

GRADE 5 MODULES

1. *Cultures in Conflict*
2. *Word Play*
3. *A War Between Us*
4. *Breaking Barriers*



THE WHITE CLOUD, HEAD CHIEF OF THE IOWAS (1844–1845)

George Catlin, American, 1796–1872

Oil on canvas

National Gallery of Art, Washington DC

Credit: Paul Mellon Collection, Courtesy of The National Gallery of Art

Glossary

Grade 5

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict*

Word	Definition
abundant	Many; more than what is needed
analyze	To examine closely
banish	To force (someone) to leave a country as punishment; to send (someone or something) away; to cause (something) to go away
barren	Not fertile; lifeless
barricade	A temporary wall, fence, or similar structure that is built to prevent people from entering a place or area
beliefs	Strong opinions: ideas believed to be true
betrayed	Mislead; failed to fulfill (as in hopes, needs, or expectations)
bootlegger	Someone who makes or sells (alcoholic liquor) illegally
brave	A Native American warrior (out-of-date term)
breechcloths	Long rectangular pieces of tanned deerskin, cloth, or animal fur worn between the legs and tucked over a belt, so that the flaps fall in front and behind
brilliant	Very impressive or successful
butte	A type of hill with a flat top and steep sides that is found in the southwestern U
camas root	A genus of plants in the asparagus family native to western North America
carbine	A short, light rifle
chieftain	The head of a group or tribe

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
clan	A large group of people who are related
click-clack	A succession of clicks or of alternating clicks and clacks; to make a click-clack sound (as in walking)
collaborate	To work together with others to accomplish something
commotion	Noisy excitement and confusion
compare	To examine two or more things for similarities
conflict	Argument or fight between two opposing sides
contempt	A feeling that someone or something is not worthy of any respect or approval; a lack of respect for or fear of something that is usually respected or feared
contrast	To examine two or more things for differences
cradleboard	Traditional protective baby carriers used by many indigenous cultures
crooned	Sang softly or sentimentally
cudgel	A short heavy club
cultural	Of or relating to culture
culture	The way a particular group of people lives and understands the world (including ideas, beliefs, and values; traditions; religion; language; rules; gender roles; food; clothing; art, music, dance, sports, and other ways of life)
cunning	Cleverness or skill especially at tricking people in order to get something
customs	Usual or accepted practices of a social group
defied	Refused to obey
deprived	Took away from; did not allow to have

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
descendant	Those related to a person or animal or group of people or animals who lived in the past
devour	To eat ferociously; to do something with great passion
disgrace	To cause (someone) to feel ashamed; to cause (someone or something) to lose or become unworthy of respect or approval
disputes	Arguments or debates
elaborate	To add details to something; to explain more fully
endangered	Animal or plant that has become very rare and that could die out completely
expansion	The act or process of becoming larger
flageolet	A usually pale green immature kidney bean used especially in French cuisine
flinch	To move suddenly because you are afraid of being hit or hurt; to show fear
furrows	Long and narrow cuts in the ground
grieved	Sadness or grief expressed when someone dies
guardian	Someone or something that watches or protects something
gully	A long, narrow cut or low area in the ground that water moves through when it rains
hailstorm	Weather phenomenon in which balls of ice, called hail, fall from the sky
heed	To pay attention to; to take notice of
hobbles	To slow the movement, progress, or action of (someone or something); to keep (an animal) from straying or wandering by tying two legs together
homeland	The country or place someone is originally from
idler	Someone who is lazy or does not work

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
impact	Effect on something; to make an impression on something or someone
inadequate	Less than what is needed; not enough
institutions	Established customs and activities in a society
intelligence	The ability to learn or understand things or to deal with new or difficult situations
invasion	An act or instance of disturbing or breaking into without being wanted
justice	The upholding of what is fair, decent, and right; fair treatment, fairness, equity
lame	Having an injured leg or foot that makes walking difficult or painful
liberty	Freedom to do or say what one thinks or feels
littered	Covered (a surface) with many things in an untidy way
locusts	A type of grasshopper that travels in very large groups and that can cause great destruction by eating crops
loom	A frame or machine that is used to weave threads or yarns to produce cloth
malaria	A serious disease that causes chills and fever and that is passed from one person to another by the bite of mosquitoes
misinterpretation	Wrong or incorrect understandings or explanations
misshapen	Badly shaped; having an ugly shape
mistook	Past tense of mistake
misunderstanding	Failures to comprehend or understand correctly
mood	In literature, the overall feeling or atmosphere of a passage or piece of literature
moon	A very long time

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
mourning	Acts or feelings that express great sadness
natural resources	Materials that come from nature and can be utilized by people (minerals, waterpower, etc.)
nonexistent	Not present or real
obey	To do what someone tells you to do or what a rule, law, , says you must do
oral tradition	Cultural history and ancestry passed down through generations by word of mouth, often through storytelling
parched	Very dry especially because of hot weather and no rain
personification	Giving human qualities to an inanimate object or being
plain words (idiom)	Ordinary words, words easy to understand
plateau	A flat area on top of a hill or mountain
portrait	An artistic representation of a person
poverty	Poor, not having enough property, money, or food
prairie	An open grassland
priest	A person who has the authority to lead or perform ceremonies in some religions and especially in some Christian religions
prosperity	Wealth and riches
prosperous	Wealthy; having more than enough property, money, or food
protest	To show or express strong disagreement with or disapproval of something
puzzled	Feeling or showing confusion because something is difficult to understand
quarrelsome	Ready or likely to argue or disagree

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
raid	A surprise attack on an enemy by soldiers or other military forces
ravine	A small, deep, narrow valley
rawhide	The skin of a cow before it has been prepared or made into leather
reinforce	To add extra support
replenish	To fill or build up (something) again
reservation	An area of land given to Native Americans by the US government as payment for taking the land of their original homes
revenge	The act of doing something to hurt someone because that person did something that hurt you
roach haircut	Often known as a Mohawk or Mohican hairstyle, after two tribes who frequently wore it
rovers	People who wander to different places
scalped	To remove the hair and skin from the head of (an enemy) as a sign of victory
scavengers	Searching for food to eat
scout	To explore (an area) to find information about it
semi-subterranean	Halfway or part way underground (part way up from the ground)
shameful	Very bad; bad enough to make someone ashamed
sharpshooters	Someone who is skilled at shooting a target with a gun
silver wire	Telegraph lines/wires
skulking	Moving or hiding in a secret way especially because you are planning to do something bad

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
speak (to you now) with two tongues (idiom)	Duplicitous, hypocritical, or deceitful, especially in speech; claiming one set of beliefs or intentions but acting according to another
stampede	An occurrence in which a large group of frightened or excited animals or people run together in a wild and uncontrolled way to escape from something or get out of a place
stern	Very serious, especially in an unfriendly way; expressing strong disapproval or criticism
subsistence	That which supports life or continued operation
suffer	To tolerate or endure
summit	The highest point of a mountain; a meeting or series of meetings between the leaders of two or more governments
sun	If someone or something has a day/moment/time, , in the sun, that person or thing is popular or gets a lot of attention during a period of time
superseded	Took over the place or position of; replaced
surrender	To give up; to give in to another's power or demands
sustain	To support, nourish; to undergo for a period of time
sustenance	Food; something that supports or strengthens life
taunting	Saying insulting things to (someone) in order to make that person angry
tethered	Used a rope or chain to tie (an animal) to something in order to keep it in a particular area
thriving	Doing well or being successful
torrent	A large amount of water that moves very quickly in one direction; a large amount of something that is released suddenly

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict* – continued –

Word	Definition
travois	A type of sled used by native peoples to carry goods, containing two poles joined by a frame and drawn by a horse or a dog
treaty	An agreement between two opposing sides; a document that explains the terms of the agreement; a formal agreement between two or more countries
trench	A deep, narrow hole in the ground that is used as protection for soldiers
truce	An ending of armed conflict by mutual agreement of warring parties
undermined	Gradually weakened and destroyed
valiantly	Having or showing courage; very brave or courageous
values	Ideas about what is important and how to live in a way that is good or right
war bonnet	Feathered headgear traditionally worn by male leaders of the American Plains Indians Nations who have earned a place of great respect in their tribe
warily	Not having or showing complete trust in someone or something that could be dangerous or cause trouble
warrior	Someone who fights like a soldier
wrenched	Jerked or pulled with force; caused suffering to

Module 2: *Word Play*

Word	Definition
abandon	To leave something or someone abruptly with no intention of returning
abolish	To officially end or stop (something, such as a law); to completely do away with (something)
absurd	Extremely silly, foolish, or unreasonable; completely ridiculous

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
adapt	To change; to alter as a result of changes to the environment
admonished	Spoken in a way that expresses disapproval or criticism; urged (someone) to do something
advantageously	Helpfully or favorably
ambition	A particular goal or aim; something that a person hopes to do or achieve
amiably	Friendly and pleasantly
anguish	Extreme suffering, grief, or pain
animosity	A strong feeling of dislike or hatred
apothecary	A person who prepared and sold medicines in past times
appointed	Chosen to have a particular job
arbitration	A process of settling an argument or disagreement in which the people or groups on both sides present their opinions and ideas to a third person or group
assurance	A strong and definite statement that something will happen or that something is true
audience	A group of people who watch or listen to a performance
audible	Heard or able to be heard
average	Ordinary or usual
balderdash	Foolish words or ideas
banish	To send (someone or something) away
banquet	A fancy dinner usually for royalty or in celebration of something or someone

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
bargaining	Something that can be used to gain an advantage when you are trying to make a deal or an agreement
barren	Not fertile; lifeless
beckoned	To signal (someone) with your arm or hand in order to tell that person to come closer or follow
bleak	Not hopeful or encouraging; not warm, friendly, or cheerful
bosh	Foolish words or ideas
brevity	Quick, brief
bric-a-brac	Small objects that are used for decoration and are not usually valuable
brutal	Extremely cruel or harsh
bunting	Flags or decorations that are made of thin cloth or paper
bustle	Noisy or busy activity
bystander	A person who is standing near but not taking part in what is happening
cacophony	A mixture of unpleasant sounds
caldron	A large pot
cartographer	A person who makes maps
castle in the air (idiom)	A dream, plan, and/or hope that is unrealistic, impossible, or has very little chance of happening
catalogued	Listed or described in an organized way
cavern	A large cave
chroma	The degree of color

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
circumference	The length of a line that goes around something or that makes a circle or other round shape; the outer edge of a shape or area
clamor	Loud, ongoing noise; racket
coat of arms	A special group of pictures that represent a person, family, or group of people and that may be shown on a shield
commendable	Deserving praise and approval
compromise	A way of reaching agreement in which each person or group gives up something that was wanted in order to end an argument or dispute
conciliatory	Intended to make someone less angry
concocting	Inventing or developing especially in order to trick or deceive someone
conferred	Discussed something important in order to make a decision
connotation	An idea or quality that a word makes you think about in addition to its meaning
conspicuous	Easily seen or noticeable
context	The situation in which something happens; the group of conditions that exist where and when something happens
contrary	Opposite or different
controversy	Disputes in which many people take sides or have differing opinions
corrupts	To cause to become harmed or damaged
crestfallen	Very sad and disappointed
dank	Wet and cold in a way that is unpleasant
deceitful	Not honest; making or trying to make someone believe something that is not true
deceive	To make (someone) believe something that is not true

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
decree	An official order given by a person with power or by a government
deficiency	A lack of something that is needed; a problem in the way something is made or formed
dejectedly	Sad because of failure or loss
deliberation	Careful thought or discussion done in order to make a decision
delivery	The technique or way in which something is said
desolate	Lacking the people, plants, animals, etc., that make people feel welcome in a place
destination	A place to which a person is going, or something is being sent
devour	Feast on, gobble
dialogue	The things that are said by the characters in a story, movie, or play
diction	The choice of words in speech or writing
digest	To think over and try to understand (news, information, etc.)
dilemma	A situation in which you have to make a difficult choice
din	A loud, ongoing noise, racket, clamor
disapprovingly	Belief that someone or something is bad or wrong; to not approve of someone or something
disconsolate	Hopelessly unhappy
discord	A combination of sounds that is unpleasant
discouraged	Feeling hopeless
disdain	A feeling of strong dislike or disapproval of someone or something you think does not deserve respect

Module 2: Word Play – continued –

Word	Definition
dispensing	To give or provide (something)
disputes	An argument or debate; a thing that people do not agree on
disrepair	In bad condition
disrepute	Not being respected or trusted by most people
dissonance	To not be in agreement or harmony, especially with musical sounds
distinction	A difference that you can see, hear, smell, feel, etc.; a noticeable difference between things or people
doldrum	A boring, gloomy place, or state of mind, in which nothing happens
domain	The land that a ruler or a government control; territory
drowsy	Tired and ready to fall asleep
dungeon	A dark underground prison in a castle
eat my words (idiom)	To admit what you said was wrong
economical	Using money, resources, etc., carefully
effusive	Expressing a lot of emotion
engrossed	To hold the complete interest or attention of (someone)
erratic	Acting, moving, or changing in ways that are not expected or usual; not consistent or regular
essence	The basic nature of a thing; the quality or qualities that make a thing what it is
executive	A person who manages or directs other people in a company or organization
expectations	Beliefs or hopes concerning what is possible in the future

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
external conflict	A struggle between a character and an outside force, such as another character, a group, or something in nature
faintly	Not clearly seen, heard, tasted, felt, etc.
famine	A shortage of, or not enough food
fearful	Feeling fear; an unpleasant emotion caused by being aware of danger; a feeling of being afraid
ferocious	Terrifyingly fierce and scary
fiends	Devils, demons
follies	Large public show or entertainment with many performers
forbidding	Not friendly or appealing; having a frightening or threatening appearance
fortress	A place that is protected against attack; a fortified place
fraud	Someone who pretends to be someone he is not
fuse	A string that is connected to an explosive device (such as a bomb or firecracker) and that is set on fire to cause the device to explode
gala	A public party or celebration
gallant	Courageous; brave
gaunt	Very thin, usually because of illness or suffering
gay	Happy; joyous
gelatinous	Like a jelly in terms of thickness or firmness
genuine	Authentic; actual, real, or true; not false or fake
gleefully	A strong feeling of happiness; great pleasure or satisfaction

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
glumly	Sad or depressed
gorgons	Any one of the three sisters in Greek mythology who had snakes for hair and who could turn anyone who looked at them into stone
grave	Very serious
grievance	A complaint against an organization or person after an injury or injustice
gross exaggeration	Something that is not true at all
guaranteed	Certain to happen or to do something
guardian	Someone or something that watches or protects something
hazardous	Dangerous
hindsight	The knowledge and understanding that you have about an event only after it has happened
homograph	Two or more words that are spelled the same but have different meanings (and sometimes different pronunciations); often referred to as multiple-meaning words
homophone	Two or more words that have the same pronunciation but different spellings and different meanings
hubbub	A loud mixture of sound or voices; a situation in which there is much noise, confusion, excitement, and activity
humbug	A person involved in an act meant to trick or deceive someone; someone who pretends to be someone they are not; a dishonest or insincere person; nonsense
idiom	A phrase or expression that means something other than the literal meaning of its individual words
ignorance	A state of not knowing; lack of awareness or education
illusions	A false or not true idea; a state of seeing hearing, or otherwise sensing things in a false way

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
imposter	Fake; someone who pretends to be someone else
impractical	Not easy to do or use; not suitable for the situation; not sensible; not able to deal with practical matters effectively
inconvenient	Causing trouble or problems
indignantly	Feeling or showing anger because of something that is unfair or wrong; very angry
infinity	Having no limits or end
infuriate	To make (someone) very angry; to make (someone) furious
insincerity	Phony or fake
intentions	The thing that you plan to do or achieve, an aim or purpose
internal conflict	A struggle that takes place inside a character's mind
intruder	Trespasser
(jump to conclusions)	To judge or decide something without having all the facts; to form an opinion about something without having enough facts or information
juxtaposition	The act of placing things close together or side by side in a work of art
knowledge	Understanding of a topic or idea through learning or experience
(killing time)	A way to use time doing something while just waiting for time to pass
laudable	Deserving praise
lavish	Having a very rich and expensive quality
leave no stone unturned (idiom)	To consider every possibility when trying to solve a problem

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
ledger	A book that a company uses to record information about the money it has paid and received
leisurely	Not hurried; slow and relaxed
lethargy	A state of having very low energy with drowsiness and lack of interest or feeling
loaf	To spend time relaxing instead of working
loathsome	Causing feelings of hatred or disgust; very bad
logical	Sensible or reasonable
loiter	Remain in an area when you do not have a particular reason to be there
lurch	To move or walk in an awkward or unsteady way; to move or walk in an awkward or unsteady way
lurking	To be in a hidden place
macabre	Of, dealing with, or pertaining to death or the horrors of death; gruesome
magnitude	The size, extent, or importance of something
make hay while the sun shines (idiom)	Take advantage of an opportunity or get something done while you have the chance
make mountains out of molehills (idiom)	Over-reactive behavior in which a person makes too much of a minor issue
malice	A desire to cause harm to another person
maliciously	Having or showing a desire to cause harm to another person
mangle	To injure or damage (something or someone) severely by cutting, tearing, or crushing
market	A place in which goods are bought and sold

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
meditate	To think about deeply
melancholy	Characterized by sad, gloomy feelings
menacingly	Threatening harm to (someone or something)
mentor	A guide or wise teacher who gives advice and supports a younger or less learned person
merchandise	Goods that are bought and sold
metropolis	A very large or important city
mincing words	To speak vaguely or indirectly
mine	A pit or tunnel from which minerals (such as coal, gold, and diamonds) are taken
minstrels	Musical entertainers in the Middle Ages
misapprehension	An incorrect understanding of something; a wrong idea about something
miserly	Like a greedy, stingy person who lives in a poor way to save money
misfortune	Bad luck; an unlucky condition or event
monotonous	Used to describe something that is boring because it is always the same
mourning	Great sadness felt because someone has died
nimbly	Able to move quickly, easily, and lightly; able to learn and understand things quickly and easily
nonexistent	Not present or real
nuisance	A person, thing, or situation that is annoying or that causes trouble or problems
null	Having no legal power
objections	Reasons for disagreeing with or opposing something

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
obstacle	Something that makes it difficult to do something; an object that you have to go around or over; something that blocks your path
ominous	Suggesting that something bad is going to happen in the future
ordinance	A law or regulation made by a city or town government
ousts	To cause or force (someone or something) to leave a position of power, a competition; to take the place of (someone or something)
ovation	An occurrence in which a group of people at a play, speech, sporting event, etc., show enthusiastic approval or appreciation by clapping their hands together over and over
pandemonium	A situation in which a crowd of people act in a wild, uncontrolled, or violent way because they are afraid, excited, or confused
parchment	Paper made from the skin of a sheep or goat
pathetic	Very bad, poor, weak
peculiar	Abnormal or different from the usual expectation
peevishly	Feeling or showing irritation
perils	Dangers
persistence	The quality of being steadfast, determined, stubborn, or insistent
persuade	To cause (someone) to do something by asking, arguing, or giving reasons; to cause (someone) to believe something
petty	Not very important or serious
phantom	Seemingly real but actually not real
phonograph	Record player
pigment	A substance that gives color to something else

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
pitfalls	Dangers, traps
plot	The action or events that make up a story; includes a conflict that sparks events that ultimately lead to an outcome or resolution
point of view	A place from which you see something; angle, position; the way in which one thinks about a situation or event
possession	Having or owning something
precautionary	Done to prevent possible harm or trouble from happening in the future
precious	Rare and valuable
presume	To assume as truth without evidence or question
prey	Victims
proclamation	The act of saying something in a public, official, or definite way; the act of proclaiming something; an official statement or announcement made by a person in power or by a government
profusion	A large amount of something
promontory	A high area of land or rock that sticks out into the sea
proportion	The importance of something when it is compared to other things; the relative importance of things
provision	The act or process of supplying or providing something
pun	A humorous play on words based on two words or phrases that are close in sound but different in meaning
pungent	Having a strong, sharp taste or smell
quarrel	An angry argument or bitter disagreement
quest	A journey made in search of something

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
quill pen	A writing tool made from a molted flight feather of a large bird
ragamuffin	A child who is dressed in rags and is usually dirty and poor
raspy	Having a rough, harsh sound
reality	The state of being real
realm	An area of activity, interest, or knowledge; a country that is ruled by a king or queen
reason	To arrive at a conclusion through close, careful, logical thought
reconcile	To cause people or groups to become friendly again after an argument or disagreement
refunded	Gave back money that someone paid for something
regally	Of, relating to, or suitable for a king or queen
regulations	Official rules or laws that says how something should be done
resolute	Very determined
rhyme or reason (idiom)	Having or showing good sense, logic, or meaning
rigmarole	A long, complicated, and annoying process, description, etc.
row	A loud, unpleasant noise (chiefly British)
salutation	A word or phrase that is used to begin a letter; the act of greeting someone
sanity	The condition of having a healthy mind
satisfactory	Good enough for a particular purpose; acceptable
savory	Having a spicy or salty quality without being sweet; having a pleasant taste or smell

Module 2: Word Play – continued –

Word	Definition
scale	How large or small something seems when compared to the objects around it
scandalous	Shocking; offensive
scenic	Having, providing, or relating to a pleasing or beautiful view of natural scenery
sensory language	The use of details that appeal to a reader's senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch/feel) to add color and depth to writing and help readers visualize what an author is writing about
sentence	To officially state the punishment given to (someone) by a court of law
serenade	To sing or play music for—often used figuratively
sheepish	Showing or feeling embarrassment, especially because you have done something foolish or wrong
short shrift	Brief and harsh treatment given to a person or topic, with little sympathy or consideration
shuddering	Shaking violently
signet	A ring that is decorated with a special design and worn on the finger
significant	Important
silence is golden (idiom)	Sometimes it's better to say nothing
smog	Fog mixed with smoke; a cloud of dirty air from cars, factories, etc., that is usually found in cities
soiled	Made something dirty
somersault	A forward or backward movement of your body on the ground or in the air that is made by bringing your feet over your head
sonnets	Poems made up of 14 lines that rhyme in a fixed pattern

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
souvenir	Something that is kept as a reminder of a place you have visited, an event you have been to, etc.
sowing confusion	To make people feel afraid, doubtful, or confused
spats	Cloth or leather coverings for the ankle and foot that men wore over their shoes in the past
specialist	A person who has special knowledge and skill relating to a particular job, area of study, etc.
speculate	To hypothesize; to make a guess when curious or doubtful
spectrum	The group of colors that a ray of light can be separated into including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet; the colors that can be seen in a rainbow
stalactites	A pointed piece of rock that hangs down from the roof of a cave and that is formed by dripping water that contains minerals
stalls	Small open counter or partially enclosed structures where things are displayed for sale
steadfast	Very devoted or loyal to a person, belief, or cause; unchanging
stethoscope	An instrument that is used for listening to someone's heart or lungs
stout	Brave and strong
strenuous	Requiring or showing great energy and effort
stubborn	Refusing to change your ideas or to stop doing something
subdued	Not strong or loud; quiet
sulked	Angry or upset about something and unwilling to discuss it with other people
surmise	To voice an opinion with little evidence; imagine

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
surreal	Bizarre, weird, or eerie; having a dream-like quality
suspicious	Having or showing a feeling that something is wrong or that someone is behaving wrongly
telescope	A device shaped like a long tube that you look through in order to see things that are far away
the wheels began to turn (idiom)	Thinking
theme	The central topic, subject, or message of a literary work
threadbare excuse	An excuse that is no longer effective because it has been overused
tollbooth	A small building in which payments are collected so that passage on or access to a roadway can be permitted
trance	A state that is like being asleep, except that you can move and respond to questions and commands like a person who is awake
transfixed	To be awed by something and unable to move or look away; mesmerized, stunned
transformation	A major change in someone or something
triumphal	Celebrating a victory or success
trivial	Of little value or importance
tumult	A state of noisy confusion or disorder
unabridged	Not shortened by leaving out some parts
unappetizing	Not appealing to a person's taste
unenlightened	Not having or showing a good understanding of how people should be treated
unethical	Morally bad

Module 2: *Word Play* – continued –

Word	Definition
unkempt	Not neat or orderly; messy or untidy
upsetting the applecart (idiom)	Spoil carefully laid plans
vacantly	Showing no indication of what someone is thinking or feeling
vault	A locked room where money or valuable things are kept
venture	To go somewhere that is unknown or dangerous
verdict	The decision made by a jury in a trial; a judgment or opinion about something
villainous	Very bad or evil; wicked
violators	People who do things that are not allowed (by rules or the law)
visualize	To see something in your head while you think about it or as it is being described
wisdom	Accumulated knowledge or learning
wistfully	Having or showing sad thoughts and feelings about something that you want to have or do and especially about something that made you happy in the past
wit	The ability to express oneself in clever ways that amuse people; the ability to think or reason
withered	Dried up or wilted
wordplay	Playful or clever use of words to create humor
wreaking havoc	To cause damage, disruption, or destruction

Module 3: A War Between Us

Word	Definition
abolished	Gotten rid of
abolitionist	A person who wants to stop or abolish slavery
absently	Showing a person is distracted and thinking about something else
agricultural	Having to do with farming
aliens	Those who live in a country who are not citizens of that country
amputate, amputated	To cut off
ammunition	Objects that are detonated from any weapon
annihilated	Completely destroyed
arms	Guns or other weapons that are used especially in a war
armory	A supply of weapons; a place where weapons are kept
arsenal	A collection of weapons; a place where weapons are made or stored
artillery	Large guns that are used to shoot over a great distance
artilleryman	Soldiers who operate the large guns that are used to shoot over a great distance
banned	Forbidden from using or doing
battalions	A large, organized group of soldiers or people who act together
batteries	A set of large guns
besiege	To surround a city, building, etc., with soldiers and try to take control of it
bivouacked	A temporary camp or shelter

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
blockade	An act of war in which one country uses ships to stop people or supplies from entering or leaving another country
bombardment	To strike with artillery or explosive devices, such as bombs or cannons
bondage	The state of being a slave
bonnet	A hat that ties under the chin
breeches	Short pants that are fastened at or just below the knee
brigade	A large group of soldiers that is part of an army
capital shot	A shot that hits its target, or mark
captured	To take and hold (someone) as a prisoner especially by using force
cargo	Something that is carried from one place to another by boat, etc.
cash crop	A crop grown for sale to others
casualties	People who are killed or wounded
cavalry	The part of an army that in the past had soldiers who rode horses
century	A period of 100 years
chaos	Complete confusion and disorder
chloroform	A colorless poisonous liquid, used in the past to make patients unconscious during medical operations but now primarily to dissolve other substances
chronic	Continuing or occurring again and again for a long time
civil	Having to do with the activities of people who are members of a country
civilian	A person who is not serving in the military
comrade	A close friend you have worked with, been in the military with, etc.

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
condemnation	A statement or expression of very strong and definite criticism or disapproval
Confederate	Having to do with the southern states that separated from the United States, or Union
consolers	People who provide comfort
corsage	A flower or small group of flowers that a woman sometimes wears on her clothing or attaches to her wrist on special occasions
corset	A tight-fitting undergarment worn to shape the middle part of the body
courier	Someone who delivers messages, packages, and the like, especially for a government, military organization, or business
cruelly	Causing suffering; terrible and unfair
current	A continuous movement of water or air in the same direction
dander	To cause someone to become angry
dazed	In a state of shock, stunned
Declaration of Independence	The formal statement written by Thomas Jefferson declaring the freedom of the thirteen American colonies from Great Britain
deplorable	Very bad in a way that causes shock, fear, or disgust
dialect	A form of language that is spoken in a specific region or by a specific group of people
dreadful	Very bad or unpleasant
dysentery	A serious disease that causes severe diarrhea and a loss of blood
economy	The system of making money and producing items
eddies	Circular movement of air or water

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
embers	Glowing pieces of coal or wood from a fire
enlist	To sign up; to join the military
Emancipation Proclamation	Edict issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, that freed the slaves of the Confederate states in rebellion against the Union
enslaved	Made someone a slave
etiquette	Rules for proper behavior
expedition	A journey
flashback	The introduction of a past event that interrupts the forward, or chronological, action of a story
force	Power or violence used on a person or thing
founding	Creation or establishment of something
fowling	The hunting, shooting, or trapping of wildfowl
freight	Goods that are carried by ships, trains, etc.
frenzy	A state of extreme excitement or temporary madness
futile	Unlikely to lead to a desired result
gaunt	Very thin, usually because of illness or suffering
gens de couleur	Free people of color, specifically people of mixed African, French, and sometimes Spanish descent
hardscrabble	Having poor soil; harsh and difficult conditions because of poverty
heathens	Old-fashioned and often offensive term for a person who is not religious or who does not practice Christianity

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
hussy	Old-fashioned term for a girl or woman who does things that people consider immoral or improper
idle	Not active; not working
impact	To affect directly
industrial	Having to do with producing items
infantry	The part of an army that has soldiers who fight on foot
insurrection	A usually violent attempt to take control of a government
ironic	Using words that mean the opposite of what you really think especially in order to be funny
labor	To do hard work
landmark	A feature of the landscape that is easy to see and recognize
lap	To gently splash or wash over
lariats	Ropes used as a lasso or for tethering
legally	Allowed by the law or by the rules in a game
line	A long mark
loge	A private box or enclosure in a theater
maids	Female servants
metaphor	A phrase that compares two unlike things without using like or as to show similarities
militias	A group of people who are not part of the armed forces of a country but are trained like soldiers

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
minstrel	A member of a group of entertainers who performed black American songs and jokes usually with blackened faces
morphine	A powerful drug made from opium that is used to reduce pain
mortally	Fatally
mortar	A military weapon used to fire shells high into the air at a low speed
muff	A warm covering for your hands that is shaped like a tube with open ends in which both hands may be placed
musket	A type of long gun that was used by soldiers before the invention of the rifle
muster	To gather (a group of people, soldiers, etc.) especially for battle or war
mutilate, mutilation	To destroy by cutting off a needed part
naïve	Lacking knowledge or experience; lacking in suspicion or realistic judgment
needed a little starch in his spine (idiom)	Someone who needs more confidence or not to be afraid
nourish	Provide (someone or something) with food and other things that are needed to live, be healthy, etc.
offensive	Relating to or designed for attacking an enemy
parsonage	The house in which a parson lives
peculiarity	Things that are unusual
petticoats	Skirts that a woman or girl wears under a dress or outer skirt
pneumonia	A serious disease that affects the lungs and makes it difficult to breathe
point of view	In literature, who is telling a story; the perspective from which a story is narrated or told

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
pose	How a figure is sitting or standing in a work of art; what the figure is doing
powder magazine	The place where extra gunpowder is kept
pralines	A candy made of nuts and boiled sugar
primary source	Material that is created by someone who witnessed an event in history
primitive	Simple; not developed
privy	A small outdoor building that is used as a toilet
proclamation	An official statement or announcement made by a person in power or by a government
property	Something that is owned by a person, business, etc.
prophecy	Predictions: statements that something will happen in the future
quadrille	A dance for four couples who each form one side of a square
quagmire	Wet, soft, muddy ground; an unpleasant or difficult situation
rations	A particular amount of food that is given to one person or animal for one day
reality	Truth
recruitment	The process of getting someone to join a group
rebel	A person loyal to the Confederate states during the Civil War
regimental	Related to a military unit that is usually made of several large groups of soldiers
reticules	Women's small handbags originally netted and typically having a drawstring and decorated with embroidery or beading
rout	A confused and disorderly retreat from a place
saber	A long, heavy sword with a curved blade

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
salves	Creamy substances that you put on a wound to heal it or to make it less painful
secede/ seceding	To break away
seeress	A woman who predicts events or developments, prophetess
sergeant	An officer of low rank in the army or marines
shells	Metal case that is filled with an explosive and that is shot from a cannon
silhouetted	A dark form or shape seen against a lighter background
simper	To smile in a way that is not sincere or natural
skedaddle	To leave a place very quickly
skirmish	A brief and usually unplanned fight during a war
slavery	The owning of a person by another person
sober	Serious; solemn
starch	A substance used to make clothing stiff
starvation	Suffering or death caused by having nothing to eat or not enough to eat
stump	The part of an arm or leg that remains after most of it has been cut off
succor	Assistance; help given during a time of need
tacitly	In a way that is not expressed or said aloud
tignon	A turban headdress worn by Creole women of Louisiana
transfixed	Fascinated; held motionless (as in wonder or astonishment)
trench	A deep, narrow hole in the ground that is used as protection for soldiers

Module 3: *A War Between Us* – continued –

Word	Definition
typhoid	A serious disease that is passed from one person to another in dirty food or water
Union	Northern states that stayed under a single government
unsanitary	Dirty and likely to cause disease
valises	Small suitcases
value	How light or dark a color looks, e . , white is the lightest value and black is the darkest value
victory	Success in defeating an opponent or enemy
waltz	A dance in which a couple moves in a regular series of three steps
wanton	Not decent or proper
wench	Old fashioned term for a young woman who is a servant
whipped	Hit with a long, thin piece of leather or similar material that is attached to a handle
writhed	Moved by twisting the body, as a snake

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers*

Word	Definition
Abyssinia	Current countries of Eritrea and Ethiopia
acclimate	To adjust or adapt to a new climate, place, or situation
accomplishment	Something you achieve or do well
acquitted	Decided that someone is not guilty of a crime

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
adversarial	Involving two people or two sides who oppose each other
Allah	Used as the name of God in Islam
alma mater	The school, college, or university that someone attended
annals	Historical records
antagonism	Being against or opposed to something or someone
apartheid	A former social system in South Africa in which black people and people from other racial groups did not have the same political and economic rights as white people and were forced to live separately from white people
atrocities	Cruel, terrible acts or actions
baffled	Confused, puzzled
barnstorm	To travel to different places to give speeches, perform shows, etc.
barracks	The places where soldiers live
barrier	Something that prevents progress or makes it difficult for someone to achieve something
baseball scout	A trained talent evaluator who travels exclusively to watch baseball players
bitter	Angry, resentful
challenge	To take a stand against something, especially something wrong or unjust
colony	An area that is controlled by or belongs to a country and is usually far away from it; a group of people who are similar in some way and who live in a certain area
commissary	Places where soldiers eat
compositions	A piece of art or a piece of art made from raw materials
court-martialed	Tried by a military court

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
debut	The first time an actor, musician, athlete, etc., does something in public or for the public
demeanor	A person's appearance and behavior
democratically elected	The act or process of choosing someone to fill an office or position, in which all voters have the right to vote
democracy	A government in which people elect their own leaders or rulers
devoted	Having strong love or loyalty for something or someone
discriminate	Treating someone worse than someone else
documentary	A film based on real people, places, and events—it documents, or captures, reality
doubleheader	Two games (especially baseball games) that are played one after the other on the same day
draft	A system by which professional sports teams choose players from college or high school teams
economic	Relating to the process or system by which goods and services are produced, sold, and bought
eloquent	Having or showing the ability to use language clearly and effectively
Eritrean	From Eritrea, a northeast African country on the Red Sea coast
ethnic	Of or relating to races or large groups of people who have the same customs, religion, origin, etc.
exuberant	Very lively, happy, or energetic; filled with energy and enthusiasm
fledgling	Someone or something that is getting started in a new activity
food security	A measure of the availability of food and individuals' ability to access it
fortitude	Strength of mind that helps a person bear difficulty with courage

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
free agent	A sports player who is not bound by a contract and so is eligible to join any team
hijab	Any head, face, or body covering worn by many Muslim women that conforms to Islamic standards of modesty
honorable discharge	Released from military service with a favorable record
hostility	Unfriendliness or extreme dislike
influx	The arrival of a large number of people or items
infrastructure	The basic equipment and structures that are needed for a country, region, or organization to function properly
implosion	Collapse inward in a very sudden and violent way, often used figuratively
inexplicably	Not able to be explained or understood
influence	To affect someone or something in an important way
initiative	A plan or program that is intended to solve a problem
integrating/ integration	The process of bringing together
jubilation	Great happiness or joy
legacy	Something that happened in the past or that comes from someone in the past
logically	In a natural order that makes sense
Major League Baseball Commissioner	Chief executive office of Major League Baseball and the associated Minor League Baseball; a constellation of leagues and clubs known as “organized baseball”
mediocre	Not very good
multimedia	A combination of different forms of expression, such as text, images, audio, and video

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
opportunities	Chances to improve one's life or a situation; favorable circumstances that make it possible to do something
oppression	Treatment of people in a cruel or unfair way
overcome	To defeat; to gain a victory over
paralyzed	Having lost the ability to move and/or feel anything in part or most of the body, often as a result of disease or injury to the spinal cord
pasture	Large area of land where animals feed on the grass; a new and better place or situation
plagiarism	Stealing, copying; the act of using someone else's words as your own
pointless	Having no meaning, purpose, or effect
political prisoner	A person imprisoned for their political beliefs or actions
portable	Capable of being easily carried or transported
precision	Exactness or accuracy
profound	Very great
prospect	Opportunity for something to happen
public outcry	A strong expression of public disapproval or anger
racial epithet	Offensive word or name that is used as a way of abusing or insulting someone based on the color of their skin
racial violence	The use of physical force to harm someone, to damage property, etc., based on the color of the victim's skin
racism	The belief that one group of people is better than another group of people, based on the color of their skin
rebels	People who oppose or fight against a government

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
reconcile	To cause people or groups to become friendly again after an argument or disagreement
refugee	A person who is forced to flee his or her country to escape danger
relevant	Closely related or connected to the subject being discussed
research	The study of information to learn more about something
reservation	Feeling of doubt or uncertainty about something
resettlement	Beginning to live in a new area after leaving an old one
resilience	The ability to recover from difficulty or change
retribution	Punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance
right-winger	A person who supports or belongs to the conservative or reactionary section of a political party or system
rookie	A first-year player in a professional sport
sculpture	A three-dimensional piece of art made by carving or molding clay, stone, metal, or other materials
segregation	Separating people based on the color of their skin
sequence	To put something in a particular order
slang	An informal way of speaking; harsh or coarse language
slum	An area of a city where poor people live, and the buildings are in bad condition
social norms	Behavior expectations for certain groups of people
standard	Regularly and widely used, seen, or accepted; not unusual or special
stats (statistics)	A number that represents a piece of information (such as information about how often something is done, how common something is, etc.)

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers* – continued –

Word	Definition
stereotype	An often unfair or untrue idea or belief about a certain group of people
stock market	A place where shares of publicly listed companies are traded
striker	A forward in soccer
synthesize	To combine separate things to make something new
theme	The central message of a literary work; an idea developed in a text that conveys a message or truth about life and the human experience
transformed	Completely changed
transition	A change from one state or condition to another
transportation	A means of getting from one place to another
travails	Difficult experiences or situations
underdog	A person, team, etc., that is expected to lose a contest or battle
undertaker	A person whose job is to arrange and manage funerals
unintentionally	Not done in a way that is planned
unsavory	Unpleasant or offensive
vernacular	Language spoken by a group of people in a region or area
vital	Needed for survival, most important for life
vocational	Relating to the special skills, training, etc., that you need for a particular job or occupation
vulnerable	In a position where one can, be hurt
zeal	Enthusiasm