you can present the facts honestly and in a straightforward manner. "Candor" means honesty and sincerity, or a direct manner of speaking.*

3. Candidates for public office typically have to **aver** that they have no current ties to corporations or other private entities, to avoid conflict of interest.

   *To "aver" means to swear to the truth of something. Synonyms for aver are affirm, declare, and assert.*

4. I got into the habit of only showing up for the last half of the weekly meeting because the CEO would **pontificate** for at least twenty minutes at the beginning of the meeting on his opinions about the company forecast, even though the financial officer's report usually contradicted his statements.

   *To "pontificate" means to speak in a pompous and self-important manner, or to speak on some topic as if you're the only one with all of the right answers. Someone who is pontificating often speaks in a manner which talks down to their listeners, in a patronizing fashion.*

5. Janet's test scores were never more than average at university, but her **dissertation** was widely admired, and helped her get a job with one of the country's leading scientific laboratories.

   *A "dissertation" is a final paper that contains original research, and is usually required of people who are pursuing a graduate degree, especially in scientific fields.*

We do solemnly swear, aver, and affirm, and tell you with all candor, that the more you practice your Ultimate Vocabulary words, the quicker you'll gain confidence in using them in context. Keep practicing these five new words:

- garrulous
- pontificate
- candor
- aver
- dissertation

## E. Words For Describing Conflict

Sometimes the grim news that we get from around the world on a daily basis can turn the most cheerful optimist misanthropic. To get your mind off the cares of the day, try practicing your Ultimate Vocabulary words, instead. Here are five practice sentences; put the correct word in each:

## *Test Sentences*

1. They say the true character of a person doesn't come out until they're faced with a challenge or an _____ situation.

2. Jami has done so much harm to our family with her thoughtless acts and malicious words that I found it hard not to show my _____ towards her when I saw her yesterday.

3. Some parents took their children out of the school when they learned about the strict disciplinary rules, but other parents felt the rules weren't _____ enough.

4. The two candidates for office couldn't be farther apart in their positions on public services, environmental protection, and international relations, and we can expect another _____ election season.

5. Jeremy's last four business partners have each cheated him out of large sums of money, so it's not surprising he's gotten a bit _____, expecting the worst out of any new prospect.

**Answers:**

1. They say the true character of a person doesn't come out until they're faced with a challenge or an **adverse** situation.

   *You know the saying – "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Difficult times can bring out the best in a person, as they learn to grow. "Adverse" means difficult, negative, or going against one's best interests.*

2. Jami has done so much harm to our family with her thoughtless acts and malicious words that I found it hard not to show my **animosity** towards her when I saw her yesterday.

   *"Animosity" means active dislike or hostility towards a person or, perhaps, an idea. Animosity means hatred of something or someone.*

3. Some parents took their children out of the school when they learned about the strict disciplinary rules, but other parents felt the rules weren't **punitive** enough.

*It used to be common for children to be physically punished at school if they misbehaved, but that isn't a general practice these days. "Punitive" means applying severe or harsh punishment or discipline on someone.*

4. The two candidates for office couldn't be farther apart in their positions on public services, environmental protection, and international relations, and we can expect another **contentious** election season.

   *It's a rare candidate who doesn't spend most of his or her time arguing why they should be elected instead of their opponent. "Contentious" means argumentative, characterized by dispute, or likely to cause controversy.*

5. Jeremy's last four business partners have each cheated him out of large sums of money, so it's not surprising he's gotten a bit **misanthropic**, expecting the worst out of any new prospect.

   *If no one treats you well, you might be forgiven if you start to dislike everyone on principle. "Misanthropic" means disliking humanity, not trusting anyone, and expecting the worst of people.*

We hope you won't argue the point that these five Ultimate Vocabulary words will help you describe difficult situations in the future. In order to get the best use out of them, keep practicing these five new words:

- misanthropic
- animosity
- contentious
- adverse
- punitive

## F. Words For Talking About The Mind

Classrooms are excellent places to study, but if you don't have a classroom handy, find any quiet place and practice using these new vocabulary words in context. Here are five sentences; fill in the correct vocabulary word in each blank space:

### *Test Sentences:*

1. Candidates for the space program have to undergo a rigorous set of tests to ensure that they have the _____ and physical skills to perform as astronauts.

2. Anita hadn't studied for the test, and discovered that relying on _____ to choose the correct answer for the multiple-choice questions did not result in a very good grade.

3. In this test of logic and mathematics, the students are required to complete each problem in sequence before they attempt to _____ the final answer.

4. Harold researched the _____ details of Masonic Temple rituals before going to see the performance of Mozart's "The Magic Flute" but found that this knowledge did not add much to his enjoyment of the opera.

5. My cousin's child was extremely clever about getting away with vandalism in the classroom until a particularly _____ teacher noticed that she was the only student who was always nearby when the damage was discovered.

**Answers:**

1. Candidates for the space program have to undergo a rigorous set of tests to ensure that they have the **cognitive** and physical skills to perform as astronauts.

   *So much money is put into the space program, and it's such a difficult and dangerous job, that program administrators want to make sure that they have the best possible people going out into space, able to think fast in case of emergency. "Cognitive" is a word that means all aspects of thinking, including reasoning, logic, and analysis.*

2. Anita hadn't studied for the test, and discovered that relying on **intuition** to choose the correct answer for the multiple-choice questions did not result in a very good grade.

   *With a true/false test, you have a fifty percent chance of being right, but with a multiple-choice test, you may only have a one in four chance of coming up with the right answer. Intuition does not rely on logic, but depends more on a person's feeling about something. Intuition does not rely on reason, but more on instinct. "Intuition" means instinctive knowledge, rather than learned knowledge.*

3. In this test of logic and mathematics, the students are required to complete each problem in sequence before they attempt to **deduce** the final answer.

   *To "deduce" means to arrive at a conclusion or answer by using reason, logic, and facts.*

4. Harold researched the **esoteric** details of Masonic Temple rituals before going to see the performance of Mozart's "The Magic Flute" but found that this knowledge did not add much to his enjoyment of the opera.

   *The Masons are a secret society that have been in existence for hundreds of years, and only the members of the society truly know all of the mystical details of its history. "Esoteric" means hidden or secret knowledge that is only available to a select group of people.*

5. My cousin's child was extremely clever about getting away with vandalism in the classroom until a particularly **perspicacious** teacher noticed that she was the only student who was always nearby when the damage was discovered.

   "*Perspicacious" means seeing what is not immediately obvious, or able to come to the right answer by keen insight.*

We're sure that you're perspicacious enough to realize that the more you practice, the more confident you'll feel at using these powerful vocabulary words in context. Keep practicing these five new words:

1. cognitive
2. perspicacious
3. intuition
4. deduce
5. esoteric