**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 1, Week 1**

**DYS- bad, ill, difficult**

1. **dysentery**- inflammation of the large intestine

*Those who ate the contaminated food became so ill with dysentery that they had to be hospitalized for a week until the inflammation of the intestine went down.*

2. **dyslexia**- impairment of the ability to read

*Despite the fact that he suffers from dyslexia and hated to read as a child, John Irving has become one of the most prolific writers of our time.*

3. **dyslogistic**- expressing disapproval or censure; uncomplimentary

*My dyslogistic comments about the lack of funding the city was giving to education ensured that I was not asked back for the next commissioners’ meeting.*

4. **dystrophy**- a degenerative disorder caused by inadequate or defective nutrition; any of several disorders, especially muscular dystrophy, in which the muscles weaken and atrophy *The devastating effects of dystrophy can be found in all parts of the world, but it is especially prevalent in those countries experiencing a famine.*

5. **dystopia**- imaginary place where living conditions are dreadful

*George Orwell’s Nineteen Eighty-Four is about a totalitarian dystopia in which people have no freedom and very little joy in their lives.*

6. **dysfunctional**- Abnormal or impaired functioning, especially of a bodily system or social group.

*Molly realized that her dysfunctional relationship with her father, in which he only spoke to her if he wanted to criticize her in some way, was negatively impacting her relationship with her boyfriend.*

**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 1, Week 2**

**TOP** – from *Topos*, a place

1. **Dystopia** – noun – a human society characterized by human misery, especially oppression, overcrowding, disease, and filth

*The framers of the new government hoped to create an utopia, a perfect society; in reality, the new nation became not the hoped-for utopia, but a dystopia full of misery and oppression.*

1. **Topic** – noun – a subject of conversation or discussion; the subject, theme, text, thesis, or question to be discussed

*When writing an essay, you must first narrow the topic.*

1. **Topical** – adjective – commonplace; current; local; contemporary

*After the horrible destruction brought about by tornados in the last few years, the issue of tornado safety is quite topical.*

1. **Topography** – noun – the detailed map or chart of the features or an area

*The topography of the region is interesting; the map maker believes that because of the intersection of the four rivers, many storms divide and go around the area, merging once again about 20 miles away. As a result, there is little rainfall in the northeast part of the county.*

1. **Topographer** – noun – a person who creates detailed maps or charts of the features of an area

*The topographer created a detailed map of the Chesapeake Bay region.*

1. **Toponyms** – noun – placenames, the names given to towns, cities, and regions

*The historian researched the toponyms of Frederick County.*

1. **Utopia** – noun – an ideal or perfect community

*Frederick is a nice place to live, but it’s no utopia*.

1. **Utopian** – noun – a dreamer; a visionary; a romantic; an idealist

*The utopian hoped to create a perfect online community.* adjective – idealistic; unrealistic; impractical; it often is used in a negative way *The utopian politician believed the United States could become a perfect society.*

**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 1, Week 3**

**MON/MONIT-** warn

1. **premonition**- forewarning; intuitive anticipation of a coming event

*Despite having a premonition about the old, abandoned house, Lucy ignored her intuition and entered it anyway, never to be heard from again.*

2. **admonish**- warn of a fault; reprove; rebuke

*The cashier was admonished by her boss not to give away any more ice cream to her friends, but she did not heed his warning and was therefore fired*.

3. **monitor**- keep track of; regulate, or control the operation of a machine or process

*One aspect of a teacher’s job it to monitor the students’ behavior in hallways after school.*

4. **premonitory**- conveying a forewarning

*A premonitory rumbling from afar signaled the storm’s approach.*

5. **monstrous**- shockingly hideous or frightful; exceptionally large; enormous

*Despite his monstrous appearance which frightened all those he encountered, Frankenstein’s monster was not initially a cruel or evil creature.*

6. **monition**- a warning  
*Refusing to listen to the monitions of his teachers and parents, Dereck continued to skip school. His actions caused him to fail the 9th grade.*

**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 1, Week 4**

**MAND/MANDAT**- order, command, commit

1. **mandate**- authoritative command; territory administered by a trustee

*The reelected candidate regarded her huge popular vote as a mandate from the people to continue the policies of her first term in office.*

2. **countermand**- issue a contrary order  
*Because the general did not agree with the colonel’s order, he decided to countermand it.*

3. **writ of mandamus**- written order from a court to enforce the performance of some public duty.

*Several prominent citizens have applied for a writ of mandamus to compel the Mayor to publish the budget, as required by law.*

4. **mandatory**- obligatory; required by command

*The coach regards attendance at today’s practice as mandatory; no one is excused*.

5**. remand**- send back; recommit, as to prison

*Since the retrial resulted in a verdict of “guilty,” the judge was obliged to remand the defendant to the state penitentiary.*

6. **demand**- to ask for urgently or peremptorily; to claim as just or due

*The public demanded that the police department solve the murder of the activist as quickly as possible.*

7**. reprimand**- to reprove or criticize severely, especially in a formal or official way.

*Receiving an official reprimand in his file for improper conduct all but ended George’s military career.*

8. **command**- to direct with authority; give orders to; to have control or authority over; rule

*When the students commanded his teacher to give him the answer, he was sent to the principal’s office for acting with so much pertinence and so little respect.*

**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 2, Week 1**

**Polis/Polit/Urb-** to polish; improve; order; city, city as the site of political discourse

1. **politicize**- to make into a political issue

*The candidate was criticized when he tried to politicize the tragedy during the campaign.*

2. **geopolitical-** relating to world politics

*A government today that ignores geopolitical concerns is doomed to have a great deal of difficulty in its relations with other countries.*

3. **policy-** a course or plan of action

*Though it was policy for the FBI to interview all those who had access to the stolen diamond, the agents didn't follow these guidelines and so security guard, who was the true culprit, was never caught.*

4. **metropolis**-a major city, especially the chief city of a country or region

*Baltimore was considered the metropolis of Maryland for many years, as it was the chief harbor for the mid- Atlantic region, crucial to trade and commerce.*

5. **urban-** of, relating to, or located in a city or town

*His urban upbringing did not prepare him for living in the country—he was used to having people around at all times, not the isolation of his new farm.*

6. **urbane**- having polish, politeness, and suavity in manner or style; sophisticated

*His urbane demeanor, obvious in his designer clothes, custom made briefcase, and easy charm, made him stand out among the other men being interviewed for the position of sales director.*

7. **suburb**- a district lying immediately outside a city or town

*It was cheaper to live in the suburb of Frederick than in the city.*

8. **interurban**- located in or operating between two or more cities

*Interurban transportation is provided for senior citizens between Washington D.C. and Baltimore.*

**English 9 -- Vocabulary Unit 2, Week 2**

**FRACT/FRAG-** break

1. **fragile**- easily broken; frail; delicate

*Glassware and other fragile materials require special packaging to prevent breakage*.

2. **infraction**- act of breaking; breach; violation

*For his infraction of the uniform policy, the cadet was forced to run for six miles and to do 400 push-ups. He never again broke the rules.*

3. **fracture**- break or crack; breaking of a bone

*After falling from her motorcycle, Celia suffered a major fracture in her arm, sending her to the emergency room to set the broken bone.*

4. **fragment**- part broken off

*A fragment of the bullet was still lodged in the soldier’s arm from a wound he had received in World War II. This piece was never fished out and has not bothered the old soldier for sixty years!*

5. **fraction**- one or more of the equal parts of a whole; fragment

*After leaving Homer alone with the pie for a few hours, Marge returned to discover only a small fraction of it left.*

6. **irrefragable**-impossible to refute, break the truth of, or controvert; indisputable

*Because of the irrefragable evidence against her, the suspect decided to accept a plea bargain rather than have a jury, who would see the strong proof, decide her fate.*

7. **refract**- to deflect or break the path of something (light, for example) from a straight path by or bending of a sound or light wave

*During church, May’s younger brother would tease her by refracting light from the window with his watch, putting the beam directly in her face.*

8. **distract**- to cause to turn away or break from the original focus of attention or interest; divert; to pull in conflicting emotional directions; unsettle.

*While the homeowner was distracted from closing the back door by a ringing front doorbell, the thief was able to sneak in the back door and steal her purse and several other valuables.*