



Timely Words

Avocabo Word List 10

ANTECEDENT, AUSPICIOUS, CONTINGENCY, CONTRETEMPS, DEFER, DIURNAL, ENSUE, FORTUITOUS, IMMINENT, INCIDENTAL, INTERIM, INTERMINABLE, JUNCTURE, MISHAP, OPPORTUNE, PRECURSOR, PROSPECTIVE, RESPITE, SERENDIPITY, TEMPORAL, TRANSITORY

from Ecclesiastes

FOR everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Exercise 13-1 Discriminating Appropriate / Inappropriate Usage

Indicate whether the sentences below use the list word (in italic boldface) correctly or incorrectly by circling or highlighting the appropriate icon. You will find explanations for incorrect usage in the answer portion of this workbook. (31 marks)

1. In the sentence “This is what Chaplin wanted to demonstrate,” the *antecedent* to which the pronoun “this” refers is unclear.
2. Events *antecedent* to the Twin Towers tragedy occurred after September 11, 2001.
3. It was quite an *auspicious* start for the Toronto Raptor power forward, who appeared to

have regained the shooting touch that has evaded him of late, nailing four of six from the floor for eight points to help stake the Raptors to a 28-19 lead. The 6-foot-9 co-captain also chipped in with four rebounds, two assists and one steal.

4. The federal government recently bought 1.6 million doses of a drug that protects against certain kinds of radioactive fallout, as part of a national security strategy of being as ready as possible to respond to any *contingency*.
5. The *contretemps* began when two desperate last minute shoppers spotted the one remaining turkey in the grocery store freezer.
6. Though the twins are identical, they *defer* in several identifiable ways.
7. The board *deferred* a decision on setting the new budget until after the leading economic indicators came in from the Federal Government.
8. Nocturnal animals include the raccoon, owl, bats and the opossum. *Diurnal* animals, those active in daytime, include the chipmunk, squirrels and most birds.
9. The *diurnal* cycle is the cyclical heating and cooling of the Earth as it absorbs and re-emits infrared energy from the sun. This cycle creates many of the local and global weather patterns that shape our global environment.
10. Feeley threw a two-yard TD pass to Douglas with 2:12 remaining, and Rashard Cook recovered Karl Williams’ fumble at the Tampa Bay 24 on the *ensuing* kickoff. Two plays later, Douglas scored again on a 24-yard play.
11. After the accident, the drivers exchanged insurance information and agreed not to *ensue* one another for the minor damages.
12. Louisbourg is a *fortuitous* structure, built to be impervious to attack.

☑ ☒ 13. Following a *fortuitous* showing in Denmark in 1995, which caught the eye of the European curatorial set, the couple became art-world gypsies, as she responded to the steadily growing international demand for her work.

☑ ☒ 14. Dr. Edvard Szardian is an *imminent* physicist who was brought to the Advanced Particle Physics Laboratories in Cern to explain the effects of fuzzy logic on the paths assumed by subatomic quarks during nuclear fission.

☑ ☒ 15. Frans Donker, owner of the **Book City** chain in Toronto, agrees remainders are not necessarily bad books. Usually, titles hit the bins when publishers reprint when they shouldn't have. Remainder bins fill, too, when a paperback is *imminent*, and publishers want to get rid of the hardcovers taking up space in the warehouse.

☑ ☒ 16. *Incidentally*, the National Hockey League, thinks so much of the idea of highlighting its up-and-coming players that it introduced a new wrinkle for the 2002 all-star game, adding a YoungStars game as part of the weekend's festivities.

☑ ☒ 17. With only two weeks left in the field hockey schedule, the SJK Eagles appointed Mr. Maki Katsube *interim* coach until a new full-time replacement could be found.

☑ ☒ 18. CNN is finally devoting the odd sliver of time to news stories not related to Sept. 11 (although much of it is still relegated to that *interminable* scrawl running across the bottom of the screen).

☑ ☒ 19. The win gives the Flames forty-six points at the midway point of the season, six better than they were last season at this *juncture*.

☑ ☒ 20. Even with a *mishap* there last year, Smith likes the Park City Olympic course, which gets into a steep descent right from the top. "It's challenging," she said. "I broke my nose there in training last year when I came off a corner wrong.

My head got impaled against the wall, the helmet compressed and my goggles smashed my nose sideways.

☑ ☒ 21. It so *mishapped* that as I was about to get off the subway, looking for Rene, she got on the very same car by a different door. We missed each other by a matter of 3 metres. I returned to France the next morning.

☑ ☒ 22. These days, the Hells Angels are a mature organization. Members send each other Christmas cards. They have families and grey hair and are pushing 50 and 60. Where once they enjoyed being gross and filthy, they want to be corporate. And just as bankers join golf clubs for fun, prestige and networking *opportunities*, so bikers join the Hells Angels. Membership confers instant credibility.

☑ ☒ 23. An *opportune* change of plans placed them far from the area where the disaster occurred.

☑ ☒ 24. At Advanced Cell Technology Inc. in Worcester, Mass., scientists succeeded in cloning a human embryo, even though the embryos died before they had a chance to form stem cells, the *precursors* of all cells and tissue in the human body.

☑ ☒ 25. From this *prospective*, one can see across Lake Ontario all the way to the dim smoky outline of Hamilton to the southwest.

☑ ☒ 26. Consider two new restaurants opening side by side. At dinner time, a hungry patron randomly enters the first with no clear plan in mind. The next *prospective* diner, seeing one restaurant with customers and another that is empty, generally chooses the former as well. Soon, the first restaurant is full while the other remains empty, with each subsequent diner having come to the spurious conclusion that the popularity of his particular choice reflects its customers' inside knowledge.

☑ ☒ 27. The government was willing to place Reese in an institution or pay someone else to provide short-term *respite* at their home.

☑ ☒ 28. The holiday truce was a welcome *respite* for the front-line troops.

☑ ☒ 29. There is no greater joy for a book lover than the *serendipitous* discovery of a new novel by a favourite author, or even the chance discovery of a new writer's work.

☑ ☒ 30. Maggie knew her material very well, but the *temporal* constraints of the examination found her only half-way through the major essay at the end of the three hours.

☑ ☒ 31. To tally one's high-school classmates passing each year from the living to the dead is like some grim counting of sheep during a restless night spent pondering life's *transitory* frailty.

Exercise 13-2 Synonyms

From the three choices, circle the one that is *closest in meaning* to the list word (in boldface) in the context shown. (20 marks)

- factors **antecedent** to the accident
(a) consequential (b) prevenient (c) subsequent
- auspicious** weather on the day of the wedding
(a) favourable (b) ominous (c) adverse
- that **contingency** has been anticipated
(a) detail (b) eventuality (c) improbability
- an embarrassing **contretemps**
(a) mistake (b) skirmish (c) reversal
- defer** the meeting until we have a quorum
(a) postpone (b) extend (c) transfer to a new place
- diurnal** events
(a) nightly (b) daily (c) underground
- brought about an **ensuing** debate
(a) resulting (b) litigious (c) vociferous
- fortuitous** circumstances led to his arrest
(a) accidental (b) well-executed (c) unfortunate

9. an **imminent** threat of recession
(a) long anticipated (b) impending (c) unlikely

10. **incidental** results of his absence
(a) concomitant (b) serious (c) unyielding

11. **interim** agreement between the countries
(a) binding (b) durable (c) temporary

12. **interminable** wait in the dental office
(a) transitory (b) endless (c) fugacious

13. came in at this **juncture**
(a) point in time (b) doorway (c) fast pace

14. the **mishap** resulted in a lost season
(a) loss (b) angry amorphous blob (c) accident

15. **opportune** time for some reflection
(a) unseasonable (b) favourable (c) quiet

16. **precursor** of the fantasy novel
(a) forerunner (b) exemplar (c) inverse

17. advertise to **prospective** clients
(a) retrospective (b) wealthy (c) potential

18. a **respite** from care and worry
(a) vacation (b) reprieve (c) distance

19. Against lords spiritual or **temporal**
(a) immortal (b) worldly (c) sacred

20. **transitory** pleasures of the world
(a) locomotive (b) impermanent (c) tantamount

Other great timely words include:

QUOTIDIAN: Everyday; commonplace; Recurring daily

CONSECUTIVE: Following one after another without interruption; successive

EPHEMERAL: Lasting for a markedly brief time; Living or lasting only for a day, as certain plants or insects do.

FUGACIOUS: lasting but a short time; volatile

Exercise 13-3 When in Time?

Indicate whether each word refers to a **past** or **future** point in time. (8 marks)

1. antecedent _____
2. auspicious _____
3. contingency _____
4. defer _____
5. ensue _____
6. imminent _____
7. precursor _____
8. prospective _____

Exercise 13-4 Antonyms

Provide an antonym for each of the following words: (6 marks)

1. antecedent _____
2. auspicious _____
3. diurnal _____
4. ensuing _____
5. opportune _____
6. transitory _____

Exercise 13-5 Making connections.

In a few sentences, describe the relationship between each pair of words. Use a good dictionary to clarify unclear words. (7 x 2 marks)

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. antecedent | predecessor |
| 2. mothball | defer |
| 3. sword of Damocles | imminent |
| 4. juncture | seventh inning stretch |
| 5. glitch | mishap |
| 6. apropos | opportune |
| 7. boring | interminable |

Exercise 13-6 Word roots

Match each word root with its closest meaning. Write the letter corresponding to your answer in the space provided. Use the words in this unit as a guide to assist you. (6 marks)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| _____ pre | a) between |
| _____ ante | b) across |
| _____ trans | c) before |
| _____ tempor | d) to look |
| _____ inter | e) before |
| _____ spic | f) time |