Word Quest 5

List 21 · Describing things 3

Vocabulary and example	Write it

merit n. /ˈmerɪt/

a good quality that deserves praise

Family: merits **Use it with:** on merit

The plan has some **merit**.

midst n. /mɪdst/

the middle of something

Use it with: in the midst of

In the **midst** of the storm, the power went out.

necessity n. /nəˈsesɪti/

something you need

Family: necessities · necessary (adj.)

Water is a **necessity**, not a luxury.

overcrowded adj. /ˌəʊvəˈkraʊdɪd/

with too many people

The trains are **overcrowded** at rush hour.

parallel adj./n. /ˈpærəlel/

(of lines) side by side and never meeting; also, similar

Family: parallels

The two roads run **parallel** to each other.

personalize v. /ˈpɜːsənəlaɪz/

to change something to suit one person

Family: personalizes · personalized **Tip:** British English also writes “personalise”.

You can **personalize** your phone case with your name.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

precious adj. /ˈpreʃəs/

very valuable or loved

Use it with: precious stones

These photos are **precious** to me.

presence n. /ˈprezəns/

being in a place

Family: present (adj.)

Your **presence** at the meeting is important.

primitive adj. /ˈprɪmɪtɪv/

very simple and basic; also, from a very early time

Family: primitively (adv.)

They lived in **primitive** huts.

puff n./v. /pʌf/

a short amount of air or smoke

Family: puffs · puffed

A **puff** of smoke came from the chimney.

realm n. /relm/

an area of activity or knowledge; also, a kingdom

Family: realms

That’s in the **realm** of science fiction.

reflection n. /rɪˈflekʃn/

an image in a mirror or water; also, careful thought

Family: reflections · reflect (v.)

She looked at her **reflection** in the lake.

Vocabulary and example	Write it

reinforce v. /ˌriːɪnˈfɔːs/

to make something stronger

Family: reinforces · reinforced

They **reinforced** the bridge with steel.

relevant adj. /ˈrelɪvənt/

connected to what is being discussed

Family: relevance (n.) **Tip:** Opposite: irrelevant.

Is this information **relevant**?

render v. /ˈrendə/

to make someone or something become; also, to give

Family: renders · rendered

The news **rendered** her speechless.

repetitive adj. /rɪˈpetɪtɪv/

doing the same thing again and again, in a boring way

Family: repeat (v.)

Factory work can be very **repetitive**.

resemble v. /rɪˈzembl/

to look like or be similar to

Family: resembles · resembled · resemblance (n.)

She **resembles** her mother.

rigid adj. /ˈrɪdʒɪd/

stiff and not bending; also, strict

Family: rigidly (adv.)

The rules are too **rigid**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

satisfactory adj. /ˌsætɪsˈfæktəri/

good enough

Family: satisfactorily (adv.)

Your work is **satisfactory**, but you can do better.

shaft n. /ʃæft/

a long narrow passage going down, e.g. in a mine; also, a long handle

Family: shafts **Use it with:** a lift shaft

The miners went down the **shaft**.