



“I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.”

Psalm 50:11

Develop Your Diction

severity

endorse

premises

agility

inimitable

transfixed



Use a word from the list to complete the series.

- | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|------------|-------|
| 1. accept | admire | applaud | favor | _____ |
| 2. frozen | held | mesmerized | spellbound | _____ |
| 3. skill | grace | lightness | nimbleness | _____ |
| 4. original | one-of-a-kind | unequalled | perfect | _____ |
| 5. sternness | hardness | intensity | strength | _____ |
| 6. grounds | campus | property | location | _____ |

Before You Read

In the story verse, God tells us that He knows and owns all the animals in the whole creation. Revelation 4:11 says that God created all things for His pleasure.

It is wonderful that God’s creatures also give us pleasure. In “The Fox,” John Burroughs records his thoughts after seeing a fox in the wild.

As you read, pay close attention to the words Burroughs used. Try to picture the scenes in your mind.



Read “The Fox.”

Thinking About the Story



Answer the questions and follow the directions.

- 7. How can you tell John Burroughs loved nature? Give two specific reasons.

8. Write the figure of speech the author used to say that the Fox’s footprints tell a lot about the animal. _____

So astonished and fascinated was I by his sudden appearance and matchless beauty, that not till I caught the last glimpse of him as he disappeared over a knoll did I awake to my duty as a sportsman and realize what an opportunity to distinguish myself I had unconsciously let slip.

9. What did Burroughs mean by his “duty as a sportsman”? _____

10. Why was he later glad that he had “forgotten his duty”? _____

11. Overall, how did he feel about the fox? _____

Words



Follow the directions.

12. Write a word from the essay that shows the fox was fast. _____
13. Write a word (besides *beautiful*) that shows he was beautiful. _____
14. In the first paragraph, Burroughs *shows* us the fox. Write the unusual phrase he uses to describe the fox that helps you see him in your mind. _____
15. Explain the meaning of this phrase: *evidently reconnoitering the premises with an eye to the henroost*. _____

16. Write the alliterative phrase Burroughs used to describe the bark of the fox. (If you don't remember what *alliteration* means, look up *alliteration* in the list of terms on page 48.) _____

The Road Less Traveled

Have you wondered where your reader title came from? The idea comes from Robert Frost's poem “The Road Not Taken” on page v of your reader. In it he says, “I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.”

Your reader title is a metaphor. As you read the selections in your reader, you will meet many people who take the less-traveled road. In this short account, John Burroughs takes the less-traveled road. Instead of doing what the average sportsman would have done, he becomes engrossed by the fox's grace and beauty and ends up writing an essay about seeing the fox.

When John Burroughs took “the road less traveled,” it probably made no lasting, eternal difference. But many of life's choices do make such differences. As you read this year, watch for characters who take the road less traveled, whose choices make all the difference in the world.



Answer the question.

17. What is the more-traveled way that the average sportsman in Burroughs' place would have taken? _____

Apply God's Word

John Burroughs knew the fox well, but God knows him better—the fox belongs to Him: “I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine.”



Tell about an experience you have had observing nature. How did it make you think of God?

- 18. _____

Diction From the Roots Up

This year you will study several word parts—Latin and Greek words that are roots of many common words we use today.

This study has a purpose. If you know the meanings of these common roots, you can decode unfamiliar words. For example, suppose you are reading a book and come to the word *biped*. If you know that *bi* means “two” and *ped* means “foot,” you can figure out the meaning of *biped* without ever opening a dictionary.

co, con, com, col

These four word parts all come from the same Latin prefix *com*. They all have the same meaning: “with” or “together.”

Some words containing these roots are easy to understand.



Without using a dictionary, write the meanings of these words.

19. *coworkers* _____
 20. *cooperate* _____

Other times we need to take the word apart to see how it got its present meaning.

Confuse. *Con + fusus = to pour, mix.*

If you are *confused*, your thoughts are “mixed together” or “mixed up.”

Collect. *Col + legere = to gather.*

If you like to *collect* stamps, you “gather them together.”

Combat. *Com + battuere = to beat, fight.*

Someone in *combat* is “fighting with” someone else.



Follow the directions.

21. Write the four word parts that mean “with” or “together.” _____

22. The word *comfort* has two parts: *com* + *fortis*, meaning “strong.” Write a simple definition of the word, using the meaning of each part. _____

A Cry in the Night

Lesson 3



“For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.” Romans 16:19



Memorize Romans 16:19 and say it to someone.

Develop Your Diction

disposition

discreetly

stippled

interval

reflective



Study the words in the glossary. Use them to complete the sentences.

1. Young robins have _____ breast feathers, a common characteristic of the thrush family of birds.
2. After an _____ of 15 minutes, the traffic began to creep ahead again.
3. Manuel shows a cheerful _____ as long as everything is going his way.
4. I went over to the neighbor’s house yesterday, but when I heard loud, angry voices from the living room, I _____ turned back home without knocking.
5. The _____ look on Michelle’s face showed that she was deep in thought.



Read “A Cry in the Night.”

Theme

The *theme* of a story or poem is its main idea. It is an important idea or a single truth about life that the writer wants his reader to remember.



Follow the directions.

6. Write the theme of the story in your own words.

7. Write the phrase from the first page of the story that directly states the theme.

Lessons From Nature



Answer the questions.

8. How did the fawn show defiance? _____
9. Write two adjectives the writer uses in the first paragraph to describe the defiant fawn.

10. Write two nouns the writer uses in the first paragraph to describe the other fawn.

11. Name two actions of the defiant fawn that show he was foolish.

a. _____

b. _____

Apply God's Word

“For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.”

The defiant fawn's experience teaches us two important lessons. The first is given in our lesson verse: wise people are simple concerning evil. *Simple* in this verse does not mean “easy.” It has the idea of being innocent or ignorant.

For example, you could learn how to pick locks and break into safes. But that is knowledge of evil, knowledge that you should not have. You want to be *simple*—ignorant—of that kind of knowledge.

Notice what the story says about one fawn: “The one was a follower, a learner.” Now think about how the story describes the other fawn: “The other followed only his own willful head.”



Follow the directions.

12. Tell how being “wise unto that which is good” helped the one fawn.

The second lesson is given in Proverbs 30:17: “The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.”

**Do these activities.**

13. Explain how the one fawn's experience illustrates the truth of this verse.

- 14. Tell about a time when you experienced the truth of the verse—when you disobeyed or were disrespectful and suffered as a result. Or, tell about a time when “being wise unto that which is good” resulted in keeping you safe.

Imagery in Poetry

**Read “Deer.”**

Imagery is an important part of poetry. It is the use of words and figures of speech to paint pictures in your mind.

“Deer” is full of imagery. Can you see the deer's eyes when you read lines 5 and 6?

**Do these activities.**

- 15. Write a line or lines that contain an image you especially like.

16. Explain the meaning of this sentence: *The world is watched through sensitive nostrils.*

17. Tell whether the figure of speech in line 5 is a *simile* or *metaphor*. _____

**Write another word from the poem that is similar to each of these words.**

18. discreetly _____

19. stippled _____

Hide God's Word

**Complete Romans 16:19 from memory.**

20. “For your obedience is _____ . I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you _____ .”

Diction From the Roots Up



Answer the question.

21. What are the meanings of the word parts *co*, *con*, *com*, and *col*? _____



Study the etymologies. Write the correct word from the list.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|
| 22. _____ | <i>com</i> + <i>celare</i> , to hide | conflict |
| 23. _____ | <i>com</i> + <i>fligere</i> , to strike | conceal |
| 24. _____ | <i>com</i> + <i>bini</i> , two by two | combine |

First Hunt

Lesson 4



"And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers."

Malachi 4:6

Develop Your Diction

expanse

coordination

iridescent

initiate

rime

retract



Read the sentences. Use the context to help you write each word with its proper definition.

God created the great expanse of sky on the second day of creation.

After the cold night, a rime of frost covered the car windshield.

Certain minerals and precious stones have an iridescent shine.

Secret clubs often have a secret ceremony to initiate new members.

Playing tennis well requires a lot of coordination.

Cats can retract their claws, but dogs cannot.

- _____ brightly, glossily colored
- _____ wide spreading area or surface
- _____ introduce into membership
- _____ working together effectively
- _____ an accumulation or thin coating of ice
- _____ to draw back