

EXERCISES - UNIT NINE

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. Sailors on the long journey from Russia to America *rationed* their food so that...
2. Dirk usually made very *rational* decisions, so we were surprised when he...
3. Many people in the audience at the circus wondered whether Ray was *demented* when he...
4. The whole *mentality* of the staff at the restaurant changed when...
5. Those who had participated in the failed uprising were given *amnesty* only if they...
6. Gretchen employed various *mnemonic* techniques to help her...
7. The train robber was so *notorious* for violent holdups that...
8. As a *connoisseur* of classic cars, Michelle was able to spot...
9. When the soldiers sent on the *reconnaissance* mission did not return, we feared that...
10. We found that the allergist's *diagnosis* was incorrect when...
11. Although the *prognosis* for the town's economy was bad, many hoped that...

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

rational ration demented amnesty

1. Failure to appropriately _____ out the surplus money in the treasury will result in budget problems next year.
2. The political activist preferred to die rather than accept a(n) _____ from a government he considered corrupt and murderous.
3. We often wonder what kind of _____ mind would dream up some of the programs currently on television.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

mnemonic

connoisseur

prognosis

notorious

diagnosis

4. Though Erica considered herself a _____ of comic books, her actual collection was very small.
5. Doctors noted that the _____ of the disease for a nonsmoking man was better than for a smoker.
6. Rhyme can be a powerful _____ tool, but it can also cause students to lose sight of what they are learning.
7. The _____ murderer had struck again, leaving his trademark clue at the scene of the crime.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

reconnaissance

rational

prognosis

mentality

diagnosis

8. Kat's paranoid _____ led her to suspect even her close friends of betrayal.
9. Families traveling to California by wagon often sent out a scout to do some _____.
10. We found that Joseph's _____ of the root cause of the tax mess was very accurate.
11. The dean urged the rioting students to be _____ and think twice before taking any drastic action.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. Unless we carefully _____ out our funds for the next few months, the _____ for our investment club is not very good.
A. diagnose; connoisseur
B. ration; reconnaissance
C. diagnose; mentality
D. ration; prognosis
2. Although the leader of the rebel forces was _____ for her violence and destructive tendencies, she was granted a(n) _____ by the ruling Prime Minister.
A. rational; connoisseur
B. notorious; amnesty
C. demented; prognosis
D. mnemonic; amnesty
3. Does there appear to be a _____ cause for the horrible crime, or was the person who committed it truly _____?
A. rational; demented
B. notorious; mnemonic
C. demented; rational
D. notorious; rational

4. Because he had been a(n) _____ of fine cheeses for many years, Richard appeared to have a rather snobbish _____.
- A. amnesty; mentality
 - B. mentality; diagnosis
 - C. reconnaissance; prognosis
 - D. connoisseur; mentality
5. When the two army scouts developed a strange disease after they returned from their _____ mission, they asked the company medic for a(n) _____.
- A. reconnaissance; diagnosis
 - B. demented; prognosis
 - C. rational; amnesty
 - D. amnesty; prognosis

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.

1. The fashion reviewer and *connoisseur* wrote that jeans...
2. If Gail used a *mnemonic* technique to learn musical scales, we can assume she has to...
3. If the man with stomach cancer is given a good *prognosis* by the doctor, he will probably...

Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

Aron Ralston is a mountain climber who finds emotional escape hiking in treacherous environments. On April 26, 2003, however, he was literally stopped in his tracks when he became pinned by an eight-hundred-pound boulder. Ralston knew a(n) _____ (NAISS) mission to find him wasn't likely, since he'd told no one of his plans to hike for the day in Utah's Blue John Canyon. He figured there were three choices left to him: moving the boulder with his climbing gear, chipping away at the rock, or cutting off his arm with his pocketknife. Although he did think about having his cremated ashes scattered on the mountain where his family had climbed together, he decided dying was not an alternative.

It was a Saturday afternoon when the twenty-seven year-old Ralston became pinned. He tried rigging a series of pulleys to move the boulder, and he tried chipping away at it with his pocketknife, but neither attempt worked. By Tuesday, he had run out of water. He had licked clean the wrappers of four candy bars he had enjoyed on his way to the canyon and eaten the only other _____ (RAT) he had brought with him: two burritos. He knew if he stayed there he would die. He also knew no one might ever find his body, which most likely would be washed away by flash floods in the canyon. Ralston knew that to save his own

life he would have to do the unimaginable: amputate his own arm. By day five, after sharpening his knife, he said, "Basically, I got my surgical table ready." He used a tourniquet, his bike shorts for padding, and the cheap multi-tool knife he carried. Then he bravely went to work and operated on himself. The whole process took about an hour.

Ralston's energy didn't fail him once he finished, either. After freeing himself and leaving half his arm behind, he crawled through the canyon, used a rope to get down a sixty-foot cliff, and then walked about five miles before encountering other hikers, who gave him water and two Oreo cookies. After walking a few more miles, Ralston and his rescuers were spotted and rescued by a Utah Public Safety Helicopter. The pilot was hoping Ralston wouldn't pass out on the way to the hospital. On the contrary, though, he talked to the deputies in the helicopter. "When he landed at the hospital," the pilot said, "he got up and walked right into the emergency room." Ralston underwent surgery to close his wound in preparation for a prosthetic arm, and his _____ (GNO) is very good. Ralston still plans to climb mountains. In fact, he wants to become the first person to climb fifty-five of Colorado's highest peaks in winter. From now on, however, he says he'll tell people where he's going.

1. Why do you think Ralston hiked the canyon as he did?
 - A. It was just a one-day hike.
 - B. He didn't think anything was going to happen.
 - C. He had hiked alone before.
 - D. All of the above.
2. The only food Ralston had while pinned to the rock was
 - A. four candy bars.
 - B. two Oreo cookies.
 - C. two burritos.
 - D. All of the above.
3. The best title for this essay would be
 - A. How to Save Yourself.
 - B. Survival through Determination and Courage.
 - C. Never Walk Alone.
 - D. Be Prepared.
4. Ralston
 - A. decided he didn't want to die.
 - B. knew he could kill himself.
 - C. considered starting a fire.
 - D. All of the above.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the *italicized* words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Note that *a* means "not, without."

Although the president of Marzipan Creations has tried to *rationalize* some of the decisions she made on behalf of the corporate stockholders, she can hardly excuse putting personal items on her expense account. Accountants looking carefully at the books have found that her nephew's college education as well as a speedboat and three prize thoroughbreds were paid for by the company. Unless she is a certified *amnesiac*, however, there is no way the C.E.O. could have forgotten buying these things.