

Unit 1 - Something That Doesn't Exist

alternate
bland

convert
intense

navigate
pedestrian

require
retire

revert
sparse

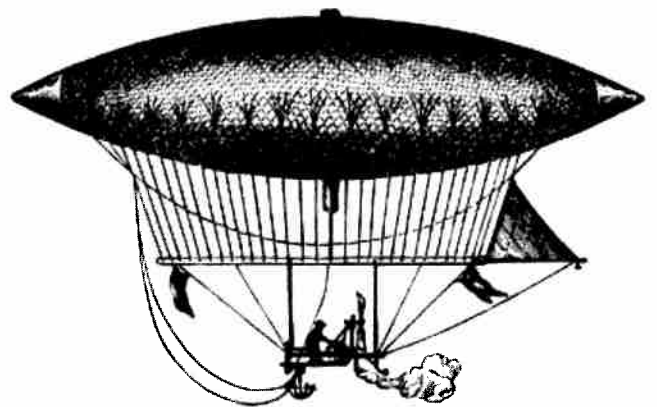
1A Introduction

Have you ever invented anything? You might have some idea that being an inventor means wearing a white lab coat and spending time tinkering with something in a dusty basement. But that's not true at all. The power of invention is in all of us. As Robert Kennedy once famously said, "There are those who look at things the way they are, and ask 'why?' ...I dream of things that never were, and ask 'why not?'"

1B Song Lyrics

*Think of something that just doesn't exist and say, "Why not?" Why not?
Think of something that just doesn't exist and say, "Why not?" Why not?
(x2)*

All the things that you use on the daily,
Didn't always exist; man, it's crazy.
Like someone once invented a shoe,
Invented a cup, invented some glue.
One day some dude taking a stroll with a scroll,
Thought, "Having one long page gets in the way,
I'm like a ship that's lost, can't **navigate**,
Can't find my favorite passage on the page."
So he thought for a minute, took a long look,
Then that dude invented the book!
And you can do it too; your mind's free,
Just think, "What do kids **require** and need?"
When you make that thing, you'll find fame,
And if it becomes big then you'll get paid.
Like I was drinking a soda; it was kind of **bland**,
The taste wasn't strong, then I hatched a plan.
I mixed some juice with some fruits and some candy too,



alternate / bland / convert / intense / navigate / pedestrian / require / retire / revert / sparse

I call it *Fruit Candy Juice*[®]; you'll be buying it soon.
 My inventions aren't normal, they're not pedestrian,
 I want to make something to help **pedestrians**,
 The people who walk on sidewalks; well, I'll make
 A sidewalk that moves like an escalator.
 So you can sip your *Fruit Candy Juice*[®]
 While the sidewalk moves—tell me that's not cool!

Hook

A rapper raps, an inventor invents,
 Air conditioners make the heat less **intense**,
 Less strong; that's perfect since the rhymes I've got
 Could leave the whole studio feeling sweaty and hot.
 But lucky for me, that invention was made
 Many years before my hot songs were played.
 But if I quit rap or if I **retire**,
 I'd invent a machine to change ice to fire.
 And not only would it be able to change and **convert**,
 It would also do the opposite and **revert**.
 Yeah, that's right, it would be so nice,
 My machine would turn fire back into ice.
 "Yeah, machines like that are **sparse**,
 There aren't many around, I mean, near or far."
 But what I do wish I could have right now
 Is a new **alternate** way to get around.
 A different way than a train or car,
 Like a backpack-jet that would take me far.
 Or maybe a jacket that comes with wings,
 I think that would be such an awesome thing.

Hook

1C Words Defined

alternate

(adj) 1. Happening or appearing in turns; every other. *Spring and fall are **alternate** seasons.* 2. Being a choice between two or more things. *The highway was closed so we took an **alternate** route through the city.*

(verb) To change back and forth; take turns. *The young lion cub **alternated** between sleepiness and playfulness.*

The Word Up Project: Level Indigo

bland



Lacking a strong flavor. *That taco is so **bland**; I swear there's more flavor in a cup of water.*

convert



To change from one form to another. *They **converted** the old school into an apartment building.* 2. To change someone's religion, opinion, or beliefs. *When I opened the door, there was someone trying to **convert** me to his religion.*



One who has been converted. *I didn't think I liked jazz, but after seeing Branford Marsalis perform, I'm a total **convert**.* (Note: In its noun form, convert is usually pronounced CON-vert.)

intense



Very strong; very great. *Brandon likes movies, but not flicks in which the violence is too **intense**.* Other forms: Calvin started the work with real **intensity** (noun).

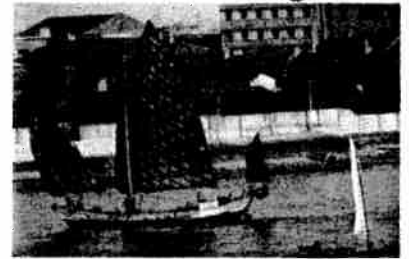
navigate



1. To move or direct (a ship or plane) along a certain path. *In her old fishing ship, the captain carefully **navigated** the river.* 2. To make one's way. *It was so crowded that it was difficult to **navigate** through the crowd.*

Other forms: Thanks to our **navigation** (noun) system, we knew just where to go.

navigate



pedestrian



A person who is walking; someone traveling on foot. *The mayor wanted to close some streets to cars to make the city more friendly to **pedestrians**.*



Dull or lacking imagination. *Tommy looked like a rock star, but his songs were **pedestrian**.*



require



To need or demand. *My school **requires** you to get good grades if you want to go to the winter dance.*

Other forms: My mom said, "Cleaning up after yourself is one of the **requirements** (noun) of getting older."

retire



To stop working. *My grandfather worked for the post office until he **retired** last year.*

revert



To go back to an earlier condition, often one that is not satisfactory. *The basketball team got along well when they won, but when they lost, they **reverted** to yelling at each other.*

sparse



Small in number or extent; thinly scattered. *Our class trip to the farm was canceled because interest was so **sparse**.*

alternate / bland / convert / intense / navigate / pedestrian / require / retire / revert / sparse

1D Synonyms

Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1. few in number | sparse | bland | intense |
| 2. to stop working | retire | convert | require |
| 3. lacking flavor | alternate | intense | bland |
| 4. to change back and forth | convert | alternate | revert |
| 5. very strong | bland | intense | sparse |

1E Fill in the Blank

Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.

- When Sofie went to Mexico, she had to _____ her money from dollars to pesos.

retire	convert	revert
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- That movie was so _____; I've seen the same story a million times.

pedestrian	sparse	intense
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- The werewolf _____ back into a man when the sun came up.

required	retired	reverted
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- Mr. Shrenk _____ us to do four hours of homework a night—that's too much!

requires	converts	alternates
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- My dad got a GPS for Christmas; it's a tool that helps him _____ while he's driving.

revert	retire	navigate
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1F Connections

Each sentence or group of sentences has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

- Ms. Blankley doesn't own a car; she walks everywhere she goes.

- I never used to like cartoons, but ever since I saw Kung Fu Panda, I go to see every cartoon that comes out.

The Word Up Project: Level Indigo

3. The new version of the computer program didn't work, so Pete had to go back to using the old version.

4. My dad has been in the Air Force since he was 20 years old, so when he's 40, he can quit working forever.

5. The store had sold out of the soda I usually drink, so I had to choose a different flavor.

1G Applying Meanings

Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.

1. What would be an **intense** experience?

- (A) washing your hands
- (B) taking a nap
- (C) climbing a mountain
- (D) walking your dog

2. A **bland** dinner would not be

- (A) expensive
- (B) flavorful
- (C) filling
- (D) healthy

3. Which of these would probably have the most **sparse** attendance by kids?

- (A) a "How to Read Latin" workshop
- (B) a pizza party
- (C) a free trip to the zoo
- (D) a class on designing video games

4. A lifeguard at a pool would be **required** to

- (A) make a lot of money
- (B) get out of work
- (C) clean the pool
- (D) know how to swim

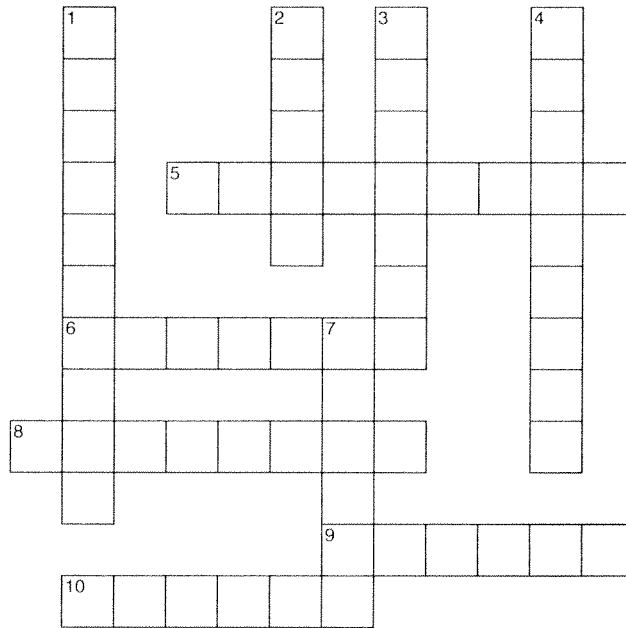
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Word Breakdown

The word *pedestrian* can mean either "one who walks" or "dull and regular." The original meaning is "one who walks," which comes from the prefix *ped-*, meaning "foot." The word came to have its second meaning when pedestrians were compared to *equestrians*, meaning "people on horses." Apparently, it used to be considered "dull and regular" to walk when you could take a horse instead!

Bonus: Crossword Puzzle

Solve this crossword puzzle. Note: Some answers may be different forms of the vocab words from this unit.



ACROSS

- 5 When Marcy got married, she _____ from Catholic to Muslim.
- 6 My parents _____ that I make my bed before I go to school.
- 8 It took Greta a long time to _____ through the crowded department store.
- 9 To go back to an earlier condition.
- 10 In small numbers.

DOWN

- 1 Wilson's poem was pretty _____. He could have come up with a better first line than "Roses are red, violets are blue."
- 2 Lacking a strong flavor.
- 3 Brock and Jordan have an _____ hatred of each other; they can't even be in the same room without fighting.
- 4 I thought we should walk down Main Street, but my friend knew of an _____ route that was faster.
- 7 To stop working.