

Bad Words!

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| base (adj.) | nefarious (adj.) |
| heinous (adj.) | nemesis (n.) |
| malediction (n.) | nether (adj.) |
| maleficent (adj.) | noxious (adj.) |
| malicious (adj.) | odious (adj.) |



Instructions: Look up each word in the dictionary. On a separate sheet of paper, write the definitions down. Then use each word in a sentence. Use your definitions and sentences to complete the following exercises.

Exercise 22.1. Choose a definition.

Match the word in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.

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|--------------------|--|
| ___ 1. base | A. doing evil or harm |
| ___ 2. heinous | B. extremely wicked or villainous; iniquitous |
| ___ 3. malediction | C. harmful to health or physical well-being; injurious |
| ___ 4. maleficent | D. an unconquerable rival or opponent |
| ___ 5. malicious | E. lower; under; beneath; believed to be dwelling below the surface of the earth |
| ___ 6. nefarious | F. hateful; abominable; totally reprehensible |
| ___ 7. nemesis | G. deserving or causing hatred; highly offensive, repugnant, disgusting |
| ___ 8. nether | H. morally low; mean-spirited; selfish; worthless |
| ___ 9. noxious | I. characterized by malice; spiteful; intending harm |
| ___ 10. odious | J. a curse; the utterance of a curse; slander |

Exercise 22.2. Antonyms.

Match the word in the left column with the opposite meaning(s) in the right column.

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|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ___ 1. base | A. admirable |
| ___ 2. heinous | B. virtuous |
| ___ 3. malediction | C. upper; higher; above |
| ___ 4. maleficent | D. plaudit; blessing |
| ___ 5. malicious | E. salubrious |
| ___ 6. nefarious | F. beneficent |
| ___ 7. nemesis | G. meritorious |
| ___ 8. nether | H. upright; reputable |
| ___ 9. noxious | I. benevolent |
| ___ 10. odious | J. friend |



Exercise 22.3. Synonyms.

Match the word in the left column with word(s) of the same or similar meaning in the right column.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| ___ 1. base | A. lower; under; beneath |
| ___ 2. heinous | B. reprehensible; evil; wicked; infamous |
| ___ 3. malediction | C. spiteful |
| ___ 4. maleficent | D. unhealthful |
| ___ 5. malicious | E. vile |
| ___ 6. nefarious | F. offensive; repulsive |
| ___ 7. nemesis | G. evil-doing |
| ___ 8. nether | H. atrocious |
| ___ 9. noxious | I. curse |
| ___ 10. odious | J. enemy |

Exercise 22.4. Fill in the blank.

Substitute the word(s) beneath each blank with the appropriate vocabulary word.

HOLY PUTREFACTION! Suddenly, the _____ smell of rotting eggs and fetid carcasses fills the air, threatening to overwhelm the residents of our fair metropolis! This can only be the work of that _____ anti-hero, Doc Nuisance! Left to his own devices for far too long, Nuisance must be up to his usual tricks: test-marketing his malodorous weapons on innocent bystanders — what a/n _____ thing to do to our commonwealth! Phew! And what a/n _____ fragrance, I must say! This is his most _____ act yet! He must be stopped! Covering my nose and throat with my cape, I'm off to hunt Nuisance down and do him in once and for all.

(Later that same day) When I finally catch up to my _____, he's muttering inaudible comments under his breath. Just as I'm about to grab him, he launches another _____ in my direction. UGH! Skunked again! Waving away the stench, I watch as a fissure opens up in the ground and Doc Nuisance flees back to his putrefied lair in a musty, _____ dimension.

Tune in again next week for another adventure of Captain Lexicon!



Exercise 22.5. On a separate sheet, write an original paragraph using all ten "bad" words righteously.

Bad Words Quiz!

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

I. Choose a definition.

Match the word in the left column with the correct definition in the right column.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| ___ 1. base | A. extremely wicked or villainous; iniquitous |
| ___ 2. heinous | B. harmful to health or physical well-being; injurious |
| ___ 3. malediction | C. lower or underworld; hell; believed to lie beneath the earth's surface |
| ___ 4. maleficent | D. doing evil or harm |
| ___ 5. malicious | E. hateful; abominable; totally reprehensible |
| ___ 6. nefarious | F. deserving or causing hatred; highly offensive, repugnant, disgusting |
| ___ 7. nemesis | G. morally low; mean-spirited; selfish; worthless |
| ___ 8. nether | H. characterized by malice; spiteful; intending harm |
| ___ 9. noxious | I. an unconquerable rival or opponent |
| ___ 10. odious | J. a curse; the utterance of a curse; slander |

II. Fill in the blank.

Substitute the word(s) beneath each blank with the appropriate vocabulary word.

_____! MY _____, DOC NUISANCE, is up to his usual tricks once again. As if lobbing
(Curses!) (arch-enemy)
_____ stink bombs up from some _____ dimension wasn't enough, now he's gone and
(injurious) (lower)
plastered our fair metropolis with all sorts of _____ posters, placards, handbills, and signs display-
(atrocious)
ing his trite phrasing and _____ features for all our citizens to see — as _____ an act of
(repugnant) (wicked)
over-familiarity in advertising as I've ever seen. His _____ plans for our complete and utter destruc-
(vile, low)
tion must include boring us to death. Why else would he assault us with such _____ insults to our
(evil-doing)
intelligence? The only way we can overcome such _____ smatterings of drab prose is to take all of
(spiteful)
Doc Nuisance's advertisements down, re-write them (minus the offending banalities, of course) and replace
them with punched-up prose! Oh! The irony!