Unit 1

Name: _____ Date: _____

Definitions

adage	(*n.*) a proverb, wise saying
bonanza	(*n.*) a rich mass of ore in a mine; something very valuable, profitable, or rewarding; a source of wealth or prosperity; a very large amount; sudden profit or gain
churlish	(*adj.*) lacking politeness or good manners; lacking sensitivity; difficult to work with or deal with; rude
citadel	(*n.*) a fortress that overlooks and protects a city; any strong or commanding place
collaborate	(*v.*) to work with, work together
decree	(*n.*) an order having the force of law; (*v.*) to issue an order having the force of law; to command firmly or forcefully
discordant	(*adj.*) disagreeable in sound, jarring; lacking in harmony
evolve	(*v.*) to develop gradually; to rise to a higher level
excerpt	(*n.*) a passage taken from a book, article, etc.; (*v.*) to take a passage from a book, article, etc.; to quote
grope	(*v.*) to feel about hesitantly with the hands; to search blindly and uncertainly
hover	(*v.*) to float or hang suspended over; to move back and forth uncertainly over or around
jostle	(*v.*) to make or force one's way by pushing or elbowing; to bump, brush against; to compete for
laggard	(*n.*) a person who moves slowly or falls behind; (*adj.*) falling behind; slow to move, act, or respond
plaudits	(*n., pl.*) applause; enthusiastic praise or approval
preclude	(*v.*) to make impossible, prevent, shut out
revert	(*v.*) to return, go back

rubble	(*n.*) broken stone or bricks; ruins
servile	(*adj.*) of or relating to a slave; behaving like or suitable for a slave or a servant, menial; lacking spirit or independence, abjectly submissive
vigil	(*n.*) a watch, especially at night; any period of watchful attention
wrangle	(*v.*) to quarrel or argue in a noisy, angry way; to obtain by argument; to herd; (*n.*) a noisy quarrel

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Unit 2

Name: _____ Date: _____

Definitions

antics	(*n. pl.*) ridiculous and unpredictable behavior or actions
avowed	(*adj.*, *part.*) declared openly and without shame, acknowledged
banter	(*v.*) to exchange playful remarks, tease; (*n.*) talk that is playful and teasing
bountiful	(*adj.*) giving freely, generous; plentiful, given abundantly
congested	(*adj.*, *part.*) overcrowded, filled or occupied to excess
detriment	(*n.*) harm or loss; injury, damage; a disadvantage; a cause of harm, injury, loss, or damage
durable	(*adj.*) sturdy, not easily worn out or destroyed; lasting for a long time; (*n. pl.*) consumer goods used repeatedly over a series of years
enterprising	(*adj.*) energetic, willing and able to start something new; showing boldness and imagination
frugal	(*adj.*) economical, avoiding waste and luxury; scanty, poor, meager
gingerly	(*adj.*, *adv.*) with extreme care or caution
glut	(*v.*) to provide more than is needed or wanted; to feed or fill to the point of overstuffing; (*n.*) an oversupply
incognito	(*adj.*, *adv.*) in a disguised state, under an assumed name or identity; (*n.*) the state of being disguised; a person in disguise
invalidate	(*v.*) to make valueless, take away all force or effect
legendary	(*adj.*) described in well-known stories; existing in old stories (legends) rather than in real life
maim	(*v.*) to cripple, disable, injure, mar, disfigure, mutilate
minimize	(*v.*) to make as small as possible, make the least of; to make smaller than before
oblique	(*adj.*) slanting or sloping; not straightforward or direct
veer	(*v.*) to change direction or course suddenly, turn aside, shift

venerate	(*v.*) to regard with reverence, look up to with great respect
wanton	(*adj.*) reckless; heartless, unjustifiable; loose in morals; (*n.*) a spoiled, pampered person; one with low morals

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Unit 3

Name: _____ Date: _____

Definitions

allot	(*v.*) to assign or distribute in shares or portions
amass	(*v.*) to bring together, collect, gather, especially for oneself; to come together, assemble
audacious	(*adj.*) bold, adventurous, recklessly daring
comply	(*v.*) to yield to a request or command
devoid	(*adj.*) not having or using, lacking
elite	(*n.*) the choice part of a group of people or things; (*adj.*) superior
grapple	(*n.*) an iron hook used to grab and hold; (*v.*) to come to grips with, wrestle or fight with
incapacitate	(*v.*) to deprive of strength or ability; to make legally ineligible
instigate	(*v.*) to urge on; to stir up, start, incite
longevity	(*n.*) long life, long duration, length of life
myriad	(*adj.*) in very great numbers; (*n.*) a very great number
perspective	(*n.*) a point of view or general standpoint from which different things are viewed, physically or mentally; the appearance to the eye of various objects at a given time, place, or distance
perturb	(*v.*) to trouble, make uneasy; to disturb greatly; to throw into confusion
prodigious	(*adj.*) immense; extraordinary in bulk, size, or degree
relevant	(*adj.*) connected with or related to the matter at hand
skittish	(*adj.*) extremely nervous and easily frightened; shy or timid; extremely cautious; unstable, undependable
tether	(*n.*) a rope or chain used to fasten something to a fixed object; the outer limit of strength or resources; (*v.*) to fasten with a rope or chain
unison	(*n.*) a sounding together; agreement or accord
vie	(*v.*) to compete; to strive for victory or superiority

willful (*adj.*) stubbornly self-willed; done on purpose, deliberate

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