

**BARRON'S**

# 11000 WORDS

You Need  
to Know

A  
BEST-SELLER  
FOR  
FIVE  
DECADES!

MURRAY BROMBERG AND MELVIN GORDON

**SEVENTH EDITION**

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FOR OVER  
50  
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SEVENTH EDITION

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# INTRODUCTION

The study of the English language has spread all over the world, and high school and college students everywhere have come to realize that language mastery depends on the possession of a comprehensive vocabulary. This is just what *1100 Words You Need to Know* has been offering through the six earlier editions and continuing on this seventh one.

We are proud that [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) has rated this book as a bestseller in its category. In addition to the various exercises that help readers learn challenging vocabulary, take a look at the section called “The Lighter Touch 100,” which shows that vocabulary can be taught with a sense of humor. By investing a mere 15 minutes a day with this new book, you will soon see a dramatic improvement in your vocabulary.

Special thanks to Ellis Bromberg and Kyra Bromberg for their assistance in editing the Seventh Edition of *1100 Words You Need to Know*.

Murray Bromberg  
Melvin Gordon

## FULL PRONUNCIATION KEY

a	<b>apple, bat</b>
ā	<b>age, lace</b>
ä	<b>alms, father</b>
är	<b>arm, jar</b>
b	<b>bag, sob</b>
ch	<b>chill, such</b>
d	<b>done, said</b>
ə	<b>around, waken, pencil, demon</b>
e	<b>elk, met</b>
ē	<b>ease, see</b>
er	<b>air, wear</b>
ér	<b>urn, worth</b>
f	<b>feel, stiff</b>
g	<b>gone, big</b>
h	<b>him, behind</b>
hw	<b>which, whale</b>
i	<b>inch, pin</b>
ir	<b>ear, cheer</b>
ī	<b>ivy, hide</b>
j	<b>just, enjoy</b>
k	<b>kin, talk</b>
l	<b>lose, hurl</b>
m	<b>mice, cram</b>
n	<b>not, into</b>
ŋ	<b>song, ring</b>
o	<b>ox, rot</b>
ō	<b>open, blow</b>
ô	<b>all, bought</b>
ôï	<b>oil, boy</b>
ôr	<b>ore, cord</b>
ou	<b>owl, mouse</b>
p	<b>pest, cap</b>
r	<b>red, tree</b>
s	<b>spell, best</b>

sh **shrug, crash**  
t **time, act**  
th **think, teeth**  
TH **this, breathe**

u **bull, foot**  
ur **sure, pure**  
ū **ooze, cute**  
û **up, month**

v **vast, have**  
w **wish, squeak**  
y **youth, few**  
z **zoo, buzz**  
zh **genre, pleasure**

- denotes separate syllables

˘ denotes that the following syllable is the stressed syllable

(y) parentheses denote an optional sound in pronunciation

# WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 1

## READING WISELY

The youngster who reads *voraciously*, though *indiscriminately*, does not necessarily gain in wisdom over the teenager who is more selective in his reading choices. A student who has read the life story of every *eminent* athlete of the twentieth century, or one who has *steeped* herself in every social-protest novel she can get her hands on, may very well be learning all there is to know in a narrow area. But books are *replete* with so many wonders that it is often discouraging to see bright young people limit their own experiences.

### NEW WORDS

**voracious**

və - ˈrā - shəs

**indiscriminate**

in - di - ˈskri - mə - nət

**eminent**

ˈe - mə - nənt

**steeped**

ˈstēpt

**replete**

ri - ˈplēt

**Sample Sentences** On the basis of the above paragraph, try to use your new words in the following sentences. Occasionally it may be necessary to change the ending of a word; e.g., *indiscriminate* to *indiscriminately*.

1. The football game was \_\_\_\_\_ with excitement and great plays.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ author received the Nobel Prize for literature.
3. My cousin is so \_\_\_\_\_ in schoolwork that his friends call him a bookworm.



4. After skiing, I find that I have a \_\_\_\_\_ appetite.
5. Modern warfare often results in the \_\_\_\_\_ killing of combatants and innocent civilians alike.

**Definitions** Now that you have seen and used the new words in sentences, and have the definitions “on the tip of your tongue,” try to pair the words with their meanings.

- |                   |       |                                                 |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 6. voracious      | _____ | a. of high reputation, outstanding              |
| 7. indiscriminate | _____ | b. completely filled or supplied with           |
| 8. eminent        | _____ | c. choosing at random without careful selection |
| 9. steeped        | _____ | d. desiring or consuming great quantities       |
| 10. replete       | _____ | e. soaked, drenched, saturated                  |

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

***eat humble pie—to admit your error and apologize***

After his candidate had lost the election, the boastful campaign manager had to  
*eat humble pie.*

## WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 2

### SOLVING THE SERVANT PROBLEM

The worlds of science fiction *abound* with wonders. Yet modern *technology* progresses so rapidly that what is today's wild dream may be next year's kitchen appliance. A British scientist has *prognosticated* that within ten years every suburban *abode* will have its own robot servant. One task this domesticated *automaton* will not have to contend with will be scouring the oven because even today the newest ranges can be programmed to reduce their own baked-on grime to easily disposed of ash.

#### NEW WORDS

**abound**

ə - ˈbaʊnd

**technology**

tek - ˈno - lə - jē

**prognosticate**

prɒg - ˈno - stə - kāt

**abode**

ə - bōd

**automaton**

ô - ˈto - mə - tɒn

**Sample Sentences** Now that you've seen the words used in context, and—hopefully—have an idea of their meanings, try to use them in the following sentences. Remember that a word-ending may have to be changed.

1. The mayor refused to \_\_\_\_\_ as to his margin of victory in the election.
2. The time is approaching when human workers may be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Mel's new two-bedroom \_\_\_\_\_ overlooks a lake where many birds nest.

4. The western plains used to \_\_\_\_\_ with bison before those animals were slaughtered by settlers.
5. Man may be freed from backbreaking labor by the products of scientific \_\_\_\_\_.

**Definitions** Test yourself now by matching the new words with the definitions. If you are not sure of yourself, cover the top half of this page before you begin.

6. abound \_\_\_\_\_ a. a place where one lives
7. technology \_\_\_\_\_ b. branch of knowledge dealing with engineering, applied science, etc.
8. prognosticate \_\_\_\_\_ c. a robot; a mechanical “person”
9. abode \_\_\_\_\_ d. to exist in great numbers
10. automaton \_\_\_\_\_ e. to predict or foretell a future event

### TODAY'S IDIOM

***a pig in a poke*—an item you purchase without having seen; a disappointment**

The mail order bicycle that my nephew bought turned out to be *a pig in a poke*, and he is now trying to get his money back.

## WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 3

### A LUCKY FIND ON THE SUBWAY?

Sylvia regularly took a crowded subway train to work during rush hour, so she found it to be a *paradox* one hot, steamy Tuesday to easily find a seat in a car that was nearly empty. She wondered how, in the *realm* of possibilities, this could be; how often in the *annals* of subway history had there been such a fortunate occurrence? To *compound* the puzzle, looking out the window she could see many commuters busily racing on the platform to fill other cars. It was not until she saw the sign on the door that she realized, with a *tinge* of resignation, why she had been so “lucky” this morning: “We apologize, but the air conditioning is not working in this car.”

#### NEW WORDS

**paradox**

'pɑ - rə - dɒks

**realm**

'reɪm

**annals**

'ɑ - nəlz

**compound (v.)**

kəm - 'paʊnd

**tinge (n.)**

'tɪŋj

**Sample Sentences** Try your hand now at using your new words by writing them in their correct form (change endings if necessary) in these sentences:

1. His gloom was now \_\_\_\_\_ by the failing mark on his geometry test.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of sports are filled with great athletes of color.
3. One of the great \_\_\_\_\_ of American life is that though minority groups have suffered injustices, nowhere in the world have so many varied groups lived together so

harmoniously.

4. A \_\_\_\_\_ of garlic is all that's necessary in most recipes.
5. The cruel king would not allow the prince to enter his \_\_\_\_\_, restricting him to the forest, which abounded\* with wild animals.

(\*abounded—studied previously, see page 2. *Each review word studied previously will be followed by an asterisk—you will find the first use of the word by consulting the index at the back of the book.*)

**Definitions** If you are having trouble in picking the right definitions, it may be best *not* to do them in the order given, but to do the ones you are surest of first.

6. paradox \_\_\_\_\_ a. a trace, smattering, or slight degree
7. realm \_\_\_\_\_ b. a statement that at first seems to be absurd or self-contradictory but which may in fact turn out to be true
8. annals \_\_\_\_\_ c. to increase or add to
9. compound \_\_\_\_\_ d. historical records  
(v.)
10. tinge (n.) \_\_\_\_\_ e. special field of something or someone; kingdom

### TODAY'S IDIOM

***a flash in the pan*—promising at the start, but then disappointing**

The rookie hit many home runs in spring training, but once the season began he proved to be *a flash in the pan*.

# WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 4

## HOW NOT TO GET YOUR WAY

It is difficult to change someone's opinion by *badgering* him. The child who begs his mother to "get off his back" when she *implores* him for some assistance with the household *drudgery*, may very well plead *interminably* for some special privilege when he wants something for himself. How paradoxical\* that neither is able to *perceive* that no one likes being nagged.

### NEW WORDS

**badger (v.)**

ˈba - jər

**implore**

im - ˈplôr

**drudgery**

ˈdrû - jə - rē

**interminable**

in - ˈtēr - mə - nə - bəl

**perceive**

pər - ˈsēv

**Sample Sentences** Getting the hang of it? Now go on to use the five new words in the following sentences—remember, past tenses may be required.

1. She does her homework on Fridays to save herself from the \_\_\_\_\_ of having to do it during the weekend.
2. The teacher continually \_\_\_\_\_ the pupil for the missing assignments.
3. The eminent\* scientist \_\_\_\_\_ difficulties in putting the invention into practice.
4. The sick child's mother \_\_\_\_\_ the doctor to come immediately.

5. I listened to the boring lecture for what seemed an \_\_\_\_\_ fifty minutes.

**Definitions** Pick the letter of the definition that matches your new word and write it in the answer space.

6. badger (v.) \_\_\_\_\_ a. unpleasant, dull, or hard work  
7. implore \_\_\_\_\_ b. unending  
8. drudgery \_\_\_\_\_ c. to plead urgently for aid or mercy  
9. interminable \_\_\_\_\_ d. to understand, know, become aware of  
10. perceive \_\_\_\_\_ e. to pester, nag, annoy persistently

**TODAY'S IDIOM**

***get one's ducks in a row*—to have everything organized, have one's facts straight**

Alexandra spent a good hour before her presentation to the group being sure to *get her ducks in a row*.

**WEEK 1 ❖ DAY 5**



# REVIEW

You have accomplished something worthwhile this week. In learning twenty useful words and four idioms, you have taken a step toward a greater mastery of the English language. As a result of today's lesson, you will become aware of those words that require greater study on your part for complete success in these first lessons.

Take the following quiz by matching the best possible definition with the word you have studied. Write the letter that stands for that definition in the appropriate answer space.

## REVIEW WORDS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. abode
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. abound
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. annals
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. automaton
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. badger (v.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. compound (v.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. drudgery
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. eminent
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. implore
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. indiscriminate
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. interminable
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. paradox
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. perceive
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. prognosticate
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. realm
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. replete
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. steeped
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. technology
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. tinge (n.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. voracious

## DEFINITIONS

- a. to be completely soaked in something
- b. to be able to tell what will happen in the future
- c. someone's special field
- d. to continually nag
- e. carelessly chosen
- f. related to science of engineering
- g. to add to
- h. to beg for assistance
- i. of outstanding reputation
- j. a home or dwelling
- k. small amount of
- l. dull, difficult work
- m. desiring huge amount
- n. existing in great number
- o. historical records
- p. to come to have an understanding of
- q. completely filled with
- r. machine that behaves like a person
- s. seemingly self-contradictory situation
- t. unending

## IDIOMS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. eat humble pie
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. a pig in a poke
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. a flash in the pan
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. get one's ducks in a row
- u. blind item, poor purchase
- v. to admit to defeat
- w. a star today, a flop tomorrow
- x. to get organized

Make a record of those words you missed. You can learn them successfully by studying them and by using them in your own original sentences. If you put in the effort to build your vocabulary, it will be worth your while

**WORDS FOR FURTHER STUDY**

**MEANINGS**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

### (From Week 1)

❖ Underline the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. The huge football player had a (*voracious, replete*) appetite.
2. After a seemingly (*interminable, indiscriminate*) wait, the surgeon came to give us the news.
3. Without a (*paradox, tinge*) of evidence, the coroner could not solve the murder.
4. As the proverb goes, “in the (*realm, annals*) of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.”
5. We invited the (*eminent, steeped*) engineer to address our club.
6. In the Catskill Mountains, the woods (*abound, implore*) with deer.
7. I cannot (*perceive, prognosticate*) why people voted for the corrupt senator.
8. Night and day my kid brother (*badgers, compounds*) me for money.
9. Science fiction movies usually feature (*annals, automatons*).
10. With his expertise in (*drudgery, technology*), my uncle is able to earn a good salary.

❖ Do these sentences make sense? Explain why.

11. The rookie was amazing during spring training but he turned out to be *a flash in the pan*.
12. I complained to the salesperson because he had sold me *a pig in a poke*.
13. After we *got our ducks in a row*, our vacation plans went smoothly.
14. After the election, when my candidate conceded his loss, I had to *eat humble pie*.

## WORDSEARCH 1

❖ Using the clues listed below, fill in each blank in the following story with one of the new words you learned this week.

### *Reggie the Con Man*

In the ①\_\_\_\_\_ of crime, there are few scoundrels who could match the exploits of Reggie Hayes, who also used the names of Reginald Haven, Ricardo Hermosa, Father Harris, and dozens of other aliases. Reggie's police record, principally in Chicago and Baltimore, is ②\_\_\_\_\_ with scams that he perpetrated upon gullible people.

Dressed as a priest ("Father Harris"), and using no sophisticated ③\_\_\_\_\_, he was most convincing, however. His method of operation was to "find" a wallet stuffed with hundred dollar bills outside a supermarket and then urgently ④\_\_\_\_\_ an unsuspecting woman to share his good fortune, since there was no identification in the wallet. But first, to establish her credibility, his victim had to put up a sum of money as a testimonial to her good faith. Mrs. Emma Schultz, age 72, tearfully told the police that she had withdrawn \$14,000 from her bank and placed it in a shopping bag supplied by the helpful priest. He told her to hold onto the bag while he went next door to a lawyer's office to make the sharing of their good fortune legal.

After a seemingly ⑤\_\_\_\_\_ wait, Mrs. Schultz discovered to her chagrin that the heartless thief had skipped out the back way, leaving her "holding the bag"—a switched bag containing shredded newspaper—while he made his getaway with her life savings.

#### **Clues**

- ① 3rd Day
- ② 1st Day
- ③ 2nd Day
- ④ 4th Day
- ⑤ 4th Day