

UNIT EIGHT

PORT

Latin PORTARE, PORTATUM “to carry”

III From the verb portare came the Latin word portus, meaning “harbor” (“that to which someone is brought”). Importune literally means “no harbor, no protection.” Think of a boat without a harbor—it’s open to all kinds of harassment by Mother Nature. Someone who importunes harasses in the same way, often at a time that is especially inconvenient or unsuitable for the person being bothered.

III To suffer (sub, “from beneath” and ferre) is to bear, as one would bear a burden. Someone insufferable (in=“not”) cannot be endured.

IMPORTUNE (im pôr tōon’) *v.* to urge or beg without end

Dennis promised to *importune* Congress until the ban on concealed weapons became law.

syn: plead

IMPORTUNATE (im pôr’ chə nət) *adj.* Extremely demanding; insistent

The baker finally surrendered and handed the *importunate* child a free cookie.

RAPPORT (ra pôr’) *n.* A positive relationship

L. re, “back,” + ad, “toward,” + portare = *bringing back together*

When she was first hired, Wilma worked hard to establish a *rapport* with her fellow flight attendants.

syn: camaraderie, friendship

FER

Latin FERRE “bear, carry”

INSUFFERABLE (in su’ fər ə bəl) *adj.* Impossible to bear; intolerable

Felicia found Robin *insufferable* and always tried to avoid her.

PREFERENTIAL (prə fər ən’ shəl) *adj.* Giving or showing an advantage to one over another

L. pre, “before,” + ferre = *to carry before*

Many students in the class were angry over Mr. Dobbs’ *preferential* treatment of Sandra.

CONFERMENT (kən fər’ mənt) *n.* The act of bestowing; a formal offer

L. con, “with,” + ferre = *to bring with*

The *conferment* of power upon the new king did not take place without some disturbance in Parliament.

PHER, PHOR

Greek PHOREIN “to carry, to bring”

PERIPHERY (pe ri' fə rē) *n.* The outermost part or boundary

G. peri, “around,” + pherein = *to carry around*

In ancient Rome, the dead were buried only on the *periphery* of the city.

syn: surroundings

ant: center

EUPHORIA (ū fôr' ē ə) *n.* A feeling of great happiness or well-being

G. eu, “good,” + pherein = *bringing good*

Following his victory at the Milvian Bridge, Constantine was filled with a deep feeling of *euphoria*.

syn: joy

ant: misery

GEST

Latin GERERE, GESTUM “to bear, carry”

CONGESTED (kun jest' əd) *adj.* Overcrowded; too tightly packed

L. con, “together,” + gestum = *carried together*

It can often take hours to get home during rush hour because of the *congested* highways.

syn: blocked, full

ant: clear, empty

GESTATE (jes' tāt) *v.* To conceive and develop in the mind or body

My teacher always told me to give myself plenty of time for ideas to *gestate*.

GESTICULATE (jes ti' kū lāt) *v.* To make gestures for emphasis

As the man gave us the complicated instructions, he *gesticulated* in a lively fashion.



The **GESTICULATING JESTER** made insulting **GESTURES**.

III Your peripheral vision covers the field of sight on either side of your face.

III A pheromone (*phorein* + *hormone*) is a chemical that is emitted by a living creature and carried through water or air to other members of that creature's species, usually as a means of attracting a mate.

EXERCISES - UNIT EIGHT

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

1. The patient's arteries were totally *congested* because...
2. The *rapport* between the cabaret singer and her pianist was the result of...
3. Isabel often felt she was on the *periphery* of her family's life rather than...
4. Many of my classmates found the new student in our history class *insufferable* because...
5. Professor Connor barely *gesticulated* at all during the long lecture, which made...
6. The *conferment* of honors upon Walter resulted in...
7. Cal was so *importunate* in his pursuit of powerful allies and friends that...
8. The *euphoria* Raymond experienced when he saw Tina was like...
9. When Greg *importuned* the city for looser parking regulations...
10. Terence received *preferential* treatment at the restaurant because...
11. The architect often needed time for his ideas to *gestate* because...

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

euphoria importunate conferment insufferable gestated

1. The _____ of gifts and respect upon the ruler of the tiny country lasted only until he was removed from power.
2. The _____ patient was not satisfied even after he had the opinions of two highly respected surgeons.
3. Once the proposal has _____ for several months in the minds of council members, we can bring it forth for discussion.
4. "There is nothing more _____," warned my mother, "than people who talk only about themselves."

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

congested importune periphery preferential euphoria

5. Because of his connection to the hospital, Milt received _____ care even when other patients were waiting.
6. Since she was supplied with all funds she needed, the opera star saw no need to _____ her manager for additional support.
7. Although Vance tried to be gracious to the losing team, he could hardly hide his _____ at winning the championship.
8. Rivers _____ with leaves and debris made the canoeists' journey all the more difficult.

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

periphery gesticulate rapport congested

9. Jill tried to focus on the parts of the dream that she remembered, but they remained on the _____ of her waking mind.
10. Because Nanette did not ever _____ or raise her voice, she got a reputation for being an unemotional person.
11. The growing lack of _____ between members of the soccer team seemed certain to result in a big argument.

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

1. Pilar was so _____ in her demands for a larger salary that her coworkers began to find her _____.
 - A. importunate; insufferable
 - B. preferential; importunate
 - C. congested; rapport
 - D. importunate; preferential
2. Because Caitlyn had developed a(n) _____ with several of the waiters at the restaurant, she always got _____ treatment there.
 - A. euphoria; insufferable
 - B. rapport; preferential
 - C. conferment; importunate
 - D. periphery; preferential

3. Marcia _____ wildly as she gave her victory speech, revealing her total _____.
- gestated; rapport
 - gesticulated; euphoria
 - importuned; conferment
 - importuned; euphoria
4. Though citizens had repeatedly _____ the Department of Transportation for a better traffic system in the downtown area, its agenda was so _____ that the topic was never brought up.
- importuned; congested
 - congested; importunate
 - gesticulated; insufferable
 - importuned; preferential
5. Though Adam did not attentively consider Anita's proposal to lend her money, he allowed it to _____ on the _____ of his mind.
- importune; conferment
 - gesticulate; euphoria
 - gestate; periphery
 - gestate; conferment

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

- The *conferment* of honors upon Esther will probably make her feel...
- The leaders of the small colony are probably *importunate* in asking for their independence because...
- If Kathy and Don choose to stand on the *periphery* of the crowd, it may be because...

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.

There's an invisible epidemic plaguing our college campuses that can't be cured by antibiotics or anti-inflammatories. It is an epidemic of sexual assault against women, and researchers warn that it is on the rise. Few of the nation's colleges, though, are taking appropriate action in reporting rape and sexual assault.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Post-secondary Education found that sexual offenses on college campuses, specifically assaults and rapes, rose 22 percent between 1998 and 2001. Some colleges have responded by pouring money into rape-prevention programs and hiring extra security officers. One thing most colleges haven't done, however, is change the way they report these crimes for statistical purposes.

Researchers at the University of Cincinnati last year found that only 36.5 percent of schools are complying with the Clery Act, a 1998 law that mandates filing annual crime reports with the Department of Education to tally offenses

like rapes and sexual assaults; the majority of colleges and universities are generating reports that don't contain specific information required by the law. The study also found there is no standard definition for sexual assaults and rapes among the schools, that fewer than half the institutions provide new students with sexual-assault awareness education, and that only 38 percent require campus police officers to undergo sexual-assault sensitivity training.

The study's results buttressed some advocacy groups' complaints that universities are hiding campus crimes, especially those of a sexual nature, to make the schools seem more _____ (FER) to prospective students. Lawmakers contend that this practice is misleading, especially to students looking for a safe setting in which to attend classes.

"Universities want you to think their campuses are like mom and apple pie, but students are getting raped... and we don't know about it," Representative Howard McKeon,

a Republican from California, told the Sacramento Bee newspaper. Consumers should be able to rely on colleges to provide an accurate picture of security on their campuses, the congressman added.

One student, a sophomore at the University of California at Santa Barbara, was looking to switch schools after she was sexually assaulted at a party at a house on the _____ (PHER) of that campus in 1999. She checked the U.S. Department of Education's website listing crime statistics for all of the University of California's campuses to find the safest one. She found a line of zeros next to the UC Davis'

listings for rapes and attempted rapes and enrolled the next month.

Shortly after she arrived on campus, however, the student learned that those comforting zeros were misleading. "The first friend I made had been raped in her dorm room, but it never appeared in those numbers," she told the newspaper; since then, she has used her personal story to _____ (PORT) University of California officials to sanction administrators for underreporting sexual crimes on their campuses.

1. Which statement best summarizes the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Sexual assaults on campus are rising.
 - B. College administrators are concerned about security on their campuses.
 - C. Colleges are not accurately reporting sexual assault cases.
 - D. Colleges are trying to protect their reputations in a highly competitive environment.
 - E. Crimes of a sexual nature are a threat to all age groups.

2. The author of this passage claims that
 - A. colleges should accurately report statistics on sexually related crimes.
 - B. failure of schools to meet the requirement of the Clery Act is a minor violation.
 - C. cases of sexual harassment are rising on college campuses.
 - D. students have no right to rely on colleges for an accurate assessment of campus security.
 - E. campus police officers need no sexual assault sensitivity training.

3. The Clery Act requires colleges to
 - A. keep records of all campus crime.
 - B. file a report with the federal government that breaks down certain offenses.
 - C. make sure campus security officers handle sexually related crimes properly under the U.S. Constitution's mandates.
 - D. provide rape-prevention classes.
 - E. insure their campuses are safe, clean, and happy places.

4. Which title best fits this passage?
 - A. Sexual Harassment: The Invisible Epidemic
 - B. Clery Act Gets No Respect from Colleges
 - C. One Student's Nightmare
 - D. Sexual Assault: A Rising Threat
 - E. Colleges Keep Crime in the Shadows

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 *dia* means "through" and *a*, from *ad*, means "towards."

In an attempt to discover the cause of the patient's baffling condition, doctors reviewed the strange array of symptoms. The patient was often short of breath and suffered from *diaphoresis*. Fluid loss from such perspiration should have resulted in dehydration, but instead, the body seemed to have sufficient or excessive water levels. In addition, the *afferent* nerves seemed to be malfunctioning; impulses that should have traveled inward to the brain were halted, and the patient's sensations were compromised.