
UNIT TWO

NUNC/NOUNC

Latin NUNTIARE, NUNTIATUM “to announce”

ENUNCIATE (ē nun’ sē āt) *v.* To pronounce or articulate

L. e, “out of,” + nuntiatum = to *announce out of*

The spelling bee contestant was asked to *enunciate* so that the judges could understand what she was saying.

syn: articulate *ant:* mumble

■ *Some Christians believe that the angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her she would be the mother of Christ. This event is known as the Annunciation (ad, “toward,” + nuntiatum).*

RENOUNCE (ri nouns’) *v.* To reject by declaration

L. re, “back,” + nuntiatum = to *go back on an announcement*

In order to become a member of the fraternity, Jeff had to *renounce* his

membership in other organizations.

syn: disavow *ant:* reaffirm

PRONOUNCEMENT (prə nouns’ mənt) *n.* A declaration of opinion; judgement

L. pro, “forth,” + nuntiatum = to *announce forth*

Fred’s *pronouncement* that the party was a disaster drew agreement from the whole group.

syn: declaration

VOC/VOK

Latin VOCARE, VOCATUS “to call”

INVOKE (in vōk’) *v.* To call on for support

L. in, “on,” + vocare = to *call on*

Amy *invoked* the First Amendment when Bill tried to silence her.

syn: appeal to

■ *Classical literature often started with an invocation to a Muse (a goddess of poetry or some other art).*

PROVOCATIVE (prə vok' ə tiv) *adj.* Causing disturbance or excitement

L. pro, "forth," + vocare = *to call forth (emotions)*

The film's *provocative* ending had people talking for months.

REVOKE (ri vōk') *v.* To make invalid; deactivate

L. re, "back," + vocare = *to call back*

If you don't pay your traffic tickets, the state may



The angry cigarette shouted, "REVOKE the NO SMOKING law!"

revoke your driver's license.

syn: recall, cancel *ant:* activate

FA

Latin FOR, FARI "to speak"

INEFFABLE (in ef' ə bəl) *adj.* Unutterable, indescribable

L. in, "not," + ex, "out of," + fari = *not able to be spoken*

Many religious writers speak of the *ineffable* wisdom of the divine being.

INFANTILE (in' fən tīl) *adj.* Childish; immature

L. in, "not," + fari = *not able to speak*

Although some people find practical jokes funny, Didi finds them *infantile*.

syn: juvenile *ant:* mature

■ *Did you know that infant literally means "one who cannot speak"?
Someone who is infantile, on the other hand, just acts like a baby.*

AFFABLE (af' ə bəl) *adj.* Easy to converse with; friendly

L. ad, "towards," + fari = *to speak toward*

The principal was an *affable* fellow who got along well with all the children.

syn: courteous *ant*: surly

DIC/DICT

Latin DICERE, DICTUM “to say, to tell”

EDICT (ē' dikt) *n.* An official order

L. e, “out of,” + dictum = *to speak out (officially)*

The palace issued an *edict* forbidding the rebel prince from entering the country.

syn: decree

INDICT (in dīt') *v.* To charge with a crime; accuse

L. in, “against,” + dictum = *to speak against*

The jury *indicted* Richard on seven counts of burglary.

syn: charge *ant*: excuse

■ Remember that indict is pronounced “in DITE,” not “in DICT.”

DICTUM (dik' təm) *n.* A formal or authoritative statement

EXERCISES - UNIT TWO

L. dictum, *having been said*

When asked to defend his argument, Luther cited a *dictum* of his favorite poet.

Exercise I Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. Before you *invoke* a particular law, be sure that...
2. When the people heard about the cruel king's *edict*, they...
3. When one debater made a *provocative* comment, his opponent...
4. Henry *renounced* his initial vow to boycott reading the book because...
5. Jeff said that the wisdom of the holy man was *ineffable* because...
6. If the student giving the report does not *enunciate*, the other students...
7. The club members voted to *revoke* Zeke's membership because...
8. I thought Angelo's behavior was *infantile* because...

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9. If Derek believes in the old *dictum* about “practicing what you preach” he will...
10. The newspaper writer *indicted* government officials for problems in the educational system because...
11. The Senators responded to the President’s *pronouncement* by...
12. I would characterize Jane as *affable* because...

Exercise II Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

revoked ineffable invincible renounced dictum

1. The _____ beauty and peace of the ceremony left us speechless.
2. I always keep in mind a(n) _____ that my mother was fond of repeating.
3. If Tony’s license is _____, he will have to ride with me.
4. The rebel army _____ everything the government stood for.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

provocative edict affable invoke pronouncement

5. Juan, a(n) _____ little boy, loved to sit and talk with his grandmother for hours.
6. In ancient Rome, wives would _____ the help of the goddess Juno.
7. There was a formal _____ issued which prohibited leaving the country.
8. Despite Larry’s negative _____ on the movie, I decided to go.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

revoke indict infantile provocative enunciate

9. Environmentalists _____ the automobile industry for many of the world’s pollution problems.
 10. The play was so _____ that my roommate decided to stage a protest over it.
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11. Cody needs to _____ his words so he can be understood.
12. After some rather _____ stomping around, Myra calmed down and became an adult again.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. One _____ issued by the Church forbade _____ dress among women.
- A. affable; infantile
B. dictum; affable
C. edict; provocative
D. edict; affable
2. My once- _____ and easygoing neighbor now _____ every curse she could think of against me.
- A. affable; invoked
B. provocative; indicted
C. affable; renounced
D. invoke; infantile
3. The rabbi hoped the _____ he cited would convince people to _____

their bad habits.

- A. edict; enunciate
B. pronouncement; invoke
C. indict; revoke
D. dictum; renounce
4. None of my father's _____ on my behavior could prevent my _____ tantrums whenever I didn't get what I wanted.
- A. dictums; affable
B. dictums; ineffable
C. pronouncements; infantile
D. indict; provocative
5. The jury felt it necessary to _____ the reporter for refusing to _____ his slanderous remarks.
- A. enunciate; revoke
B. invoke; renounce
C. revoke; indict
D. indict; renounce

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by drawing an inference about the italicized word.

1. If Gerald *renounces* his friendship with Kate, he probably feels that she...
2. If your employer seems especially *affable* on a certain day, you might think that...
3. When a child learns to *enunciate* properly, his parents will probably...

Exercise V. Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

When television was first introduced as a medium for communication, there were many strict guidelines as to the content and nature of programming. The rule against kisses of a certain length of time, or of a certain intensity, is only one example. For years, married couples were only portrayed in the bedroom sleeping in separate twin beds. Not until the *Munsters* appeared did a married couple appear in the same bed. During this period, writers and producers were forced to edit themselves very carefully.

The television industry also placed firm limits on its writers where gender roles were concerned. For instance, not only did June Cleaver, the fictional mother on the show *Leave it to Beaver*, stay at home rather than work—she vacuumed her house while wearing pearls! *I Dream of Jeannie* revolved around an astronaut and his servant, a slender, blonde, attractive genie named, of course, Jeannie. Although Jeannie wore outfits considered _____ (VOC) in her day, and although she occasionally did things against her master's wishes, she ultimately submitted to his male authority.

All of this changed in the late 1960's and 1970's. It seemed that most of the creative show ideas had been used, and network ratings were dropping. Network executives were on the lookout for fresh ideas, and a man named Chuck Barris stepped up to provide them. In a show called *The Dating Game*, he introduced the idea of a single woman questioning three single men behind a screen and then selecting one as a date. The innovative move to "reality" television, upon which real people and real events were portrayed, was appealing to the networks, because the shows had no writing costs. Plots came from real people on the screen, not from the imaginations of producers and writers. Ratings soared for this new type of show, and the format was copied time and time again.

Variation after variation came from the mind of Chuck Barris. *The Newlywed Game* asked couples questions to see how well they knew each other. And reality television showed people at their most _____ (FA) on *The Gong Show*. Billed as a low-level talent show, this program—actually hosted by Barris himself—brought people onto national television to sing, to dance, or to perform in some other way. When a panel of judges decided the contestant was too bad to continue, they would ring a gong to end the performance.

Reality programs signaled a change in the way that television engaged the minds of its viewers. Rather than provide stories and roles that suggested ways for viewers to act and to think, television became a medium for vicarious entertainment. Viewers, instead of seeking to be like the people they saw on screen, laughed at these people's shortcomings. As television continues to evolve, one wonders if the nature and purpose of viewing itself will continue to change.

1. How did television change in the late 1960's and 1970's?
 - A. Writers adopted stricter rules regarding gender limits.
 - B. Shows began to focus on characters instead of real people.
 - C. Television provided new examples for viewers to follow.

- D. Real people replaced written scripts as a source of action.
2. Which of the following is NOT true about Chuck Barris?
- A. He applauded the strict teaching of gender roles on television.
 - B. He regularly hosted *The Gong Show*.
 - C. He wanted to change methods of television entertainment.
 - D. He created *The Dating Game*.
3. What can be inferred from the third paragraph?
- A. Network executives desired a change in the way television entertained its viewers.
 - B. Network executives wanted to increase the ratings of their programs.
 - C. Chuck Barris changed the way television interacted with its viewers.
 - D. all of the above
4. Why were there no writing costs for the new reality shows?
- A. The shows depended on real people rather than written scripts.
 - B. The shows were a new form of entertainment.
 - C. Viewers could interact with the people onscreen in a new way.
 - D. Network ratings were dropping, and executives liked the new idea.

context, read the following selection and define the *italicized* words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary. Note that *-ferous* (from *ferre*, “to carry,”) means “carrying,” and that *ad* means “towards.”

A *vociferous* crowd of supporters of a ban on personal handguns marched outside the National Rifle Association’s headquarters in Washington, D.C., last Thursday. The noisy protesters claimed that the NRA promoted “free gun use” among Americans. Across the street, a smaller group of personal handgun *advocates* gathered to stage their own demonstration. However, supporters of handgun freedom were greatly overshadowed by the mob that supported restrictions.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in