

- 1.52 pli, plic a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- 1.53 port a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- 1.54 press a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- 1.55 psych a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- 1.56 sta, sti a. _____
 statu b. _____
 sis, sto c. _____
 sty d. _____
 (All of these words are from the same root.)

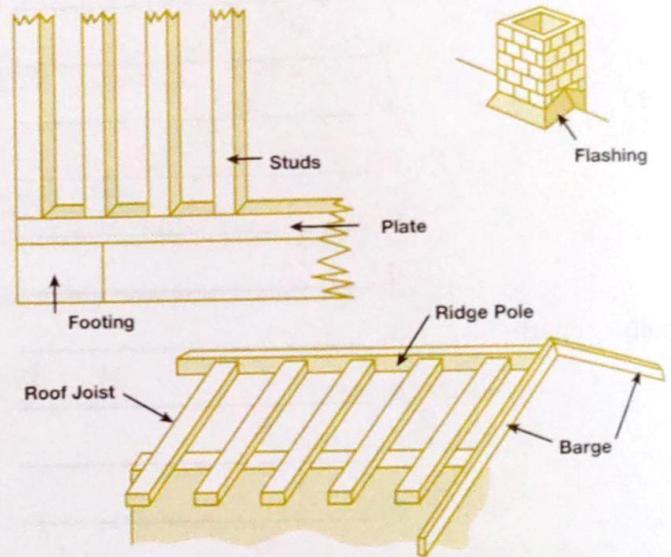
- 1.57 scrib a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____
 d. _____

WORD CATEGORIES

The word *technical* comes from the Greek word *technikos*, which means *art, craft, or skill*. It is similar to the Greek word *tekon*, which means *builder or carpenter*. The Latin word *texere* means to *weave*. With this background information, you can see why the word *technical* covers so many fields of work.

Every business has its own vocabulary, and most businesses have a lingo, or jargon, all their own. A lingo is a special vocabulary of a particular field of interest.

Construction workers. *Tekton* means *builder or carpenter*. Builders and carpenters have a lingo, a set of technical terms. Construction terminology has a flavor all its own. Starting at the bottom, the concrete base for a foundation (that extends below the frost line) is called the *footing*. The cement block wall that spans the distance between the footing and the floor is called the *stem wall*. When cement is poured for the footing and the floor at one time, it is called a *monolithic pour*. Mortar is *mud*, and reinforcing steel bars are called *rebar*. When the builder checks the straightness of a wall, he will *eyeball* it or he might *string it* (stretch a string from corner to corner to see if the wall curves one way or the other). He lays the *plate* which is usually a two-by-eight piece of redwood or pressure-treated lumber that is bolted to the top of the stem wall. He



then builds the skeleton frame of two-by-fours; the uprights of the frame are called *studs*. The uprights and a surrounding frame of *two-by-fours* is put together flat on the ground and raised into place and nailed to the plate. The *rafters* may be nailed to a ridgepole, or a truss (a triangular assemblage of beams and rafters called *trussings*) may be used to support the roof. To *rock* a wall is to nail the sheet rock to the studs, after which a tape-and-bedding machine, called a *bazooka*, prepares the wall for **texturing** or for wallpaper or paneling.

Other words to add to this incomplete list are equally obscure. *Birdstop* is the piece of wood that stops the birds from flying between each of the rafters where they rest on the top plate. The rafter that extends beyond the edge of the house to make an overhang is called a *barge*. The underside of a covering or a lowered ceiling is called a *soffit*. On the roof, metal (usually copper) stripping about twelve inches in width, called *flashing*, is installed under the shingles, at the corners or *valleys*, and around the chimneys and vents to prevent leaking.

Chefs. Chefs also have a language that differs from that of other trades. A hotel menu speaks eloquently of the French influence in professional kitchens. The serving of food in a cosmopolitan **cuisine** literally bristles with French terms. As a

diner, you may have begun with *hors d'oeuvres* (or *dervz*), any of various savory foods served as appetizers. For a second course did you have *bouillon* (boo yohn)—a clear, seasoned soup made from beef? Did *chef's salad*—a combination of lettuce and other uncooked vegetables—come next? Was your main course meat *en brochette* (akin *braw-shet*), meat on a skewer, a long metal pin? Or was it fish *en papillote* (akin *pa pee yaws*), fish cooked in a greased paper bag? Were the potatoes *au gratin* (oh gra ten)—potatoes crusted with cheese? Did the **maitre d'** (*metr dee*) suggest *chocolate mousse* (shaw kaw la moos) for dessert? If he did, you enjoyed a light dessert made with flavored whipped cream and gelatin that was frozen without stirring. Sometimes it pays to take a French-English dictionary with you when you go out to eat.



| A French chef may prepare *hors d'oeuvres*, fish *en papillote*, potatoes *au gratin*, and meat *en brochette*.

Firefighters. Indeed, all areas of work have vocabularies that are mysterious to those outside the field. For example, when a firefighter connects a supply line to a hydrant, he is *catching* a plug, and he is in his *turnouts* (helmet, boots, pants, coat, gloves) when he does it. He uses a *stinger* (a deck-mounted deluge gun) or even a *fog hog* (a fog nozzle

that expels one thousand gallons per minute) to *surround* and *drown* a *fully-involved* structure (a building that is totally burning and generally has *vented* itself, or created an opening for the escape of gas under pressure). At that point, the firefighters are *10-97* (at the scene of an emergency).

Fill in the blanks.

- 1.58 *Technical* comes from a Greek word suggesting a. _____, b. _____, or c. _____.
- 1.59 The special vocabulary of a particular field of interest is called _____.
- 1.60 The words *monolithic pour*, *rebar*, and *ridgepole* would be used by a _____.
- 1.61 One who *catches* a plug in his *turnouts* would be a _____.
- 1.62 Write the logical items that would be described as follows:
- a. au gratin _____
- b. en brochette _____
- c. en papillote _____
- 1.63 The terms in 1.62 might be used by a(n) a. _____ or a(n) b. _____.

Physicians. An unknown writer for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* asked in the 1940s, "Why Don't Doctors Speak English?" He wrote:

"A layman's heart misses a beat or two when he is told that he has 'heterotropia' or 'strabismus divergens' and that he ought to hurry to an ophthalmo-orhinolaryngologist. Of course, if he were told he had cross-eyes and needed a pair of glasses, he would say that he knew it all the time."

"Naturally a mother is alarmed when she hears that her baby has 'morbilli rubeola,' but if it happens that this is not her first child, she probably will know that this just means a case of measles. 'Coryza aedematosa' may sound more alarming, but it signifies nothing more than a cold in the head."

"'Urticaria' (hives), 'acute pruritus diemalis' (winter itch), and 'borborygmus' (belching) may perhaps be excused as **euphemisms** for polite parlor use; but certainly 'halitosis' is bad enough without making it 'stomatodysodia.' To be able to boast that he is afflicted with 'pseudoalopecia areata' may be some consolation to one who is early losing his hair."

"There really is precious little method in all this medical *nomenclature*, borrowed as it is with a kind of even-handed abandon from Greek, Latin, French, or such other language as may have been at the command of doctors it must be a great satisfaction."

Medical workers have not changed their habits much; laymen are still baffled by medical terms that are meaningless to the uninitiated.

Other scientists. Another science that has special terminology is geology. Rocks are classified by the geologists as **igneous**, **sedimentary**, and **metamorphic**. Some *disturbed* rocks contain *faults*; one of the most famous of these is the San Andreas Fault in California. A well-known **dome mountain** is the carefully carved Mt. Rushmore.

Meteorology, the science of weather, utilizes a special vocabulary. A **barometer** assists in charting *cyclones*, *tornadoes*, *waterspouts*, and *typhoons*. The atmosphere in which we live and move becomes

thinner farther from the earth. The Greeks called this thinner air *ether*.

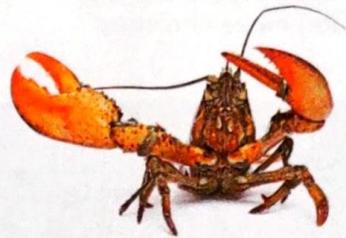
Today, scientists divide the atmosphere into *troposphere*, a layer of air that extends to ten miles above the equator; *stratosphere*, a stratum that continues above the clouds to fifty miles from the earth; *ionosphere* which is believed to extend from fifty to three hundred fifty miles up; and *exosphere*, which may well continue to one thousand miles beyond the surface of the earth.



| Tornado touching down in the countryside

Creatures studied in the biological sciences have been classified into many groups. The *arthropods* include insects which have three pairs of legs; *arachnids*, or spiders; *crustaceans*, commonly known as shellfish; and *centipedes* and *millipedes*, those creatures with more than eight legs. Although nearly four-fifths of all animals are arthropods, there are many other invertebrates. Of the **vertebrates**, man

stands alone as different from all other mammals and surely separated from the rest of the vertebrates: birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fishes. The Genesis account of Creation cannot be disproved, nor will it ever be. God has promised (Matthew 5:18) that neither one jot (an apostrophe) nor one tittle (accent mark) will pass from the Law (the entire Word of God) until it all be fulfilled.



| Arthropods

Write the letter of the correct answer on the line.

- 1.64 A term for softening of the brain is _____ .
 a. stomatodysodia
 b. nomenclature
 c. tephromalacia
- 1.65 A more polite term used to replace an objectionable one is called a(n) _____ .
 a. euphemism
 b. urticaria
 c. heterotropia
- 1.66 An ophthalmo-orhinolaryngologist is _____ .
 a. a person who is losing his hair early
 b. an incurable disease
 c. an eye, ear, nose, and throat specialist
- 1.67 *Coryza aedematosa* is _____ .
 a. crossed eyes
 b. a head cold
 c. hives

Fill in the blanks.

- 1.68 Three classes of rock are a. _____, b. _____, and c. _____.
- 1.69 The study of weather is called _____.
- 1.70 Four atmospheric layers are a. _____, b. _____, c. _____, and d. _____.
- 1.71 Several biological classifications include crustaceans, or a. _____, and arachnids, or b. _____.

Authors. The **figurative language** of poetry includes many fascinating words. *Allusion* means a reference to a well known Biblical, historical, or mythological character or situation. *Personification* refers to instances where inanimate objects are spoken of as having human characteristics. *Onomatopoeia* reflects the sounds of actions in the very words that are used, as in *buzz*, *grind*, *knock*, *bump*, *creak*, or *sniffle*. *Synecdoche* (su nek' du kee) is a figure of speech by which a part is used for the whole. Nehemiah said of King Artaxerxes in Nehemiah 2:8: "And the king granted me, according to the good *hand* of my God upon me." When a human part is used in describing God it is also called an *anthropomorphism*. You know that *anthropo* means *man*; *morph* means *form*, and *-ism* means a *doctrine* or *belief*. *Synecdoche* also is the use of a figure that names the material for the thing made. Poets call a sword a *steel* or a baseball bat a *willow*.

Another *genre* (distinctive type of writing in literature) is the short story. Every short story must contain suspense and *foreshadowing*, *plot*, *dramatic conflict*, *theme*, *character delineation*, *immediacy* and *atmosphere*, *a point of view*, *limited focus*, and *unity*. A short story may be labeled fiction, but it is based on truth. Many times the material that the author chooses to leave out is more important than the information he puts in. By leaving out unimportant details, he can delineate a character cleanly so that the reader knows what to expect from the *protagonist* (main character) or the *antagonist* (the person or thing with which the protagonist is in conflict). Without conflict, there is no story; the tale, however interesting, is simply an incident.

Drama includes all of the preceding terms with various additional terms. Drama differs from other

forms of writing because it includes more participating members than a writer and a reader. This brings in a producer and his interpretation of the author's intention. The actor also imparts his interpretation as he acts out the character he represents. In drama, tragedy basically refers to plays that end in death or disaster. Comedy does not necessarily mean that the play is funny; it does mean that it has a happy ending. *Dramatic irony* is a technical term used for situations where the audience has been given knowledge, possibly through a *soliloquy* (a solo speech that the audience hears but no one else in the play does). Even when other actors are on stage, a character in Shakespeare's plays may provide the audience with information that sets up dramatic irony. Often a clown comes to the *proscenium* (the leading edge of the stage) and whispers *sotto voce* (sot oa voa' chee), or under his breath, the information the audience needs to know in advance, things that the characters in the play supposedly do not know. This "stage whisper" is even heard in the last row in the last balcony because the actor is a master of *voice projection*.

Musicians. Words in the music field fall into many categories. Vocalists' voices come in several pitches: *soprano*, *mezzo* (middle) *soprano*, *contralto*, and *alto* for female voices; and *tenor*, *second tenor*, *baritone*, and *bass* for male voices. If the bass singer is going to sing "Asleep in the Deep," he may be called a **basso profundo**. These **artistes** may sing a *solo*, *duet*, *trio*, *quartet*, *quintet*, *sextet*, *septet*, or an *octet*, which is also called a double quartet. People who play instruments often perform in *ensembles*; these ensembles play *chamber music* which is often used as background music to create a rich atmosphere at social gatherings. Many a serious musician has initiated his career in a small ensemble or band.

Musicians play together either in bands or in orchestras. A band usually has three groupings of instrumentalists: *woodwinds* (reed instruments), *brass* (cornet, baritone, French horn, trombone, and other such instruments), and *percussion* (drums, **cymbals**, **bells**, gongs, etc.). An orchestra adds to these the *stringed* instruments, which include *violin*, *viola*, *cello*, *bass viol*, and any other stringed instrument. A master in the musical arts, especially a composer, a conductor, or a teacher of music is often called

maestro, which means *master*. A contemporary musical phenomenon is the advent of rock music of various kinds, *acid rock*, *hard rock*, *soft rock*, and *country rock*, *rap* and *hip-hop*. A basic distinction of these performers and performances is the addition of electronic amplification devices. A multitude of other musical facets including contemporary musical phenomena have not been discussed here. Can you make a list of musical terms that are of particular interest to you in addition to those mentioned?

Fill in the blanks.

- 1.72 When inanimate objects are spoken of as if they were human we are using _____.
- 1.73 A type or classification of writing in literature is called _____.
- 1.74 The main character is the _____.
- 1.75 The terms *mezzo soprano* and *contralto* refer to _____.
- 1.76 A *maestro* is a _____.

Mathematicians. Mathematics, the use of numbers and their operations, touches every area of life. Measurements are more exact now than they were in Biblical times, but recent surveys indicate that many of our "measures" today are anything but "...pressed down, and shaken together, and running over ..." as suggested in Luke 6:38. Most of the words first used in measurement related to man's body. A *cubit* was the distance from the elbow to the tip of a man's longest finger, or approximately eighteen inches. A *span* was the distance between the end of the thumb and the end of the little finger with fingers spread, about nine inches, or half a cubit. The *foot* was measured as the length of a man's foot, and the Romans decided that an inch was the breadth of a man's thumb. Longer distances were arrived at by combining Persian, Chaldean, and Egyptian measures. The *mile* was a thousand *paces* or double steps, which measured approximately five thousand feet, not far from our statute mile of 5,280 feet. King Henry I of England decreed that a *yard* was the distance from the tip of his nose to the end of his outstretched thumb, a measurement that seamstresses today still use for quickly measuring cloth.

In this country, mathematics has undergone a severe shock. Modern mathematics has become a controversial subject. Some educators have turned their backs on teaching that 12 times 12 is still 144, or a *gross*. A generation of school children is now having difficulty balancing a checkbook. A second blow shook many Americans as a result of the passage of the Metric Conversion Act on August 18, 1972. Because the metric system is structured on multiples of ten, mathematics and the metric system have something in common. The United States is the last major country in the world to adopt the metric system of measures and has not yet made a total conversion.

An *International System of Units*, called SI for *Système International*, is *metric* in nature; that is, it is based on the *decimal*. It uses multiples and submultiples of six basic units of measure to define all other measures. They are (1) *meter* for length, (2) *kilogram* for mass, (3) *second* for time, (4) degree *Celsius* for temperature change, (5) *ampere* for electric current, and (6) *candela* for luminous intensity.