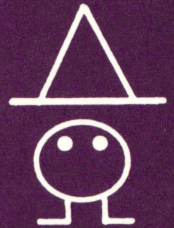


**WORD
ATTACK!** ^{T.M.}

Wow!

Apple Version



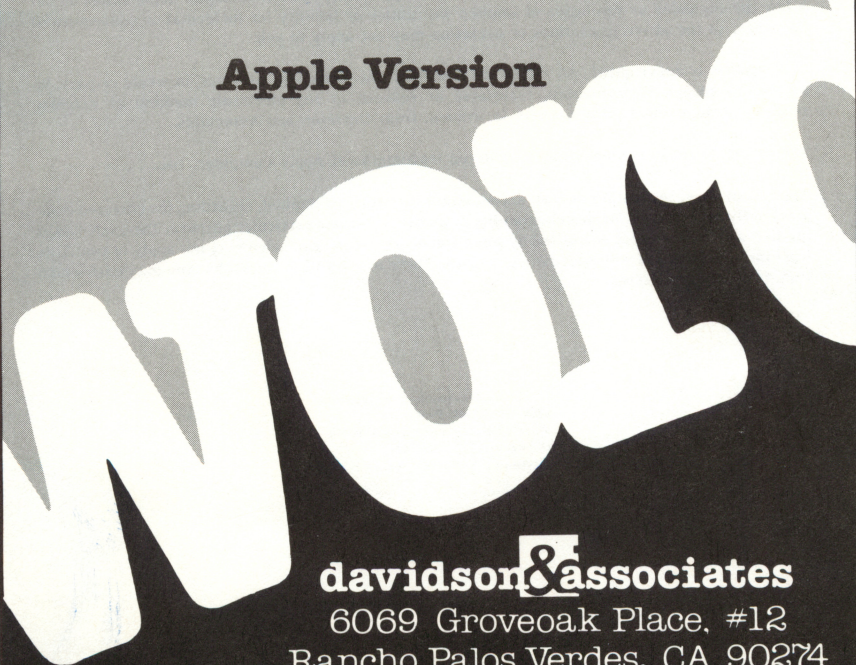
GREECE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

apt 1
9/84 T.M.

WORD ATTACK!

by Janice G. Davidson, Ph.D.
and Richard K. Eckert, Jr.

Apple Version



NOW!

davidson & associates

6069 Groveoak Place, #12
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274

Office: (213) 378-7826

Customer Service: (213) 378-3995

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to WORD ATTACK!

WORD ATTACK is a four-part vocabulary building program. It is designed to teach you new words, their meanings and their usages in an interesting and exciting way. The program contains extensive word files as well as an easy-to-use, versatile editor which allows you to add your own word lists.

WORD ATTACK was designed by Dr. Janice Davidson and programmed by Richard Eckert. The programs were tried and 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 their oral and written communications.

You too can gain a better command of the language by using WORD ATTACK as a tool. After all, 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. One is your receptive vocabulary. It contains words you recognize when you read or listen. Your other vocabulary is your expressive vocabulary or 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 be a tool 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. It was designed rather 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 exercises 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.

What you Need

To use WORD ATTACK you need:

- an Apple IIe, an Apple II Plus, or an Apple II computer capable of running Applesoft Basic with at least 48K of memory, or equivalent computer
- a disk drive
- a monitor (or tv)
- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- the WORD ATTACK Data Disk
- a printer (optional).

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

program.

Starting the Program

If you are using an Apple IIe or a Franklin Ace 1000, be sure that the CAPS LOCK or SHIFT LOCK is set.

To run the program, follow these steps.

1. Insert the program disk into the disk drive (drive 1 if you have more than 1 disk drive.)

2. Turn on your computer to boot the Program Disk. If your computer is already on, type PR#6 and then press <Return>.

3. While your disk is booting, you may press D to see a demonstration of the program. The demonstration will continue and repeat until you press the <ESC> key to exit.

4. After a brief introduction, you will be asked your name, if you wish to have sound effects, and whether you wish to see the program in color or black and white. The size of the letters is different for each. Regardless of the type of monitor you are using, try both to see which you prefer.

5. You will then be asked to select a level from 1 to 9. Type in the number of the level at which you wish to work.

6. There are three word lists for each level:

- 1> Adjectives
- 2> Nouns
- 3> Verbs

Select the word list you wish to study by pressing its corresponding number.

7. The following menu will appear on the screen.

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

From items 1 through 4 on this menu you may select any of four different exercises. In the chapter "Using the Program," each of the exercises will be described in detail. Item 5 allows you to go on to another word list. 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. This may be done when you return your Warranty Card, or any time after that with a written request to Davidson & Associates, 6069 Groveoak Place #12, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274. You must have a

Warranty Card on file in order to purchase a back-up copy. (Davidson & Associates provides a one year warranty for a malfunctioning or damaged disk.)

Data Disk - The Data Disk is not protected and you may make a back-up copy of it by using the copy program on your DOS SYSTEM MASTER disk which came with 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 preparing 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 you score 84% or above, proceed to Level 2 Adjectives and take the Multiple Choice Quiz. Do this until you get a score below 84%. This will be the level at which you should begin working.

Working through the Exercises

Once you have selected a level, begin with the adjective file and work through the exercises in the order they are presented.

Word Display - This exercise 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 on the screen. Repeat the Word Display exercise until you know the words and their meanings well. Your ability to do well on the remaining exercises depends upon your knowledge of these words and their meanings.

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. The quiz can be taken in two forms--normal or reverse. The normal mode will give you the word and ask you to select the correct meaning. The reverse mode will give you the meaning and ask you to 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 can get a perfect score.

Sentence Completion - In this exercise, a sentence is presented with an entry word missing. You are asked to type in the missing word. The meaning of the word will be displayed at the top of the screen. It will be one of the 25 words you have just studied in the display exercise.

If you have trouble recalling the word or its spelling, press H (for help) then press <Return>. Four words will appear on the screen; one of them will be the correct one. Type in the missing word.

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

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

Word Attack! - WORD ATTACK! is a fast-action, arcade game that reinforces learning in an interesting and exciting way. The object of the game is to attack the word whose meaning appears at the bottom of the screen. Use the keyboard arrows 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. You will soon discover that attacking quickly increases the point value as the game progresses. The game can be played at three speeds. Begin with the regular speed and proceed to the faster speeds as you develop competency.

Special Features

ESC Key - The escape key <ESC> allows the user to leave an exercise at any time during the program. Simply press <ESC> and the program returns you to the menu.

Sound Effects - WORD ATTACK has sound effects which are activated by a correct answer. Shortly after starting the program, you will be asked if you want sound effects. If you answer yes, the sound will remain during that entire session.

Elapsed Time Indicator - As you take the Multiple Choice Quiz, you will note an elapsed time indicator at the bottom right hand corner of the screen. It is counting the number of seconds it takes you to answer. The faster you are able to answer the questions, the more proficient you are becoming.

Display Time - In the word display, you can control the length of time the words stay on the screen. Before starting the display, press the forward arrow --> to increase and press the backward arrow <-- to decrease the number of seconds the word is displayed on the screen.

Reviewing Words You Missed - At the conclusion of the Multiple Choice and Sentence Completion exercises, WORD ATTACK lists the words you missed and gives you an option to retake them. This will give you an opportunity to concentrate on the words you don't know.

USING THE EDITOR

If you would like to create your own word list, you may do so with WORD ATTACK's easy-to-use editor.

Many different kinds of editors were tried and tested in the development of this software package. The editor selected was one which had the greatest versatility. It allows the user to make corrections with ease as well as to add or remove items from the file.

To use the editor, you will need:

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

Follow the steps outlined below to make your own word list to use with the WORD ATTACK program.

Step 1 - Creating your Word List

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

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

You may eliminate the last sentence if you do not wish to use the Sentence Completion exercise 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 - 36 letters and spaces maximum
(slightly less than one line)

sentence illustrating meaning - 3 lines or
120 letters and spaces

sentence for Sentence Completion exercise -
3 lines or 120 letters and spaces maximum.

Note that these are maximum limits. The words and sentences must not exceed these limits. However, they may be less than these limits.

There is another important consideration--the length of your word list. Each word list must contain at least 5 vocabulary words but no more than 25 vocabulary words.

Step 2 - Initializing your Data Disk

Now take your new blank disk and initialize it to get it ready to accept the new list you will be saving onto it.

If you don't know how to initialize your new data disk, here's how you do it.

```
- "boot" your system with the DOS 3.3  
  System Master disk that was supplied  
  with your computer
```

```
- remove the System Master disk and replace it  
  with the new blank disk that you have  
  labeled "Word Attack Data Disk Volume  
  2"
```

```
-type NEW <Return>
```

```
-type 10 HOME <Return>
```

```
-type 20 PRINT "WORD ATTACK DATA DISK  
  VOLUME 2" <Return>
```

```
-type END <Return>
```

```
-type INIT HELLO <Return>
```

When the disk drive light goes out and the cursor appears, the disk initialization is complete. You now have an initialized data disk on which to store the word list data files you create.

Step 3 - Accessing the Editor

Now that you have prepared your word list and initialized your new data disk, you are ready to begin using the editor.

Insert the WORD ATTACK Program Disk into the disk drive and boot the disk. While the drive's red light is on, press E (for editor.)

When the drive stops, the screen will look something like this:

```
* * * WORD ATTACK EDITOR * * *
```

The prompt line at the bottom of the screen displays the editor commands. For help, use the .h command.

```
l -
```

```
-----
```

```
New line 1
```

```
.e .l .d .i .s .g .p .c .q .h
```

The editor is now ready to receive your new word list. STOP AND READ CAREFULLY all the remaining steps before proceeding.

Step 4 - Upper and Lower Case

To use the editor with ease, you will need to become familiar with how to get upper and lower case letters. When you begin entering your words, the letters will automatically appear in lower case.

To get all the letters to appear in upper case, press the <CTRL> key and the K key at the same time; then type the letters you want in upper case.

To return to lower case, press the <CTRL> key and the L key at the same time. Then type the letters you want to appear in lower case.

To get just the first letter of a word to appear in upper case while the rest of the word is in lower case, press the <CTRL> key and the S key at the same time. The next letter you type will be in upper case and the letters following it will be in lower case.

Use the chart below to help you.

CTRL K - all upper case
CTRL L - all lower case
CTRL S - shift to upper case

Remember, if you are using an Apple IIe or a Franklin Ace 1000, your CAPS LOCK or SHIFT LOCK must be set when you are entering new words.

Step 5 - Entering your New Word List

In addition to knowing how to get the upper and lower case letters, you need to know the correct format for entering your word list. There are two important things to remember.

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

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

The files must be from 40 to 200 lines long.

The format you use to enter your word list is 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 from your word list and press <Return>.

On line 2 enter its synonym or a brief meaning and press <Return>.

On lines 3, 4, and 5, enter your display sentence and press <Return> at the end of each line. If your sentence occupies only line 3,

press <Return> after lines 4 and 5, leaving them blank.

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, use the equals (=) key. 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.

If you follow this format, your word list should look something like this one:

- 1 abundant
- 2 more than enough
- 3 The farmers are excited because their
- 4 crops are abundant this year.
- 5
- 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 old
- 12 coin in the museum.
- 13
- 14 In _____ times man lived in caves.
- 15
- 16
- 17 attractive
- 18 pretty
- 19 People are always telling Susan that
- 20 her long black hair is very attractive.

21
22 The blue shirt was _____ on
23 Jeff because it matched his eyes.
24

Make sure you follow the format exactly as it is outlined. If you inadvertently add extra lines or forget to put in the correct number of lines, you can easily correct this using the delete and insert commands discussed at the end of the chapter.

Step 6 - Saving your File

The last step is to save your new file on the data disk. (Don't panic; this step is not irreversible. If you find an error on it later, you can easily access and correct it.)

- remove your WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- insert your new data disk in the disk drive.
- type .s and press <Return>.
- when you are asked "save file name?" type in the name of your data file.

The bottom of the screen will look something like this

```
201 .s
Save file name? WORD LIST 1
```

When you press <Return>, the disk drive will whirl, saving your word list onto your new data disk. To test your file with the program, exit

the editor by typing `.q` and follow the instructions on the screen.

Step 7 - Using your New File

To run your new file with the WORD ATTACK program, follow these steps:

- first boot the WORD ATTACK program disk
- when you are asked to "insert the data disk," insert the disk which contains your new data file
- when you are asked to select a level, type C (for catalog) and press `<Return>`
- type in the name of the file you wish to use and press `<Return>`.

Commands of the Editor

Edit (.e)- 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
- press `<Return>`
- the line you wish to edit will appear and you may change or correct it as you wish

-press <Return> after you have changed the line to the way you want it.

You may move the cursor back and forth along the line using the <-- and --> arrow keys.

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

-type .l

-press <Return>

-use the space bar to stop and restart the scroll.

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

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

-type .i

-press <Return>

-the screen will ask you "Insert which line?"

-answer with the number of the line you want to begin your insert

- insert as many lines as you wish
- type .q at the beginning of the next line
- press <Return>.

When you insert a line, the lines following will automatically be renumbered.

Delete (.d) This command allows you to remove any line from the file. To use this command:

- type .d
- press <Return>
- you will be asked "Delete which line?"
- enter the number of the line you wish to delete
- press <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.

When you delete a line, the lines following the deletion will be renumbered.

Save (.s) The save command allows you to save a new file or a corrected file onto a disk. Be

sure you use this command each time you enter a new file or make any corrections on a file already on the disk. To use this command:

-type .s

-press <Return>

-enter the name of the file.

Get (.g) The get command allows you to load a file which has previously been saved. To use this command:

-first check to see that the disk in the drive is the one which has the data file you wish to access

-type .g

-press <Return>

-you will be asked "Get file name?"

-type in the exact name of the file you wish.

If you are not sure of the exact name of the file, type .c and press <Return>. This will catalog the disk.

Print (.p) The print feature allows you to print out your word list. To use this feature:

-first be sure that the file you want printed is the one now loaded into the computer's memory

-turn on the printer (it should be plugged into printer slot 1 on your computer)

-type .p

-press <Return>

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

Clear (.c)- This command allows you to clear the screen to get ready for a new file. To use this command:

-type .c

-press <Return>.

Be sure you have saved any file you want preserved. The editor will double check to make sure you really want to clear.

Quit (.q) This command allows you to exit the editor and return to the WORD ATTACK program. To use this command:

-type .q

-press <Return>.

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

Help (.h) This command will give you a list of all the commands and their functions. To use this command:

-type .h

-press <Return>

-all the commands and their functions will appear on the screen.

Additional Notes on the Editor

The first few times you use the editor, create a small data file, using only 5 to 10 words. Try using the file with the WORD ATTACK program to be sure you're on the right track. You can add more words to the file later.

It is a good practice to save your file every 15 minutes or so while you are working on it. Then if you should ruin a file in memory, you can retrieve a copy from the disk and prevent the loss of all your hard work.

Occasionally after you enter or edit a line, the editor will pause while it checks the line for control characters. You may also notice a brief pause after inserting or deleting a line in the file. These pauses are normal and have been designed to be as brief as possible.

When using the editor, a common mistake is the insertion of an extra line here and there. 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 .d command to delete the extra lines.

You will find the WORD ATTACK editor versatile and easy-to-use. Take time to get acquainted with it.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Janice 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 from Purdue University in Electrical Engineering. 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 SPANISH FOR THE TRAVELER.

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 Sharon Rosen who worked diligently on creating and editing the 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

You may use the enclosed order form to order the data disks or write to Davidson & Associates, 6069 Groveoak Place, #12, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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
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
unsatisfactory - not good enough
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 make useless
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
lucid - clear
memento - a souvenir
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 - 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
rangy - 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 - a 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 narrow strip joining two larger parts
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

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by Janice G. Davidson, Ph.D.
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