
Rachel's Journal

Week 24
Vocabulary



mishap

an unfortunate
accident

- The downhill skier had a **mishap** on his final run when his skies broke.
- If you ever have a **mishap** with your car, you can take it to the auto body shop.

Finish the sentence:

"To prevent a **mishap** at recess, it is important that students do not _____."

rustling

- I heard the leaves rustling from the strong breeze.
- The clothes were rustling gently in the dryer.

to make a soft
fluttering
sound

Is it a rustling sound?

- a baby crying
- dry leaves blowing around
- a bird chirping

torment

to cause
annoyance, pain or
suffering either
mentally or
physically

- The girl suffered **torment**, or distress, because she couldn't find her homework.
- Bob's broken leg was a **torment** for a couple of days.

Which sentence used the word "torment" correctly?

- Ah! The perfect temperatures and sunny sky makes this weather such a torment.
- Yes, I watched the film about spiders. It was a torment because I'm afraid of spiders.

surged

to move with
gathering
force

- The wave **surged** forward during the storm, which threw men overboard.
- A burst of energy **surged** through my body and I was able to win the race.

Which words are synonyms for "surged"?

- rushed
- hesitated
- to go carefully

disadvantage

something that
creates
problems or
difficulties

- Not having a pencil will put you at a **disadvantage** when you have to take a math test.
- Getting a red card in a soccer game puts your team at a **disadvantage** because you have to play with one less player.

Which of the following is a **disadvantage**?

- Having a missing player on a team
- Having a calculator on a math test

lectured

to give an
explanation or
a scolding

- The college professor **lectured** to his class for hours.
- My mom **lectured** me about doing my homework before playing video games.

Which of these are synonyms for "lectured"?

- speech
- congratulated
- reprimand
- thanked

beacon

a light or fire
used as a
warning or guide

- The lighthouse was a helpful **beacon** during the fog.
- The road flares were a **beacon** warning me about the accident ahead.

How could a smoke signal be used as a **beacon**?

"A smoke signal could be used as a **beacon** when/if _____."

balked

to stop short
and refuse to go
on; objected

- The camel **balked**, or refused to move, any longer on the hot trail.
- I **balked** when I saw how high the diving board at the pool was.

What would cause you to **balk** on a trail? Why?

"I would **balk** on a trail if I saw _____ because _____."

quaking

to shiver or
tremble, as
from fear or
cold

- She was **quaking** from the cold, Arctic wind.
- The Students were **quaking** in their seats when the teacher announced a surprise quiz.

Which of these things would make you **quake** from cold temperature?

- spiders
- skiing
- Walk-in freezer
- Mondays

fared

how someone
performed or
the progress
they made

- The students **fared** well on their group project after working together all weekend.
- Once he was rescued, the boy slept and ate. He **fared**, or progressed, better after that.

In which sentence is the word "**fared**" used correctly?

- Her parents watched carefully to see how she **fared** at the new school.
- The little boy **fared** the howling wind.