

Lesson 1

For more practice and games, go to www.WordlyWise3000.com.



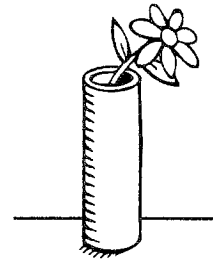
Word List

Study the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

cylinder

n. An object in the shape of a tube or pipe. It may be solid or hollow.

In the center of the table was a tall glass vase in the shape of a **cylinder**, which was filled with yellow tulips.



examine

v. To look at closely.

When Cora and Chun **examined** the desk, they discovered that the letter they were looking for was gone.

fatal

adj. Causing death.

Eating this pretty white mushroom can be **fatal**.

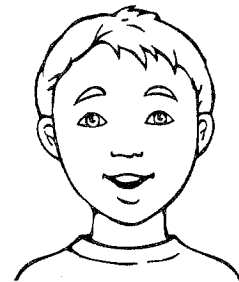
feature

n. 1. An important or special part of something.

An unusual **feature** of this room is a secret stairway hidden behind this wall.

2. Any part of the face.

One pleasing **feature** of Claude's is his warm smile.



grasp

v. 1. To take hold of something tightly with the hands.

Tina **grasped** the bars on the gym set and pulled herself up.

2. To understand something.

After we **grasped** the directions, it was easy to do the puzzle.

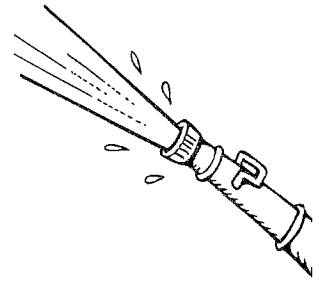
jet

n. 1. A stream of liquid or gas that is forced at high speed through a small opening.

The firefighters directed **jets** of water from the pump truck to the burning house.

2. An airplane that is powered by a jet engine.

The pilot told us what kind of **jet** would be carrying us to the West Coast.



marine

adj. Having to do with the ocean or with ships and boats.

The largest **marine** creature is the blue whale.

scar

n. A mark on the skin that is left after a cut or other wound has healed.

The **scar** on Helen's knee is from the cut she got when she fell off her bicycle.

tentacle

n. A long, thin part that grows out from the head of some sea animals. They use it to hold things or to move from place to place.

The cuttlefish wiggled its **tentacles** to bring the small fish closer.

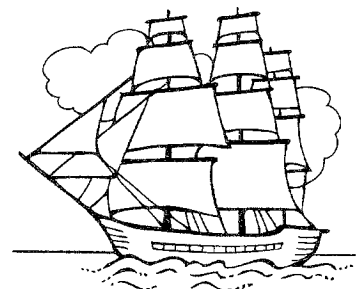
vessel

n. 1. A ship or large boat.

All of the passengers aboard the **vessel** hoped to see a whale or dolphin during the trip.

2. Anything hollow that can be used to hold liquids.

A clay **vessel** filled with lemonade rested on the picnic table in the backyard.



Look at the group of words next to the number. Then circle the letter of the word that has the same meaning.

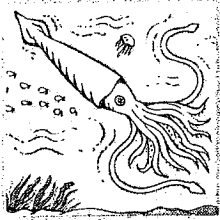
-
- ① a stream of liquid under pressure
 (a) tentacle (b) feature (c) jet (d) scar
-
- ② a tube-shaped object
 (a) cylinder (b) vessel (c) scar (d) tentacle
-
- ③ a mark left after a wound heals
 (a) feature (b) scar (c) tentacle (d) grasp
-
- ④ a special part that stands out
 (a) tentacle (b) vessel (c) feature (d) marine
-
- ⑤ a large boat or ship
 (a) fatal (b) marine (c) tentacle (d) vessel
-

Look at the word next to the number. Then circle the letter of the group of words that has the same meaning.

-
- ⑥ examine
 (a) look at carefully (b) return to
 (c) stay away from (d) put away
-
- ⑦ marine
 (a) having to do with sports (b) having to do with being sick
 (c) having to do with horses (d) having to do with the ocean
-
- ⑧ tentacle
 (a) a baby octopus (b) a hairy spider
 (c) a long, thin part growing from some sea animals (d) a figure with eight sides
-

Read the passage, then answer the questions that follow it.

Monsters of the Deep



The Pacific Ocean is huge. But we only see its surface. Underneath, over half a mile down, is another world. This world is very dark. It is the watery home of the giant squid. These unusual creatures spend their whole lives there. Let us explore deep in the Pacific Ocean. We will go near the northeast coast of New Zealand. There we will learn something of these strange animals.

Many scientists come to this area. They know it is a good spot to find giant squid. They also find sperm whales there. Sperm whales feed on the squid in this area. From one of their **vessels**, the scientists can see the great whales coming up to breathe. Sperm whales are huge **marine** creatures. They are eighty feet in length. They weigh up to sixty tons. Sperm whales can go without breathing for up to an hour. This lets them dive deep underwater. There they hunt for giant squid.

The giant squid is an enormous creature. Yet very few have been seen alive. Scientists instead **examine** dead squids that wash up on shore. The giant squid may grow to be sixty feet long when it is an adult. Its body is shaped like a **cylinder**. It has two fins at the tail end. It uses them for swimming. When it needs to, the squid can put on an extra burst of speed. First it swallows water. Then it shoots the water out through an opening in its tail. A **jet** of water rushes out. This pushes the giant squid forward.

The squid has two long, waving **tentacles**. Both are on its head. Each one has rows of hooks that can dig in deep. The squid uses them to grab food. It catches fish, crabs, and turtles. It also grabs smaller squid. It can capture anything else that swims within its reach. The squid also has eight arms. It uses them to stuff whatever it catches into its mouth. Then its powerful jaws go to work. Their jaws are shaped like a parrot's beak. Anything a giant squid **grasps** has little chance of getting away.

cylinder
examine
fatal
feature
grasp
jet
marine
scar
tentacle
vessel

The most unusual **feature** of a squid is its eyes. They are the size of dinner plates. The squid lives far down in the ocean. There is only a small amount of light that deep. In the darkness, the squid's large eyes give it good eyesight. It can probably see a sperm whale before the whale comes close enough to attack. This helps the squid escape. Scientists have looked at **scars** on sperm whales. They believe the beaks of giant squid caused them. This tells them that a sperm whale's attack may not always be **fatal** for the giant squid.

The scientists use a small submarine to look for the squid. It is called a Deep Rover. This boat can dive to around 3,000 feet. It has powerful lights and four cameras. Scientists aboard a Deep Rover took the first pictures of a living giant squid. Scientists would love to one day film a fight between a whale and a giant squid. This is not very likely, however. Instead, what we may see on our television screens soon is the first close look at a giant squid. Its huge eyes will be staring at us out of the darkness.

Answer each of the questions with a sentence.

.....
1 Is it correct to call this a **marine** story? Explain your answer.

2 What do the scientists aboard the submarine want to **examine**?

3 How far down can the **vessel** of the scientists travel?

4 Why is it hard for sea creatures to escape the **grasp** of the giant squid?

1 How does the **cylinder** shape of its body help a squid swim?

2 Why might a meeting with a sperm whale be **fatal** for a giant squid?

3 How do its **tentacles** help the giant squid?

4 Where does the **jet** of water come from that helps the giant squid move forward?

5 What do the **scars** on sperm whales tell scientists?

6 Which **feature** of the giant squid seems most unusual to you?

cylinder

examine

fatal

feature

grasp

jet

marine

scar

tentacle

vessel



* You know **jet** as a fast stream of water and as an airplane. But there is also **jet** black, meaning a dark black color. That **jet** comes from the name of an ancient Greek town where a black stone, also called **jet**, was found. The two **jets** have no connection and are really two different words!