

## Vocabulary Warm-up Word Lists

Study these words from the selection. Then, complete the activities.

### Word List A

**clutch** [KLUCH] *v.* hold onto something tightly

The man tried to clutch the railing when he slipped on the stairs.

**conclusion** [kuhn KLOO zhuhn] *n.* ending; the finish of something

At the conclusion of her speech, the mayor received loud applause.

**contradict** [KAHN truh dikt] *v.* say or prove the opposite of

I said, "It's green," and just to contradict me, she said, "No, it's blue."

**repose** [ri POHZ] *n.* rest; sleep

The children were so noisy that they disturbed their grandmother's repose.

**resembled** [ri ZEM buhd] *v.* had a similarity to someone or something

The new car resembled their old car; it was the same model and color.

**restrain** [ri STRAYN] *v.* stop; hold back; prevent from acting

The cowboy had to restrain the horse, which was bucking wildly.

**seize** [SEEZ] *v.* take possession by force; grab and hold

When playing capture the flag, the winning team must seize their opponents' flag.

**suspicion** [suh SPISH uhn] *n.* unproven idea that something is wrong

I have a suspicion that he took the cookies, but I have no evidence to prove it.

### Word List B

**allegiance** [uh LEE jens] *n.* loyalty to a country, a ruler, or a cause

Most elementary school students in the U.S. say the Pledge of Allegiance.

**appalls** [uh PAWLZ] *v.* shocks; horrifies

The violence on the show appalls me, and I turn the television off as soon as it comes on.

**counterfeit** [KOWN tuhr fit] *adj.* imitating something valuable in order to deceive

The twenty-dollar bill looked real, but it was counterfeit.

**malice** [MAL is] *n.* the desire to harm others or see them suffer; ill will

I stepped on Aisha's toe by accident, not on purpose; I have no malice toward her.

**mock** [MAHK] *v.* make fun of; treat with ridicule or contempt

Some comedians imitate and mock celebrities.

**persuades** [puhr SWAYDZ] *v.* convinces someone to do or believe something

By offering a discount, the salesman persuades people to buy magazines.

**quenched** [KWENCHD] *v.* satisfied; extinguished; put out (a fire)

The scouts quenched the fire before they left the campsite

**refrain** [ri FRAYN] *v.* stop yourself from doing something

The bride could not refrain from crying during her wedding ceremony.

**The Tragedy of Macbeth, Act II**, by William Shakespeare  
**Vocabulary Warm-up Exercises**

**Exercise A** *Fill in each blank below using the appropriate word from Word List A.*

Sometimes it is impossible to prevent snakebites. When a person accidentally steps on a snake in the woods, disturbing its [1] \_\_\_\_\_, the snake's first reaction will be to strike. Snakes are predators with jaws designed to [2] \_\_\_\_\_ prey. Once poisonous snakes [3] \_\_\_\_\_ a creature in their jaws, their fangs quickly deliver venom into the victim's body. You must reduce your chances of being a target. Remain on hiking paths. Regard loose rocks and firewood with [4] \_\_\_\_\_. Do not move either without checking for snakes first. If fellow hikers say you are being too cautious, do not hesitate to [5] \_\_\_\_\_ them! By the [6] \_\_\_\_\_ of your hike, they may thank you. Once you see a snake, [7] \_\_\_\_\_ yourself from touching it, even if it looks harmless. People have picked up poisonous snakes because they [8] \_\_\_\_\_ nonpoisonous ones. If you are bitten, seek help immediately.

**Exercise B** *Decide whether each statement below is true or false. Circle T or F, and explain your answers in complete sentences.*

**Example:** If you promise allegiance to a country, you are its enemy.

*F; If you promise allegiance to a country, you promise loyalty, not opposition.*

1. A person's enthusiasm for a project can be quenched by constant criticism.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
2. The cost of a college education appalls many people.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
3. A good, logical argument often persuades a reasonable person.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
4. Counterfeit designer watches sold on the street are same as the watches sold in stores.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
5. Drivers are asked to refrain from honking car horns when they are near hospitals.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
6. A doctor who stops to help an injured cyclist shows malice.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_
7. Most people would enjoy learning that their friends secretly mock them.  
T / F \_\_\_\_\_