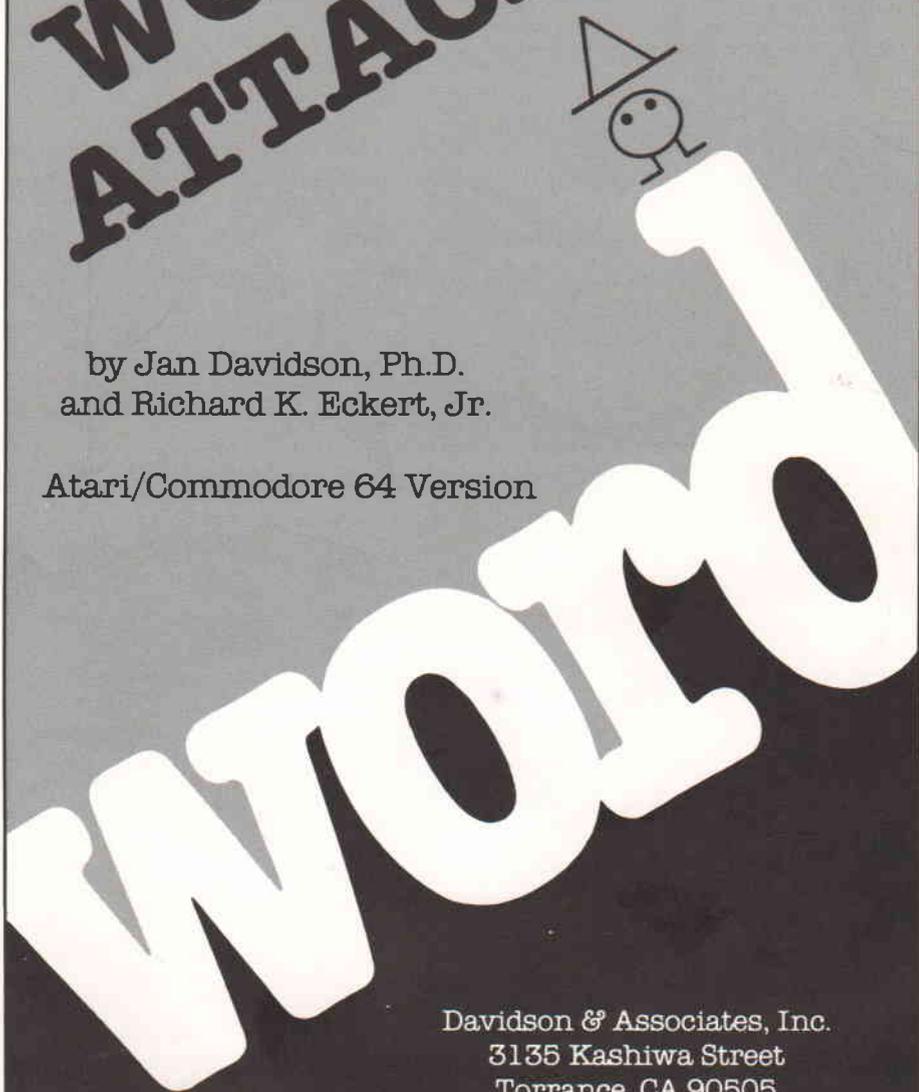


# WORD ATTACK!<sup>TM</sup>

by Jan Davidson, Ph.D.  
and Richard K. Eckert, Jr.

Atari/Commodore 64 Version



WORD

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To establish your warranty, promptly return the enclosed warranty card to Davidson & Associates, Inc.

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# **WORD ATTACK!**

has received the following awards for excellence:

## **SOFTWARE REPORT CARD:**

<b>Performance</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>Documentation</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>Ease of Use</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>Error Handling</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>

—*Infoworld*

## **SOFTWARE REPORTS EVALUATION**

**Grade: A**

—*Software Reports: Guide to Educational Software*

## **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN: HIGHEST RATING**

“very well designed program . . . excellent editing feature”

—*Consumer Reports*

## **TOP SELLER 1984**

**Education/Home Category**

—*Software Retailing*

## **RECOMMENDED BY EPIE**

—**Educational Products Information Exchange**

## **TEACHER CERTIFIED**

—**National Educational Association**

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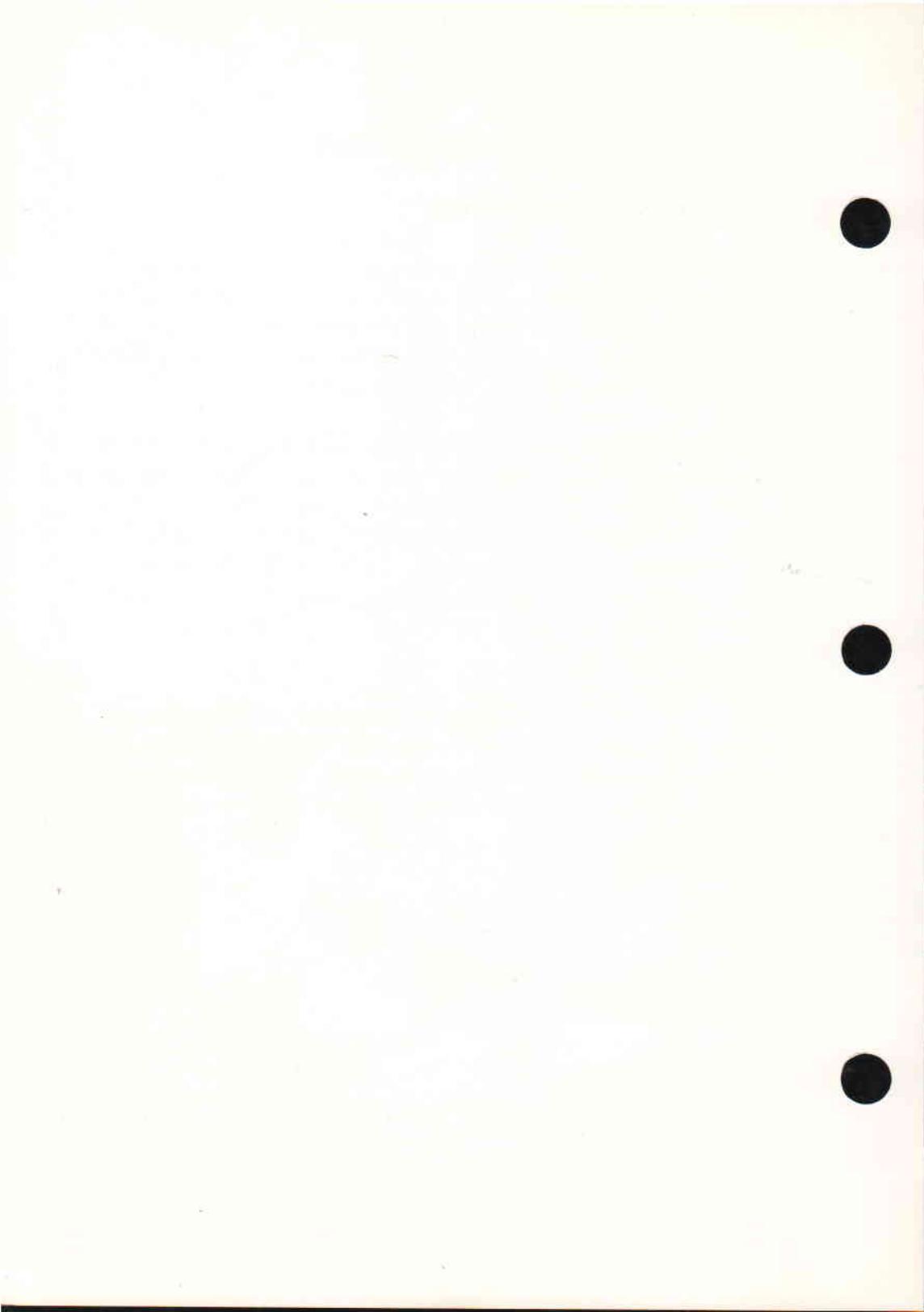
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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to WORD ATTACK!

WORD ATTACK is a four-part vocabulary building program. It is designed to help you learn new words, their meanings and their usages in an interesting and exciting way. In addition to extensive word files, the program includes an editor with which you can easily add your own word lists.

WORD ATTACK was designed by Dr. Jan Davidson and programmed by Richard Eckert. The program was tested on students at the educational facility of Upward Bound in Palos Verdes, California. In private sessions under the direction of an instructor, Upward Bound's students significantly improved their vocabularies. In addition, the students became comfortable using the new words in both oral and written communications.

WORD ATTACK is an effective tool which will help you expand and strengthen your vocabulary. Since words are the means by which we think, understand, and communicate, your skills in all these areas will improve when you improve your vocabulary.

## BUILDING YOUR VOCABULARY

There are many ways you can go about building your vocabulary — reading, listening, studying the derivations of words, memorizing word lists. Whatever method or combination of methods you choose, it is important that you develop an awareness of words. Notice how others use words. Be curious about their similarities and differences, and open a dictionary when you are puzzled or unsure.

Whether you realize it or not, you have two vocabularies. Your receptive vocabulary contains words you recognize when you read or listen; your expressive vocabulary contains the words you use when you speak or write.

Your receptive vocabulary is probably much larger than your expressive vocabulary. Only after you have learned to use a word comfortably does it become part of your expressive vocabulary.

WORD ATTACK is designed to assist you in building your receptive vocabulary. It is not meant to be the only tool you will use. In fact, it should not be, because it does not teach the pronunciation of words or the multiple meanings many of the words have. Its function is to provide you with a stimulating and enjoyable way to increase your vocabulary.

Probably the most difficult task will be to take the words that WORD ATTACK contributes to your receptive vocabulary and make them part of your expressive vocabulary. To do this you should supplement the WORD ATTACK activities with a good deal of reading and careful listening. Also helpful is a good vocabulary text, such as the WORDLY WISE series by Kenneth Hodkinson and Joseph G. Ornato (published by Educators Publishing Services, Inc., Cambridge, Mass.)

Consider WORD ATTACK a beginning, a basis upon which you can build and develop some very essential communication tools — words.

# GETTING STARTED

## Included in this Package

In this package you will find:

- a WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- a WORD ATTACK Data Disk
- the manual which you are now reading.

On the front side of each disk is the Atari version of WORD ATTACK. On the reverse side of each disk is the Commodore version. Be sure to use the correct side of each disk. The Atari side will not run on the Commodore computer and vice versa.

## What You Need

To use **WORD ATTACK - Atari version**, you need:

- an Atari 800, 800XL, 1200 XL, 65XE or 130XE computer
- a monitor (or tv)
- an 850, 1050 or compatible disk drive
- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk (front side)
- the WORD ATTACK Data Disk (front side)
- a printer (optional)
- a joystick (optional).

To use **WORD ATTACK - Commodore version**, you need:

- a Commodore 64 or 128 computer
- a monitor (or tv)
- a 1541 or compatible disk drive
- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk (reverse side)
- the WORD ATTACK Data Disk (reverse side)
- a printer (optional)
- a joystick (optional).

Keep this manual handy and refer to it often until you are thoroughly familiar with the program.

### **Starting the Program**

Before you begin, make a copy of the WORD ATTACK Data Disk to have as a back-up. Use the copy program designed for your computer. See page 7.

To run **WORD ATTACK - Atari version**, follow these steps.

1. Make sure your computer is off, and that there is no disk in the drive. Turn on the disk drive.
2. Insert the **WORD ATTACK** Program Disk into the disk drive.
3. Turn on the computer and the monitor.

To run **WORD ATTACK - Commodore version**, follow these steps.

1. Make sure your computer is off, and that there is no disk in the drive. First turn on the drive; then turn on the computer.
2. Insert the **WORD ATTACK** Program Disk into the disk drive.
3. Type `LOAD"ATTACK",8` and press `<RETURN>`.
4. When the disk drive stops running, type `RUN` and press `<RETURN>`. Be patient, it takes about a minute and a half to load.

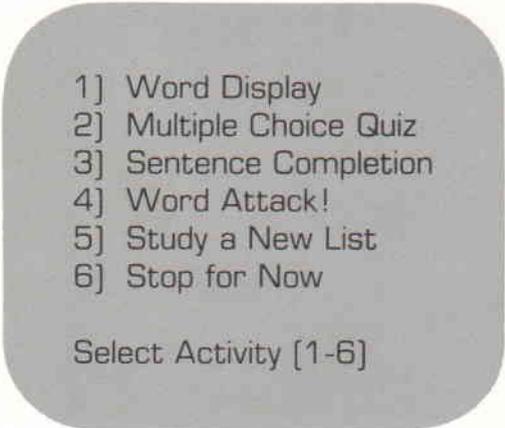
After a brief introduction, you will be asked to enter your name and choose options. Simply pressing <RETURN> for any of the choices will automatically give you the first alternative (default).

Follow the screen prompts to remove the Program Disk and insert the Data Disk.

Type in the number of the level at which you wish to work <RETURN>.

Select a word list from Adjectives, Nouns, or Verbs <RETURN>.

The following menu will appear on the screen:

- 
- 1) Word Display
  - 2) Multiple Choice Quiz
  - 3) Sentence Completion
  - 4) Word Attack!
  - 5) Study a New List
  - 6) Stop for Now

Select Activity [1-6]

From items 1 through 4 on this menu you can select any of the four learning activities. In the chapter "Using the Program," each of the activities will be described in detail. Item 5 allows you to study a new list of words. Item 6 allows you to exit the program.

## Back-up Copies

**Program Disk** - The Program Disk is protected and you will not be able to make a copy of it. However, if you wish to have a back-up copy on hand, you may purchase one for \$10.00 from Davidson & Associates, Inc. This can be done when you return your Warranty Card, or later by writing to Davidson & Associates, Inc. You must have a Warranty Card on file in order to purchase a back-up copy. Davidson & Associates, Inc. provides a one year warranty and will replace, free of charge, any malfunctioning or damaged disk.

**Data Disk** - The Data Disk is not protected and you should make a back-up copy.

**Atari** - Boot the Data Disk. Answer No to the format question. When the cursor appears, type DOS <RETURN>. When the DOS 2.0 menu appears, remove the Data Disk and insert the blank disk. Choose option I to format the disk, then select option J to duplicate the disk.

**Commodore** - Use the copy program designed for your computer.

## USING THE PROGRAM

### Selecting a Level

The levels on the disk generally can be used by students in the following grades:

- Level 1 - Grade 4
- Level 2 - Grade 5
- Level 3 - Grade 6
- Level 4 - Grade 7
- Level 5 - Grade 8
- Level 6 - Grade 9
- Level 7 - Grade 10
- Level 8 - Grade 11
- Level 9 - Grade 12

It is important to remember that each level contains words that students in the corresponding grade are capable of learning and using. They are not necessarily words that students in that grade should already know.

The words on Levels 7, 8, and 9 are words that students who are studying for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) should study.

The best way to select a level is to begin with Level 1 Adjectives and take the Multiple Choice Quiz. If your score is 84% or above, proceed to Level 2 Adjectives and take the Multiple Choice Quiz. Do this until your score falls below 84%. This is the level at which you should begin working.

## Working through the Activities

Once you have selected a level, begin with the Adjectives and work through the activities in the order they are presented.

**Word Display** - This activity introduces the words on the list. Each word will be displayed on the screen, followed by its synonym or a brief meaning and a sentence illustrating correct usage. After all 25 words have been displayed, the menu will again appear. Repeat the Word Display until you know the words and their meanings well.

**Multiple Choice Quiz** - A good way to reinforce what you have learned is to try to recall it. This is the purpose of the Multiple Choice Quiz. You may choose between two formats. One displays the word and asks you to select the correct meaning. The other displays the meaning and you select the correct word. Take the quiz both ways. After your score is displayed, the words you missed will be listed on the screen. Retake the items you missed until you get a perfect score.

**Sentence Completion** - In this activity, the meaning of a word is displayed at the top of the screen. Type the correct missing word into the sentence.

If you have trouble recalling the word or its spelling, press H (for help) then <RETURN>. Four words will appear on the screen; choose the correct word.

This is probably the most difficult of the activities. It requires you to recall, use, and spell the word correctly. If you have trouble with this activity, go on to the Word Attack! game and return to this activity after you are more familiar with the words in the list.

Your score will be calculated on the basis of the number of items you answered correctly without using the "help" feature. You will be given an opportunity to retake missed words if you wish.

**Word Attack!** - Word Attack! is a fast-action arcade game that reinforces learning. The object of the game is to attack the word whose meaning appears at the bottom of the screen. Use a joystick or the K and L keys to move the attacker left or right, and use the Z key to shoot.

On the right side of the screen is a timer. You must attack before the time runs out or you cannot earn points. You may, however, earn bonus points by successfully shooting various creatures that buzz across the screen.

The game can be played at three speeds. Begin with the regular speed and proceed to the faster speeds as you develop proficiency.

### Special Features

**Positive Reinforcement** - Your correct responses are rewarded with positive, encouraging messages and melodies. You are never scolded for an incorrect answer.

**Reviewing Words You Missed** - At the conclusion of the Multiple Choice and Sentence Completion activities, WORD ATTACK will list the words you missed and give you an opportunity to retake them.

**Sound Effects** - WORD ATTACK has sound effects which are activated by each correct response. If you do not wish to hear the sound effects, turn the volume all the way down.

**Choice of Background** - In addition to the normal "computer text" of white print on dark background, you may choose dark print on a light background which more closely reproduces regular reading text.

**Display Time** - In the Word Display, you can increase or decrease the display time by pressing M (more) or L (less.)

**Elapsed Time Indicator** - As you take the Multiple Choice Quiz, the numbers in the bottom right hand corner of the screen display the number of seconds it takes you to answer. Watch your speed increase as you gain proficiency.

**Escape Feature** - Pressing the ESC key (Atari) or f1 key (Commodore) at any time during the program will return you to the menu.

## USING THE EDITOR

A particularly attractive feature of WORD ATTACK is its editor, which makes it possible to enter your own word lists and use them with all four learning activities.

In addition to learning new words, teachers and parents, as well as students themselves, can use this editor to turn WORD ATTACK into a multifaceted learning tool. It can be used to master scientific terms, the periodic table, historical dates, foreign languages, or antonyms. (See Additional Notes on the Editor.) For the younger student, WORD ATTACK may be used to introduce simple vocabulary words. Kindergarteners love to learn upper and lower case letters with WORD ATTACK.

Many different kinds of editors were tested in the development of this software package. The editor selected was one which had the greatest versatility. You can make corrections with ease, as well as add or remove items from a file.

To use the editor, you will need:

- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk and
- a new, formatted disk on which to save your new word lists.

Follow the steps outlined below.

## Step 1 - Creating your Word List

First, compose your list on paper. For each word on the list you will need:

- the word
- its meaning
- a sentence illustrating usage
- a sentence with the entry word missing (for Sentence Completion).

You may eliminate the second sentence if you do not wish to use the Sentence Completion activity when you run the program.

### Length Limits

In order for the program to work properly, your words and sentences must stay within these limits:

- word - 13 letters maximum
- meaning - 35 letters and spaces maximum (slightly less than one line)
- sentence illustrating meaning - 3 lines, each line with 35 letters and spaces maximum
- sentence for Sentence Completion exercise - 3 lines, each line with 35 letters and spaces maximum.

The program will not work properly if the words and sentences exceed these limits.

Each word list must contain at least 5 but no more than 25 vocabulary words.

## **Step 2 - Formatting a New Data Disk**

Since you will need a formatted disk on which to save your word lists, take a blank disk and follow the steps below.

### **WORD ATTACK - Atari version**

You will need a disk formatted for DOS 2.0 on which to save your file.

Turn on your disk drive and insert the WORD ATTACK Data Disk. Then turn on your computer to boot the Data Disk. Follow the instructions that appear on the screen.

### **WORD ATTACK - Commodore version**

If your computer is off, make sure there is no disk in the disk drive. Turn on the disk drive, then turn on the computer.

Insert the new blank disk into the disk drive.

Type OPEN15,8,15,"NEW0:ATTACK VOLUME 2,02" <RETURN>.

When the disk drive light goes out, the disk formatting process is complete.

### Step 3 - Accessing the Editor

#### **WORD ATTACK - Atari version**

Turn on the disk drive and insert the WORD ATTACK Program Disk.

Turn on the computer.

Press E (for editor) while the program is loading.

Select light or dark background (L/D).

Remove the Program Disk and insert your newly formatted disk in the drive.

Press the space bar, and the editor screen will appear.

#### **WORD ATTACK - Commodore version**

Insert the WORD ATTACK Program Disk into the disk drive.

Type LOAD "EDITOR",8 <RETURN>.

Type RUN <RETURN>.

Select light or dark background (L/D).

Remove the Program Disk and insert your formatted disk.

Press the space bar, and the editor screen will appear.

The editor is now ready to receive your new word list.

**STOP AND READ CAREFULLY** all the remaining steps before proceeding.

#### **Step 4 - Entering your New Word List**

Each vocabulary word must be allocated eight lines, even if some lines are left blank.

Your word list file must contain from 5 to 25 words.

To enter your word list, use the format outlined below:

Line 1 - word

Line 2 - meaning

Lines 3, 4, and 5 - the word in a sentence (display sentence)

Lines 6, 7, and 8 - a sentence with the entry word missing (completion sentence)

Line 9 - second word

Line 10 - meaning

Lines 11, 12, and 13 - display sentence

Lines 14, 15, and 16 - completion sentence

On line 1, enter the first word <RETURN>.

On line 2, enter a synonym or a brief meaning and <RETURN>.

On lines 3, 4, and 5, enter your display sentence, pressing <RETURN> at the end of each line. If your sentence occupies less than three lines, press <RETURN>, leaving the remaining lines blank. If you use quote marks within the text, they must be typed ' . . . '.

On lines 6, 7, and 8, enter your completion sentence and press <RETURN> at the end of each line. If your sentence occupies less than three lines, just press <RETURN>, leaving the remaining line(s) blank. To make the blank for the missing word, **Atari version**, use the underline key. To make the blank for the missing word, **Commodore version**, press the Commodore key and the @ key at the same time. BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR BLANK EXACTLY THE SAME NUMBER OF SPACES AS THE NUMBER OF LETTERS IN THE MISSING WORD.

On line 9, enter your next word, starting the process all over again.

Your word list should look something like the one below.

- 1 abundant
- 2 more than enough
- 3 The farmers are excited because
- 4 their crops are abundant
- 5 this year.
- 6 The skiers are happy because good
- 7 snow is \_\_\_\_\_ this year.
- 8

-----

9 ancient  
10 very old  
11 There is an ancient, 3,000 year  
12 old coin in the museum.  
13  
14 In \_\_\_\_\_ times man lived in  
15 caves.  
16

-----  
17 attractive  
18 pretty  
19 People are always telling Susan  
20 that her long black hair is very  
21 attractive.  
22 The blue shirt was \_\_\_\_\_ on  
23 Jeff because it matched his eyes.  
24  
-----

Be sure to follow the format exactly as it is outlined. If you make an error, you can easily make corrections as you are entering your list by using the edit, delete, or insert commands discussed at the end of the chapter.

### Step 5 - Saving your New File

The last step is to save the new file onto your formatted disk. Later, if you find an error, you can easily access the file and correct it.

- Be sure your new data disk is in the disk drive.
- Type `.s <RETURN>`.

When you are asked "Save file name?" type in the name of your data file using no more than 8 characters (Atari) or 15 characters (Commodore).

Be sure that you do not duplicate a name that has been used. Press .d (for directory) to list the files already on the disk.

The bottom of the screen will look something like this:

```
201 .s
Save file name? WORDS1
```

When you press <RETURN>, the disk will whirl, and your word list will be saved.

To test your file with the program, exit the editor by typing .q and following the instructions on the screen.

### **Step 6 - Using your New File**

To use your new file with the WORD ATTACK program, follow these steps.

- Start the program as outlined in the Getting Started section of the manual.
- When you are asked to select a level, type D (for directory) <RETURN>.
- Type in the name of the file you wish to access <RETURN>.

## Editing your New File

You may want to edit your file to correct an error.

- Access the editor as described in Step 3.
- Type `.g` (to get the file) `<RETURN>`.
- Enter the name of your file `<RETURN>`. If you aren't sure of the name, type `.d` to list the files on the disk.

Your file is now in the computer's memory. You may list the files to review it or edit individual lines that need correcting.

Remember to save your file if you make any changes.

## Commands of the Editor

The following commands are used to correct, extend, or shorten your file. You may edit your material at the time you are entering it or later.

**Edit** - This command allows you to change a line that has been entered. To use the edit command:

- type `.e` followed by the line number you wish to change `<RETURN>`
- the line you wish to edit will appear
- retype the line `<RETURN>`.

**List** - The list command allows you to review your entire file. To utilize this command:

- type `.l <RETURN>`
- use the space bar to stop and restart the scroll.

You may begin listing at any point in the file. Simply type `.l` followed by the line number at which you wish to begin. To terminate the listing before all lines have been displayed, press `<RETURN>`.

**Delete** - This command will remove an entire line from the file and renumber all the lines following it. If you wish to remove the words and leave a blank line, use the edit command. To use the delete command:

- type `.d` followed by the line number you wish to delete `<RETURN>`
- the line will appear and you will be asked "Delete this? (y/n)"
- if you press "y", the line will be deleted; if you press "n", it will remain.

**Insert** - This command allows you to insert one or more lines into the file. To use this feature:

- type `.i` followed by the number of the line you wish to begin your insert `<RETURN>`
- insert as many lines as you wish
- type `.q` at the beginning of the next line to quit inserting `<RETURN>`.

**Save** - The save command saves a new file or a corrected file onto a disk. Be sure to use this command each time you enter a new file or make any corrections. To use this command:

- type `.s <RETURN>`
- enter the name of the file `<RETURN>`.

Be sure that you do NOT duplicate a name that has been used unless you wish to replace an existing file. Type `.d` to list the existing files.

**Get** - The get command will load a file from a disk into the computer's memory. Be sure that the disk in the drive is the one containing the data file you wish to access.

- type `.g <RETURN>`
- enter the name of your file `<RETURN>`.

If you are not sure of the exact name, type `.d <RETURN>`. This will list the files on the disk.

**Print** - The print command will allow you to print out your file. (Remember, the printer must be turned on before the disk drive and the computer.) To use the print command:

- be sure that the file is loaded into the computer's memory
- type `.p <RETURN>`.

If you wish to stop the printer before the file has been completely printed, press `<RETURN>`.

**Clear** - This command clears the screen and the computer's memory to get ready for a new file. To use this command:

- type `.c <RETURN>`.

Be sure you have saved all data or corrections. The editor will double check to make sure you really want to clear.

**Quit** - This command allows you to exit the editor and return to the WORD ATTACK program. To use this command:

- type `.q <RETURN>`.

Remember to save your file first if you want to keep it.

**Help** - This command will list all the commands and their functions on the screen. If at any point you are puzzled about which command to use,

- type `.h <RETURN>`.

### **Additional Notes on the Editor**

Single word entries with all lower case letters work best with the program. You may use hyphens, two word entries, or upper case letters in your entry words ONLY with the Word Display, Multiple Choice Quiz, and the WORD ATTACK Game. The Sentence Completion activity will NOT work properly with upper case letters, blanks or hyphens.



It is a good idea to check your program for extra lines before you try to run it . Remember, the last line number should be 8 times the number of words in the word list. If you have more, use the delete command to delete the extra lines.

To delete an entire file from your data disk:

#### **Atari version**

Boot your WORD ATTACK Data Disk, as if to format.

Answer N to the format question.

When the cursor appears, type DOS <RETURN> .

Select D and follow the screen prompts.

#### **Commodore version**

Type OPEN15,8,15,"I" <RETURN>  
PRINT#15,"SØ:name of file" <RETURN>

## Having Trouble?

The following trouble-shooting procedures may help you if you are having trouble using your new file.

**During the Sentence Completion activity, you keep getting the "Try Again" message even when you correctly enter the word.**

You may have entered a space before or after the entry word. Return to the editor and retype the entry word. Be sure to leave no spaces before or after the word.

**You get a bad subscript error when using your new list with the Sentence Completion activity.**

Be sure there is a blank in every sentence.

Be sure you pressed the Commodore key and @ when making the blank.

Be sure that the number of spaces in the blank equals the number of letters in the entry word.

**You cannot save your file.**

Make sure your blank disk has been formatted using the instructions on page 7 in your manual.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Jan Davidson holds a B.A. from Purdue University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. She is founder and director of Upward Bound, a nonprofit educational association in Palos Verdes, California. She also serves as an educational computer consultant to schools in southern California.

Richard Eckert holds a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University. He is a professional programmer and has written a variety of software, particularly educational software.

Other software packages written by the authors include SPEED READER II, MATH BLASTER, and SPELL IT.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are indebted to many people who participated in the development of this software. The teachers and students at Upward Bound who so willingly tried and tested the software made a substantial contribution. A special note of thanks also to Cathy Johnson, Faye Schwartz, and Ellen Salzman, who created and edited the extensive word lists for the data files.

## ADDITIONAL DATA DISKS

Additional data disks designed for use with your WORD ATTACK program are available.

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 4 & 5  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 6 & 7  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 8 & 9  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK FOR THE S.A.T.  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK ROOTS AND PREFIXES  
contains a total of 500 roots, prefixes and words; 20  
lists

You may use the enclosed order form to order the data disks  
or write to Davidson & Associates, Inc.

# GLOSSARY

## Level One

absorb - to soak up  
abundant - more than enough  
admire - to like  
alight - to step down  
ancient - very old  
antlers - branched horns  
arbor - a covered garden  
armor - a protective covering  
aroma - a pleasant smell  
attack - to begin a fight  
attractive - pretty  
avoid - to keep away from  
baggage - suitcases  
banish - to send away  
blast - a strong rush of air  
bouquet - a bunch of flowers  
brawl - a noisy fight  
bridal - related to a wedding  
brilliant - very bright  
brood - group of children  
caress - to touch lovingly  
cling - to hold on tightly  
combat - a battle  
compel - to force  
conceal - to hide  
coy - shy  
debt - something owed to someone else  
declare - to say openly  
decorate - to make pretty  
dense - thick; crowded  
dim - dark; shadowy  
dour - unfriendly  
dread - to fear greatly  
dwelling - a home  
fade - to become less bright

fragile - not strong; delicate  
gallop - a horse's fastest speed  
gape - to stare with open mouth  
garment - a piece of clothing  
hale - healthy  
hasty - done in a hurry  
hint - an indirect suggestion  
hoard - to hide secretly away  
hue - shade of a color  
idle - lazy  
knoll - a little hill  
loyal - devoted  
manageable - easily controlled or handled  
mar - to damage  
merchant - a person who sells things  
nimble - quick moving  
obtain - to get; to achieve  
odd - strange  
ominous - suggesting danger  
outlaw - a lawbreaker  
overcome - to defeat  
peer - an equal  
prank - a playful trick  
pursue - to chase after  
recline - to lie back  
rigid - stiff and firm  
role - an actor's part  
salary - money paid to a worker  
seize - to take by force  
singe - to burn slightly  
sly - tricky  
stern - strict  
summit - the top  
urban - having to do with cities  
vast - very large  
vow - to promise seriously  
voyage - a long journey  
weary - very tired  
wee - tiny  
yearn - to desire something very much

## Level Two

accomplish - to finish  
account - a business record  
advice - helpful guidance  
advisable - wise or proper  
ambition - a desire for success  
amuse - to make smile  
anxious - worried  
ambitious - eager; desiring strongly  
bleach - to make whiter  
blunder - a stupid mistake  
boldness - courage  
brutal - cruel  
captivity - being held against one's will  
carefree - without worry  
clatter - confused noise  
column - a pillar or post  
combine - to join together  
complexion - appearance of the skin  
complicate - to make more difficult  
compress - to squeeze together  
confederation - states joined together  
consult - to ask advice  
cruelty - unkind treatment  
deadline - a time limit  
defend - to guard against attack  
discourage - to lessen hope  
distress - trouble  
dramatize - to act out  
effort - an attempt to achieve  
enjoyable - pleasant  
equip - to supply  
escort - to go along with  
eternal - lasting forever  
expand - to make larger  
flexible - easily bent  
forbidden - not allowed  
forgiveness - being excused

fragrant - having a sweet or pleasant smell  
furious - very angry  
greedy - wanting too much  
grief - sorrow  
identify - to recognize  
luxury - an unneeded comfort  
modern - current; up to date  
motto - a saying  
nasty - unpleasant  
navigate - to guide a ship  
notice - to see  
noticeable - obvious  
opinion - a belief  
outstanding - remarkable; noticeably better  
pace - a rate  
paralyze - to make powerless  
penalty - a punishment  
pledge - to promise  
postpone - to put off until later  
powerless - weak  
quiver - to shake  
recall - to remember  
reexamine - to test again  
replacement - a substitute  
rude - not polite  
satisfactory - adequate; meeting requirements  
similar - alike  
simplify - to make easier  
sorrowful - sad  
suggestion - a possible idea  
threat - possible harm  
transfer - to change over  
unfamiliar - not well-known  
unsafe - dangerous  
vanish - to disappear  
victorious - having won  
visual - having to do with sight  
zone - a definite area or space

## Level Three

adage - a wise saying  
adjourn - to end  
advantageous - helpful  
audacious - daring  
august - dignified  
benefit - to help  
bland - mild  
blueprint - a building plan  
boars - male pigs  
brine - salt water  
cascade - a small waterfall  
clarify - to explain  
combat - to fight  
confide - to tell as a secret  
constant - not changing  
dally - to wait around  
deserve - to be worthy of  
dinghy - a small rowboat  
document - to furnish written proof  
drake - a male duck  
drastic - harsh or extreme  
dungeon - an underground prison  
embrace - to hug  
endorse - to approve  
err - to make a mistake  
exclude - to leave out  
exhausted - tired out  
fracture - a break or crack  
gong - a saucer-shaped bell  
halo - a ring of light  
hoist - to lift  
humid - damp  
hurl - to throw forcefully  
incinerator - a waste burner  
industrious - hard-working  
ingrained - not easily changed  
insert - to put in

kindling - firewood  
laborious - difficult and slow  
landscape - scenery  
lenient - not strict  
luscious - delicious  
meddlesome - interfering  
melancholy - sad and gloomy  
migrate - to move to another place  
pact - an agreement  
perplexed - puzzled  
persuade - to win over  
plywood - a board made of thin layers  
portable - easily carried  
quibble - to argue pointlessly  
radar - a radio wave locater  
rectify - to correct  
regatta - a boat race  
repulsive - very unpleasant  
resume - to continue  
ruddy - red and healthy looking  
savage - untamed  
scallions - green onions  
serene - calm and peaceful  
severe - harsh  
shatter - to break into pieces  
slogan - a motto; catchy phrase  
solution - an answer  
spigot - a faucet  
supreme - highest  
tamper - to meddle improperly  
task - a job  
thump - a dull sound  
tolerate - to put up with  
urgent - demanding immediate attention  
valiant - full of courage  
vary - to change  
vicinity - a region nearby  
wither - to dry up; to shrivel

## Level Four

abnormal - unusual  
adaptable - able to adjust  
advance - to move ahead  
ample - plenty  
anonymous - unknown  
antiseptic - germ-killing  
apprehend - to catch  
assassin - killer of a political leader  
audible - able to be heard  
autobiography - story of one's own life  
balk - to stubbornly refuse  
besiege - to surround to capture  
bicker - to quarrel  
botanist - one who studies plants  
calculate - to figure out  
cluster - a bunch  
coddle - to treat tenderly  
congregate - to assemble  
decent - proper  
decrease - to become less  
depose - to put out of office  
devilment - mischief  
discipline - to punish  
dismal - gloomy and miserable  
dismissal - a sending away  
drudgery - hard, tedious work  
duplicate - to copy  
emaciated - extremely thin  
establish - to set up  
examination - an investigation  
explicit - clear and detailed  
fillet - a lean piece of meat or fish  
forfeit - to lose as a penalty  
hallowed - holy  
handicap - an added hindrance  
hubbub - a loud, confused noise  
humbleness - modesty

ignite - to set on fire  
improbable - not likely  
ineffective - not productive  
inoculate - to vaccinate  
inseparable - unable to be parted  
inviting - tempting  
javelin - a hand spear  
lawsuit - a court case  
lock - an enclosed part of a canal  
magnificence - splendor  
manor - a large estate  
metropolitan - belonging to large cities  
mongrel - mixed breed  
mutiny - rebellion  
necessitate - to cause to be needed  
observable - noticeable  
omelet - beaten eggs, cooked and folded over  
opaque - not transparent  
parade - a procession  
percentage - a given part of a hundred  
portion - to divide into shares  
rations - food issued  
react - to respond to  
recent - new  
reserve - to keep back  
retrieve - to get back  
salvage - to save from loss  
suspense - uncertainty  
tempo - a rate of speed  
toxic - poisonous  
translucent - letting light pass through  
transmit - to send over  
ungrateful - not appreciative  
unruly - hard to control  
vivid - bright  
violate - to break a law  
volume - a quantity or amount  
weld - to join together

## Level Five

adaptation - a change  
administer - to manage  
aptitude - an ability  
belated - delayed  
blissful - joyful  
bounteous - plentiful  
contraption - a gadget  
convulsions - violent muscle spasms  
decagon - a ten-sided figure  
disable - to restrict, limit or incapacitate  
eminent - distinguished  
endorse - to sign the back of a check  
engulf - to swallow up  
execute - to carry out  
falter - to hesitate  
fiancee - an engaged woman  
flounder - to struggle awkwardly  
gabardine - a kind of cloth  
gale - a strong wind  
hoodoo - bad luck  
hostile - unfriendly  
hypocrite - one who pretends virtue  
illusion - a false idea  
imperil - to put in danger  
impish - mischievous  
indictment - a legal accusation  
inedible - unfit to eat  
ineligible - not qualified  
injurious - harmful  
intensify - to make stronger  
legible - easy to read  
listless - too tired to care  
memento - a souvenir  
mindful - being aware  
misshapen - deformed  
monopolize - to control exclusively  
morale - a mental attitude

mournful - sorrowful  
mulish - stubborn  
mutilate - to disfigure  
obituary - a death notice  
offend - to hurt the feelings of  
operative - in working order  
originate - to cause to be  
passion - a strong feeling  
pessimistic - gloomy  
petrify - to turn into stone  
plane - a flat surface  
progress - to go ahead  
purify - to make clean  
ramble - to wander  
rash - hasty; reckless  
realm - a kingdom  
rustle - to make a whispering sound  
ruthless - without pity  
scrupulous - careful; conscientious  
smolder - to burn slowly  
sober - serious  
superlative - above all others  
supplement - to add to  
surplus - an extra quantity  
sympathize - to share another's feeling  
tariff - a tax on imports  
testify - to give evidence  
tributary - an emptying stream  
undaunted - not discouraged  
universal - existing everywhere  
utility - usefulness  
vagabond - a wanderer  
variable - changeable  
venture - to dare  
veto - to reject  
warrant - to justify  
wretch - a bad person  
zoology - the study of animals

## Level Six

abhor - to detest  
acclimate - to become accustomed  
accommodating - helpful  
affluent - wealthy  
alto - singing voice lower than soprano  
articulate - to speak distinctly  
artisan - a skilled workman  
autonomous - independent  
avert - to turn aside; to prevent  
biannual - semi-annual; twice a year  
bizarre - very strange; odd  
blazer - a sport jacket  
boycott - a refusal to buy  
brocade - a fabric woven with raised designs  
capsize - to overturn  
chasm - a deep gap  
cochlea - part of the inner ear  
concentrate - to bring together; to intensify  
contradict - to assert the opposite  
courtly - polite  
crescendo - to increase in loudness  
descendant - an offspring  
devise - to invent  
diligent - hard-working  
dissuade - to persuade not to do  
distinctive - having a special quality  
diversity - a variety  
dubious - doubtful  
eloquence - fine speaking  
emancipate - to free  
enliven - to make cheerful  
excavate - to dig out  
exploit - a daring deed  
exquisite - very lovely  
fervent - very earnest  
foundling - a deserted child  
genteel - polite and well bred

gesticulate - to make gestures  
glucose - a kind of sugar  
harass - to torment  
hypochondriac - a person with imaginary illnesses  
inebriated - drunk  
infuriate - to make angry  
magistrate - a judge  
manual - by hand  
mystify - to bewilder  
narrative - a story  
negligent - careless  
nutritious - valuable as food  
obsolete - out-of-date  
pliable - easily bent  
priority - something which comes first  
procrastinate - to put off; to delay  
pungent - sharp, biting taste or smell  
receptacle - a container  
reimburse - to pay back  
remnant - a part left over  
replenish - to resupply  
rigamarole - nonsense  
ruffle - to annoy  
sanction - to authorize  
sanctuary - a place of safety  
scandalous - disgraceful  
scraggly - ragged  
sequence - a connected series  
slander - a false statement  
sojourn - to visit briefly  
sonic - having to do with sound  
survey - to examine  
time-honored - old and respected  
trek - a journey  
unavoidable - inevitable  
unsung - not honored  
vanity - pride  
yield - to surrender

## Level Seven

abet - to help one do something wrong  
abstinence - refraining from indulgence  
acidulous - slightly sour  
amorous - loving  
antipodes - direct opposites  
aquiline - hooked  
baleful - very evil  
bandy - to throw back and forth  
beguile - to trick  
buffoon - a clown  
caries - bone and tissue decay  
chastise - to punish  
conifer - a tree that bears cones  
copious - plentiful  
cull - to sort out; to select  
delta - a deposit of earth and sand  
demean - to humble  
demented - mentally ill  
dilate - to expand  
dregs - the remains  
edifying - morally uplifting  
efface - to rub out  
elocution - the art of public speaking  
ennui - boredom  
eschew - to avoid  
exorbitant - much too high  
factotum - a handyman  
farrier - a blacksmith who shoes horses  
flay - to whip  
gird - to belt  
grotto - a cave  
guttural - throaty  
hackneyed - used too often  
heterodox - differing from the norm  
idolatry - idol worship  
impassive - without emotion  
inhospitable - uninviting

inter - to bury  
jovial - full of fun  
latent - concealed; hidden  
lineament - outline of a facial feature  
malingerer - one who avoids work  
minimize - to reduce  
miscreant - bad; evil  
nebulous - indistinct; unclear  
omniscient - all-knowing  
ordnance - military arms  
oust - to force out  
pervade - to spread throughout  
plaudit - an expression of approval  
portcullis - a strong gate of iron  
prate - to talk a lot  
preferable - more desirable  
profess - to lay claim to  
pugnacious - fond of fighting  
ranga - fit to move about  
remit - to send back  
repudiate - to reject  
restitution - reimbursement; restoration  
resurgent - rising again  
sanctum - a sacred place  
secede - to withdraw  
sepulcher - a grave; a vault  
squeamish - easily shocked  
stipulate - to arrange definitely  
tantalize - to tempt teasingly  
thwart - to hinder; to frustrate  
transpose - to interchange  
triad - a group of three  
turgid - swollen  
uncouth - crude  
undulate - to move in a wavelike manner  
vigilante - a self-appointed law enforcer  
wraith - a ghost  
yokel - a country fellow

## Level Eight

absurd - ridiculous  
abyss - a deep empty space  
accrue - to come about or increase  
adroit - skillful  
apex - the highest point  
archaic - out-of-date; antiquated  
atlas - a book of maps  
avarice - greed  
balm - an ointment  
bovine - cow-like  
cardinal - main  
category - a class or division  
chassis - a framework  
chic - stylish  
circumvent - to go around; to avoid  
comprehensive - including much  
conflagration - a fire  
congeal - to become solid  
deduce - to figure out  
defunct - dead; extinct  
denude - to strip  
desecrate - to violate the sacredness of  
devolve - to transfer duties  
diaphanous - sheer  
disseminate - to spread  
dote - to be overly fond of  
emote - to speak with emotion  
exotic - strange  
expiate - to make amends for  
facade - the front of a building  
faux pas - a blunder  
frenzy - great excitement  
futile - useless  
goatish - goatlike; coarse  
harrowing - disturbing; tormenting  
intercede - to plead in behalf of another  
levy - a tax

lionize - to treat as very important  
luxurious - rich and comfortable  
meander - to wander aimlessly  
medley - a mixture  
mournful - full of sorrow  
nondescript - not easily classified or described  
objurgate - to scold harshly  
obviate - to remove; to clear out of the way  
omnipotent - all-powerful  
ovation - enthusiastic applause  
patronize - to be a regular customer of  
petite - little  
phobia - an excessive fear  
placate - to soothe or pacify  
pontificate - to speak in a pompous manner  
precis - a brief summary  
premonition - a forewarning  
preponderate - to be greater than something else  
primeval - ancient  
rational - able to think clearly  
ravine - narrow gorge worn by running water  
recant - to publicly denounce one's belief  
reciprocate - to give something in return  
recompense - repayment  
repercussion - an aftereffect  
resurrect - to bring back to life  
secession - a formal withdrawal  
svelte - slender  
tedium - boredom  
tenuous - without substance  
termination - the finish  
terse - free of unnecessary words  
unsavory - unpleasant in taste  
utilize - to make use of  
valiant - brave  
venerate - to regard with deep respect  
witticism - a clever remark  
zygote - a fertilized egg

## Level Nine

abase - to humiliate  
altercation - an angry dispute  
anemia - a deficiency in the blood  
atrophy - to waste away  
bicameral - having two legislative chambers  
bier - a coffin  
bilingual - speaking two languages  
cacophony - a harsh sound; dissonance  
caulk - to make watertight  
choreography - a plan for a dance  
coagulate - to thicken and clot  
cumulative - increasing successively  
dais - a raised platform  
dissipate - to scatter wastefully  
divine - godly; holy  
effusive - expressive; unrestrained  
elixir - a sweet alcoholic medication  
elucidate - to make clear; to explain  
emollient - a softener  
equivocate - to purposely mislead  
eulogy - high praise  
exacting - demanding great effort and care  
extemporize - to speak without preparation  
fauna - animals in a specific region  
fell - to knock down; to cut down  
foible - a minor weakness  
forensic - pertaining to debate  
genuflect - to kneel  
gyrate - to move in a circle  
iconoclastic - attacking conventional beliefs  
idyllic - pleasant; rural  
immunize - to protect against disease  
indigenous - growing naturally in a region  
ingratiate - to work into favor with another  
inhibit - to check or restrain  
intestate - having made no will  
isthmus - a thin strip of connecting land

itinerant - traveling from place to place  
kinetic - resulting from motion  
laud - to praise  
longevity - long life  
machete - a large, heavy-bladed knife  
mince - to cut up into small pieces  
mode - a way of doing something  
mundane - commonplace  
nepotism - favoritism shown to relatives  
notary - an official who certifies documents  
occult - hidden; mystical  
optometrist - an eye doctor  
ostracize - to exclude  
passe - old-fashioned; out-of-date  
pendant - an ornament which hangs on a chain  
perfunctory - mechanical; indifferent  
periphery - the outside boundary  
permeable - allowing passage of fluids  
perorate - to speak at length  
peruse - to read carefully  
precedent - an act which justifies a later one  
prelate - a high ranking church figure  
pristine - untouched; unspoiled  
ratify - to approve  
recipient - one who receives something  
redundant - excessive; unnecessary  
repertoire - a group of songs  
resonant - resounding; prolonging sound  
resuscitate - to revive  
sadistic - cruel; morbid  
simulate - to falsely give the appearance of  
subversive - tending to destroy or overthrow  
suture - to stitch a wound together  
tenet - a doctrine; dogma  
ubiquitous - being everywhere; omnipresent  
underwrite - to agree to finance  
unmitigated - harsh; severe  
yaw - to change course or direction