## **5 • Lesson 5 Word List**

[**avalanche**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/avalanche?s=t)

(n) 1. A great mass of ice, earth, or snow mixed with rocks sliding down a mountain.
*The mountain climbers had a narrow escape when the* ***avalanche*** *swept over them.*

2. A great amount of something.
*The company had an* ***avalanche*** *of orders because of their online ad for the new game.*

[**blizzard**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/blizzard?s=t)

(n) A heavy snowstorm with strong winds.
*The Chicago airport had to close for two days because of the* ***blizzard.***

[**challenge\***](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/challenge?s=t)

(v) 1. To invite others to take part in a contest.
*I* ***challenged*** *my friend to a game of chess.*

2. To cause a person to use a lot of skill or effort.
*This trail* ***challenges*** *even the best hikers.*

3. To question or to argue against, especially when something is unfair or unjust.
*Very few scientists* ***challenge*** *the idea that a large meteorite killed off the last of the dinosaurs sixty-five million years ago.*

(n) 1. An interesting task or problem; something that takes skill or effort.
*Living out of our backpacks for a week on the mountain was a real* ***challenge.***

2. A call to take part in a contest.
*I accepted the* ***challenge*** *to run in the marathon.*

[**conquer**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/conquer?s=t)

(v) 1. To get the better of.
*Swimming lessons at the YMCA helped me* ***conquer*** *my fear of the water.*

2. To defeat.
*Our team* ***conquered*** *the visiting team, even though our two star players were benched.*

**conquest** (n) The act of defeating.
*The movie was about the* ***conquest*** *of Earth by creatures from another planet.*

[**crevice**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/crevice?s=t)

(n) A deep, narrow opening in rock caused by a split or crack.
*The* ***crevice*** *had filled with soil in which a cluster of small red flowers was growing.*

[**foolhardy**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/foolhardy?s=t)

(adj) Unwisely bold or daring.
*It would be* ***foolhardy*** *to go swimming during a gale.*

[**lure**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/lure?s=t)

(v) To tempt or attract with the promise of something good.
*In the early nineteenth century, the hope of owning land of their own* ***lured*** *many people to travel west to Ohio and Indiana.*

(n) 1. Something that attracts.
*The* ***lure*** *of fresh air led us to the park for a walk.*

2. Artificial bait used for fishing.
*A large striped bass took the* ***lure,*** *and I hooked it.*

[**makeshift**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/makeshift?s=t)

(n) A temporary and usually less strong replacement.
*We used the camper as a* ***makeshift*** *while our house was being built.*

(adj) Used as a temporary replacement.
*We use the cooler as a* ***makeshift*** *table when we have a picnic.*

[**optimist**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/optimist?s=t)

(n) One who looks at things in the most positive way; a cheerful, hopeful person.
*Jade and Jean are* ***optimists*** *and so, of course, they believed the bus would not leave without us.*

**optimistic** (adj) Cheerful; hopeful.
*In spite of the injuries to our best players, I am* ***optimistic*** *about our chances of winning the big game.*

**optimism** (n) A feeling of hope or cheerfulness.
*The patients’* ***optimism*** *helped them recover more quickly from their illnesses.*

[**previous\***](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/previous?s=t)

(adj) Earlier; happening before.
*Although I missed the last practice, I attended the two* ***previous*** *ones.*

[**route\***](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/route?s=t)

(n) 1. The path that must be followed to get to a place.
*Our* ***route*** *to Seattle takes us through Denver.*

2. A fixed course or area assigned to a salesperson or delivery person.
*Magali has over a hundred customers on her newspaper* ***route.***

[**summit**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/summit?s=t)

(n) 1. The highest part; the top.
*It took us three hours to climb to the* ***summit*** *of Mount Washington.*

2. A conference or meeting of the top leaders of governments.
*The* ***summit*** *of African heads of state will take place in Nairobi in late June.*

[**terse**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/terse?s=t)

(adj) Short and to the point.
*When I said I was sure we would be rescued soon, my friend’s* ***terse*** *reply was, “How?”*

[**thwart**](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/thwart?s=t)

(v) To block or defeat the plans or efforts of.
*Heavy flooding* ***thwarted*** *the UN’s attempts to deliver food.*

[**vertical\***](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/vertical?s=ts)

(adj) Running straight up and down; upright.
*The black* ***vertical*** *lines in this painting are what one notices first*