1. It may be an exaggeration to say that American architect Frank Lloyd Wright (abominated, enjoined) classical European building designs, but he certainly deviated from them.

2. Peace negotiations between the two countries were already (circuitous, tenuous) when the border dispute broke out.

3. Although the Queen or King is the (nominal, adventitious) head of state, the Prime Minister is the real leader of the British government.

4. You are following an all too familiar pattern in (ascribing, expediting) your failures to everyone except yourself.

5. An experienced politician always tries to avoid making (fermented, inadvertent) remarks that may offend some voters.

6. It is only in my fantasies that I display the (ferment, sangfroid) associated with movie heroes who are “as cool as a cucumber.”

7. I learned that I would have to make a choice between my strong aversion to hard work and my equally strong (proclivity, wheedle) for expensive living.

8. Our military is prepared to deal with external aggression, but our best defense against (sedition, peculation) at home is the loyalty of the American people.

9. (Peculation, Sedition) was a common offense among Roman provincial governors who, when asked how they made their fortunes, often replied, “In the provinces.”

10. The sordid and (nominal, vitriolic) language from both candidates is offensive and takes the focus away from the issues.

11. His investments proved to be profitable, but they were (adventitious, nominal) rather than the result of knowledge and planning.

12. Modern American society can justly be said to be the end point of the (commiseration, acculturation) of diverse groups of immigrants.

13. Although that critic is feared for (noncommittal, vitriolic) reviews, I have learned that there is usually a sound basis for her unfavorable judgments.

14. (Commiseration, Proclivity) is a noble human emotion, but in itself it is no substitute for vigorous efforts to help other people.

15. Experienced lawyers know that the line between literal truth and slight but significant distortion of the facts is often a (seditious, tenuous) one.
6. Her mother (abominated, acculturated) laziness of any kind and railed vehemently against sleeping in on Sundays.

7. Even criminals who displayed (sangfroid, acculturation) would crack under pressure when confronted by the legendary prosecuting attorney.

1. I was simply unable to follow the (circuous, adventitious) reasoning by which she "proved" that a straight line is not necessarily the shortest distance between two points.

4. With the deadline fast approaching, the local newspaper office was in a (sedition, ferment) of last-minute activity and preparation.

1. The worst way I can think of to (expedite, ascribe) this program would be to set up another new Committee on New Programs.

5. Because he has been able to (expiate, wheedle) almost anything he wants out of his parents, he is quite unprepared now to face the harsh realities of life.

1. They are conscientious objectors to military service because they are (enjoined, ascribed) by a deep personal conviction not to take a human life.

7. After he had seen the error of his ways, the villain attempted to (expiate, enjoin) the dark deeds of his past by acts of kindness and mercy.

1. When I spoke to Mother about going on the spring trip to Washington, her only reply was a (nominal, noncommittal) "We'll see."

7. This is a (nominal, circuitous) route, but we avoid the traffic jams on the Interstate.

Choose the word from this unit that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the boldface word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

- vacillating in her answer
- mail that needs to be rushed
- an unplanned meeting
- embezzle from the treasury
- was cajoled into agreeing
- a rancorous tone of voice
- the assimilation of American students in Spain
- to atone for her unkindness
- a treasonable act
- identify with your disappointment

noncommittal
expedited
inadvertent
peculate
wheedled
vitriolic
acculturation
expiate
sedulous
commiserate
Choose the word from this unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. cherish everything about her
   - abominate
2. a **calculated** misuse of the money
   - inadvertent
3. a **clear-cut** statement of intentions
   - noncommittal
4. a kingdom filled with **loyal** subjects
   - seditious
5. evidenced by **nonconformity**
   - acculturation

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From the words in this unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

1. You could have indicated frankly what you thought was wrong without embittering them with such ________ critici**c**ticism.

2. His line of questioning was so ________ circuitous that I began to suspect he was not sure of what he was trying to prove.

3. Only someone who has suffered from bursitis can fully ________ commiserate ________ with me when I am in the throes of an acute attack.

4. He ________ expiated ________ the crime committed during his youth by a lifetime of service to humanity.

5. If, as you say, your slamming of the door on the way out was completely ________ inadvertent, then you should be more careful in the future.

6. Much of the money that the "robber barons" ________ peculated ________ from the public trust was never recovered—or even missed!

7. Wines from that part of France are produced by ________ fermenting ________ the juice of the luscious grapes that grow on the hillsides.

8. We had hoped to learn his opinion of the new energy program, but he remained completely ________ noncommittal ________ during the interview.

9. He claims to be a close friend of the Senator, but I believe that the connection between them is extremely ________ tenuous ________

10. Who in the world can hope to match the unshakable ________ sangfroid ________ of the indestructible James Bond in moments of great peril?

© CCSS Vocabulary: 4.a. (See pp.T14–15.)
No matter what their other likes or dislikes are, most Americans thoroughly 
abominate slavery in all its forms.

We must distinguish between the truly basic policies of our political party and 
those that are adventitious and have little connection with the 
esential program.

Certain languages such as Afrikaans are the product of acculturation 
and were created when two societies merged.

Since she seems to have a strong proclivity both for science and 
for service to others, I think that she should plan to study medicine.

As charming, clever, and persuasive as you may be, you will certainly not 
wheel me into lending you my tennis racquet.

We Americans do not believe that honest criticism of our public officials, no matter 
how severe, should be regarded as seditious.

Declaring the boycott to be illegal, the judge enjoined the labor 
union from striking against the employing firm.

Some people say that they cannot understand her defeat in the election, but I 
ascribe it to her failure to discuss the issues in simple, down-to-
earth terms.

While he remained the nominal leader of the group, the real power 

passed into the hands of his wily aide.

The new computerized referral system will greatly expedite the 
processing of complaints by customers.

**Words in Action**

Answers to both prompts will vary.

1. Look back at "Trapped in a Cave, Foiled by a Circus" (pages 32-33). Imagine 
that you are a journalist who has been sent to Cave City to cover this event. 
Write a short article describing the scene and the mood of those around you. 
Use at least two details from the passage and three unit words.

2. Many people take risks pursuing their dreams, yet there is a difference 
between taking risks and being reckless. Without risk-takers, humanity would 
not have explored new frontiers, created advanced technology, or walked on 
the moon. Reckless behavior, on the other hand, often leads to disaster. Write 
a brief essay in which you compare risk-takers to those who act recklessly. 
Support your ideas with specific examples from your observations, studies, 
and the reading (pages 32-33). Write at least three paragraphs, and use three 
or more words from this unit.
The following excerpts are from The Writings of Thomas Jefferson and Memoirs, Correspondence, and Miscellanies by Thomas Jefferson. Some of the words you have studied in this unit appear in boldface type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. I congratulate you, my dear friend, on the law of your State, for suspending the importation of slaves, and for the glory you have justly acquired by endeavoring to prevent it forever. This abomination must have an end. (Writings)

   An abomination is a(n)
   
   a. atrocity   b. lifestyle   c. organization   d. dilemma

2. Sir,—A dislocation of my right wrist has for upwards of three months prevented my writing to you. I begin to use it a little for the pen; but it is with great pain. To this cause alone I hope you will ascribe that I have acknowledged at one time the receipt of so many of your letters. (Writings)

   To ascribe means to
   
   a. publish   b. forgive   c. accredit   d. conceal

3. To save time, I wrote to Mr. Dumas, to know whether he thought it probable a loan could be obtained, enjoining on him the strictest secrecy, and informing him I was making the inquiry merely of my own motion, and without instruction. (Writings)

   The act of enjoining involves
   
   a. uniting   b. ranking   c. consenting   d. commanding

4. With respect to what they call the reduction of the debt from its nominal sum, it is not a reduction of it, but an appreciation at its true value. (Writings)

   A nominal sum is one that is
   
   a. popular   b. easy   c. trifling   d. significant

5. That the resolution . . . for suppressing the exercise of all powers derived from the crown, had shown, by the ferment into which it had thrown these middle colonies, that they had not yet accommodated their minds to a separation from the mother country. . . . (Memoirs, Correspondence, and Miscellanies)

   A ferment does NOT entail
   
   a. chaos   b. stability   c. disorder   d. education

The Jefferson Memorial commemorates the third President of the United States.