

UNIT THREE

VERD, VIRID

Latin VIRIDUS “green”

VERDURE (ver' dyər) *n.* Greenery; fresh and ripe vegetation
For decades, tourists have visited the botanical garden to marvel at its astonishing *verdure*.
syn: foliage

VERDANT (ver' dənt) *adj.* Green; lush with vegetation
Because of the sunny days, the land was *verdant* and the harvest was full.
ant: barren

III In Latin, as in English, the color green was associated with youth and inexperience.

VIRIDITY (və rid' ə tē) *n.* Lack of experience; innocence
Quentin's *viridity* was a sure sign that he had led a very sheltered life.

CAND

Latin CANDIDUS “white, pure”

CANDERE, CANDITUM “to glow, to burn”

III In ancient Rome, a man running for office was distinguished by his white (*candidus*) toga, a symbol of purity and honesty. He was known as a *candidatus*. Our modern-day candidates are no longer required to wear white, but they strive in the same way to convey an image of sincerity.

CANDID (kân' did) *adj.* Open and sincere
In the privacy of my own home, I gave the film crew my *candid* opinion about the matter.
syn: frank *ant:* duplicitous

CANDOR (kân' dər) *n.* Frankness or sincerity of expression; openness
Donald showed a *candor* that was unique among the politicians in the race.
syn: truth *ant:* falseness

INCANDESCENT (in kən de' sənt) *adj.* Shining brilliantly
L. in, “very” + *candere* = *glowing intensely*
The actress' *incandescent* gold gown was the talk of all the celebrities at the awards ceremony last night.

PALL

Latin PALLERE “to be pale”

PALLOR (pa' lər) *n.* Extreme or unnatural paleness

The guilty man's face took on a distinct *pallor*, and his hands began to tremble.

ant: flushed

PALLID (pa' ləd) *adj.* Lacking color; dull

Patrick knew that Juliette was sick when he saw the young girl's *pallid* face.

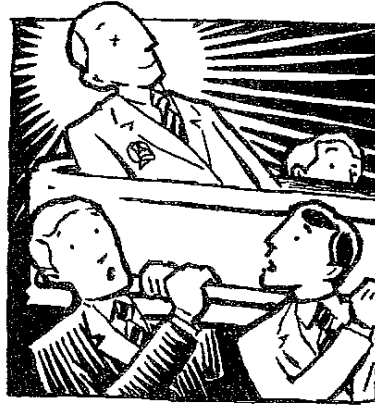
syn: wan

APPALL (ə pawl') *v.* To fill with horror or disapproval

L. ad, “toward,” + pallere = towards paleness

Karl was *appalled* to learn that the beautiful old museum was going to be replaced by a shopping mall.

syn: horrify



When the corpse sat up, the PALLBEARERS were APPALLED.

LIVID

Latin LIVIDUS “bluish-black”

LIVID (li' vid) *adj.* Enraged; furious

When the receptionist suggested that I leave the office, I became *livid* and threatened to sue.

NIGR

Latin NIGER “black”

DENIGRATE (de' ni grāt) *v.* To attack the character of; to mock

L. de, “very,” + niger = to intensely blacken (the reputation of)

The notoriously harsh theatre critic rarely hesitated to *denigrate* even the most famous and respected actors.

syn: belittle

ant: praise

iii Though lavender may not be seen as an especially angry color, it has a connection to livid. Both words come from the Latin term for a purplish color that is between blue and black.

EXERCISES - UNIT THREE

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

1. Philip was so *appalled* by the hospital's condition that he...
2. Though the garden had once been strikingly *verdant*, it was now...
3. Paulina's natural tendency to be very *candid* sometimes makes other people...
4. The *pallor* of John's complexion finally went away when...
5. Andre's tendency to *denigrate* his coworkers earned him a reputation as...
6. The retreating soldiers' faces were *pallid* because...
7. When the weary, thirsty travelers saw the *verdure* of the land they were approaching, they...
8. Rather than explaining with *candor* why he was firing Lucy, Mike...
9. Dirk was so *livid* about the loss of his favorite painting that he seemed ready to...
10. The *incandescent* city skyline stood in sharp contrast to...

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

pallor candor livid verdant

1. Though we don't know if Trina really did see a ghost, the _____ on her face tells us that something scared her out of her wits.
2. Was the golf course a(n) _____ oasis in the middle of a busy city, or just an overly landscaped playground for the very wealthy?
3. The State Trooper had seen many people get angry about traffic tickets, but none had become as _____ as the woman he now approached.

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

candid appalled candor pallid

4. Even Governor Ling, known as a man of great _____, did not give a straightforward answer about the controversial issue.
5. The Chief of Police said that she was _____ by citizens' lack of respect for even very basic laws.
6. When bringing up the problems you have with your roommate, it is best to be _____ and sincere, but not insulting or aggressive.

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

verdure livid denigrate incandescent pallid

7. Corinne's red hair, catching the afternoon sunlight, seemed almost _____.
8. Though he admitted that the _____ of the meadows was pleasing to the eye, Anthony missed his home in the Painted Desert.
9. Some of the children in the ward regained mobility and their former youthful glow, while others remained _____ and almost lifeless.
10. Even when people _____ her skills, Ashley enjoys playing volleyball.

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

1. We were _____ by the transformation of the forest's untouched _____ into polluted streets and overcrowded shopping centers.
 - A. denigrated; candor
 - B. appalled; verdure
 - C. livid; pallor
 - D. denigrated; pallor
2. The island's _____ palm trees were framed by the _____ orange of the setting sun.
 - A. candid; verdant
 - B. livid; pallid
 - C. verdant; incandescent
 - D. candid; livid
3. Tracy wished she could speak with _____ to her coworker without having him turn _____ and storm out of the office.
 - A. verdure; pallid
 - B. candor; livid
 - C. pallor; incandescent
 - D. verdure; livid

4. When the doctor saw the sickly _____ on the patient's face, he made the _____ pronouncement that death was surely not long off.
- pallor; livid
 - verdure; candid
 - livid; incandescent
 - pallor; candid
5. Anne's super-athletic siblings _____ her weak muscles, _____ complexion, and complete lack of motor skills.
- appalled; pallid
 - denigrated; pallid
 - appalled; incandescent
 - denigrated; verdant

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

- If Haley *denigrates* her younger siblings on a regular basis, they may feel...
- If Corinne wants to transform the vacant lot into a *verdant* space, she should probably start by...
- Sari may infer that her brother is *livid* when he does things like...

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.

Industrialized society's continued expansion has triggered both positive and negative effects on the surrounding environment. Some feel that the lumber industry, in particular, has repeatedly devastated and reconstructed ecosystems simply in order to satisfy humanity's wants and needs. This is fallacious reasoning, however; the lumber industry does not proceed with reckless abandon. Logging merely serves to satisfy consumer demands. To be _____ (CAND), this business rarely receives the recognition it deserves for its tremendous contributions to reforestation.

One location perfectly demonstrating this trend is the Pacific Northwest. High in the Cascades, millions of acres of lush forest have been razed to supply the timber demand throughout the world. Once covered with thick, dense _____ (VERD), the mountains now exhibit large bare patches—dismal symbols, seemingly, of human disregard for nature. Upon closer inspection, though, one will find energetic young forests sprouting from seedlings planted by the logging businesses themselves. These businesses admit with _____ (CAND) that past practices have harmed the environment, but they now feel that the only responsible act would be to restore what they removed, especially when numerous studies have delineated the role that trees play in reducing pollution.

Through photosynthesis, trees and other types of vegetation serve as filters, removing carbon dioxides from the air and offering a protective umbrella to the life below. When a portion of a forest is removed, the undergrowth perishes, and the animals supported by that habitat must leave. Lacking the necessary protection, an entire ecosystem succumbs to humanity's needs. In spite of this bleak consequence, the lumber industry does not abandon the lingering destruction; instead, it undertakes the massive task of rebuilding what nature created.

What should be strikingly _____ (PALL) in this situation is the fact that the majority of the blame falls upon the lumber industry; consequently, the primary reforestation effort is designated as the industry's obligation. Granted, these businesses bear direct responsibility for leveling forests, but they commit this act for consumers, who need the wood to build homes, offices, furniture, playground equipment, and many more commodities that enhance everyday life. Perhaps the growing social conscience in today's world should acknowledge that, since many consume what the planet supplies, many shoulder the duty of replenishing the environment. Society needs to assume a greater role in restoring the balance between nature and industry. Blame accomplishes nothing, but shared responsibility and effort make a tremendous difference.

1. The author's tone toward industry could best be described as
 - A. supportive.
 - B. disgusted.
 - C. aggressive.
 - D. dismayed.

2. Which sentence best states the main idea of this passage?
 - A. The Industrial Revolution has slowly destroyed the environment.
 - B. The lumber industry is responsible for the damage it has caused; therefore, it should assume the task of reforestation.
 - C. The lumber industry has received too much blame for deforestation, and not enough credit for restoration.
 - D. Trees are a necessary part of most ecosystems, and the lumber industry has effectively destroyed irreplaceable habitats.

3. The author claims that the lumber industry has failed to receive recognition for
 - A. meeting increased demand.
 - B. providing alternatives to wood building supplies.
 - C. following strict guidelines.
 - D. attempting to restore habitats.

4. According to the passage, restoring forests is important because
 - A. animals require specific habitats, and deforestation leads to extinction.
 - B. the forest supports many lives by protecting undergrowth and reducing pollution.
 - C. logging businesses are attempting to avoid negative publicity resulting from their impact on nature.
 - D. such a great demand exists for wood products that economic disaster would occur if forests were not restored.

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.

The center of the blossom is *viridescent* in early spring, but by the middle of May most of the green has darkened to purplish-blue. The flowers have an industrial as well as decorative use, since they become *candent* at an unusually low temperature. Their capacity to burn may lead to more efficient lighting systems as researchers better understand the properties of the plant.