Another way of guessing the meaning of a new word is to look at the definition given in the text. *Definition* is explaining a word in other words. A word may be defined by a synonym or a short phrase. It may also be defined by an illustrative sentence.

Look at the following sentences.

A waterclock is a bowl with a small hole in the bottom. The water drips through the hole. The level of the water shows the hour.

You can guess the definition of the word waterclock by looking at the phrase a bowl with a small hole in the bottom which follows it.

#### **EXERCISE:**

Find the word or term which is defined by the underlined phrases. Write the answers in the blanks.

Did you know that "to cry wolf" means to <u>raise false alarms</u>?
 It is applied to anyone who complains of difficulties before they have actually arisen.

\_\_\_\_\_

2	The representative made speeches in favor of new laws to control pollution. He is running for re-election. He talked about laws controlling noise from traffic, smog from rural burning, and industrial wastes in water.
3	A balance, an instrument for measuring weight, has been used for centuries. The word continues to have that meaning as well as related meanings.
4	The autobiography was finally completed. At last the famous general had finished writing the story of his life.
5.	Magazines and newspapers are filled with advertising Radio and television broadcasts carrying frequent advertising notices often arrive in our mail. Because advertisers make use of the mass media, people as buyers or consumers need to know what advertising is doing to them or for them
6.	The word "boycott" comes from Captain Boycott, who was the agent of an English landowner in Ireland in 1880. He treated his tenants so badly that they all refused to speak to him. So the word came to be used in English to mean a refusal to have any connection or business with someone or something.

Besides guessing the meaning of a new word by looking at its definition, a reader may also look at the *situation* to get the meaning of an unfamiliar word.

Look at the following passage.

A farmer wanted to cross the river, but a storm had washed the bridge away. The farmer stood there, thinking of a solution. He finally decided to make a raft from wood he found nearby.

### **SITUATION:**

A farmer needed to cross the river but it was difficult since there wasn't any bridge.

He needed to find a way to cross the river, so, solution should mean an answer or a way of dealing with a difficulty. In this case the solution is to make a raft.

#### **EXERCISE:**

Read each of the following passages and then write the letter of the correct answer which means the same as the word in italics. You can guess the meaning by paying attention to the situation given.

- 1. The dog strewed the soft earth all around him. When he was satisfied that the hole was big enough, he began to bury the bone.
  - \_\_\_\_ What did the dog do with the earth he made?
    - a. scattered it around
    - b. made a pile
    - c. rolled in it

2	The burning building would not be able to stand up much longer. The woman leaning out of the fifth-story window was trapped by the flames. She tried to jump out of the building but she couldn't.
	<ul><li>What happened to the woman?</li><li>a. She was caught in the fire.</li><li>b. She was rescued by the firemen.</li><li>c. She was moved to another building.</li></ul>
3	Many creatures in the animal kingdom are <code>cannibals</code> . One of the best examples of this is the female praying mantis. She not only eats other praying mantis, but she also eats her own mate while they are mating.
	<ul><li>What kind of creature is a cannibal?</li><li>a. one that protects its nest</li><li>b. one that eats its own kind</li><li>c. one that hunts its enemies</li></ul>
4	Out of breath, the mandashed into the room and knocked over a chair: "Guess what happened!" he yelled. "I just won the first prize in the lottery."
	How did the man enter the room?  a. He ran into the room  b. He walked slowly into the room  c. He called loudly into the room
5.	Nisa imitated every actress she saw or read about. She wanted especially to be like the Hollywood stars. She even tried to dress like them and talk like them
	<ul> <li>What does imitated mean?</li> <li>a. truly admired</li> <li>b. tried to know</li> <li>c. copied the behavior of</li> </ul>

This lesson is a review of getting the meaning of a new word by using its definition or situation.

### **EXERCISE:**

Guess what the word in italics in each passage means. Write your answers in the blanks.

1. Men wore armor to protect their bodies from enemy blows. The use of this covering declined because it was too heavy and impractical.

What does armor mean?

- a protective head-covering
- b. defensive covering worn in fighting
- c. weapon with a metal point on a long shaft

2. On the superhighway last night there was a fatal accident involving a car and a 10-wheel truck. The two men in the car were left dead and the truck driver fled the scene.

What do you think fatal means?

- a. seriously injured
- b. suddenly killed
- c. ending in death

\_\_\_\_

3	Two men were in a floating sailboat near an island. The wind had been very strong that morning but at that time there was just a slight <code>breeze</code> . They realized that the breeze was not strong enough to sail back to shore so they decided to take a nap until the wind picked up.
	What does breeze mean?
	a a storm
	b. a soft wind
	c. still air
4	The customer could not tell whether the diamond was <code>genuine</code> or fake so she demanded that the jeweler give her a receipt, guaranteeing its value. After bringing it to a well-known diamond expert, the customer was sure that the shop-keeper was honest.
	What does genuine mean?
	a real
	b. big
	c. expensive
5.	A group of people gathered around an Indian snake charmer who was playing the flute and swaying his body to the music. As if in a trance, the snake reared its head and twisted its
	body in time to music. People generally think it is the music that charms or hypnotizes the snake
	but this is not true because scientists know that snakes are deaf.
	What does trance mean?
	a. an angry, excited state
	b. an abnormal, dreamy state
	c. a happy, delighted state

In this lesson, you will learn more locative prefixes: ab-, ad-, circum-, intra-, sub-, under-, super-, and com-. Notice the meaning of each prefix in the chart below.

Prefix	Meaning	Example	Definition
1. ab-	away from	<u>ab</u> normal	different from what is normal
2. ad-	to, towards	<u>adj</u> oin	be next to
3 circum	around	<u>circum</u> scribe	draw a line round
4. intra-	inside	<u>intra</u> -mural	existing within the walls
(intro-)			
5. sub-	under	<u>sub</u> marine	ship which can be submerged to operate under water
6. under-	beneath	<u>underground</u>	under the surface of the ground
7. super-	over, above	<u>super</u> mormal	beyond what is normal
8 con-	together, with	<u>con</u> form	be in agreement with
(com-,		<u>com</u> press	press together
cor-)		<u>correlate</u>	bring (one thing) into such a relation (with another)

## **EXERCISE**:

Fill in the blanks with the prefixes taken from the list below. You are aided by the meaning given in parentheses. Use each prefix once.

	ä	ab-	circum-	sub-	super-
	ä	ad-	intro-	under-	com
1.	It is said tha	t Drake wa	s the first man to	<u> </u>	gate (sail round) the world.
2.	The	<u>way</u> (un	derground railwa	y) in the Unite	d States is called the
	Undergroun	d in Great 1	Britain.		
3.	The	<u>sonic</u> (fa	ster than the spec	ed of sound) ai	rplane can take us there in one
	hour.				
4	Why was V	iyada	sent (away)	from school y	esterday?
5.	She enjoys_	W	ater (below the s	ourface of the w	ater) swimming with her
	snorkel.				
6.	The	mission	(entrance) fee of	this school is 1	1,000 baht.
7.	Hydrogen_	bin	es (joins togethe	er) with oxyger	n to formwater:
8	An	vert (one	who is more inte	erested in his ov	wn thoughts and feelings) is
	opposite to	an extrover	t who is more int	erested in thing	zs outside himself.

This lesson presents five suffixes which change nouns into adjectives. They are -like,

-y, -ish, -ic, **and**-al.

Suffix	Meaning	Example	Definition
1like	having the quality of	life <u>like</u>	having the quality of life
2 -y	like, full of, covered with	silky	like silk
		creamy	full of cream
		hairy	covered with hair
3 -ish	belonging to;	Turk <u>ish</u>	belonging to Turkey
	having the character of	fool <u>ish</u>	having the character of a fool
4ic	having the quality of;	hero <u>ic</u>	like a hero
	language name	Arab <u>ic</u>	of the Arabs
5al	having the quality of	music <u>al</u>	having the quality of music

## **EXERCISE:**

Complete the sentences below using the suffixes given to change the nouns in parentheses into adjectives. Be careful of the spelling.

-like	-ish	-al
- <b>y</b>	- <b>i</b> c	

(girl)	1.	Although the woman was old, her face was still		
(self)	2	He was so that he would never share his things with		
		arryone.		
(commerce)	3	Bean milk has recently become a product.		
(tragedy)	4	The situation is a result of the recent earthquake.		
(curl)	5.	Choosri has naturally hair like Liz.		
(sand)	6	Pattaya is famous for its beaches.		
(angel)	7.	Although the child's face was, his behavior was		
(devil)		usually		
(bush)	8	He is trying to grow a mustache but after three weeks it still isn't very		
(starch)	9.	The only way to lose weight is to limit the amount of		
( 1)	40	food you eat.		
(snob)	10.	Now that she is rich and famous, she is very .		

This lesson deals with 3 roots: -voc- (-voke-), -duce- (-duct-) and

Pay attention to their meanings in the table below. Roots sometimes change their original meanings when they form new words. For example,

Root	Meaning	Example	Definition
1voc-	call	<u>voc</u> ation	feeling that one is called to a certain kind of work
(-voke-)		e <u>voke</u>	call up, bring out
2duce-	lead	re <u>duce</u>	make less, smaller in size, price, etc.
(-duct-)		con <u>duct</u>	lead or guide
3mote-	move	<u>mo</u> tion	movement

### **EXERCISE:**

Write the word which means the same as the underlined part in each of the following items. You will guess right if you recall the prefixes studied in the previous lessons and the meaning of the roots in the above table.

revoked	convoked	deduced
produced	demoted	provoked
induced	motivated	promoted

1.	As a reward, the captain was given a higher position.
2	Last night loud noises from the house next-door <u>made</u> him <u>angry</u> because they kept him awake
	the whole night.
3.	Since the farmers <u>made</u> food for themselves, they could save a lot of money.
4.	From a careful examination of the foot prints, the detective <u>concluded</u> that the murderer was a
	tall man who often wore boots.
<b>5</b> .	Because he had so many accidents, his driver's license was <u>canceled</u> .
6.	The Prime Minister <u>called</u> the Members of Parliament <u>together</u> :
7.	We <u>persuaded</u> the old lady to travel by plane
8	The cowardly soldier was reduced to a lower rank

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