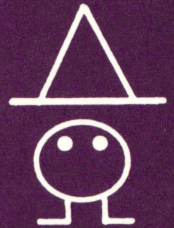


**WORD  
ATTACK!**<sup>T.M.</sup>

**Wow!**

**Apple Version**



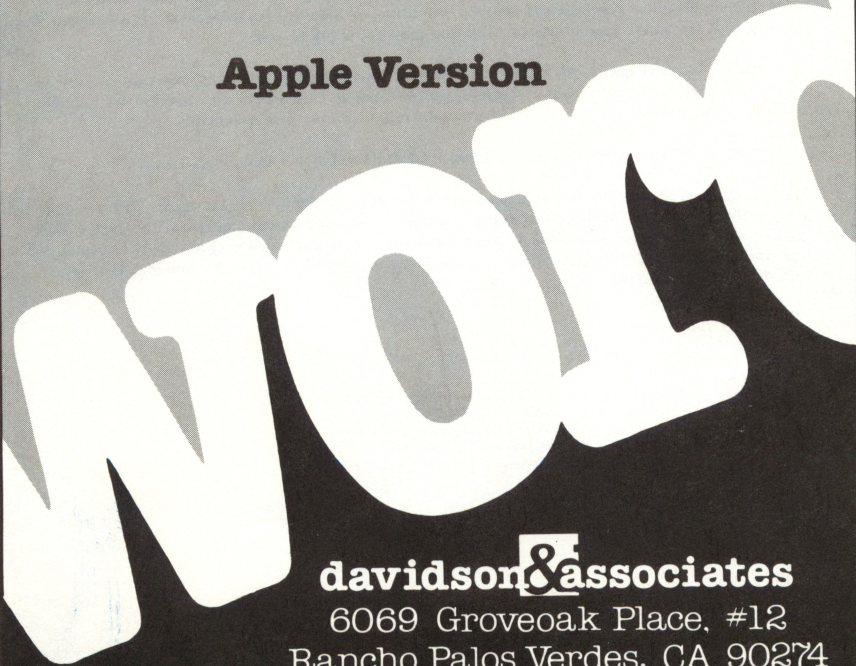
GREECE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*apt 1*  
*9/84* T.M.

# WORD ATTACK!

by Janice G. Davidson, Ph.D.  
and Richard K. Eckert, Jr.

Apple Version



# NOW!

**Davidson & Associates**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION. . . . .	1
BUILDING YOUR VOCABULARY. . . . .	2
GETTING STARTED . . . . .	4
Included in this Package . . . . .	4
What You Need. . . . .	4
Starting the Program . . . . .	4
Back-Up Copies . . . . .	6
Program Disk. . . . .	6
Data Disk . . . . .	7
USING THE PROGRAM . . . . .	8
Selecting a Level. . . . .	8
Working through the Exercises. . . . .	9
Word Display. . . . .	9
Multiple-Choice Quiz. . . . .	9
Sentence Completion . . . . .	9
Word Attack!. . . . .	10
Special Features . . . . .	11
ESC Key . . . . .	11
Sound Effects . . . . .	11
Elapsed Time Indicator. . . . .	11
Display Time. . . . .	11
Reviewing Words You Missed. . . . .	11
USING THE EDITOR. . . . .	12
Step 1 - Creating your Word List . . . . .	12
Length Limits . . . . .	13
Step 2 - Formatting your Data Disk . . . . .	14
Step 3 - Accessing the Editor. . . . .	15
Step 4 - Upper and Lower Case. . . . .	16
Step 5 - Entering your New Word List . . . . .	17
Step 6 - Saving your File. . . . .	19
Step 7 - Using your New File . . . . .	20
Commands of the Editor . . . . .	20
Edit (.e) . . . . .	20
List (.l) . . . . .	21
Insert (.i) . . . . .	21
Delete (.d) . . . . .	22

Save (.s) . . . . .	.22
Get (.g). . . . .	.23
Print (.p). . . . .	.23
Clear (.c). . . . .	.24
Quit (.q) . . . . .	.24
Help (.h) . . . . .	.25
Additional Notes on Using the Editor . . . . .	.25
ABOUT THE AUTHORS . . . . .	.27
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS . . . . .	.27
ADDITIONAL DATA DISKS . . . . .	.28
GLOSSARY. . . . .	.29
Level One. . . . .	.29
Level Two. . . . .	.31
Level Three. . . . .	.33
Level Four . . . . .	.35
Level Five . . . . .	.37
Level Six. . . . .	.39
Level Seven. . . . .	.41
Level Eight. . . . .	.43
Level Nine . . . . .	.45

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to WORD ATTACK!

WORD ATTACK is a four-part vocabulary building program. It is designed to teach you new words, their meanings and their usages in an interesting and exciting way. The program contains extensive word files as well as an easy-to-use, versatile editor which allows you to add your own word lists.

WORD ATTACK was designed by Dr. Janice Davidson and programmed by Richard Eckert. The programs were tried and tested on students at the educational facility of Upward Bound in Palos Verdes, California. In private sessions under the direction of an instructor, Upward Bound's students significantly improved their vocabularies. In addition, the students became comfortable using the new words in both their oral and written communications.

You too can gain a better command of the language by using WORD ATTACK as a tool. After all, words are the means by which we think, understand, and communicate. Your skills in all these areas will improve when you improve your vocabulary.

## BUILDING YOUR VOCABULARY

There are many ways you can go about building your vocabulary--reading, listening, studying the derivations of words, memorizing word lists. Whatever method or combination of methods you choose, it is important that you develop an awareness of words. Notice how others use words. Be curious about their similarities and differences, and open a dictionary when you are puzzled or unsure.

Whether you realize it or not, you have two vocabularies. One is your receptive vocabulary. It contains words you recognize when you read or listen. Your other vocabulary is your expressive vocabulary or the words you use when you speak or write.

Your receptive vocabulary is probably much larger than your expressive vocabulary. Only after you have learned to use a word comfortably does it become part of your expressive vocabulary.

WORD ATTACK is designed to be a tool to assist you in building your receptive vocabulary. It is not meant to be the only tool you will use. In fact, it should not be, because it does not teach the pronunciation of words or the multiple meanings many of the words have. It was designed rather to provide you with a stimulating and enjoyable way to increase your vocabulary.

Probably the most difficult task will be to take the words that WORD ATTACK contributes to your

receptive vocabulary and make them part of your expressive vocabulary. To do this you should supplement the WORD ATTACK exercises with a good deal of reading and careful listening. Also helpful is a good vocabulary text, such as the WORDLY WISE series by Kenneth Hodkinson and Joseph G. Ornato (published by Educators Publishing Services, Inc., Cambridge, Mass.)

Consider WORD ATTACK a beginning, a basis upon which you can build and develop some very essential communication tools--words.



# GETTING STARTED

## Included in this Package

In this package you will find:

- a WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- a WORD ATTACK Data Disk
- the manual which you are now reading.

## What you Need

To use WORD ATTACK you need:

- an Apple IIe, an Apple II Plus, or an Apple II computer capable of running Applesoft Basic with at least 48K of memory, or equivalent computer
- a disk drive
- a monitor (or tv)
- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- the WORD ATTACK Data Disk
- a printer (optional).

Keep this manual handy and refer to it often until you are thoroughly familiar with the

program.

## Starting the Program

If you are using an Apple IIe or a Franklin Ace 1000, be sure that the CAPS LOCK or SHIFT LOCK is set.

To run the program, follow these steps.

1. Insert the program disk into the disk drive (drive 1 if you have more than 1 disk drive.)

2. Turn on your computer to boot the Program Disk. If your computer is already on, type PR#6 and then press <Return>.

3. While your disk is booting, you may press D to see a demonstration of the program. The demonstration will continue and repeat until you press the <ESC> key to exit.

4. After a brief introduction, you will be asked your name, if you wish to have sound effects, and whether you wish to see the program in color or black and white. The size of the letters is different for each. Regardless of the type of monitor you are using, try both to see which you prefer.

5. You will then be asked to select a level from 1 to 9. Type in the number of the level at which you wish to work.

6. There are three word lists for each level:

- 1> Adjectives
- 2> Nouns
- 3> Verbs

Select the word list you wish to study by pressing its corresponding number.

7. The following menu will appear on the screen.

- 1> Word Display
- 2> Multiple Choice Quiz
- 3> Sentence Completion
- 4> Word Attack!
- 5> Load a New Word List
- 6> Stop for Now

From items 1 through 4 on this menu you may select any of four different exercises. In the chapter "Using the Program," each of the exercises will be described in detail. Item 5 allows you to go on to another word list. Item 6 allows you to exit the program.

## **Back-Up Copies**

Program Disk - The Program Disk is protected and you will not be able to make a copy of it. However, if you wish to have a back-up copy on hand, you may purchase one for \$10.00 from Davidson & Associates. This may be done when you return your Warranty Card, or any time after that with a written request to Davidson & Associates, 6069 Groveoak Place #12, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274. You must have a

Warranty Card on file in order to purchase a back-up copy. (Davidson & Associates provides a one year warranty for a malfunctioning or damaged disk.)

Data Disk - The Data Disk is not protected and you may make a back-up copy of it by using the copy program on your DOS SYSTEM MASTER disk which came with your computer.

# USING THE PROGRAM

## Selecting a Level

The levels on the disk generally can be used by students in the following grades:

- Level 1 - Grade 4
- Level 2 - Grade 5
- Level 3 - Grade 6
- Level 4 - Grade 7
- Level 5 - Grade 8
- Level 6 - Grade 9
- Level 7 - Grade 10
- Level 8 - Grade 11
- Level 9 - Grade 12

It is important to remember that each level contains words that students in the corresponding grade are capable of learning and using. They are not necessarily words that students in that grade should already know.

The words on Levels 7, 8, and 9 are words that students preparing for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) should study.

The best way to select a level is to begin with Level 1 Adjectives and take the Multiple Choice Quiz. If you score 84% or above, proceed to Level 2 Adjectives and take the Multiple Choice Quiz. Do this until you get a score below 84%. This will be the level at which you should begin working.

## Working through the Exercises

Once you have selected a level, begin with the adjective file and work through the exercises in the order they are presented.

**Word Display** - This exercise introduces the words on the list. Each word will be displayed on the screen, followed by its synonym or a brief meaning, and a sentence illustrating correct usage. After all 25 words have been displayed, the menu will again appear on the screen. Repeat the Word Display exercise until you know the words and their meanings well. Your ability to do well on the remaining exercises depends upon your knowledge of these words and their meanings.

**Multiple-Choice Quiz** - A good way to reinforce what you have learned is to try to recall it. This is the purpose of the Multiple Choice Quiz. The quiz can be taken in two forms--normal or reverse. The normal mode will give you the word and ask you to select the correct meaning. The reverse mode will give you the meaning and ask you to select the correct word. Take the quiz both ways. After your score is displayed, the words you missed will be listed on the screen. Retake the items you missed until you can get a perfect score.

**Sentence Completion** - In this exercise, a sentence is presented with an entry word missing. You are asked to type in the missing word. The meaning of the word will be displayed at the top of the screen. It will be one of the 25 words you have just studied in the display exercise.

If you have trouble recalling the word or its spelling, press H (for help) then press <Return>. Four words will appear on the screen; one of them will be the correct one. Type in the missing word.

This is probably the most difficult of the exercises. It requires you to recall, use, and spell the word correctly. If you have trouble with this exercise, go on to the Word Attack! game and return to this exercise later after you are more familiar with the words.

Your score will be calculated on the basis of the number of items you answered correctly without using the "help" feature. You may retake missed items if you wish.

**Word Attack!** - WORD ATTACK! is a fast-action, arcade game that reinforces learning in an interesting and exciting way. The object of the game is to attack the word whose meaning appears at the bottom of the screen. Use the keyboard arrows to move the attacker left or right and use the Z key to shoot.

On the right side of the screen is a timer. You must attack before the time runs out or you cannot earn points. You may, however, earn bonus points by successfully shooting various creatures that buzz across the screen. You will soon discover that attacking quickly increases the point value as the game progresses. The game can be played at three speeds. Begin with the regular speed and proceed to the faster speeds as you develop competency.

## Special Features

**ESC Key** - The escape key <ESC> allows the user to leave an exercise at any time during the program. Simply press <ESC> and the program returns you to the menu.

**Sound Effects** - WORD ATTACK has sound effects which are activated by a correct answer. Shortly after starting the program, you will be asked if you want sound effects. If you answer yes, the sound will remain during that entire session.

**Elapsed Time Indicator** - As you take the Multiple Choice Quiz, you will note an elapsed time indicator at the bottom right hand corner of the screen. It is counting the number of seconds it takes you to answer. The faster you are able to answer the questions, the more proficient you are becoming.

**Display Time** - In the word display, you can control the length of time the words stay on the screen. Before starting the display, press the forward arrow --> to increase and press the backward arrow <-- to decrease the number of seconds the word is displayed on the screen.

**Reviewing Words You Missed** - At the conclusion of the Multiple Choice and Sentence Completion exercises, WORD ATTACK lists the words you missed and gives you an option to retake them. This will give you an opportunity to concentrate on the words you don't know.



## USING THE EDITOR

If you would like to create your own word list, you may do so with WORD ATTACK's easy-to-use editor.

Many different kinds of editors were tried and tested in the development of this software package. The editor selected was one which had the greatest versatility. It allows the user to make corrections with ease as well as to add or remove items from the file.

To use the editor, you will need:

- the WORD ATTACK Program Disk and
- a blank disk on which to save your new word lists.

Follow the steps outlined below to make your own word list to use with the WORD ATTACK program.

### **Step 1 - Creating your Word List**

First compose your list on paper. For each item on the list you will need:

- a word
- its meaning
- a sentence illustrating usage
- a sentence with the entry word missing for the Sentence Completion exercise.

You may eliminate the last sentence if you do not wish to use the Sentence Completion exercise when you run the program.

### **Length Limits**

In order for the program to work properly, your words and sentences must stay within these limits:

word - 13 letters maximum

meaning - 36 letters and spaces maximum  
(slightly less than one line)

sentence illustrating meaning - 3 lines or  
120 letters and spaces

sentence for Sentence Completion exercise -  
3 lines or 120 letters and spaces maximum.

Note that these are maximum limits. The words and sentences must not exceed these limits. However, they may be less than these limits.

There is another important consideration--the length of your word list. Each word list must contain at least 5 vocabulary words but no more than 25 vocabulary words.

## Step 2 - Initializing your Data Disk

Now take your new blank disk and initialize it to get it ready to accept the new list you will be saving onto it.

If you don't know how to initialize your new data disk, here's how you do it.

```
- "boot" your system with the DOS 3.3  
  System Master disk that was supplied  
  with your computer
```

```
- remove the System Master disk and replace it  
  with the new blank disk that you have  
  labeled "Word Attack Data Disk Volume  
  2"
```

```
-type NEW <Return>
```

```
-type 10 HOME <Return>
```

```
-type 20 PRINT "WORD ATTACK DATA DISK  
  VOLUME 2" <Return>
```

```
-type END <Return>
```

```
-type INIT HELLO <Return>
```

When the disk drive light goes out and the cursor appears, the disk initialization is complete. You now have an initialized data disk on which to store the word list data files you create.

### Step 3 - Accessing the Editor

Now that you have prepared your word list and initialized your new data disk, you are ready to begin using the editor.

Insert the WORD ATTACK Program Disk into the disk drive and boot the disk. While the drive's red light is on, press E (for editor.)

When the drive stops, the screen will look something like this:

```
* * * WORD ATTACK EDITOR * * *
```

The prompt line at the bottom of the screen displays the editor commands. For help, use the .h command.

```
l -
```

```
-----
```

New line l

```
.e .l .d .i .s .g .p .c .q .h
```

The editor is now ready to receive your new word list. STOP AND READ CAREFULLY all the remaining steps before proceeding.

## Step 4 - Upper and Lower Case

To use the editor with ease, you will need to become familiar with how to get upper and lower case letters. When you begin entering your words, the letters will automatically appear in lower case.

To get all the letters to appear in upper case, press the <CTRL> key and the K key at the same time; then type the letters you want in upper case.

To return to lower case, press the <CTRL> key and the L key at the same time. Then type the letters you want to appear in lower case.

To get just the first letter of a word to appear in upper case while the rest of the word is in lower case, press the <CTRL> key and the S key at the same time. The next letter you type will be in upper case and the letters following it will be in lower case.

Use the chart below to help you.

CTRL K - all upper case  
CTRL L - all lower case  
CTRL S - shift to upper case

Remember, if you are using an Apple IIe or a Franklin Ace 1000, your CAPS LOCK or SHIFT LOCK must be set when you are entering new words.

## Step 5 - Entering your New Word List

In addition to knowing how to get the upper and lower case letters, you need to know the correct format for entering your word list. There are two important things to remember.

1. Each vocabulary word must be allocated eight lines, even if some lines are left blank.

2. Your word list file must contain from 5 to 25 words.

The files must be from 40 to 200 lines long.

The format you use to enter your word list is outlined below:

Line 1 - word

Line 2 - meaning

Lines 3, 4, and 5 - the word in a sentence  
(display sentence)

Lines 6, 7, and 8 - a sentence with the entry  
word missing (completion sentence)

Line 9 - second word

Line 10 - meaning

Lines 11, 12, and 13 - display sentence

Lines 14, 15 and 16 - completion sentence

On line 1 enter the first word from your word list and press <Return>.

On line 2 enter its synonym or a brief meaning and press <Return>.

On lines 3, 4, and 5, enter your display sentence and press <Return> at the end of each line. If your sentence occupies only line 3,

press <Return> after lines 4 and 5, leaving them blank.

On lines 6, 7, and 8, enter your completion sentence and press <Return> at the end of each line. If your sentence occupies less than three lines, just press <Return> leaving the remaining line(s) blank. To make the blank for the missing word, use the equals (=) key. Be sure to make your blank exactly the same number of spaces as the number of letters in the missing word.

On line 9, enter your next word starting the process all over again.

If you follow this format, your word list should look something like this one:

- 1 abundant
- 2 more than enough
- 3 The farmers are excited because their
- 4 crops are abundant this year.
- 5
- 6 The skiers are happy because good
- 7 snow is \_\_\_\_\_ this year.
- 8
- 9 ancient
- 10 very old
- 11 There is an ancient, 3,000 year old
- 12 coin in the museum.
- 13
- 14 In \_\_\_\_\_ times man lived in caves.
- 15
- 16
- 17 attractive
- 18 pretty
- 19 People are always telling Susan that
- 20 her long black hair is very attractive.

21  
22 The blue shirt was \_\_\_\_\_ on  
23 Jeff because it matched his eyes.  
24

Make sure you follow the format exactly as it is outlined. If you inadvertently add extra lines or forget to put in the correct number of lines, you can easily correct this using the delete and insert commands discussed at the end of the chapter.

### **Step 6 - Saving your File**

The last step is to save your new file on the data disk. (Don't panic; this step is not irreversible. If you find an error on it later, you can easily access and correct it.)

- remove your WORD ATTACK Program Disk
- insert your new data disk in the disk drive.
- type .s and press <Return>.
- when you are asked "save file name?" type in the name of your data file.

The bottom of the screen will look something like this

```
201 .s
Save file name? WORD LIST 1
```

When you press <Return>, the disk drive will whirl, saving your word list onto your new data disk. To test your file with the program, exit



the editor by typing .q and follow the instructions on the screen.

## **Step 7 - Using your New File**

To run your new file with the WORD ATTACK program, follow these steps:

- first boot the WORD ATTACK program disk
- when you are asked to "insert the data disk," insert the disk which contains your new data file
- when you are asked to select a level, type C (for catalog) and press <Return>
- type in the name of the file you wish to use and press <Return>.

## **Commands of the Editor**

**Edit (.e)**- This command allows you to change a line that has been entered. To use the edit command:

- type .e followed by the line number you wish to change
- press <Return>
- the line you wish to edit will appear and you may change or correct it as you wish

-press <Return> after you have changed the line to the way you want it.

You may move the cursor back and forth along the line using the <-- and --> arrow keys.

**List (.l)** - The list command allows you to review your entire file. To utilize this command:

-type .l

-press <Return>

-use the space bar to stop and restart the scroll.

You may start listing the file at any point. Simply type in .l followed by the line number you wish to begin listing. If you wish to terminate the listing before all lines have been displayed, press <Return>.

**Insert (.i)** - This command allows you to insert one or more lines into the file. To use this feature

-type .i

-press <Return>

-the screen will ask you "Insert which line?"

-answer with the number of the line you want to begin your insert

- insert as many lines as you wish
- type .q at the beginning of the next line
- press <Return>.

When you insert a line, the lines following will automatically be renumbered.

**Delete (.d)** This command allows you to remove any line from the file. To use this command:

- type .d
- press <Return>
- you will be asked "Delete which line?"
- enter the number of the line you wish to delete
- press <Return>
- the line will appear and you will be asked "Delete this? (y/n)"
- if you press y, the line will be deleted;  
if you press n, it will remain.

When you delete a line, the lines following the deletion will be renumbered.

**Save (.s)** The save command allows you to save a new file or a corrected file onto a disk. Be

sure you use this command each time you enter a new file or make any corrections on a file already on the disk. To use this command:

-type .s

-press <Return>

-enter the name of the file.

**Get (.g)** The get command allows you to load a file which has previously been saved. To use this command:

-first check to see that the disk in the drive is the one which has the data file you wish to access

-type .g

-press <Return>

-you will be asked "Get file name?"

-type in the exact name of the file you wish.

If you are not sure of the exact name of the file, type .c and press <Return>. This will catalog the disk.

**Print (.p)** The print feature allows you to print out your word list. To use this feature:

-first be sure that the file you want printed is the one now loaded into the computer's memory

-turn on the printer (it should be plugged into printer slot 1 on your computer)

-type .p

-press <Return>

If you wish to stop the printer before the file has been completely printed, press <Return>.

**Clear (.c)**- This command allows you to clear the screen to get ready for a new file. To use this command:

-type .c

-press <Return>.

Be sure you have saved any file you want preserved. The editor will double check to make sure you really want to clear.

**Quit (.q)** This command allows you to exit the editor and return to the WORD ATTACK program. To use this command:

-type .q

-press <Return>.

Remember to save your file first if you want to keep it.

**Help (.h)** This command will give you a list of all the commands and their functions. To use this command:

-type .h

-press <Return>

-all the commands and their functions will appear on the screen.

### **Additional Notes on the Editor**

The first few times you use the editor, create a small data file, using only 5 to 10 words. Try using the file with the WORD ATTACK program to be sure you're on the right track. You can add more words to the file later.

It is a good practice to save your file every 15 minutes or so while you are working on it. Then if you should ruin a file in memory, you can retrieve a copy from the disk and prevent the loss of all your hard work.

Occasionally after you enter or edit a line, the editor will pause while it checks the line for control characters. You may also notice a brief pause after inserting or deleting a line in the file. These pauses are normal and have been designed to be as brief as possible.

When using the editor, a common mistake is the insertion of an extra line here and there. It is a good idea to check your program for extra

lines before you try to run it. Remember, the last line number should be 8 times the number of words in the word list. If you have more, use the .d command to delete the extra lines.

You will find the WORD ATTACK editor versatile and easy-to-use. Take time to get acquainted with it.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

Janice Davidson holds a B.A. from Purdue University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. She is founder and director of Upward Bound, a nonprofit educational association in Palos Verdes, California. She also serves as an educational computer consultant to schools in southern California.

Richard Eckert holds a B.S. degree from Purdue University in Electrical Engineering. He is a professional programmer and has written a variety of software, particularly educational software.

Other software packages written by the authors include SPEED READER II, MATH BLASTER, and SPANISH FOR THE TRAVELER.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors are indebted to many people who participated in the development of this software. The teachers and students at Upward Bound who so willingly tried and tested the software made a substantial contribution. A special note of thanks also to Cathy Johnson, Faye Schwartz, and Sharon Rosen who worked diligently on creating and editing the word lists for the data files.



## **ADDITIONAL DATA DISKS**

Additional data disks designed for use with your WORD ATTACK program are available.

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 4 & 5  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 6 & 7  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK GRADES 8 & 9  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

WORD ATTACK DATA DISK FOR THE S.A.T.  
contains 500 words; 20 word lists

You may use the enclosed order form to order the data disks or write to Davidson & Associates, 6069 Groveoak Place, #12, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

# GLOSSARY

## Level One

absorb - to soak up  
abundant - more than enough  
admire - to like  
alight - to step down  
ancient - very old  
antlers - branched horns  
arbor - a covered garden  
armor - a protective covering  
aroma - a pleasant smell  
attack - to begin a fight  
attractive - pretty  
avoid - to keep away from  
baggage - suitcases  
banish - to send away  
blast - a strong rush of air  
bouquet - a bunch of flowers  
brawl - a noisy fight  
bridal - related to a wedding  
brilliant - very bright  
brood - group of children  
caress - to touch lovingly  
cling - to hold on tightly  
combat - a battle  
compel - to force  
conceal - to hide  
coy - shy  
debt - something owed to someone else  
declare - to say openly  
decorate - to make pretty  
dense - thick; crowded  
dim - dark; shadowy  
dour - unfriendly

dread - to fear greatly  
dwelling - a home  
fade - to become less bright  
fragile - not strong; delicate  
gallop - a horse's fastest speed  
gape - to stare with open mouth  
garment - a piece of clothing  
hale - healthy  
hasty - done in a hurry  
hint - an indirect suggestion  
hoard - to hide secretly away  
hue - shade of a color  
idle - lazy  
knoll - a little hill  
loyal - devoted  
manageable - easily controlled or handled  
mar - to damage  
merchant - a person who sells things  
nimble - quick moving  
obtain - to get; to achieve  
odd - strange  
ominous - suggesting danger  
outlaw - a lawbreaker  
overcome - to defeat  
peer - an equal  
prank - a playful trick  
pursue - to chase after  
recline - to lie back  
rigid - stiff and firm  
role - an actor's part  
salary - money paid to a worker  
seize - to take by force  
singe - to burn slightly  
sly - tricky  
stern - strict  
summit - the top  
urban - having to do with cities  
vast - very large  
vow - to promise seriously

voyage - a long journey  
weary - very tired  
wee - tiny  
yearn - to desire something very much

## **Level Two**

accomplish - to finish  
account - a business record  
advice - helpful guidance  
advisable - wise or proper  
ambition - a desire for success  
amuse - to make smile  
anxious - worried  
ambitious - eager; desiring strongly  
bleach - to make whiter  
blunder - a stupid mistake  
boldness - courage  
brutal - cruel  
captivity - being held against one's will  
carefree - without worry  
clatter - confused noise  
column - a pillar or post  
combine - to join together  
complexion - appearance of the skin  
complicate - to make more difficult  
compress - to squeeze together  
confederation - states joined together  
consult - to ask advice  
cruelty - unkind treatment  
deadline - a time limit  
defend - to guard against attack  
discourage - to lessen hope  
distress - trouble  
dramatize - to act out  
effort - an attempt to achieve

enjoyable - pleasant  
equip - to supply  
escort - to go along with  
eternal - lasting forever  
expand - to make larger  
flexible - easily bent  
forbidden - not allowed  
forgiveness - being excused  
fragrant - having a sweet or pleasant smell  
furious - very angry  
greedy - wanting too much  
grief - sorrow  
identify - to recognize  
luxury - an unneeded comfort  
modern - current; up to date  
motto - a saying  
nasty - unpleasant  
navigate - to guide a ship  
notice - to see  
noticeable - obvious  
opinion - a belief  
outstanding - remarkable; noticeably better  
pace - a rate  
paralyze - to make powerless  
penalty - a punishment  
pledge - to promise  
postpone - to put off until later  
powerless - weak  
quiver - to shake  
recall - to remember  
reexamine - to test again  
replacement - a substitute  
rude - not polite  
similar - alike  
simplify - to make easier  
sorrowful - sad  
suggestion - a possible idea  
threat - possible harm  
transfer - to change over

unfamiliar - not well-known  
unsafe - dangerous  
unsatisfactory - not good enough  
vanish - to disappear  
victorious - having won  
visual - having to do with sight  
zone - a definite area or space

### **Level Three**

adage - a wise saying  
adjourn - to end  
advantageous - helpful  
audacious - daring  
august - dignified  
benefit - to help  
bland - mild  
blueprint - a building plan  
boars - male pigs  
brine - salt water  
cascade - a small waterfall  
clarify - to explain  
combat - to fight  
confide - to tell as a secret  
constant - not changing  
dally - to wait around  
deserve - to be worthy of  
dinghy - a small rowboat  
document - to furnish written proof  
drake - a male duck  
drastic - harsh or extreme  
dungeon - an underground prison  
embrace - to hug  
endorse - to approve  
err - to make a mistake  
exclude - to leave out

exhausted - tired out  
fracture - a break or crack  
gong - a saucer-shaped bell  
halo- a ring of light  
hoist - to lift  
humid - damp  
hurl - to throw forcefully  
incinerator - a waste burner  
industrious - hard-working  
ingrained - not easily changed  
insert - to put in  
kindling - firewood  
laborious - difficult and slow  
landscape - scenery  
lenient - not strict  
luscious - delicious  
meddlesome - interfering  
melancholy - sad and gloomy  
migrate - to move to another place  
pact - an agreement  
perplexed - puzzled  
persuade - to win over  
plywood - a board made of thin layers  
portable - easily carried  
quibble - to argue pointlessly  
radar - a radio wave locator  
rectify - to correct  
regatta - a boat race  
repulsive - very unpleasant  
resume - to continue  
ruddy - red and healthy looking  
savage - untamed  
scallions - green onions  
serene - calm and peaceful  
severe - harsh  
shatter - to break into pieces  
slogan - a motto; catchy phrase  
solution - an answer  
spigot - a faucet

supreme - highest  
tamper - to meddle improperly  
task - a job  
thump - a dull sound  
tolerate - to put up with  
urgent - demanding immediate attention  
valiant - full of courage  
vary - to change  
vicinity - a region nearby  
wither - to dry up; to shrivel

## **Level Four**

abnormal - unusual  
adaptable - able to adjust  
advance - to move ahead  
ample - plenty  
anonymous - unknown  
antiseptic - germ-killing  
apprehend - to catch  
assassin - killer of a political leader  
audible - able to be heard  
autobiography - story of one's own life  
balk - to stubbornly refuse  
besiege - to surround to capture  
bicker - to quarrel  
botanist - one who studies plants  
calculate - to figure out  
cluster - a bunch  
coddle - to treat tenderly  
congregate - to assemble  
decent - proper  
decrease - to become less  
depose - to put out of office  
devilment - mischief  
discipline - to punish



dismal - gloomy and miserable  
dismissal - a sending away  
drudgery - hard, tedious work  
duplicate - to copy  
emaciated - extremely thin  
establish - to set up  
examination - an investigation  
explicit - clear and detailed  
fillet - a lean piece of meat or fish  
forfeit - to lose as a penalty  
hallowed - holy  
handicap - an added hindrance  
hubbub - a loud, confused noise  
humbleness - modesty  
ignite - to set on fire  
improbable - not likely  
ineffective - not productive  
inoculate - to vaccinate  
inseparable - unable to be parted  
inviting - tempting  
javelin - a hand spear  
lawsuit - a court case  
lock - an enclosed part of a canal  
magnificence - splendor  
manor - a large estate  
metropolitan - belonging to large cities  
mongrel - mixed breed  
mutiny - rebellion  
necessitate - to cause to be needed  
observable - noticeable  
omelet - beaten eggs, cooked and folded over  
opaque - not transparent  
parade - a procession  
percentage - a given part of a hundred  
portion - to divide into shares  
rations - food issued  
react - to respond to  
recent - new  
reserve - to keep back

retrieve - to get back  
salvage - to save from loss  
suspense - uncertainty  
tempo - a rate of speed  
toxic - poisonous  
translucent - letting light pass through  
transmit - to send over  
ungrateful - not appreciative  
unruly - hard to control  
vivid - bright  
violate - to break a law  
volume - a quantity or amount  
weld - to join together

## **Level Five**

adaptation - a change  
administer - to manage  
aptitude - an ability  
belated - delayed  
blissful - joyful  
bounteous - plentiful  
contraption - a gadget  
convulsions - violent muscle spasms  
decagon - a ten-sided figure  
disable - to make useless  
eminent - distinguished  
endorse - to sign the back of a check  
engulf - to swallow up  
execute - to carry out  
falter - to hesitate  
fiancee - an engaged woman  
flounder - to struggle awkwardly  
gabardine - a kind of cloth  
gale - a strong wind  
hoodoo - bad luck

hostile - unfriendly  
hypocrite - one who pretends virtue  
illusion - a false idea  
imperil - to put in danger  
impish - mischievous  
indictment - a legal accusation  
inedible - unfit to eat  
ineligible - not qualified  
injurious - harmful  
intensify - to make stronger  
legible - easy to read  
listless - too tired to care  
lucid - clear  
memento - a souvenir  
misshapen - deformed  
monopolize - to control exclusively  
morale - a mental attitude  
mournful - sorrowful  
mulish - stubborn  
mutilate - to disfigure  
obituary - a death notice  
offend - to hurt the feelings of  
operative - in working order  
originate - to cause to be  
passion - a strong feeling  
pessimistic - gloomy  
petrify - to turn into stone  
plane - a flat surface  
progress - to go ahead  
purify - to make clean  
ramble - to wander  
rash - hasty; reckless  
realm - a kingdom  
rustle - to make a whispering sound  
ruthless - without pity  
scrupulous - careful; conscientious  
smolder - to burn slowly  
sober - serious  
superlative - above all others

supplement - to add to  
surplus - an extra quantity  
sympathize - to share another's feeling  
tariff - a tax on imports  
testify - to give evidence  
tributary - an emptying stream  
undaunted - not discouraged  
universal - existing everywhere  
utility - usefulness  
vagabond - a wanderer  
variable - changeable  
venture - to dare  
veto - to reject  
warrant - to justify  
wretch - a bad person  
zoology - the study of animals

## **Level Six**

abhor - to detest  
acclimate - to become accustomed  
accommodating - helpful  
affluent - wealthy  
alto - singing voice lower than soprano  
articulate - to speak distinctly  
artisan - a skilled workman  
autonomous - independent  
avert - to turn aside; to prevent  
biannual - semi-annual; twice a year  
bizarre - very strange; odd  
blazer - a sport jacket  
boycott - a refusal to buy  
brocade - a fabric woven with raised designs  
capsize - to overturn  
chasm - a deep gap  
cochlea - part of the inner ear

concentrate - to bring together; to intensify  
contradict - to assert the opposite  
courtly - polite  
crescendo - to increase in loudness  
descendant - an offspring  
devise - to invent  
diligent - hard-working  
dissuade - to persuade not to do  
distinctive - having a special quality  
diversity - a variety  
dubious - doubtful  
eloquence - fine speaking  
emancipate - to free  
enliven - to make cheerful  
excavate - to dig out  
exploit - a daring deed  
exquisite - very lovely  
fervent - very earnest  
foundling - a deserted child  
genteel - polite and well bred  
gesticulate - to make gestures  
glucose - a kind of sugar  
harass - to torment  
hypochondriac - person with imaginary illnesses  
inebriated - drunk  
infuriate - to make angry  
magistrate - a judge  
manual - by hand  
mystify - to bewilder  
narrative - a story  
negligent - careless  
nutritious - valuable as food  
obsolete - out-of-date  
pliable - easily bent  
priority - something which comes first  
procrastinate - to put off; to delay  
pungent - sharp, biting taste or smell  
receptacle - a container  
reimburse - to pay back

remnant - a part left over  
replenish - to resupply  
rigamarole - nonsense  
ruffle - to annoy  
sanction - to authorize  
sanctuary - a place of safety  
scandalous - disgraceful  
scraggly - ragged  
sequence - a connected series  
slander - a false statement  
sojourn - to visit briefly  
sonic - having to do with sound  
survey - to examine  
time-honored - old and respected  
trek - a journey  
unavoidable - inevitable  
unsung - not honored  
vanity - pride  
yield - to surrender

## **Level Seven**

abet - to help one do something wrong  
abstinence - refraining from indulgence  
acidulous - slightly sour  
amorous - loving  
antipodes - direct opposites  
aquiline - hooked  
baleful - very evil  
bandy - to throw back and forth  
beguile - to trick  
buffoon - a clown  
caries - bone and tissue decay  
chastise - to punish  
conifer - a tree that bears cones  
copious - plentiful

cull - to sort out; to select  
delta - a deposit of earth and sand  
demean - to humble  
demented - mentally ill  
dilate - to expand  
dregs - the remains  
edifying - morally uplifting  
efface - to rub out  
elocution - the art of public speaking  
ennui - boredom  
eschew - to avoid  
exorbitant - much too high  
factotum - a handyman  
farrier - a blacksmith who shoes horses  
flay - to whip  
gird - to belt  
grotto - a cave  
guttural - throaty  
hackneyed - used too often  
heterodox - differing from the norm  
idolatry - idol worship  
impassive - without emotion  
inhospitable - uninviting  
inter - to bury  
jovial - full of fun  
latent - concealed; hidden  
lineament - outline of a facial feature  
malingerer - one who avoids work  
minimize - to reduce  
miscreant - bad; evil  
nebulous - indistinct; unclear  
omniscient - all-knowing  
ordnance - military arms  
oust - to force out  
pervade - to spread throughout  
plaudit - an expression of approval  
portcullis - a strong gate of iron  
prate - to talk a lot  
preferable - more desirable

profess - to lay claim to  
pugnacious - fond of fighting  
rangy - fit to move about  
remit - to send back  
repudiate - to reject  
restitution - reimbursement; restoration  
resurgent - rising again  
sanctum - a sacred place  
secede - to withdraw  
sepulcher - a grave; a vault  
squeamish - easily shocked  
stipulate - to arrange definitely  
tantalize - to tempt teasingly  
thwart - to hinder; to frustrate  
transpose - to interchange  
triad - a group of three  
turgid - swollen  
uncouth - crude  
undulate - to move in a wavelike manner  
vigilante - a self-appointed law enforcer  
wraith - a ghost  
yokel - a country fellow

## **Level Eight**

absurd - ridiculous  
abyss - a deep empty space  
accrue - to come about or increase  
adroit - skillful  
apex - the highest point  
archaic - out-of-date; antiquated  
atlas - a book of maps  
avarice - greed  
balm - an ointment  
bovine - cow-like  
cardinal - main



category - a class or division  
chassis - a framework  
chic - stylish  
circumvent - to go around; to avoid  
comprehensive - including much  
conflagration - a fire  
congeal - to become solid  
deduce - to figure out  
defunct - dead; extinct  
denude - to strip  
desecrate - to violate the sacredness of  
devolve - to transfer duties  
diaphanous - sheer  
disseminate - to spread  
dote - to be overly fond of  
emote - to speak with emotion  
exotic - strange  
expiate - to make amends for  
facade - the front of a building  
faux pas - a blunder  
frenzy - great excitement  
futile - useless  
goatish - goatlike; coarse  
harrowing - disturbing; tormenting  
intercede - to plead in behalf of another  
levy - a tax  
lionize - to treat as very important  
luxurious - rich and comfortable  
meander - to wander aimlessly  
medley - a mixture  
mournful - full of sorrow  
nondescript - not easily classified or described  
objurgate - to scold harshly  
obviate - to remove; to clear out of the way  
omnipotent - all-powerful  
ovation - enthusiastic applause  
patronize - to be a regular customer of  
petite - little  
phobia - an excessive fear

placate - to soothe or pacify  
pontificate - to speak in a pompous manner  
precis - a brief summary  
premonition - a forewarning  
preponderate - to be greater than something else  
primeval - ancient  
rational - able to think clearly  
ravine - a narrow gorge worn by running water  
recant - to publicly denounce one's belief  
reciprocate - to give something in return  
recompense - repayment  
repercussion - an aftereffect  
resurrect - to bring back to life  
secession - a formal withdrawal  
svelte - slender  
tedium - boredom  
tenuous - without substance  
termination - the finish  
terse - free of unnecessary words  
unsavory - unpleasant in taste  
utilize - to make use of  
valiant - brave  
venerate - to regard with deep respect  
witticism - a clever remark  
zygote - a fertilized egg

## **Level Nine**

abase - to humiliate  
altercation - an angry dispute  
anemia - a deficiency in the blood  
atrophy - to waste away  
bicameral - having two legislative chambers  
bier - a coffin  
bilingual - speaking two languages  
cacophony - a harsh sound; dissonance

caulk - to make watertight  
choreography - a plan for a dance  
coagulate - to thicken and clot  
cumulative - increasing successively  
dais - a raised platform  
dissipate - to scatter wastefully  
divine - godly; holy  
effusive - expressive; unrestrained  
elixir - a sweet alcoholic medication  
elucidate - to make clear; to explain  
emollient - a softener  
equivocate - to purposely mislead  
eulogy - high praise  
exacting - demanding great effort and care  
extemporize - to speak without preparation  
fauna - animals in a specific region  
fell - to knock down; to cut down  
foible - a minor weakness  
forensic - pertaining to debate  
genuflect - to kneel  
gyrate - to move in a circle  
iconoclastic - attacking conventional beliefs  
idyllic - pleasant; rural  
immunize - to protect against disease  
indigenous - growing naturally in a region  
ingratiate - to work into favor with another  
inhibit - to check or restrain  
intestate - having made no will  
isthmus - a narrow strip joining two larger parts  
itinerant - traveling from place to place  
kinetic - resulting from motion  
laud - to praise  
longevity - long life  
machete - a large, heavy-bladed knife  
mince - to cut up into small pieces  
mode - a way of doing something  
mundane - commonplace  
nepotism - favoritism shown to relatives

notary - an official who certifies documents  
occult - hidden; mystical  
optometrist - an eye doctor  
ostracize - to exclude  
passe - old-fashioned; out-of-date  
pendant - an ornament which hangs on a chain  
perfunctory - mechanical; indifferent  
periphery - the outside boundary  
permeable - allowing passage of fluids  
perorate - to speak at length  
peruse - to read carefully  
precedent - an act which justifies a later one  
prelate - a high ranking church figure  
pristine - untouched; unspoiled  
ratify - to approve  
recipient - one who receives something  
redundant - excessive; unnecessary  
repertoire - a group of songs  
resonant - resounding; prolonging sound  
resuscitate - to revive  
sadistic - cruel; morbid  
simulate - to falsely give the appearance of  
subversive - tending to destroy or overthrow  
suture - to stitch a wound together  
tenet - a doctrine; dogma  
ubiquitous - being everywhere; omnipresent  
underwrite - to agree to finance  
unmitigated - harsh; severe  
yaw - to change course or direction

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by Janice G. Davidson, Ph.D.  
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