

Vocabulary Power Plus for the ACT  
Lesson 3 -- Assignment 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Hour \_\_\_\_\_

Words in Context

Directions: From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph.

**Some words will not be used.**

deviate      impale      glower      obfuscate      cataclysm      optimum  
pedestrian      adventitious

1. The (a) \_\_\_\_\_, two-hour lecture only (b) \_\_\_\_\_ the students. They respected the guest speaker's experience, but every time (c) \_\_\_\_\_ from the complex topic, she added ten (d) \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to the lecture. The conditions of the auditorium were not (e) \_\_\_\_\_ for long lectures; the air conditioner was broken, and the heat and poor lighting forced many of the students to fight drowsiness. One young man nearly (f) \_\_\_\_\_ himself on a number two pencil when he nodded off while doodling in his notebook. He caught himself and quickly sat up straight; the speaker (g) \_\_\_\_\_ at him for a few seconds, but never stopped speaking.

bona fide      fecund      parochial      edify      impale      ambiguous  
cataclysm      importune      extenuate

2. At the check-out line, Timmy (a) \_\_\_\_\_ his mother to purchase a new brand of candy bar for him; however, her reaction was a(n) (b) \_\_\_\_\_ compared to her usual tolerant reactions to Timmy's requests. Everyone stared when Lynn screamed at Timmy and told him to return the candy bar to the shelf and stop whining because no, he didn't need it. Before she snapped in the grocery store, Lynn had concealed her anxiety for a week. The rent payment was later than it had ever been, and the landlord had a(n) (c) \_\_\_\_\_ view in financial matters. Lynn had already received an extra week to pay her rent by reassuring him of her (d) \_\_\_\_\_ intention to pay for rent with her first paycheck, but the week had passed and she still hadn't found a job. The landlord had given her the usual speech about honoring a lease, apparently in an attempt to (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Lynn; however, no matter what the landlord thought, Lynn felt that losing her job without warning (f) \_\_\_\_\_ the extra time she needed to pay the rent. It was the landlord's (g) \_\_\_\_\_ tone that really bothered her; Lynn couldn't be sure if the landlord would continue being compassionate or if he would send an eviction notice upon finding no rent payment in his mailbox that morning. Lynn used the last of her cash to pay for the bread and cereal. She took Timmy's hand and left the store hoping to have a(n) (h) \_\_\_\_\_ day of job hunting.

**\*\*Go on to the next page.\*\***

## Inferences

**Directions:** Complete each sentence with information that makes sense based on the definition of the word in *italics*.

1. If Larry *gloated* about his skills after the last bowling tournament, then one can probably assume that...
2. Sometimes Nikki wakes up too early because the *diaphanous* curtains over the bedroom windows do not...
3. Keith scolded the children, but then he felt immense *chagrin* when his wife told him the damage to the car was...