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Expanding Vocabulary in Teens

1

Target Words:

amiable

aversion

My dad invited a few families over to our house for dinner. He reminded me to put my electronics away, smile, and be **amiable** to our guests. Dad is grilling steak, chicken, and shrimp shish kebab for our guests, so I hope no one has an **aversion** to meat. If they do, we can make a special one with just vegetables.

What does *amiable* mean?

- a) friendly
- b) upfront
- c) shy

What does *aversion* mean?

- a) a long-lasting flavor
- b) a strong dislike
- c) a strong scent



Expanding Vocabulary in Teens

Target Words:

murky

dismal

Tony wants to take the canoe out on the lake this morning and paddle over to the local swimming hole. The water is typically clear and inviting, but today it looks brown and **murky**. This is **dismal** news for his plans to go swimming because he wouldn't want to jump into gross water, but Tony knows he will still get to take the canoe out.

What does *murky* mean?

- a) most difficult to find
- b) dark and unclear
- c) intensely cold

What does *dismal* mean?

- a) gloomy
- b) lightly
- c) quickly



Target Words:

severe

perish

Temperatures during the Arizona summers are **severe** and can be deadly. Hikers are repeatedly warned about intense hiking in the desert heat. A few hikers each year **perish** while hiking in Arizona. Dehydration and heat are often the main factors. Even well-conditioned hikers can underestimate the heat and the toll it takes when shade is limited.

What does *severe* mean?

- a) exciting
- b) harsh
- c) warm

What does *perish* mean?

- a) get tired
- b) survive
- c) die



Target Words:

hideous

assured

Our neighbor's goat escaped from its pen and wandered into our yard. He made our plants, flowers, and shrubs look **hideous**. He took big chunks out of them, and now they are all uneven. I caught the mischievous goat and returned him to his owners. They **assured** me that they would make sure he stayed in his pen and would investigate how he got out.

What does *hideous* mean?

- a) ugly
- b) lovely
- c) rude

What does *assured* mean?

- a) watched
- b) misunderstood
- c) promised

