

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Paired Texts Vocabulary

## "The History of Teeth"

1. **abscess (AB-sess)** *noun*; An abscess is a painful, swollen lump filled with pus (a thick yellowish-white fluid) that usually forms just under the skin—though abscesses can also form inside the body or in the teeth. Abscesses are caused by a bacterial infection.
2. **advanced (ad-VANST)** *adjective*; Someone or something that is advanced is far along or ahead of others in development, knowledge, or skills. Advanced telescopes allow us to see much farther into space than the first telescopes from the 1600s did. If you are an advanced guitar player, you have been playing for a while and have strong skills.
3. **baffle (BAF-uhl)** *verb*; *Baffle* means "to confuse completely." If something baffles you, you cannot understand it or explain it. A difficult puzzle might baffle you for several hours before you can solve it.
4. **charlatan (SHAHR-luh-tun)** *noun*; A charlatan is a person who pretends to know something or be something in order to trick other people. Someone who pretends to be able to communicate with ghosts and charges people money to talk to the ghosts of their loved ones is a charlatan.
5. **hone (hohn)** *noun or verb*; A hone is a special stone used for sharpening blades. As a verb, *hone* means to sharpen something using a hone. A chef might hone her knife before cutting tomatoes.  
  
*Hone* is also used to describe sharpening a skill, an idea, or a product. In other words, to hone something means to improve it, make it more effective, or perfect it. You might hone your juggling skills by practicing every day.
6. **prone (prohn)** *adjective*; If you're prone to something, it means you're very likely to do it or experience it. People with fair skin are prone to getting sunburned. Someone who is accident-prone frequently has accidents.
7. **sophisticated (suh-FIS-tuh-keyt-id)** *adjective*; A sophisticated person has a lot of experience, knowledge, or wisdom about the world and especially about the arts and culture. He or she usually has good taste. A woman who eats at fancy restaurants, goes to the opera, and speaks three languages would likely be called sophisticated.  
  
*Sophisticated* can also mean "complicated and advanced." Computers are sophisticated machines. Or *sophisticated* can mean "appealing to the intelligence." A sophisticated novel makes you think as you read it.

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**Directions:** Below and on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

# Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

**Directions:** Rewrite each sentence below using one of the words in the box. There is one word you will not use.

hone	prone	advanced	baffled	charlatan
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1. The magician made the rabbit disappear with a single wave of his wand, leaving the audience completely amazed and confused.

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2. Because I passed the "Introduction to Spanish" class last semester, I will take a higher-level Spanish class this semester.

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3. Many first-time campers may experience homesickness when they first arrive.

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4. The fortune-teller was a fake and a fraud—she couldn't *really* see into the future, but she made everyone believe that she could.

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**Directions:** In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

5. Honeybees have a **sophisticated/baffled** communication system: They do a special dance that tells other bees where to find nectar.

6. Pete carefully **honed/baffled** the dull knife.

7. Lily needs to see a doctor to have the painful **charlatan/abscess** under her arm examined.

8. Jenny needs to **hone/baffle** her bread-making skills. Her bread keeps turning out flat.