


Lesson 10 Consistency in Style and Tone

 **Introduction** When you write, choose a style and tone that suit your purpose and audience. You might choose a formal style and serious tone for a report. For a personal e-mail, you might choose an informal style and humorous tone. Once you've decided on a style and tone, you need to be consistent.

- The words you choose and your sentence patterns form your **style**.

Formal	During meteorological events, animals tend to scatter.
Informal	It's raining. Look at that mouse run for cover. It's fast!

- Your tone shows your attitude toward your subject and/or readers. For example, a tone may be serious, playful, humorous, angry, calm, joyful, or sad.

Serious	Some animals seek shelter in and under trees or bushes.
Playful	Can a lizard use a tree as an umbrella? It sure can!

 **Guided Practice** Read the passage. Then rewrite the underlined sentences to match the style and tone of the rest of the passage.

Hint
The style and tone of the story are informal and casual. The underlined sentences contain language that is either too poetic or too technical. Replace them with language that matches the story's style and tone.

"Our camping trip is off to a great start," said Dad. We had just begun to unpack. Then crack, sizzle! Lightning flashed through the sky. Thunder made the mountains tremble in fear.

"Run to the car!" yelled Dad. "We'll wait it out there." After an hour, the rain stopped. When we exited the vehicle, we found that our belongings had absorbed a vast amount of moisture!

1 _____

2 _____



Independent Practice

Read the paragraph below. Then answer the questions that follow for numbers 1–4.

Answer Form

1 (A) (B) (C) (D)

2 (A) (B) (C) (D)

3 (A) (B) (C) (D)

4 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Number
Correct

4

(1) Saving our local campground is of great importance. (2) First, it gives kids a bunch of outside stuff to do, like running around by the river. (3) There is also nothing quite like the thrill of snoozing under the stars, outside of the city. (4) I know that building new houses matters, but keeping a space for people to enjoy nature is necessary, too. (5) Can you imagine if this option were taken away? (6) No way, I say!

- 1** What revision of sentence 2 best matches the style and tone of sentence 1?
- A** First, it offers children outdoor exercise, such as hiking.
 - B** First, it allows kids to finally get a chance to run around.
 - C** First, it lets children do stuff, like run around outside.
 - D** First, kids get to run around the river and do other outside stuff.

- 2** Which sentence should be deleted because it introduces a tone that is inconsistent with most of the paragraph?
- A** sentence 1
 - B** sentence 4
 - C** sentence 5
 - D** sentence 6

- 3** Which best replaces the word snoozing in sentence 3 to add a formal style and serious tone to the paragraph?
- A** catching some z's
 - B** falling asleep
 - C** nodding off
 - D** getting some shut-eye

- 4** Which sentence could be added to the paragraph without changing its style or tone?
- A** Nobody gets it!
 - B** We need to stop those pesky builders from taking over!
 - C** They've really got to leave our campground alone.
 - D** We must preserve our local campground!

Lesson 13

Using a Dictionary or Glossary



Introduction

Many words have more than one definition and can serve as more than one part of speech. When you are reading or writing, use a dictionary to check the precise meaning of a word or phrase.

- Words in a **dictionary** appear in alphabetical order. Each entry provides the pronunciation, the part of speech, and the meanings of the word. Sample sentences are often included to clarify meaning.

account (ə kount') *n.* 1. a record of events or time period 2. money in a bank 3. worth, importance
account for *v.* 1. to be the main reason for: *Heavy rain accounted for the flooding.* 2. to explain: *I can't account for the dog's barking.*

When there is more than one meaning, each definition is numbered.

The abbreviations show the part of speech: *n.* stands for *noun* and *v.* stands for *verb*.

extract (ik sträkt') *v.* 1. to pull out 2. to obtain or get meaning, pleasure, or information from something **extract** (äk' sträkt) *n.* 3. an excerpt or part of a text 4. a flavoring

The pronunciation of the word is in parentheses. For some words, the pronunciation depends on the part of speech.

- A **glossary** is similar to a dictionary. It is an alphabetical list of special words that are used in a book. Each entry defines the word as it is used in that book.



Guided Practice

Read the paragraph. Use the entries above to find the meanings of the underlined words and phrases. Write the number of the correct meaning above each word or phrase.

Hint

Identify how a word is used in a sentence before you use the dictionary. If the word is used as a noun, then you should read the definitions given for a noun.

Our museum has an exhibit on Chinese art. The catalog includes extracts from books about the landscape paintings. Many people extract pleasure from viewing these paintings. However, various accounts suggest that these paintings were also used to teach life lessons. If the paintings were used to teach morals, then scholars could account for the wide use of symbols that stand for character traits.



Independent Practice

For numbers 1–4, use the dictionary entries to answer the questions.

express (ik sprēs') *v.* 1. to say or state
2. to communicate ideas or feelings 3. to squeeze or press something out *n.* 4. type of transportation that moves with few or no stops *adj.* 5. specific: *I bought these apples for the express purpose of baking a pie.* 6. stated
7. moving with few or no stops

1 What part of speech is express as used in this sentence?

My mother and I took the express train to the museum.

- A** noun
- B** adjective
- C** verb
- D** adverb

2 Which definition of express best fits this sentence?

One artist painted a gloomy landscape to express the theme of grief and loss.

- A** Definition 2
- B** Definition 3
- C** Definition 5
- D** Definition 6

Answer Form

1 **A** **B** **C** **D**

2 **A** **B** **C** **D**

3 **A** **B** **C** **D**

4 **A** **B** **C** **D**

**Number
Correct**

4

reflect (ri flēkt') *v.* 1. to bend back light
2. to show an image, to mirror 3. to show clearly or reveal: *The novel reflects the writer's unhappiness.* 4. to consider seriously: *You need to reflect on your actions.* 5. to bring negative attention to: *The team's rowdiness reflected on the school.*

3 Which definition best fits reflect as used in this sentence?

Many landscape paintings reflected the artist's mood.

- A** Definition 1
- B** Definition 3
- C** Definition 4
- D** Definition 5

4 Which definition best fits the way reflect is used in this sentence?

When you view a Chinese landscape painting, reflect on the artist's message.

- A** Definition 2
- B** Definition 3
- C** Definition 4
- D** Definition 5

Lesson 14

Using a Thesaurus



Introduction

You can use a thesaurus to make your writing more precise or interesting. A **thesaurus** provides synonyms and antonyms for particular words.

- A thesaurus lists words in alphabetical order. Each entry gives the part of speech, the definition, and a list of synonyms. Antonyms, if any, are also included.

bitter *adj.* 1. a strong, unpleasant taste: *The white part of a lemon rind is bitter.* *acid, unpleasant* Antonyms: *sugary, sweet* 2. harsh and cold: *Winter has been bitter this year.* *rough, severe* Antonyms: *mild, pleasant* 3. having or showing resentment: *Al felt bitter when he lost his job.* *angry, resentful, sullen* Antonym: *friendly*

claim *v.* 1. to need: *This issue claims our attention.* *deserve, demand, require* 2. to say that something is true: *Nola claims that bees sleep at night.* *state, declare, insist* Antonym: *deny* *n.* 3. a statement that something is true: *The ad makes the claim that Brand X is the best flour.* *assertion, allegation, declaration* Antonym: *denial*

When there is more than one meaning, each definition is numbered.

Sometimes there is a sample sentence.

Some words can serve as more than one part of speech.



Guided Practice

Read the paragraph. Use the thesaurus entries above to answer the questions about the underlined words.

Hint

Remember: A *synonym* is similar in meaning to another word. An *antonym* has the opposite meaning of the word.

Nearly 2,600 years ago, people in Mexico and Central America

drank a bitter chocolate drink, which they made from cocoa beans.

Some scholars claim that people drank chocolate even longer ago.

1 Which words are synonyms of *claim* as used in the paragraph?

2 Which word is an antonym of *claim*?

3 Which words are synonyms of *bitter* as used in the paragraph?

4 Which words are antonyms of *bitter*?



Independent Practice

For numbers 1–4, read the sentence. Then use the thesaurus entry to answer the question.

significant *adj.* 1. expressing a meaning: *Dad gave Lee and Arlo a significant glance when they started to argue.* **meaningful, informative** Antonym: *meaningless* 2. having influence: *Thu has a significant job with the Government.* **important** Antonyms: *insignificant, unimportant*

1 As the food of rulers, gods, and everyday people, chocolate was significant for the Maya.

Which is a synonym for significant as it is used above?

- A** meaningful
- B** unimportant
- C** insignificant
- D** meaningless

permit *v.* 1. to allow to do something: *I'll permit you to pick plums.* **allow, authorize** Antonyms: *forbid, prohibit* 2. to be favorable: *We'll have a picnic if the weather permits.* **accommodate, oblige** *n.* 3. written permission: *The contractor got a permit to build a home.* **license, permission**

2 The Aztecs, however, would permit only certain people to drink it.

Which is an antonym for permit as it is used above?

- A** license
- B** allow
- C** forbid
- D** oblige

Answer Form

1 (A) (B) (C) (D)

2 (A) (B) (C) (D)

3 (A) (B) (C) (D)

4 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Number
Correct

4

powerful *adj.* 1. physically strong: *The oxen are powerful.* **strong, mighty** Antonyms: *weak, frail* 2. able to influence: *Leaders are powerful people.* **high-ranking, influential** Antonym: *low-ranking*

3 Only the powerful members of Aztec society drank the sacred beverage.

Which is a synonym for powerful as it is used above?

- A** high-ranking
- B** powerless
- C** weak
- D** frail

valuable *adj.* 1. having monetary worth: *Gold is valuable.* **precious** Antonym: *cheap* 2. having use or importance: *A job teaches you valuable skills.* **useful, worthwhile** Antonym: *worthless*

4 Cocoa beans were so valuable that the Aztecs used the beans as money.

Which is an antonym for valuable as it is used above?

- A** useful
- B** worthwhile
- C** precious
- D** cheap