

# Chapter 3 Word List

## Word List

**alternative** (*noun*) one of two or more possibilities;  
(*adjective*) giving or being a choice between two or more things

**blithely** (*adverb*) 1. with little care;  
2. cheerfully

**bungle** (*verb*) to perform a task in a clumsy or an unskilled way

**condemn** (*verb*) 1. to express disapproval of;  
2. to declare unsuitable for use

**contend** (*verb*) to compete in a contest or race

**decoy** (*noun*) 1. any means used to lead or tempt into danger; 2. lure;  
(*verb*) 1. to lead by trickery; 2. to entice

**establish** (*verb*) 1. to set up and keep going;  
2. to prove; 3. to cause to be recognized and accepted

**indirect** (*adjective*) 1. straying from a straight path; 2. roundabout

**irate** (*adjective*) very angry

**leeway** (*noun*) a degree of freedom to alter or vary something

**nebulous** (*adjective*) hazy; indistinct; vague

**occurrence** (*noun*) 1. something that takes place; 2. an event or a happening

**opposition** (*noun*) 1. resistance; 2. a person or group that acts as an obstacle

**proportion** (*noun*) 1. a relationship between parts of a whole; 2. the compared relation of things, numbers, or sizes; ratio;  
(*verb*) to adjust in size; to make symmetrical

**provoke** (*verb*) 1. to make angry; 2. to stir into action

**ransack** (*verb*) 1. to plunder or rummage;  
2. to search in a disorderly way for something to steal

**reconcile** (*verb*) 1. to become friendly again;  
2. to bring into agreement

**resolution** (*noun*) 1. a decision; 2. an answer to a problem

**sulk** (*verb*) to be silent or distant in a sullen or angry way

**vulgar** (*adjective*) coarse, crude, or in poor taste

## Additional Words

### Challenge Words

**amass** (*verb*) to gather or come together

**convey** (*verb*) to express with words or gestures

**hover** (*verb*) to hang in the air

**mediate** (*verb*) to intervene for the purpose of bringing about an agreement between sides

**revert** (*verb*) to return or come back

### Word Study: Homographs

A homograph is a word spelled the same as another word but having a different meaning and sometimes a different pronunciation. The following words are homographs.

**bear** (*verb*) to carry or support; to give birth to; to naturally produce

**bear** (*noun*) a large mammal with coarse, thick fur and a short tail

**lead** (*verb*) to go before or to show the way; to guide

**lead** (*noun*) a heavy, soft, bluish-gray metal

**tear** (*verb*) to pull apart or into pieces by force; to rip; to pull away by force

**tear** (*noun*) a drop of salty liquid that comes from the eye