

# UNIT 10

Read the following passage, taking note of the **boldface** words and their contexts. These words are among those you will be studying in Unit 10. As you complete the exercises in this Unit, it may help to refer to the way the words are used below.

## The Straight History of Orthodontics

<Historical Nonfiction>

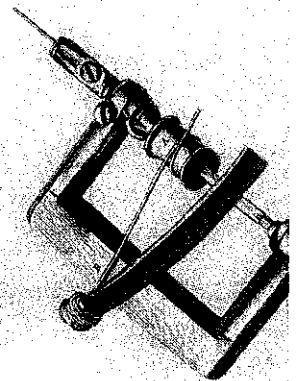
Some people look forward to getting braces on their teeth, thinking they look cool. Other people grow **morbid** at the idea. These unwilling patients avoid visiting the orthodontist until resistance becomes **futile**. But anyone who benefits from the orthodontist's trade today should be thankful for the progress this science has made over the centuries. In bygone days, many a butcher **botched** an attempt to remedy a problem that's now easily cured. The pain that once made dental work **notorious** has been minimized by anesthesia. But it took some time for orthodontics to reach its present state.

Fossil remains of crooked human teeth and **cluttered** mouths date back tens of thousands of years. Greek and Roman texts describing the treatment of irregular teeth by the application of pressure date back as far as the fifth century BCE (Before

Common Era). Archaeological evidence indicates even earlier use of orthodontic appliances, including artifacts found in rich, **lavish** burial sites in ancient Italy. Another early attempt at braces may have been discovered on Egyptian mummies with **dilapidated** but recognizable metal bands around their teeth. The metal band may have anchored elastic strings made of catgut. Thus, from at least 1000 BCE, it was known that teeth move in response to pressure.

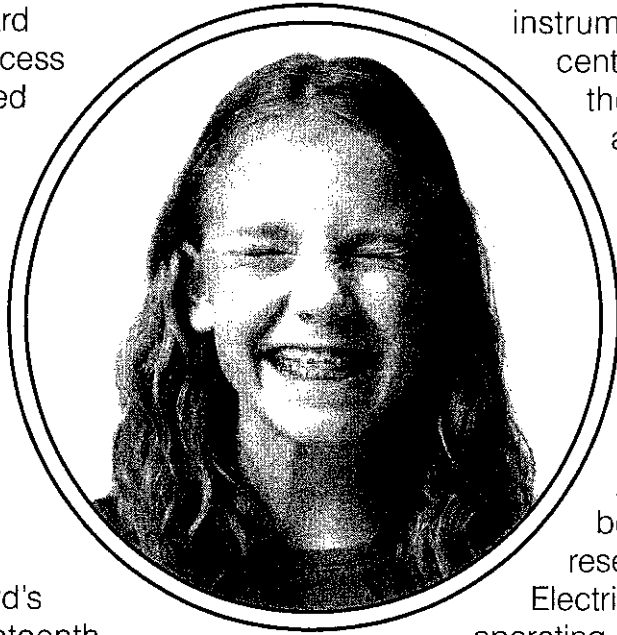
Techniques for correcting dental irregularities did not advance much until the eighteenth century. French dentists led the way to building orthodontic practice on scientific foundations from which it has not been **dismantled**. The greatest contribution came from Pierre Fauchard. In 1728, Fauchard published the first general study of dentistry. In it, he described the

A student at the School of Dentistry in Paris practices a dental procedure on a patient.



The dentist's drill used by Fauchard in the late seventeenth century

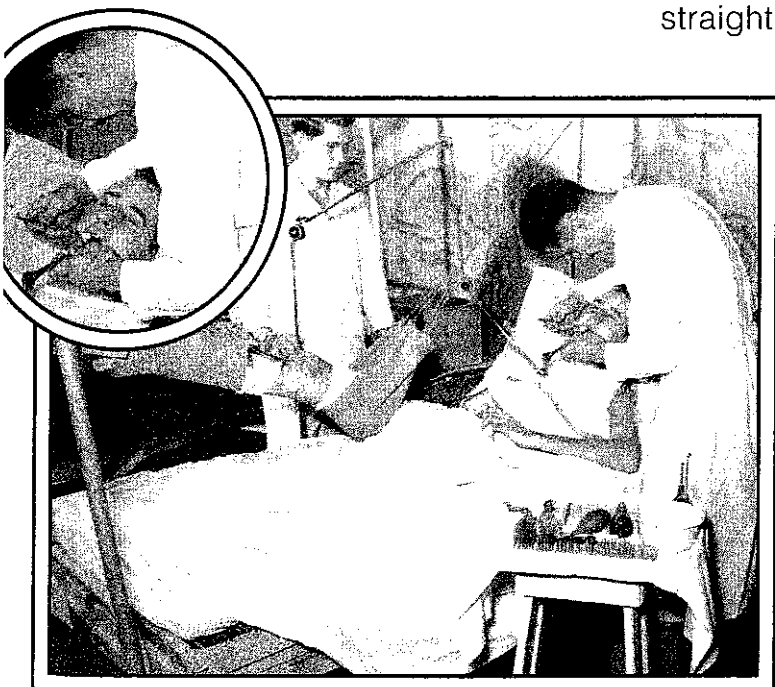
*bandeau*. It was used to expand the arch and correct crowded and crooked teeth. Fauchard described another process of straightening. He filed down a crooked tooth to create **surplus** space around it. Then he repositioned the tooth using a device called a "pelican," a kind of pliers. With the tooth in its proper position, he bound it to its neighbors and let it set. French and English dentists improved on Fauchard's work through the eighteenth century. **Beneficiaries** of Fauchard's treatment may have been grateful when the work was complete. But no doubt many of them faced the prospect of treatment with fearful **timidity** and **bellowed** during the procedures. Indeed, these treatments must have been **grueling** without anesthesia. But evidently there were many Frenchmen who knew that you can't make an omelet without breaking some eggs. Hundreds of patients flocked to Fauchard to **pamper** themselves and improve their looks with dental work.



Pioneering European orthodontists introduced new techniques and instruments in the nineteenth century. Among them were the wire crib, the lever and screw, the chin strap, the use of rubber bands, and plaster models of patients' teeth. By midcentury, the American economy was quite **hospitable** to innovation. American dentists began to take the lead in research and invention.

Electricity revolutionized the operating room, and anesthesia made surgery less painful. Norman Kingsley pioneered treatments for cross-bites and cleft palates. John Farrar developed guidelines for using screws to move teeth by applying force in short doses at regular intervals.

The twentieth century saw refinement in the materials and methods of orthodontics. But the fundamental principles of the science were developed during the days of Fauchard. The research performed between then and now has established orthodontics as a profession and opened the way for everyone to benefit from straighter teeth.



Dental procedures improved a great deal over the twentieth century.



For and audio passages, snap the code, or go to

## Definitions

Note the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the appropriate form of the word in the blank spaces in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms.

**1. bellow**  
(bel' ō)

(v.) to make a sound similar to that of a bull, roar; (n.) a loud, angry roar

The wounded buffalo began to \_\_\_\_\_ in pain.

The troop commander's \_\_\_\_\_ could be heard a mile away.

SYNONYMS: (v.) yell, bawl, holler; (n.) howl

ANTONYMS: (v.) whisper; (n.) murmur

**2. beneficiary**  
(ben ə fish' ē er ē)

(n.) one who benefits from something; a person who is left money or other property in a will or the like

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the dead man's will was the main suspect in the murder case.

SYNONYMS: recipient, heir

**3. botch**  
(bäch)

(v.) to repair or patch poorly; make a mess of; (n.) a hopelessly bungled job

The unsupervised laborers proceeded to \_\_\_\_\_ the job badly.

SYNONYMS: (v.) foul up, mangle

**4. clutter**  
(klät' ər)

(v.) to fill or cover in a disorderly way; (n.) a state of disorder, mess

When we moved into our new house, we unloaded the truck and began to \_\_\_\_\_ up the dining room with boxes.

Attics are often filled with \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: (v.) litter; (n.) confusion

ANTONYMS: (n.) order, tidiness, neatness

**5. dilapidated**  
(də lap' ə də tid)

(adj.) falling apart or ruined, run-down

The old house had become so \_\_\_\_\_ that no one could live in it anymore.

SYNONYMS: in disrepair, deteriorated, gone to seed

ANTONYMS: shipshape, trim

**6. dismantle**  
(dis man' təl)

(v.) to take apart; to strip of something

After the final performance, all the actors worked with the stagehands to \_\_\_\_\_ the set.

SYNONYM: disassemble

ANTONYMS: put together, assemble, construct

**7. farce**  
(färs)

(*n.*) a play filled with ridiculous or absurd happenings; broad or far-fetched humor; a ridiculous sham

The humor in the play was so broad and the plot so ridiculous that the critic termed the play

a \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: buffoonery, travesty; ANTONYMS: tragedy, melodrama

**8. futile**  
(fyüt' əl)

(*adj.*) not successful, failing to have any result; useless; unimportant, frivolous

After several \_\_\_\_\_ attempts to save it, the captain ordered the ship abandoned.

SYNONYMS: fruitless, vain, ineffective

ANTONYMS: successful, effective

**9. grueling**  
(grü' lī)

(*adj.*) very tiring, calling for an extreme effort

After the \_\_\_\_\_ climb, two of the mountaineers collapsed from exhaustion.

SYNONYMS: exhausting, punishing, taxing

ANTONYMS: easy, effortless

**10. hospitable**  
(häs pit' ə bəl)

(*adj.*) offering friendly or generous treatment to guests; open to anything new or strange

Known for their generosity to strangers, the local inhabitants offered a \_\_\_\_\_ welcome to our tour group.

SYNONYMS: gracious, cordial, courteous

ANTONYMS: unfriendly, cold, icy, chilly

**11. lair**  
(lār)

(*n.*) the home or den of a wild animal; any hideout

The police were making careful preparations to trap the smugglers in their \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: nest, burrow, hideaway

**12. lavish**  
(lav' ish)

(*adj.*) overly generous, extravagant; abundant; (*v.*) to spend or give freely or without limit

The couple received \_\_\_\_\_ wedding gifts from their closest friends.

SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) excessive, profuse

ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) stingy, meager; (*v.*) begrudge, stint, deny

**13. morbid**  
(môr' bid)

(*adj.*) in an unhealthy mental state, extremely gloomy; caused by or related to disease, unwholesome

The police captain was afraid that the officer was taking a \_\_\_\_\_ interest in the crime.

SYNONYMS: depressed, unsound, "sick"

ANTONYMS: wholesome, healthy, cheerful, blithe

- 14. notorious**  
(nō tōr' ē əs)  
(*adj.*) widely known because of bad conduct  
Chicago had its share of \_\_\_\_\_ gangsters  
in the 1930s.  
SYNONYMS: disgraceful, infamous, disreputable  
ANTONYMS: unknown, obscure, respectable
- 15. pamper**  
(pam' pər)  
(*v.*) to allow too many privileges, be too generous and  
easygoing toward  
If my aunt continues to \_\_\_\_\_ that child,  
he may grow into an irresponsible adult.  
SYNONYMS: cater to, indulge  
ANTONYMS: abuse, maltreat, mistreat, discipline
- 16. parasite**  
(par' ə sīt)  
(*n.*) an organism that lives in or on another organism; one who  
lives off another person  
Uninvited, he hung around with the players so much that the  
team considered him a real \_\_\_\_\_.  
SYNONYMS: sponger, freeloader
- 17. shirk**  
(shərk)  
(*v.*) to avoid or get out of doing work, neglect a duty;  
to sneak, slink  
People who tend to \_\_\_\_\_ their  
responsibilities are not to be relied upon.  
SYNONYMS: duck, dodge; ANTONYMS: fulfill, perform, shoulder
- 18. surplus**  
(sər' pləs)  
(*n.*) an amount beyond what is required, excess; (*adj.*) more  
than what is needed or expected  
Dad was relieved to find that his business had a  
\_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the year.  
The Army decided to sell its \_\_\_\_\_ goods  
to a group of manufacturers.  
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) glut, surfeit, overage  
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) shortage, lack, dearth, paucity
- 19. timidity**  
(tə mid' ə tē)  
(*n.*) the state of being easily frightened  
The shy child's natural \_\_\_\_\_ had made  
her afraid to try out for the team.  
SYNONYMS: faintheartedness, shyness  
ANTONYMS: fearlessness, boldness, intrepidity
- 20. veto**  
(vē' tō)  
(*n.*) the power to forbid or prevent; (*v.*) to prohibit, reject  
The president decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the bill  
presented to him by Congress.  
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) turn down, nix  
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) approve, endorse, ratify

## Choosing the Right Word

Select the **boldface** word that better completes each sentence. You might refer to the passage on pages 126–127 to see how most of these words are used in context.

1. The modern TV sitcom developed from the type of broad (**surplus, farce**) that slapstick comedians served up in the 1920s and 1930s.
2. Since I was led to believe that she would approve my proposal, I was very much taken aback when it was (**lavished, vetoed**) out of hand.
3. Beneath the (**dismantled, dilapidated**) body of the getaway car, there was a powerful, finely tuned motor, capable of reaching high speeds.
4. After winning the award for best actress, she joyously (**lavished, dismantled**) praise on everyone who had worked with her on the movie.
5. The campaign to eliminate pollution will prove (**futile, grueling**) unless it has full public support.
6. He amazed us by reaching into the pile of (**clutter, lair**) on his desk and pulling out the exact the piece of paper he wanted.
7. "I discovered a really cool store with all kinds of (**morbid, surplus**) army and navy equipment," Joel told his friends excitedly.
8. I sometimes think that he enjoys being sick and having everyone wait on him, sympathize with him, and (**shirk, pamper**) him.
9. When he said he would "beard the lion in his (**lair, bellow**)," he merely meant that he was going to have it out with the boss.
10. What a difference between the (**timidity, farce**) of the typical freshman and the know-it-all confidence of a senior!
11. He is (**hospitable, notorious**) for his habit of taking small loans from his best friends and then conveniently forgetting about them.
12. Even the toughest critics have been (**lavish, dilapidated**) in their praise of the new movie.
13. The first thing Rick and Maria do when they enter a room is to (**clutter, shirk**) it with their jackets, shoes, backpacks, books, electronic equipment, and pencils.
14. When I think back to my days of basic training, I can almost hear the drill sergeant (**pampering, bellowing**) commands across the field.
15. It would be impossible to (**pamper, dismantle**) our system of governmental checks and balances without destroying American democracy.



Lucille Ball starred in the television comedy *I Love Lucy* from 1951–1957.

16. The courts of many Renaissance princes were jammed with (**parasites, lairs**), toadies, and other idle hangers-on.
17. The sudden thunderstorm made a (**morbid, botch**) of the picnic, forcing us to flee for cover and soaking most of our food.
18. After buying all the supplies for the club party, we were delighted to find that we had a grand (**surplus, veto**) of 65 cents.
19. The best way to avoid those (**grueling, bellowing**) cram sessions just before the exams is to do your work steadily all term long.
20. Their record is 100% consistent—they have managed to (**botch, clutter**) every job they have undertaken.
21. My experience has been that people who cut corners on small matters will also (**shirk, botch**) their obligations.
22. We who live in the United States today are the chief (**beneficiaries, parasites**) of the rich heritage of freedom left to us by the framers of the Constitution.
23. Ever since I was bitten by a stray mutt years ago, I have had a (**morbid, lavish**) fear of all dogs.
24. She was indeed fortunate to find herself working under a person who was (**notorious, hospitable**) to her novel ideas.
25. Most presidents don't like to exercise their (**veto, beneficiary**) power often.

## Synonyms

*Choose the word from this Unit that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.*

1. cautiously inspected the **decayed** old building \_\_\_\_\_
2. took up acting to overcome their **fearfulness** \_\_\_\_\_
3. may **fumble** the assignment if not careful \_\_\_\_\_
4. was reluctant to **coddle** the spoiled child any further \_\_\_\_\_
5. cleaned up the **tangle** of tools in Dad's workroom \_\_\_\_\_
6. a meeting that turned into a **mockery** \_\_\_\_\_
7. saw that the wolf had returned to its **hiding place** \_\_\_\_\_
8. will attempt to **halt** the passing of the law \_\_\_\_\_
9. trying to **sidestep** her responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_
10. would hang on like a **leech** \_\_\_\_\_

## Antonyms

Choose the word from this Unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. the decision to **confirm** the anti-pollution bill \_\_\_\_\_
2. saw a **tearjerker** of a play \_\_\_\_\_
3. a younger sibling who was a real **helper** \_\_\_\_\_
4. resting on the ground **out in the open** \_\_\_\_\_
5. not one to **take on** extra chores \_\_\_\_\_

## Completing the Sentence

From the words in this Unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the correct word form in the space provided.

1. A sitting president can \_\_\_\_\_ a measure passed by a majority of Congress, but lawmakers can overrule his decision.
2. Since the defendant was never given a chance to prove his innocence, his so-called "trial" was nothing more than a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I know what it is that I have to do, and you may be certain that I will not \_\_\_\_\_ my duty.
4. It is a curious fact of nature that most \_\_\_\_\_ are unable to survive when they are separated from the organisms they feed on.
5. The practice session was so \_\_\_\_\_ that we scarcely had the strength to get to the dressing room and take our showers.
6. Ever since the new tax laws went into effect, there has been speculation as to who the real \_\_\_\_\_ of the changes will be.
7. All the members of that family are such \_\_\_\_\_ people that we are always completely at ease whenever we visit them.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of food produced each year in the United States is desperately needed to feed hungry people all over the world.
9. Many people both here and abroad seem to have a \_\_\_\_\_ fascination with the tragic fate of the Russian royal family.
10. It is hard to believe that a teenager so courageous and able on a camping trip can show so much \_\_\_\_\_ when invited to a dance.



11. Though the cabin was a little \_\_\_\_\_ when we bought it, we were able to spruce it up without going to a great deal of expense.
12. Why must you \_\_\_\_\_ up your mind with so many trivial and useless scraps of information?
13. When he realized that he had been tricked by his opponent, he let out a \_\_\_\_\_ of rage that could be heard all over the gym.
14. They gave me so \_\_\_\_\_ a helping of dinner that for the first time in my life I was unable to polish off the food on my plate.
15. Unfortunately, the brave lifeguard's valiant attempts to rescue the drowning swimmer proved \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The inexperienced assistant \_\_\_\_\_ the business letter he was trying to compose and had to rewrite it.
17. He is such a \_\_\_\_\_ liar that no one takes anything he says seriously anymore.
18. When I accepted the invitation to join them on the vessel, I didn't realize that I had agreed to help \_\_\_\_\_ the ship.
19. The animals in the zoo are kept in quarters that are designed to imitate their \_\_\_\_\_ in the wild.
20. As a child she was so \_\_\_\_\_ by her parents that she still seems to think that her wishes should be instantly granted.

### Writing Words in Action

1. Look back at "The Straight History of Orthodontics" (pages 126–127). The passage discusses how, for thousands of years, people have used orthodontics to improve their appearance, often suffering great pain to do so. Do people care too much about their appearance, or is the quest for physical improvement a healthy impulse? Consider both sides of the issue. Then write at least two paragraphs for each side. Include at least one passage detail for each side, and use at least three Unit words.
2. The subject of "The Straight History of Orthodontics" is one that anyone who has visited the dentist can identify with. Write a one-page personal narrative about your experiences with an orthodontist or dentist. Your narrative may be humorous or serious. Include specific examples from your experiences, readings (refer to pages 126–127), and observations. Write at least three paragraphs, and use three or more words from this Unit.

The following excerpts are from Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Some of the words you have studied in this Unit appear in **boldface** type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. Claude Frolo groped about for several moments in the dark **lair** into which the captain had bolted him . . . there was neither window nor air-hole, and the slope of the roof prevented one from standing upright.

A **lair** is a place where one usually feels

- a. bright                      c. hidden  
b. beautiful                  d. known

2. "But do say something," said Madame Aloise, suddenly giving his shoulder a push; "you have grown very timid."

We can assure our readers that **timidity** was neither the captain's virtue nor his defect. But he made an effort to do what was demanded of him.

Another word for **timidity** is

- a. humor                      c. stubbornness  
b. curiosity                  d. shyness

3. Among other things, she had a pair of little shoes, the like of which King Louis XI certainly never had! Her mother had stitched and embroidered them herself; she had **lavished** on them all the delicacies of her art of embroideress.

One who has **lavished** has

- a. taken back                c. chosen wisely  
b. given fully                d. felt inadequate

4. The interior of the den was no less **dilapidated**. . . . [T]here were chalk walls, blackened beams in the ceiling, a dismantled chimney-piece, spiders' webs in all the corners, in the middle a staggering herd of tables and lame stools, a dirty child among the ashes, and at the back a staircase.

A **dilapidated** building must be

- a. in bad condition        c. in a large city  
b. hidden from sight      d. at least fifty years old

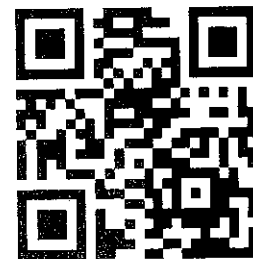
5. [A]s he plunged deeper into the street . . . blind men and lame men swarmed about him . . . from the air-holes of cellars, howling, **bellowing**, yelping, all limping and halting, all flinging themselves towards the light.

Someone who is **bellowing** is NOT

- a. angry                      c. alert  
b. loud                        d. quiet



Actor Charles Laughton played Quasimodo, the hunchback, in the 1939 film of Hugo's novel.



Snap the code, or go to