

Read the following passage, in which some of the words you have studied in Units 10-12 appear in **boldface** type. Then answer questions 1-11 on page 139 on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage and in the introductory statement.

Vocabulary for Comprehension

This passage focuses on the brief but remarkable era of silent films.

- (Line)
- It may be tempting for modern viewers to **deprecate** silent films. After all, they are technically primitive compared with today's movies. Much of the acting is exaggerated and overwrought, and the plots are often melodramatic or sentimental. Also, there is no dialogue except for some **laconic** titles that appear on the screen from time to time. Yet in their day, audiences flocked to see these movies, marveling at the **luminous** images on the flickering screen. To these enthusiastic new moviegoers, (15) there was nothing as exciting as moving pictures!
- Two men, Louis Lumiere and Thomas Alva Edison, one French and one American, are usually credited (20) with the invention of the motion picture camera. In 1895 Louis Lumiere invented what he called the *cinematographe*. This compact, versatile instrument was **tantamount** (25) to a camera, film-processing unit, and projector all in one. Because Edison's camera was bulkier and less portable than Lumiere's, the Europeans took an early lead in the development of (30) motion pictures. The Americans soon caught up, however, and Hollywood eventually became the capital of a vastly profitable international film
- industry, which began in the 1910s (35) with the production of silent movies. Many contemporary viewers have overlooked the masterpieces of the silent era because they find the adjustments they must make to watch these films **onerous**. Without knowing (40) it, however, they are depriving themselves of some unparalleled pleasures. These include the brilliant physical comedy of Buster Keaton, the visual expressiveness of Charlie Chaplin, and the landmark editing, camera work, and set designs of the great pioneer filmmakers D. W. Griffith, Sergei Eisenstein, F. R. (50) Murnau, and Fritz Lang.

- In the first paragraph (lines 1-16), the writer's main focus is on
 - contrasting the drawbacks of silent films with the excitement they inspired in audiences of the day
 - describing the landmark camera work of some silent filmmakers
 - discussing the invention of the motion picture camera
 - comparing Keaton and Chaplin
 - introducing some of the writers' favorite silent films
- The meaning of **deprecate** (line 2) is
 - underestimate
 - belittle
 - ignore
 - misunderstand
 - overpraise
- In paragraph 1, the author mentions all of the following as drawbacks of silent films EXCEPT
 - overwrought acting
 - laconic captions
 - melodramatic plots
 - primitive technical achievements
 - unattractive set designs
- Laconic** (line 9) most nearly means
 - obscure
 - humorous
 - succinct
 - brilliant
 - redundant
- Luminous** (line 12) is best defined as
 - bright
 - shocking
 - blurred
 - life-like
 - timeless
- From the details given in paragraph 2 (lines 17-35), one may reasonably infer that the Americans caught up with the Europeans because
 - the Americans made more films
 - technical refinements made film equipment less bulky and more portable
- Tantamount** (line 24) most nearly means
 - opposed
 - compared
 - similar
 - supplementary
 - equivalent
- According to the passage, the international film industry began in
 - the 1880s
 - the 1890s
 - the 1910s
 - the 1920s
 - the 1930s
- In paragraph 3 (lines 36-50), the writer most likely includes so many examples in order to
 - display a high level of expertise
 - persuade the reader of the claims made for silent films in the passage
 - bolster the claim that silent movies are primitive compared with today's films
 - prove that directors were more skilled than actors in the silent film era
 - trace the ways in which silent film stars influenced one another
- Onerous** (line 40) most nearly means
 - silly
 - impossible
 - burdensome
 - easy
 - annoying
- The writer's attitude toward silent films might best be described as
 - enthusiastic
 - respectful
 - neutral
 - skeptical
 - dismissive

For Review NOT MARKS

Grammar in Context

In the sentence "Yet in their day, audiences flocked to see these movies, marveling at the luminous images on the flickering screen" (lines 10-14 on page 138), the participial phrase "marveling at the luminous images" clearly modifies "audiences." However, this connection would have been lost if the author of the passage had written "Marveling at the luminous images on the flickering screen, these movies were flocked to by audiences." A participial phrase that does not sensibly modify any word or group of words in a sentence is called a **dangling participle**.

You can use these techniques to correct a dangling participle: (1) Add a word or words that the phrase can logically modify. (2) Add words to the phrase so that its meaning is clear. (3) Reword the entire sentence.

On the lines provided, rewrite each of the following sentences, correcting dangling participles. Write "correct" if the sentence is correct.

- Listening to my great-uncle's stories, it was interesting to hear him describe the silent film era.
- Tightly constructed, all my uncle's contemporaries enjoyed silents.
- When evaluating a silent film, a number of criteria should be employed.
- While discussing silents with some friends, the topic of titles came up.
- After searching in several catalogs, *City Lights* with Charlie Chaplin was located.
- Contrasting the comedy of Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton, the lecturer enthralled the audience.
- Sitting on the edge of their seats, the films of Fritz Lang and D. W. Griffith delighted audiences.
- Beginning in the late 1920s, however, silents were eclipsed in popularity by talkies.

Two-Word Completions

Circle the pair of words that best complete the meaning of each of the following passages.

- As soon as I heard its _____ cries for help, I knew that the _____ animal had once again got its paw caught in the grillwork on the front porch.
 a. obsequious . . . moribund c. onerous . . . delunct
 b. laconic . . . impeccable d. plaintive . . . hapless
- Though Seneca embraced the tenets of Stoicism in their entirety, Cicero _____ no one school of Greek philosophy but, like a true _____, chose what he thought best from each and ignored the rest.
 a. discomfited . . . penitent c. espoused . . . eclectic
 b. abrogated . . . aesthetic d. deprecated . . . foible
- Although many of the pioneers found it difficult at first to cope with the _____ of frontier life, they were a hardy race who quickly became _____ such rough-and-tumble living.
 a. rudiments . . . importuned by c. detritus . . . decimated by
 b. asperities . . . injured to d. shambles . . . discomfited by
- In *Of Human Bondage*, W. Somerset Maugham's main character Philip Carey is _____ by external adversity as well as his own self-consciousness because at birth he was the _____ recipient of a club foot.
 a. rebuffed . . . sporadic c. decimated . . . laconic
 b. requited . . . benign d. discomfited . . . hapless
- The "truth-in-advertising" laws that many states have recently passed were in part designed to discourage crooks and _____ from making _____ claims about the products they offer to the unsuspecting public.
 a. charlatans . . . mendacious c. fetishes . . . laconic
 b. necromancers . . . sporadic d. cabals . . . eclectic
- Though the man appeared to be the most _____ pauper on the face of the earth, he had actually _____ large sums of money in various hiding places in the hovel he called home.
 a. flaccid . . . burnished c. ambient . . . interpolated
 b. impecunious . . . sequestered d. benign . . . decimated

Choosing the Right Meaning

Read each sentence carefully. Then circle the item that best completes the statement below the sentence.

The infamous Hatfield-McCoy feud began in earnest when, in 1882, the Hatfields required the slaying of Ellison Hatfield by executing three McCoy brothers.

1. In line 2 the word **required** is used to mean (2)

- a. avenged b. recompensed c. reimbursed d. witnessed

The deep hush was broken when a gust of wind billowed through the parlor window and winnowed the pages of the book that lay open on the table.

2. The word **winnowed** in line 2 most nearly means (2)

- a. deleted b. sorted out c. tore d. fanned

By 1864 Southern war-making resources were so depleted that Confederate commanders could deal only temporary rebuffs to the Union juggernaut.

3. In line 2 the word **rebuffs** is best defined as (2)

- a. curt rejections b. cease-fires c. snubs d. setbacks

"When from our better selves we have too long Been parted by the hurrying world, and droop Sick of its business, of its pleasures tired, How gracious, how benign, is Solitude," (*Wordsworth, The Prelude*)

4. In line 4 the word **benign** is used to mean (4)

- a. forgiving b. salutary c. benevolent d. lonely

The mad scientist, a stock character of Hollywood B movies, is often found in a dark laboratory, surrounded by a sinister array of beakers of ebullient potions.

5. The best definition for the word **ebullient** in line 2 is (2)

- a. boiling b. enthusiastic c. delicious d. poisoned

Antonyms

In each of the following groups, circle the word or expression that is most nearly the **opposite** of the word in **boldface** type.

1. **forgo**

- a. indulge b. concoct c. refrain from d. serve

2. **espouse**

- a. devise b. expect c. repudiate d. support

3. **abrogate**

- a. renew b. debate c. nullify d. reveal

4. **rebuff**

- a. spurn b. expect c. welcome d. question

5. **delectable**

- a. delicious b. powerful c. traditional d. repulsive

6. **impecunious**

- a. impoverished b. close c. wealthy d. kindly

7. **burnish**

- a. tarnish b. melt c. polish d. steal

8. **laconic**

- a. humorous b. verbose c. concise d. sarcastic

9. **mendacious**

- a. deceitful b. convincing c. unwilling d. truthful

10. **eclectic**

- a. selective b. weird c. creative d. uniform

12. **deprecate**

- a. approve b. describe c. contrive d. condemn

13. **sporadic**

- a. fitful b. continuous c. bloody d. mock

14. **moribund**

- a. dying b. depressed c. flourishing d. controversial

15. **irreparable**

- a. fatal b. instant c. unforeseen d. reversible

16. **flaccid**

- a. weak b. firm c. new d. elected

Word Families

A. On the line provided, write the word you have learned in Units 10-12 that is related to each of the following nouns.

EXAMPLE: attenuation—**attenuate**

1. deprecation, deprecator

2. gregariousness

3. oscillation, oscillator

4. mendacity, mendaciousness

5. omnipresence

6. abrogation

7. plaintiveness

8. ebullience, ebullition

9. requital

10. espousal, espouser

11. inexorability, inexorableness

12. discomfiture

13. decimation

14. interpolation, interpolator

15. sequestration

16. obtuseness

17. impeccability

B. On the line provided, write the word you have learned in Units 10-12 that is related to each of the following verbs.

EXAMPLE: fetishize—**fetish**

18. repent

19. repair

20. illuminate

Word Associations

In each of the following groups, circle the word that is best defined or suggested by the given phrase.

- humbling himself in an effort to be accepted
a. sporadic b. obsequious c. peremptory d. mendacious
- never happy unless she has a lot of people around her
a. peremptory b. irreparable c. moribund d. gregarious
- suffering an unbroken string of bad breaks and disappointments
a. delectable b. benign c. obtuse d. hapless
- regard his suggestions with deep suspicion
a. defunct b. askance c. plaintive d. laconic
- laden with
a. sporadic b. fraught c. tantamount d. impeccable
- a small group that plotted to oust me from the club presidency
a. necromancer b. cabal c. cavil d. charlatan
- getting used to cold weather before going on the camping trip
a. inure b. espouse c. winnow d. attenuate
- a minor, often humorous failing
a. cavil b. foible c. rebuff d. detritus
- "At that moment, life seemed more hopeless than it ever had before or since."
a. detritus b. cabal c. nadir d. shambles
- pine away
a. sequester b. decimate c. languish d. inure
- given to trivial and frivolous objections
a. attenuate b. forgo c. reconnoiter d. cavil
- lessen the impact of the economic recession
a. oscillate b. winnow c. rebuff d. attenuate
- how fate may sometimes be characterized
a. inexorable b. charlatan c. perfunctory d. ambient
- will never undertake anything without his "lucky coin" with him
a. fetish b. burnish c. detritus d. nadir
- a type of wizard or warlock
a. penitent b. charlatan c. necromancer d. cabal
- genuinely sorry for one's mistakes
a. obsequious b. ebullient c. moribund d. penitent
- exposed as an utter fraud
a. shambles b. charlatan c. cavil d. detritus
- learning the basic strokes, moves, and tactics of tennis
a. rudiments b. fetishes c. foibles d. eclectic
- an artillery barrage that took a heavy toll of life and limb
a. abrogate b. decimate c. sequester d. importune
- wreckage
a. detritus b. fetish c. shambles d. nadir

144 ■ Review Units 10-12

Building with Classical Roots

rog—to ask, beg, call

This root appears in **abrogate** (page 124), meaning "to cancel, to abolish by authoritative action." Some other words based on the same root are listed below.

abrogation	derogation	interrogative	supererogatory
arrongance	interrogation	prorogue	surrogate

From the list of words above, choose the one that corresponds to each of the brief definitions below. Write the word in the blank space in the illustrative sentence below the definition.

- exaggerated self-importance, haughty pride
The king was corrupted by power and, over time, exchanged his humility for _____.
- an act or expression that detracts from reputation, value, power, etc. ("to call down")
The aid workers deeply resented any _____ of their motives.
- a substitute, deputy; a judge in charge of the probate of wills, administration of estates, and appointment of guardians
While my parents were on vacation, my aunt served as a _____ guardian.
- an act of formal or systematic questioning
The detective asked question after question during the _____ of the prime suspect.
- a cancellation; the act of repealing or annulling ("calling off")
Unfavorable evidence has emerged, forcing the _____ of the agreement between the two parties.
- to discontinue a session of a legislative body; to defer, postpone
The prime minister was determined to _____ the legislative assembly until all members were present.
- asking a question; having the form or character of a question; a word or sentence that asks a question
In Spanish class, we are learning how to phrase _____ sentences.
performed or observed beyond the degree required; demanded, or expected; unnecessary; superfluous
"We could do with fewer _____ remarks," the teacher observed.

From the list of words on page 145, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

- The suspect was led into a small _____ room, where two police officers questioned him until the wee hours of the morning.
- It was kind of the gas station attendant to give me directions to the next town, but to give me a map, along with written directions, was clearly _____.
- Her colossal _____ led her to dismiss the feelings and concerns of her "inferiors" as scarcely worth noting.
- "Do-gooder" is occasionally used as a term of _____, in which the meaning of the word is inverted; it actually denotes someone who performs benevolent acts, but for dubious or attention-seeking reasons.
- It is up to the _____ court to ensure that the estate is given to the appropriate parties.
- Though her comment about cleaning the room was _____ in form, it was clear that she was issuing an order, not asking a question.
- Our society may need improvement, but the answer does not lie in the _____ of the ideals, rules, and institutions we have inherited from the past.
- The kings of England would often abruptly _____ Parliament to prevent the passage of measures unwelcome to the throne.

Circle the **boldface** word that more satisfactorily completes each of the following sentences.

- Remember to use the proper end punctuation to distinguish (interrogative, **supererogatory**) sentences from exclamatory statements.
- My Great-Aunt Sylvia was like a (**derogation, surrogate**) grandmother to me.
- Legislators worked as quickly as possible to complete the bill before the session could be (**interrogated, prorogued**).
- Since the (**abrogation, interrogative**) of the international trade agreement, debts owed to the World Bank have increased.
- The experienced trial lawyer instructed her client to stay calm during what might prove to be a grueling (**interrogation, surrogate**).
- Jonathan Swift hurled (**arrogances, derogations**) against the British for not doing more to aid the impoverished in Ireland.
- My father always regarded it as a mark of **ulter (arrogance, abrogation)** to attempt to solve the devilishly difficult Sunday crossword puzzle using a pen.
- After a delicious pear tart, cinnamon ice cream, and hot cider, we simply had no room for the (**surrogate, supererogatory**) chocolates the waiter brought to our table.

Analogies

In each of the following, circle the item that best completes the comparison.

- surveillance** is to **monitor** as
 a. espionage is to overlook
 b. vigilance is to sleep
 c. sabotage is to peevish
 d. reconnaissance is to reconnoiter
- carp** is to **cavil** as
 a. decry is to deprecate
 b. conciliate is to nettles
 c. hallow is to travesty
 d. espouse is to eschew
- omnipresent** is to **ubiquitous** as
 a. moribund is to obsolescent
 b. laconic is to garrulous
 c. extant is to extinct
 d. eclectic is to monolithic
- pendulum** is to **oscillate** as
 a. clock is to temporize
 b. scale is to ponder
 c. wave is to undulate
 d. wheel is to waver
- hypocrite** is to **dissemble** as
 a. charlatan is to feign
 b. suppliant is to shame
 c. derelict is to simulate
 d. counterpart is to conceal
- sporadic** is to **intermittent** as
 a. brackish is to fresh
 b. ephemeral is to transitory
 c. fraught is to devoid
 d. utopian is to feasible
- indigent** is to **impecunious** as
 a. furtive is to overt
 b. halcyon is to turbulent
 c. hapless is to unfortunate
 d. felicitous is to awkward
- acuity** is to **obtuse** as
 a. perspicacity is to myopic
 b. equity is to impartial
 c. precedence is to guileful
 d. asperity is to fresh
- luminous** is to **refulgent** as
 a. ebullient is to satyrmine
 b. murky is to lucid
 c. verdant is to arid
 d. recalcitrant is to aromatic
- miser** is to **sqeeze** as
 a. misanthrope is to invest
 b. neophyte is to flitch
 c. agnostic is to embezzle
 d. spendthrift is to sardander

Choosing the Right Meaning

Read each sentence carefully. Then circle the item that best completes the statement below the sentence.

- I am at a loss to judge whether her self-deprecating manner bespeaks genuine humility or false modesty.
- The word **self-deprecating** in line 1 is best defined as
 a. self-betraying
 b. self-satisfied
 c. self-assured
 d. self-serving
- "Such smiling rogues as these, Like rats, not bite the holy cords a-twain Which are too intrinse t' unloose; smooth every passion . . . Reneged, ah! turn their halcyon beaks With every gale, and vary of their masters' Knowing nought, like dogs, but follow'd." (Shakespeare, King Lear, II, 2, 79-81, 84-86)
- In line 4 the word **halcyon** is used to mean
 a. peaceful
 b. kingfisher
 c. prosperous
 d. happy

