

Name: _____ Date: _____



9C Words Defined

absurd / anxious / combine / hearty / identical / myth / purchase / solo / thrifty / vivid

absurd

(adj) Making no sense at all; seeming to have no reason. It's **absurd** to think that one tiny monkey could conquer the world, but he will.

anxious

(adj) Worried; concerned. I was **anxious** to know whether I made the volleyball team or not. Other forms: Taking long walks is how my father deals with his **anxiety** (noun) and nervousness.

combine

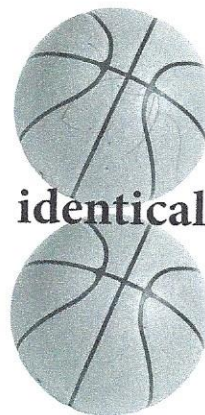
(verb) To join or bring together. To make the perfect dessert, Rajon **combined** cake, pie and ice cream.

hearty

(adj) 1. Warm and friendly. Claire gave her friend a **hearty** greeting when they met at the bowling alley. 2. Large and satisfying to the appetite. After a long day of sledding in the park, we came home and cooked a **hearty** meal.

identical

(adj) Exactly the same; alike in every way. I couldn't tell the difference between the two basketballs; they seemed **identical** to me.



myth

(noun) 1. An old story that explains why something is or how it came to be. Bobby loved studying the old Greek **myths** of Zeus and Hercules. 2. A made-up idea, story or person. Some people think that if you cross your eyes they can get stuck that way, but I think that's just a **myth**. Other forms: A unicorn is a **mythical** (adj) creature.

purchase


(verb) To buy. With the money she earned for cleaning her neighbor's basement, Latoya **purchased** every single Beyoncé album.

solo


(adj) Made or done by one person. Making a movie is not a **solo** effort: It takes a huge crew. (noun) A musical piece for one voice or a single instrument. I'm really nervous for my trumpet **solo** at tonight's jazz concert.

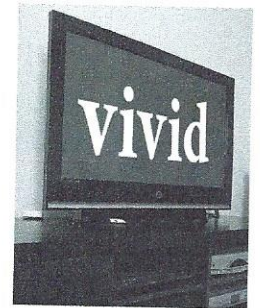
Name: _____ Date: _____

thrifty

 (adj) Careful about spending money; tending to save money or manage money well. *My dad is really **thrifty**; before he buys anything, he looks up other prices online to make sure he finds the cheapest one.*

vivid

 (adj) 1. Bright and sharp; giving a clear picture. *That high-definition TV has a really **vivid** picture!* 2. Full of life. *Lester has a **vivid** personality: Once you meet him, you won't forget him.*



Name: _____ Date: _____



9D Synonyms

Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.

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1. warm	hearty	vivid	thrifty
2. a made-up story	solo	anxiety	myth
3. worried	anxious	absurd	vivid
4. to buy	purchase	combine	solo
5. making no sense at all	hearty	identical	absurd

Name: _____ Date: _____

9E Fill in the Blank

Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.

absurd / anxious / combine / hearty / identical / myth / purchase / solo / thrifty / vivid

1. I was so embarrassed when Bobby and I wore _____ shirts on the first day of school.

mythical

identical

hearty

2. I invented a snack that _____ marshmallows and pickles in the same jar; I call it Marshpamallowickles!

combines

purchases

solos

3. Mr. Mason is very _____; he always saves his takeout food containers and uses them again.

vivid

hearty

thrifty

4. My new camera takes such _____ pictures that they almost look better than real life.

identical

mythical

vivid

5. Margie is excited to see Andre 3000 do a _____ concert; he usually performs with Big Boi.

thrifty

solo

hearty

Name: _____ Date: _____

9F Connections

Each sentence has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

absurd / anxious / combine / hearty / identical / myth / purchase / solo / thrifty / vivid

1. The tribe elders told the story of how the great god Leello formed the sun.

2. This recipe says to mix the mustard and the mayonnaise together.

3. Erica's memories of camp are so strong she can close her eyes and picture everything.

4. My grandpa is a farmer, so he always eats big meals filled with meat and potatoes.

5. I finally saved up enough money to buy the video game I wanted.

Name: _____ Date: _____

9G Applying Meanings*Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.**absurd / anxious / combine / hearty / identical / myth / purchase / solo / thrifty / vivid*1. Who would probably be **anxious**?

- (A) a runner who just won a big race
- (B) a young gymnast at the Olympics
- (C) a farmer planting his field
- (D) an animal taking a nap

2. Which is a **solo** sport?

- (A) football
- (B) baseball
- (C) skateboarding
- (D) hockey

3. Which is an **absurd** statement?

- (A) "I'm not feeling very good tonight."
- (B) "I'm nervous about tonight."
- (C) "My eyes randomly turn purple."
- (D) "Thank you for your help!"

4. Which of the following is **identical** to the word "accept"?

- (A) except
- (B) take
- (C) refuse
- (D) accept

5. A **thrifty** person would understand

- (A) money
- (B) sports
- (C) romance
- (D) gardening

Name: _____ Date: _____

9H Reading

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

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Urban Legends

Have you ever heard the term “urban legend”? An urban legend is a type of **myth**. It’s a modern story that is passed along from person to person. People think urban legends are true stories, but they are not. Sometimes, urban legends start out based in truth, but then change as more people tell them. Other times, these stories are completely made up.

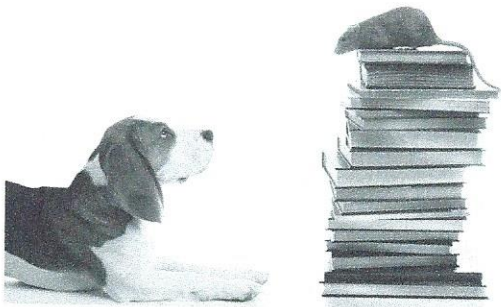
You may have heard one famous urban legend about a stray dog. As the story goes, a woman is visiting a foreign country when she finds a stray dog. She decides to take the dog home as a pet. When she gets home, the dog becomes sick, so the woman takes the dog to the veterinarian. The vet tells her that the animal she thought was a tiny dog is actually a large rat!

This story is a good example of an urban legend. Urban legends are often interesting stories with **vivid** details. They usually have a “twist” ending, and are often about things that might make people feel **anxious**. The rat story, for example, is meant to make people feel anxious about traveling to foreign countries. Of course, the rat story did not really happen. But it is the kind of story that you can’t help but repeat!

How do you know if a story is an urban legend? For starters, try to figure out where the story came from. People who tell urban legends usually do not know the person who actually experienced the story. They might say it was a friend of a friend, or a relative of someone they know. Or they may say it is something they read about.

Sometimes urban legends are just too **absurd** to be real. It is doubtful that a rat from any country would look **identical** to a dog!

There is usually nothing harmful about urban legends. They are mostly just scary stories people tell for fun. Just remember: When you hear a story that’s too good to be true, it probably is!



1. Why did the woman in the urban legend take a rat home?

2. According to the passage, why is the rat story told?

Name: _____ Date: _____

3. Why does the author think the rat story is absurd?

4. What is the author's opinion of urban legends?

5. What is something you can do to try to figure out if a story is an urban legend?

Name: _____ Date: _____

9I Thinking Creatively

Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

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1. What would you **purchase** first if you were a millionaire?

2. Describe your bedroom with a few **vivid** details.

3. Write the most **absurd** thing you can think of.

4. What's your favorite thing to do **solo**?

5. What advice would you give to a friend who said he or she was feeling **anxious**?

Word Breakdown

The word *solo* is a musical term meaning "to play an instrument or sing alone." Like many musical terms, the word originally comes from Italian. This is because many early composers of classical music were Italian. Other musical terms that come from Italian include *piano*, *opera* and *tempo*.

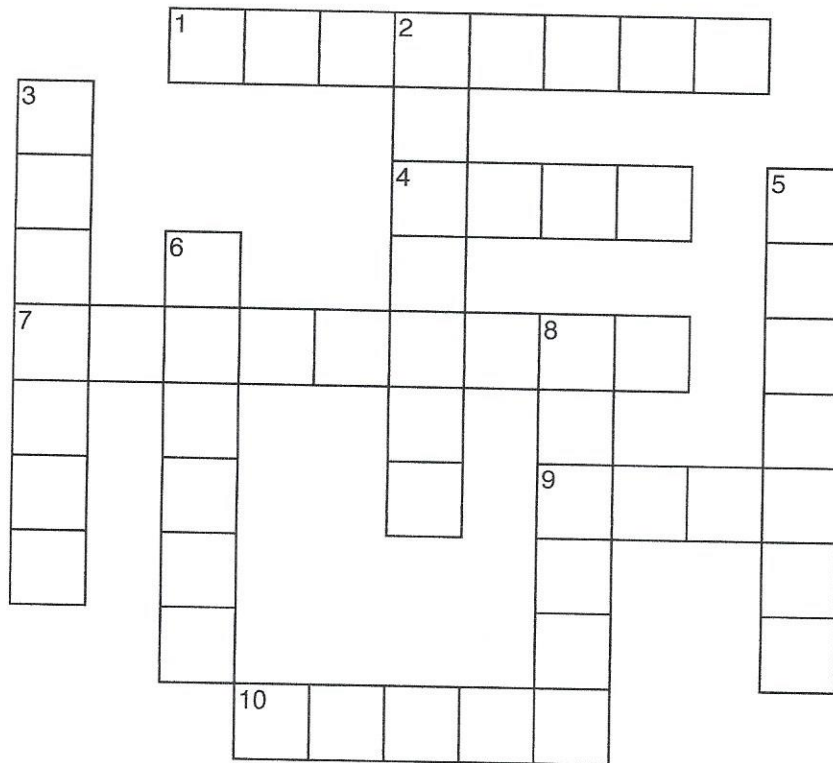
Name: _____ Date: _____



Bonus: Crossword Puzzle

Solve this crossword puzzle. Note: Some answers may be different forms of the vocab words from this unit.

absurd / anxious / combine / hearty / identical / myth / purchase / solo / thrifty / vivid



ACROSS

- 1 I can't afford to _____ this book, so I'm checking it out from the library.
- 4 Some people believe the old guy who lives down the road is a wizard, but I think that's just a _____.
- 7 Jamie has an _____ twin sister named Amy.
- 9 Done by one person.
- 10 Giving a clear picture.

DOWN

- 2 If you _____ cranberry and apple juice, you get cranapple juice.
- 3 Dylan is a _____ shopper; he always gets free stuff when he goes to the store.
- 5 Worried; concerned.
- 6 My aunt Tildy gave me a _____ hug that made me feel loved.
- 8 Paco is acting _____. Why is he wearing that birdcage on his head?