

# Chapter 8 Word List

## Word List

**advisable** (*adjective*) 1. sensible; 2. wise;  
3. proper

**besiege** (*verb*) to crowd around someone or something in an effort to capture

**clarity** (*noun*) the condition of being clear and understandable

**corridor** (*noun*) a long passage or hallway that leads into open rooms

**detect** (*verb*) 1. to discover; 2. to learn

**distort** (*verb*) 1. to change shape by pushing, pulling, or twisting; 2. to twist something from its true meaning

**enrage** (*verb*) 1. to fill with anger; 2. to make mad

**gasp** (*verb*) to try to get one's breath

**impede** (*verb*) 1. to interfere with; 2. to obstruct

**initiative** (*noun*) an active or energetic part in beginning any undertaking

**mangle** (*verb*) to cut or tear with great force

**observation** (*noun*) 1. the act of watching and noting; 2. a remark or comment

**persuasion** (*noun*) the process of convincing someone to do or believe something

**posterity** (*noun*) 1. future generations; 2. all of one's offspring

**rebel** (*noun*) a person who defies or fights against someone instead of obeying;  
(*adjective*) resisting law or authority;  
(*verb*) 1. to defy or fight against the law or authority; 2. to feel a great dislike or opposition to someone or something

**shaft** (*noun*) a long, narrow passage that is similar to a well

**stamina** (*noun*) endurance or strength

**timid** (*adjective*) lacking courage

**urban** (*adjective*) of or relating to cities or towns

**whisk** (*noun*) 1. a rapid sweep; 2. a light, rapid movement;  
(*verb*) to move rapidly

## Additional Words

### Challenge Words

**clamor** (*noun*) a loud noise;  
(*verb*) to make a loud noise

**denote** (*verb*) 1. to stand for or signify; 2. to designate

**dynasty** (*noun*) a series of rulers from the same family or group

**paradox** (*noun*) something or someone that has contradictory qualities

**utmost** (*adjective*) the highest attainable point

### Word Study: Prefixes

The prefix *post-* means "after" or "later."

**postdate** (*verb*) to give a later date

**postgraduate** (*adjective*) continuing school after high school or college

**postpone** (*verb*) to put off until later

**postscript** (*noun*) a message written after the writer's name has been signed to a piece of correspondence

**posttest** (*noun*) a test given after something is taught

**postwar** (*adjective*) after a war