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# Lesson 2

## Word List

Study the definitions of the words below; then do the exercises for the lesson.

### affect

ə fekt´

*v.* 1. To bring about a change in.

[Do you think changing schools will *affect* my grades?]

2. To pretend to be or to have.

[The reporter *affected* an interest in buying a used car in order to get the salesperson to talk to her.]

### calculate

kal´ kyōō lāt

*v.* 1. To find the answer by using arithmetic.

[I gave my sister the check so she could *calculate* her share of the bill.]

2. To figure out by reasoning.

[You'd better *calculate* the risks carefully before going on a long trip with that old car.]

### climate

kli´ mət

*n.* The average weather conditions of an area.

[Florida's warm *climate* is perfect for growing oranges.]

### column

kā´ ləm

*n.* 1. A row of figures or words running down a printed page; anything arranged like that.

[Do all the problems in the first *column* on page 30.]

2. A tall, usually stone support that holds up something.

[Forty-six marble *columns* support the roof of the Parthenon in Athens.]

3. A regular newspaper or magazine article usually written by the same person.

[My mother writes a weekly sports *column* for the *News-Tribune*.]

### decay

dē kā´

*v.* To rot.

[Leaves left on the ground will *decay* over the winter.]

*n.* A breaking down or rotting.

[Dentists say tooth *decay* can be prevented by regular brushing and flossing.]

### exceed

ek sēd´

*v.* 1. To be more than.

[The final score of Monday's game *exceeded* our best hopes.]

2. To go beyond what is allowed.

[The officer who stopped me told me never to *exceed* the speed limit again.]

**excess** (ek ses´) *n.* More than enough; an extra amount.

[Use what you need, and save the *excess*.]

**excessive** *adj.* Too much or too great.

[Last winter my parents paid an *excessive* amount for heating oil.]

### forbid

fər bid´

*v.* To order not to do something.

[A state law *forbids* smoking in hospitals.]

**forbidden** *adj.* Not allowed.

[Eating in class is *forbidden*.]

### grove

grōv

*n.* A group of trees growing together with open space between them.

[The children walked hand in hand through the *grove* of lemon trees.]

<b>limb</b> lim	<i>n.</i> 1. An arm, leg, or wing. [Bats use their webbed front and back <i>limbs</i> to fly.] 2. A large tree branch. [The owl was perched on the top <i>limb</i> of the tree.]
<b>mammoth</b> ma' mōth	<i>adj.</i> Very large; huge. [The <i>mammoth</i> Seattle Skydome holds over fifty thousand people.]
<b>mature</b> mə chōōr'	<i>v.</i> To become fully grown or developed. [Rabbits <i>mature</i> in about six months and are then able to bear young.] <i>adj.</i> Fully grown or developed; adult. [My brother looks very <i>mature</i> for only eleven.]
<b>permit</b> pər mit'	<i>v.</i> To allow. [Some towns <i>permit</i> overnight parking downtown.] <i>n.</i> (pər' mit) A written notice that allows a person to do something. [You need a <i>permit</i> to go fishing in that lake.]
<b>resist</b> ri zist'	<i>v.</i> 1. To refuse to give in to; to withstand. [Some kinds of corn <i>resist</i> disease better than others.] 2. To work or fight against. [The people tried for years to <i>resist</i> the party's leader.]
<b>scorch</b> skōrch	<i>v.</i> To burn slightly. [If you press a shirt with an iron that is too hot, you might <i>scorch</i> the cloth.] <b>scorching</b> <i>adj.</i> Very hot. [On such a <i>scorching</i> July day, the only thing I wanted after work was a swim in the ocean.]
<b>tower</b> tou' ər	<i>v.</i> To stand above or higher than what is around it. [The Statue of Liberty <i>towers</i> above New York Harbor.] <b>towering</b> <i>adj.</i> Very high; tall. [ Looking up at the <i>towering</i> skyscrapers gave me a stiff neck.]

## 2A Finding Meanings

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 2. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) keep people out of a building. (c) A column is used to  
(b) support part of a building. (d) A permit is used to
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2. (a) A maple grove is (c) A maple limb is  
(b) what is left after it is cut down. (d) a large branch.
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3. (a) A mammoth parade is (c) one held once a year.  
(b) A forbidden parade is (d) one that is very large.
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4. (a) To scorch something is to  
(b) To permit something is to
- (c) look closely into it.  
(d) allow it.
- 
5. (a) A climate is  
(b) a group of trees.
- (c) a group of paintings.  
(d) A grove is
- 
6. (a) To calculate something is to  
(b) figure it out by reasoning.
- (c) To affect something is to  
(d) be against it.
- 
7. (a) If something towers,  
(b) If something decays,
- (c) it is starting to grow.  
(d) it stands above what is around it.
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8. (a) to go beyond it.  
(b) To forbid something is
- (c) To exceed something is  
(d) to go back to it.
- 
9. (a) To resist something is  
(b) To affect something is
- (c) to cause a change in it.  
(d) to forget about it.
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10. (a) an extra amount.  
(b) A climate is
- (c) a shortage.  
(d) An excess is
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## **2B Just the Right Word**

*Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the italicized phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 2.*

1. Pat's *regular newspaper article* on gardening is very popular with readers.
2. Unfortunately, the cost of those sneakers *is more than* what I've saved so far.
3. I tried to *figure out* how much gas we would use on our trip to Nevada.



7. In which of the following might you see a *grove* of trees?  
 (a) a large park (c) a parking lot  
 (b) a large field (d) a tall building
8. Which of the following is a *limb*?  
 (a) a bird's wing (c) a tree branch  
 (b) a bird's leg (d) a tree root

## 2D Completing the Thought

Read each sentence below and fill in the blank with the correct word (or a form of the word) from the word list.

- Marguerita wanted to go to the rock concert, but she didn't want to pay seventy-five dollars for a ticket! She thought that the price was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sarah wanted to feed her cats scraps from the dinner table, but she couldn't. Feeding the cats from the table was \_\_\_\_\_.
- The last time Jonathan went to the dentist he didn't need any fillings. There was no sign of tooth \_\_\_\_\_.
- This was the first year that Mr. Rodriguez got a good crop of apples from the tree that he planted five years ago. A tree doesn't produce fruit until it is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The school librarian said that we could talk as long as we kept our voices down. The librarian \_\_\_\_\_ quiet talking.
- Many Americans objected to the war in Vietnam and they would not fight in it. They \_\_\_\_\_ the draft.
- José checked the numbers running down the left side of the page and compared them to those running down the right side. The numbers on the page were in two \_\_\_\_\_.
- The winning pumpkin at the county fair weighed over 500 pounds. It was \_\_\_\_\_!
- An unpleasant smell told Sally that the wet socks she had hung on a stick to dry were too close to the campfire. When she examined them, she saw that the socks were \_\_\_\_\_.

column
decay
exceed
forbid
mammoth
mature
permit
resist
scorch
tower

10. When I went up in the elevator with the basketball team's star forward I felt tiny! Even though I'm 5'10" he \_\_\_\_\_ over me.

## 2E Narrative

*Read the narrative below, then complete the exercise that follows.*

### CALIFORNIA'S FOREST GIANTS

Along the coast of northern California grow huge, **towering** trees whose trunks look like the **columns** of a great Greek temple. These are redwood trees—the tallest of all trees—so tall in fact, that they can reach 385 feet. Their trunks can grow straight up for 150 feet before the first **limbs** branch out. One redwood, called the Rockefeller Tree, is as tall as a thirty-five-story skyscraper!

Redwoods are so special that in some parts of California state laws **forbid** people to cut them down. In other parts of the state, where logging is **permitted**, redwood is sold for outside building and outdoor furniture because it does not **decay** as quickly as other kinds of wood.

Another giant California tree is the sequoia, a tree that is slightly shorter than a redwood. Sequoias prefer the colder, drier **climate** found farther inland on the slopes of the Sierra Nevada. They have thicker trunks and contain more wood than redwoods. In fact, it has been **calculated** that a full-grown sequoia contains enough wood to build thirty houses. The **mammoth** General Grant sequoia is almost a hundred feet around. It would take twenty people with arms stretched out to join hands around it! Cutting down any sequoia is not allowed.

Redwoods and sequoias are among the oldest living things: the age of some of them **exceeds** three thousand years. One of the reasons they live so long is that when they are **mature**, their bark is more than a foot thick. Forest fires that destroy other trees may **scorch** their outside bark, but do not **affect** them. The thick bark also helps them to **resist** diseases that kill other trees.

Yosemite National Park and Sequoia National Park, both in eastern California, are the best places to see sequoias. The best place to see redwoods is in Redwood National Park, in northwest California. In addition to its **groves** of redwoods, this park also contains forty miles of unspoiled Pacific coastline. These parks are among the most popular tourist attractions in the country.

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*Answer each of the following questions in a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word, use a vocabulary word in your answer. Use each word only once. Questions and answers will then contain all fifteen words (or forms of the words) from this lesson's word list.*

1. What happens to sequoias and redwoods in a forest fire?

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2. Where can you find groves of redwoods?

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3. If you lived in California, could you cut down a redwood tree?

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4. How far from the ground are the lowest branches of the redwoods?

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5. What do the trunks of redwoods look like?

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6. How old are the oldest sequoia and redwood trees?

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7. Why is **towering** a good word to use to describe these trees?

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8. When is their bark thickest?

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9. How else does their thick bark help the trees?

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10. Could you cut down a sequoia?

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11. Why is redwood used for building outside furniture?

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12. Why don't sequoias grow along the coast?

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13. How thick is the trunk of the General Grant tree?

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14. How much wood does a full-grown sequoia contain?

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15. Why have redwoods and sequoias lived so long?

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### WORDLY WISE

An easy way to learn simple arithmetic is to set out pebbles in a row. By adding more pebbles and counting the total, or by taking some away and counting the ones that remain, one can see the results of addition and subtraction. By using rows of pebbles, one can also learn multiplication. Pebbles arranged in three rows of four can be counted one at a time to see that 3 times 4 equals 12. By separating the pebbles into equal-sized groups, one can also learn division. For example, dividing the pebbles into two equal groups and counting the pebbles in one of them shows that 12 divided by 2 equals six. The Romans long ago thought of this method of doing math. In fact, our word **calculate** comes from the Latin word *calculus*, which means—a pebble!

Tens of thousands of years ago, a giant elephant lived in Europe and North America. It was called a mammoth. It was much bigger than today's elephants; the largest ones were almost fourteen feet from the ground to the shoulder. It had huge tusks that curved downward and a thick, hairy coat. Mammoths died out long ago, but the bodies of some of them were frozen solid in the cold northern regions of Canada and Russia. They are sometimes discovered when the ice around them melts. Because of this creature's great size, its name became the adjective **mammoth**, meaning "very large; huge."