Word Quest 3

List 22 · Describing things 3

Vocabulary and example	Write it

handy adj. /ˈhændi/

useful and easy to use

Family: handier **Use it with:** come in handy

A small knife is **handy** when you go camping.

harsh adj. /hɑːʃ/

very strict or unkind; also, very difficult to live in

Family: harsher · harshly (adv.) **Use it with:** a harsh climate · harsh words

The winter in Harbin is **harsh**.

hoop n. /huːp/

a large ring of wood, metal or plastic

Family: hoops **Use it with:** hula hoop

He threw the ball through the basketball **hoop**.

hum v./n. /hʌm/

to sing with your lips closed; or a low continuous sound

Family: hums · hummed **Use it with:** the hum of traffic

She **hummed** a song while she cooked.

importance n. /ɪmˈpɔːtəns/

the quality of being important

Family: important (adj.) **Use it with:** of great importance

The teacher talked about the **importance** of sleep.

incredible adj. /ɪnˈkredɪbl/

very hard to believe; also, amazing

Family: incredibly (adv.)

The view from the top was **incredible**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

independent adj. /ˌɪndɪˈpendənt/

not needing help or control from others

Family: independently (adv.) · independence (n.) **Use it with:** independent of

My grandma is ninety and still very **independent**.

informal adj. /ɪnˈfɔːml/

relaxed and not official

Family: informally (adv.) **Use it with:** an informal meeting

You can wear **informal** clothes to the party.

lump n. /lʌmp/

a small piece of something solid with no clear shape

Family: lumps · lumpy (adj.) **Use it with:** a lump of

I like two **lumps** of sugar in my tea.

massive adj. /ˈmæsɪv/

very large and heavy

Family: massively (adv.)

A **massive** rock fell onto the road.

mixture n. /ˈmɪkstʃə/

something made by mixing different things

Family: mixtures · mix (v.) **Use it with:** a mixture of

Green is a **mixture** of blue and yellow.

obvious adj. /ˈɒbvɪəs/

easy to see or understand

Family: obviously (adv.)

It's **obvious** that she's tired: she keeps yawning.

Vocabulary and example	Write it

odor n. /ˈəʊdə/

a smell, often an unpleasant one

Family: odors **Use it with:** body odor **Tip:** American spelling; British English writes “odour”.

There’s a strange **odor** in the fridge.

ordinary adj. /ˈɔːdɪnəri/

normal; not special

Family: ordinarily (adv.) **Use it with:** an ordinary day · extraordinary

It was an **ordinary** Tuesday until the fire alarm rang.

particular adj. /pəˈtɪkjʊlə/

one specific; also, hard to please

Family: particularly (adv.) **Use it with:** in particular

Is there a **particular** book you want?

pattern n. /ˈpætn/

a design of repeated shapes; also, a regular way something happens

Family: patterns **Use it with:** a pattern of

The shirt has a **pattern** of small stars.

pleasant adj. /ˈplezənt/

nice, enjoyable

Family: pleasantly (adv.) **Use it with:** a pleasant surprise

We had a **pleasant** walk by the lake.

powerful adj. /ˈpaʊəfl/

having great power or strength

Family: powerfully (adv.) **Use it with:** a powerful country

The engine is very **powerful**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

practical adj. /ˈpræktɪkl/

useful and sensible; about real situations, not ideas

Family: practically (adv.) **Use it with:** practical skills · a practical solution **Tip:** Practically also means almost.

Running shoes are more **practical** than high heels for a hike.