

# Wordly Wise Vocabulary

Unit 5

# avalanche

- n. 1. A great mass of ice, earth, or snow mixed with rocks sliding down a mountain.
- The mountain climbers had a narrow escape when the **avalanche** swept over them.
- 2. A great amount of something.
- Our company had an **avalanche** of orders after we used a television ad for our new game.



# blizzard

- n. A heavy snowstorm with strong winds.
- The Chicago airport had to close for two days because of the **blizzard**.



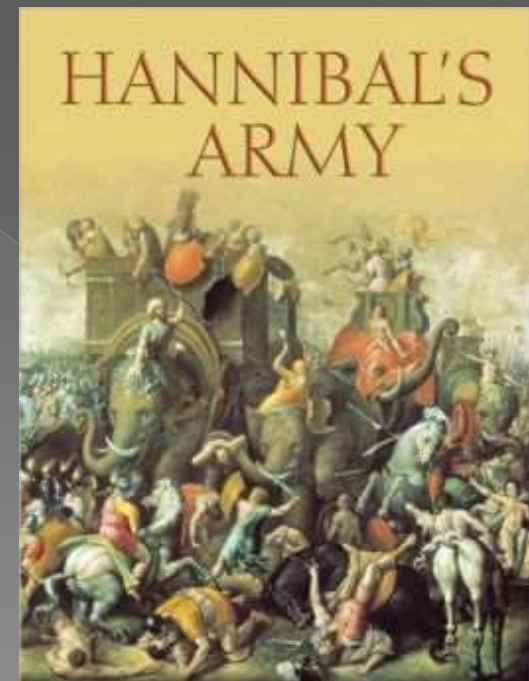
# challenge

- v. 1. To invite others to take part in a contest.
- I **challenged** my friend to a game of chess.
- 2. To cause a person to use a lot of skill/effort.
- This trail **challenges** even the best skiers.
- 3. To question or to argue against, especially when something is unfair or unjust.
- Very few scientists **challenge** the idea that a large meteorite killed off the last of the dinosaurs sixty-five million years ago.
- n. 1. An interesting task or problem; something that takes skill or effort.
- Living out of our backpacks for a week on the mountain was a real **challenge**.
- 2. A call to take part in a contest.
- I accepted the **challenge** to run in the marathon.



# conquer

- v. 1. To get the better of.
- Swimming lessons at the YMCA helped me to **conquer** my fear of the water.
- 2. To defeat.
- Hannibal's army **conquered** part of Spain in 219 B.C.E.
- **conquest** n. The act of defeating.
- The Norman **conquest** of England took place in 1066.



# crevice

- n. A deep, narrow opening in rock caused by a split or crack.
- The **crevice** had filled with soil in which a cluster of small red flowers was growing.



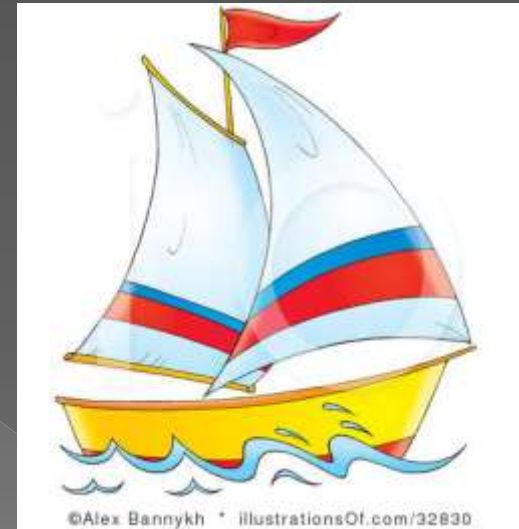
# foolhardy

- adj. Unwisely bold or daring.
- It would be **foolhardy** to go sailing during a gale.



# Lure

- v. To tempt or attract with the promise of something good.
- In the early nineteenth century, the hope of owning land of their own **lured** many people to travel west to Ohio and Indiana.
- n. 1. Something that attracts.
- The **lure** of the sea led us to take up sailing.
- 2. Artificial bait used for fishing.
- A large striped bass took the **lure**, and I hooked it.





# makeshift

- n. A temporary and usually less strong replacement.
- They used the trailer as a **makeshift** while their house was being rebuilt.
- adj. Used as a temporary replacement.
- We use the sofa as a **makeshift** bed when we have overnight guests.



# optimist

- n. One who looks at things in the most positive way; a cheerful, hopeful person.
- Pat and Jean are **optimists** and so, of course, they believed the plane would not leave without us.
- optimistic adj. Cheerful; hopeful.
- In spite of the injuries to our best players, I am **optimistic** about our chances of winning the big game.
- optimism n. A feeling of hope or cheerfulness.
- The patients' **optimism** helped them recover more quickly from their illnesses.



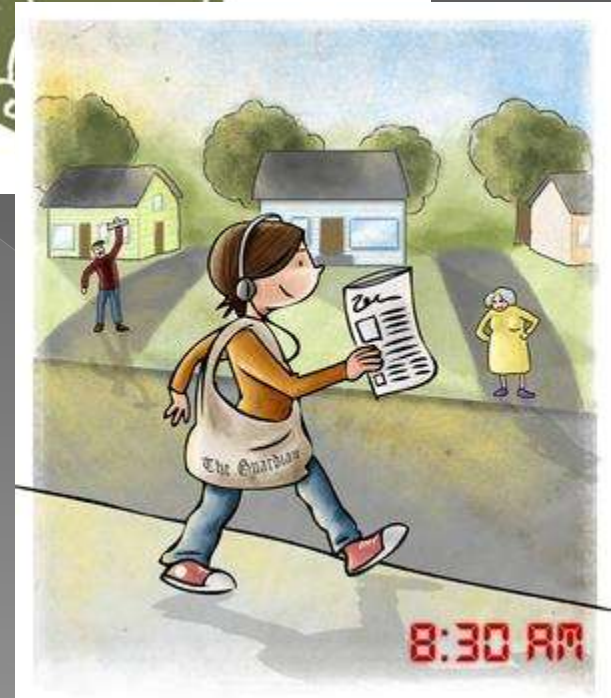
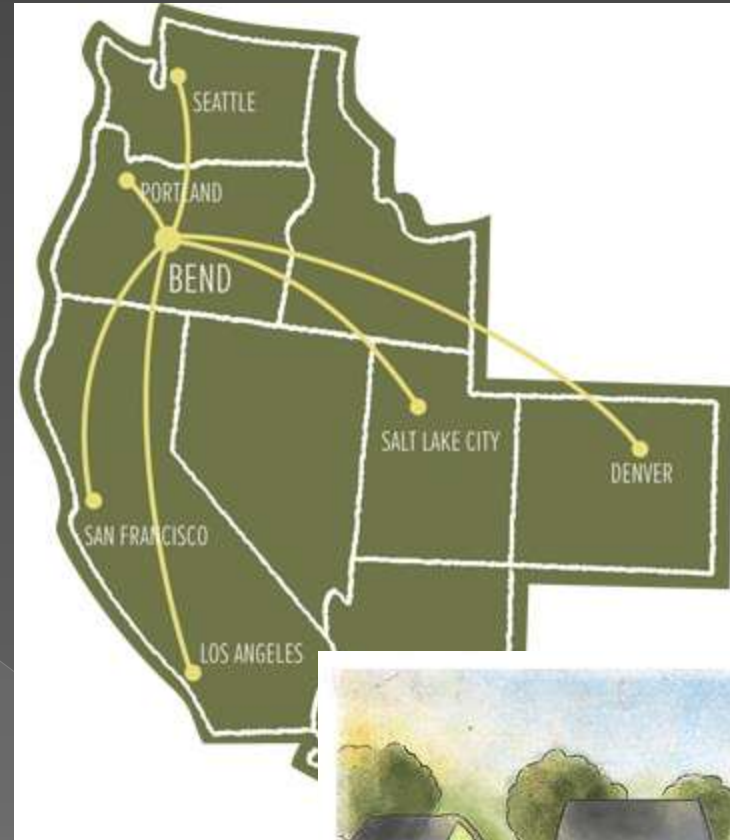
# previous

- ◉ adj. Earlier; happening before.
- ◉ Although I missed the last meeting, I attended the two **previous** ones.



# route

- n. 1. The path that must be followed to get to a place.
- Our **route** to Seattle takes us through Denver.
- 2. A fixed course or area assigned to a sales or delivery person.
- Magali has over a hundred customers on her newspaper **route**.



# summit

- n. 1. The highest part; the top.
- It took us three hours to climb to the **summit** of Mount Washington.
- 2. A conference or meeting of the top leaders of governments.
- The **summit** of African heads of state will take place in Nairobi in late June.



# terse

- ◉ adj. Short and to the point.
- ◉ When I said I was sure we would be rescued soon, my friend's **terse** reply was, "How?"



# thwart

- v. To block or defeat the plans or efforts of.
- Heavy fighting **thwarted** the UN's attempts to deliver food.



# vertical

- adj. Running straight up and down; upright.
- The black **vertical** lines in this painting are what one notices first.

