

EXERCISES - UNIT NINETEEN

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

- The sailor's *narrative* of life on the high seas made everyone _____.
- The story of the giant was part of the country's *mythology*, rather than _____.
- The famous mountain-climber will *recount* some of her experiences with _____.
- Jessica *denounced* the actions of the local police because _____.
- Although many ballet dancers *discounted* the talents of the young star, she _____.
- Without the guide to *narrate* our tour, we would have been unable to _____.
- The *fabled* courage of the great warrior _____.
- While we were kept inside by the snow, my brother told *fabulous* tales about _____.
- When Dorothy learned that unicorns were *mythical* creatures, she felt _____.
- Donald found many of the words in the story difficult to *pronounce* because _____.

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| mythology | narrative | discount | narrates |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
- The messenger was interrupted in the middle of his _____ about what had happened during the battle.
 - Do not _____ the threat of the volcano, or you may find yourself in great danger.
 - Mr. Jaesper's voice is familiar because he often _____ local television programs.

M- Vocab Flashcards (20)
 T- GL Practice Ex 1-111
 W-GL Practice Ex 11-14
 Th- PV #19 Sentences

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| pronounce | fabulous | denounce | mythology |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
- Art dreamed up a(n) _____ picture of pink dragons and floating castles.
 - The principal was afraid he would make a mistake when he tried to _____ the new student's name.
 - Josh studied Greek and Roman _____ for such a long time that he began to imagine that he had amazing strength like Hercules.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

- | | | | | |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| recount | mythical | fabled | denounced | pronounce |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
- Lady Anne's _____ beauty brought knights from near and far to ask for her hand in marriage.
 - It was surprising when Evan _____ his teacher, since he had always seemed to like her.
 - Trisha wondered whether the film she saw was based on a true story or a(n) _____ tale.
 - Rebekah asked Molly to _____ the whole story of the dance to her.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

- Derek's _____ about a(n) _____ car that could fly into outer space won the school's prize for fiction.
 A. narrative; fabulous
 B. mythology; narrative
 C. discounting; pronounced
 D. recounting; narrating
- Nick found it difficult to _____ the radio program because he could not _____ many of the words.
 A. recount; discount
 B. discount; pronounce
 C. narrate; pronounce
 D. discount; narrate
- Experts tend to _____ the stories about the giant, saying they are _____ rather than true.
 A. discount; mythical
 B. recount; narrative
 C. denounce; pronounced
 D. narrate; fabled

Name _____

4. Even if Jane _____ the story exactly as she remembers it, Georgina will probably _____ her for lying.
 A. pronounces; recount
 B. recounts; denounce
 C. recounts; narrate
 D. discounts; narrate
5. Much of the country's _____ centers on the amazing deeds of a(n) _____ hero who was ten feet tall.
 A. recounting; mythical
 B. discounting; narrative
 C. narrative; mythology
 D. mythology; fabled

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.

1. When one wrestler *denounces* the other, the crowd may _____.
2. If the police were angry that no one could *recount* the robbery details, it might mean that _____.
3. If Angelique forgets a part and cannot finish her *narrative* of her trip to Washington, it may be because _____.

Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens was born in 1835 in a small town in Missouri. He was the fourth and youngest child of John Clemens, a businessman and legal official, and his wife Jane.

John Clemens was plagued by financial troubles, and the family was often in debt. When Samuel was four, his father moved the family to Hannibal, Missouri, a thriving town on the Mississippi River, hoping to take advantage of the financial opportunities there. He had little luck. Samuel, however, did benefit from the experience: he got to spend his childhood observing the lively and eccentric inhabitants of the riverside towns. He dreamed of one day piloting a steamboat.

He also became familiar with the realities of the slave trade. Hannibal was a thriving port city, and slaves were bought and sold there. As a young boy, Samuel saw a slaveowner beat a slave to death with a piece of iron. Later, another slave ran away and was murdered, and Samuel and his friends found the slave's mutilated corpse. The Clemens family itself owned slaves, but as John Clemens lost money,

he was forced to sell them off. The last slave, Jenny, was sold in 1842.

In 1847, John Clemens, deeply in debt, died. Samuel was forced to take up a trade. His brother Orion had started a newspaper in Hannibal and allowed him to work there as a printer; occasionally, Samuel would also contribute articles or stories. This was the beginning of his life as a writer.

He did not lack exciting experiences to write about. During the 1850s, he found work on a riverboat, as he had hoped. He received his pilot's license in 1859, but the Civil War broke out before he could get much experience. He then briefly formed a military outfit with other young men from Hannibal, but they disbanded after two weeks. Since Orion had been appointed governor of Nevada, Sam decided to go there. The Comstock Lode, a major gold deposit, had been discovered in 1848; Sam caught "gold rush fever" and spent the next few years prospecting.

At the same time, he submitted articles about his experience as a miner to a local newspaper. It was in a(n) _____ (NARRATE) written for this publication

that he signed the name by which American readers would soon know him. It was taken from a phrase used by riverboat pilots testing the depth of a river: if they could "mark Twain," or measure at least two fathoms down, the river was deep enough to travel on.

As Mark Twain, Clemens wrote some of the most famous, funny, and moving passages in American literature, filled with _____ (FABUL) detail and sharp insight. His works include *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, a nonfiction account of life on the Mississippi River, a satirical novel about the Gilded Age, and

numerous essays and short stories. Much of his writing drew on his experiences growing up in Hannibal. He was popular both among American readers and literary critics.

Unfortunately, Twain's later life was not as happy as his childhood. He did not manage money well; to pay off his debts, he was forced to go on a long, exhausting literary tour. Three of his four children, then his wife, died before him. Finally, in April 1910, Twain himself died. Despite the sadness of his final years, he was widely beloved, and he remains one of the most valued and important American writers.

1. Samuel Clemens started working for his brother Orion because
 A. he wanted to be a writer.
 B. he wanted to make new friends in Missouri.
 C. Orion forced him to.
 D. his father had died and left the family in debt.
2. From the passage, *prospecting* means
 A. treating the sick.
 B. looking for gold.
 C. walking around.
 D. waiting for someone.
3. The name that Clemens signed himself by, "Mark Twain," shows
 A. his desire to become a politician.
 B. his frustration at being in debt.
 C. his close ties to the Mississippi River.
 D. his love of his family.
4. Mark Twain's childhood on the Mississippi
 A. influenced his writing.
 B. was the subject of his first newspaper article.
 C. was not as easy as his later years.
 D. was unusual because his family owned slaves.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the italicized words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Not that *ac*, from *ad*, means "toward," and *re* means "back, away."

When asked to give an *account* of his experiences in the war, the soldier told us of terrible suffering and the pain of seeing his best friends die. Although he was proud to have defended his country, he hoped that the world's problems could now be solved in a way that did not involve bloodshed and violence. From this moment on, he said, he would *renounce* war and work for peace in every way possible.

account = _____
 renounce = _____