

Name: _____ Date: _____

7C Words Defined

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

abuse

(noun) Wrong or cruel treatment; insulting language. Our principal said she had every right to make us eat lunch in silence, but I thought it was a form of **abuse**.

(verb) To use wrongly or treat poorly. Thankfully, Spider-Man never really **abused** his powers for personal gain.

compassion

(noun) A feeling of sharing the suffering of others and of wanting to help; sympathy; pity. Feeling **compassion** for Franz after the loss of his pet, Jane offered to buy him a new puppy.

Other forms: Tim doesn't get the best grades, but he is **compassionate** (adj) and caring.



compassion

course

(noun) 1. A direction, path, or route to be taken. The bike **course** led us past the old factory and deep down into the forest. 2. A class that teaches something. My older sister is taking a writing **course** at the local college.

(verb) To move quickly through or over. The little girl, with tears **coursing** down her cheeks, jumped into her mother's arms.

dictate

(verb) 1. To give orders; to make something happen a certain way. Who should **dictate** what books we read in school—the teachers or the students? 2. To read or say out loud for someone to write down. John Milton was blind, so he **dictated** his famous poem, *Paradise Lost*, to his daughters.

duplicate

(verb) To copy exactly; to do again exactly as before. The magician performed the kind of trick that no other magician could **duplicate**.

(noun) An exact copy. No snowflake is a **duplicate** of another.

(adj) Identically copied from the original. They built one school near the park and then a **duplicate** school two miles down the road.

feeble

(adj) Having little strength, weak. The mouse, which looked rather **feeble**, let out a surprisingly loud yell.

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moral

(noun) 1. A useful lesson about life. *The **moral** of the story was to always give people a second chance.* 2. morals: Ideas about what is wrong or right in life. *Thanks to his strong **morals**, Richie was never tempted to steal things, even when given the chance.*

(adj.) Related to what is right and wrong. *Why do people like being nice? Why do people have a **moral** instinct?*

nonchalant

(adj.) Having the appearance of not caring; seeming to show a lack of concern. *Vance tried to act all **nonchalant**, but we knew that deep down inside he was really happy to get the lead in the play.*

senseless

(adj.) Lacking meaning; stupid or foolish. *I don't mind seeing a fight scene in a movie; I just hate **senseless** violence.*

taunt

(verb) To make fun of in an insulting way; to jeer. *My friend wouldn't stop **taunting** me after she beat me four straight times at my favorite video game.*

taunt
