

Lesson A-2

Base Words

bicentennial	a two-hundredth anniversary.
centenary	pertaining to a 100-year period; a centennial
centigrade	referring to a thermometer scale of 100 degrees where water freezes at 0° and boils at 100°
decathlon	an athletic contest in which each contestant takes part in ten events.
decimate	to destroy a large part of; to kill one in every ten.
quadrant	any of the four parts of an area divided by perpendicular lines.
quartet	a musical composition for four voices or instruments.
quatrain	a stanza or group of four lines of poetry.
trilogy	a group of three literary or musical works that have a related theme.
trisect	to divide into three parts.
triumvirate	a group of three, especially in authority.

Familiar Words

centipede	a predatory myriapod invertebrate with a flattened elongated body composed of many segments
decade	a period of ten years
percent	one part in every hundred
quadrangle	a four-sided plane figure, especially a square or rectangle
quadruple	consisting of four parts or elements
trimester	a period of three months, especially as a division of the duration of pregnancy
trio	a set or group of three people or thing
triplicate	existing in three copies or examples

Challenge Words

centavo	a monetary unit of Mexico, Brazil, and certain other countries, equal to one hundredth of the basic unit
centenarian	a person who is one hundred or more years old
decagram	a metric unit of mass or weight, equal to 10 grams
Decalogue	the Ten Commandments
decimeter	a metric unit of length, equal to one tenth of a meter.
duodecimal	relating to or denoting a system of counting or numerical notation that has twelve as a base
quadrille	a square dance performed typically by four couples
quadrupartite	consisting of four parts
quarry	a place, typically a large, deep pit, from which stone or other materials are or have been extracted
quarto	a size of book page resulting from folding each printed sheet into four leaves
quatrefoil	an ornamental design of four lobes or leaves as used in architectural tracery, resembling a flower or four-leaf clover
trident	a three-pronged spear somewhat resembling a pitchfork
trinity	a group or set of three people or things; three things combined into one
tripartite	shared by or involving three parties
triplex	a building divided into three self-contained residences
triptych	a picture or relief carving on three panels, typically hinged together side by side and used as an altarpiece