

Vocabulary List #8

hostile: very unfriendly

- Lester couldn't understand why people found him so **hostile**. Perhaps it had something to do with the way he scowled and said, "Leave me alone," whenever anyone smiled and said hello to him.
- Mary knew she owed her father an apology for acting so **hostile** when he told her to get off the phone.

anguish: great suffering

- Elizabeth's **anguish** at the death of her cat affected all her friends and relatives.
- Rory knew something was wrong when she saw the expression of **anguish** on her father's face.

boisterous: noisy and rowdy

- Grandma loved the **boisterous** children, but she was used to a quiet life. She had to admit they got on her nerves after only ten minutes.
- The swimming pool sign read, "No **boisterous** play." Donny thought, "I suppose this means I can't chase my brother around the pool edge, push him in and dunk him."

interrogate: to question

- Tyler's favorite part of the police show is when the detectives **interrogate** the crime suspects.
- Every time Dawn left the house, her father **interrogated** her about where she was going, who she was going with and what she was going to do.

bogus: fake; phony; counterfeit

- The **bogus** offer involved a supposedly free trip to Acapulco.
- Henry thought he was going to be making \$20.00 an hour, but it turned out that the job offer was **bogus**. He would be making only 75 cents an hour.

charisma: quality in a person that inspires or attracts others; charm or allure

- The candidate had so much **charisma** that huge crowds gathered every time she spoke.
- Mr. Wonka was the most popular teacher at school. His **charisma** made going to class a pleasure.

List #8 continued

dilapidated: falling to pieces; broken down

- The **dilapidated** house was said to be haunted by a headless old woman.
- The old junk yard was full of **dilapidated** automobiles and household appliances.

ecstatic: joyous; extremely happy

- James was **ecstatic** when he got Michael Jordan's autograph.
- The children were **ecstatic** when they heard they were flying to Disneyland for their vacation.

sinister: evil

- Louisa knew it wasn't just her imagination. Something **sinister** lurked in the shadows, and she shivered at the thought of what it might be.
- The man in the dark overcoat had a **sinister** look about him, so Pat and Kelly immediately turned around and walked the other direction.

philanthropist: a person (usually wealthy) who gives money to charity

- Andrew Carnegie, the great **philanthropist**, established foundations to give money to worthwhile causes.
- The Montgomery brothers couldn't be any more different from one another. While Bryon was a great **philanthropist**, Milton was stingy with his money.

Bonus Words

★ **ambiguous:** unclear; having more than one meaning

- The math assignment was so **ambiguous** that none of the students knew exactly what they were supposed to do.
- Rita got lost trying to find her new school because the directions she had been given were **ambiguous**.

★ **befuddle:** to confuse

- Mr. Macfee never did his own taxes because the tax forms always **befuddled** him.
- The whole class was **befuddled** by Mrs. Stafford's lecture on adverbial phrases.