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Chapter # 1

A. Vocabulary Development and Word Analysis

Words to consider in preparation for reading “How the Camel Got His Hump.”

Word	Word Origin and Meaning	Word Usage and History
djinn or jinn (noun) [jin]	any of a class of spirits lower than angels, capable of influencing humankind to good or evil	The djinn can grant you three wishes.
plough (verb) [plou]	to turn up soil or make a furrow	We need to plough the field in order to plant the corn.
excruciating (adj) [ik-SKROO-shee-ey-ting]	extremely painful, unbearably distressing, tortured	His broken leg was causing him excruciating pain.
howl (verb) [houl]	to utter a loud, prolonged, mournful cry as that of a dog or wolf	Wolves will gather in a pack to howl at the full moon.
yoke (noun) [yohk]	a device for joining together a pair of draft animals, usually consisting of a cross piece with two bow shaped pieces to enclose the head of each animal	The yoke must be placed on the oxen correctly so that the load will pull easily.

B. Vocabulary Practice

Exercise 1.1: Sentence Completion

Choose the phrase that you think best completes the sentence. Circle the letter of your choice.

- The excruciating _____ caused my mother some surprise.
 A. party that we planned for the holiday
 B. pain from my broken leg
- I wanted to howl when _____.
 A. my boyfriend left me for another girl.
 B. I won the history award.
- Many of my Arab friends have told me that a djinn _____.
 A. enjoys creating pastries in a bakery.
 B. can grant wishes or cause mischief.
- If you don't yoke _____ correctly, the load will often be off balance.
 A. oxen
 B. cars

5. Dad asked me to plough _____.
- A. the back flower bed.
 - B. the deck in the backyard.

Exercise 1.2: Determine Word Meaning

One of the great things that happens as you increase your vocabulary is that you have access to more effective words. These help you to express specific and more complete ideas. Replace the italicized words with a single word from the following list.

- | plough | excruciating | howl | yoke | djinn |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. We need a device to join together our horses so that we can haul alfalfa. | | | | 1. _____ |
| 2. Aladdin met a spirit that can influence people when he rubbed a magic lamp. | | | | 2. _____ |
| 3. Gwen needs to turn up the soil in her garden before it is too late to plant tomatoes. | | | | 3. _____ |
| 4. Cancer is often unbearably painful and torturous when it is caught too late. | | | | 4. _____ |
| 5. My dogs like to cry piteously for prolonged times when I leave them to go to work. | | | | 5. _____ |

Exercise 1.3: Synonyms and Antonyms

Fill in the blank spaces on the left with words from the list on the right. Antonyms are words that have the opposite meaning from one another while synonyms are words that have similar meanings. For instance: open and closed are antonyms while dog and canine are synonyms.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| _____ | 1. synonym for <i>till</i> | Djinn |
| _____ | 2. antonym for <i>pleasant</i> | Plough |
| _____ | 3. synonym for <i>harness</i> | Excruciating |
| _____ | 4. antonym for <i>mortal</i> | Howl |
| _____ | 5. synonym for <i>bellow</i> | Yoke |

C. Writing to Learn

Remember: This is a journal freewrite. It won't be graded for grammar and spelling. The key is to relax and write what comes to mind. This freewrite gives you the chance to practice writing in a casual environment. This will give you the opportunity to reflect on and recreate experiences, report observations, and persuade others.

If you were asked to make up a mythical, creation story of any animal , which one would you choose? Think of writing this for small children, so it can be a simple story. Explain which animal you would choose and tell how the animal came into being.



Etymologies: Word Origins and Word Histories

The study of word history is called etymology. It means tracing words back to their origins. You can use the following steps to research the origin of a word.

1. find the word's entry in a dictionary.
2. Locate the bracketed etymology that follows.

Volcano [It<L Volcanus, VULCAN]
3. The etymology of volcano indicates that volcano came through Italian, from the Latin word Volcanus, which is related to Vulcan. Vulcan was the Roman god of fire and metalworking.
4. Relate the word's history to its meaning. Besides being interesting, this tells you why a word was chosen to represent a certain thing.
5. The history of the word volcano suggests the actual character of this natural phenomenon – fiery and powerful.

Examples:

Rain: the word rain comes from the Old English and before that the Latin word for wet.

Tornado: the word tornado comes from the Latin word for thunder by way of the Spanish.

Research the origins of the following words that describe a variety of environmental phenomena.

Inferno: _____

Lava: _____



Literature Selection #1

How the Camel Got His Hump

by
Rudyard Kipling

About the Author

Rudyard Kipling

(1865-1936) was born in Bombay, British India. He is known for his many stories about the place of his birth. **The Jungle Book** is one of his most famous stories. **The Just So Stories** were a collection of original stories he wrote for children. How the Camel Got its Hump is one of these. Kipling traveled all over the world during his lifetime and has left a rich legacy of writing from his many years of work.

In the beginning of years, when the world was so new and all, and the Animals were just beginning to work for Man, there was a Camel, and he lived in the middle of a Howling Desert because he did not want to work; and besides, he was a Howler himself.

So he ate sticks and thorns and tamarisks and milkweed and prickles, most excruciating idle; and when anybody spoke to him he said 'Humph!', just 'Humph!' and no more.

Presently the Horse came to him on Monday morning, with a saddle on his back and a bit in his mouth, and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come out and trot like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Horse went away and told the Man.

Presently the Dog came to him, with a stick in his mouth, and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come and fetch and carry like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Dog went away and told the Man.

Presently the Ox came to him, with the yoke on his neck and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come and plough like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Ox went and told the Man.

At the end of the day the Man called the Horse and the Dog and the Ox together, and said, 'Three, O Three, I'm very sorry for you (with the world so new-and-all); but that Humph-thing in the Desert can't work, or he would have been here by now, so I am going to leave him alone, and you must work double-time to make up for it.'

That made the Three very angry (with the world so new-and-all), and they held a palaver, and an indaba, and a punchayet, and a pow-wow on the edge of the Desert; and the Camel came chewing on milkweed most excruciating idle, and laughed at them. Then he said 'Humph!' and went away again.