

# BALM

(balm) *adj./n.*

something that heals or comforts;  
soothing; an oil or ointment

Link: **PALM**



*“There’s nothing like a **BALMY** breeze  
whispering through **PALM** trees.”*

- 
- ❑ The nurse gave me a white **BALM** to put on my insect bites to soothe the pain. (*n.*)
  - ❑ It was a **BALMY** day, perfect for a game of golf or a trip to the beach. (*adj.*)
  - ❑ After sweating through his final exams, the sound of the bell at the end of class was a **BALM** to Pete’s nerves. (*n.*)

# BEGET

(bee GET) v.

to give birth to; to create

Link: **FORGET**



*“The old lady who lived in the shoe **BEGAT** so many children she would **FORGET** who was who.”*

- 
- ❑ Prior to the development of large farm machinery, farmers used to **BEGET** large families to help them run their farms.
  - ❑ Chronic lying becomes a habit which starts out with one small lie, which **BEGETS** a second lie, which **BEGETS** a third lie, and so on.
  - ❑ The Wright brothers didn't invent the airplane, but they were the **BEGETTERS** of the first sustained flight in the United States.

# BELEAGUER

(be LEE gur) v.

to besiege; beset, surround, harass

Link: **BIG LEAGUER**



*“The little leaguers **BELEAGUERED** the **BIG LEAGUERS**.”*

- 
- ❑ The home fans **BELEAGUERED** the visiting team as they entered the stadium.
  - ❑ The ship was **BELEAGUERED** by the constant attack of enemy fighter planes.
  - ❑ In the midst of important negotiations, the union official asked his staff not to **BELEAGUER** him with insignificant details.

# BEREAVE

(bih REEV) v.

to take away, often as a result of death;  
to deprive and make desolate

Link: **LEAVE**



*“When Jimmy’s fish died and had to **LEAVE** it **BEREAVED** him of his love for goldfish.”*

- 
- ❑ The fast moving wildfire **BEREAVED** five families of their homes.
  - ❑ The assassination of John F. Kennedy by Lee Harvey Oswald **BEREAVED** a nation of their beloved president.
  - ❑ To **BEREAVE** a child of an education is a travesty.

# BESET

(bee SET) v.  
to harass; to surround

Link: **BEES SAT**



*“The angry **BEES SAT** on his face  
and **BESET** the beekeeper.”*

- 
- ❑ We were to have gone to the beach for a sunny vacation, but were **BESET** with a week of rain and cold weather.
  - ❑ We thought we had the design ironed out, but when three of our aircraft crashed, we knew we were **BESET** with design problems we had yet to understand.
  - ❑ The losing team was **BESET** with disappointment.
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# BIZARRE

(bih ZAR) *adj.*  
extremely unconventional  
or far-fetched

Link: **BAZAAR**



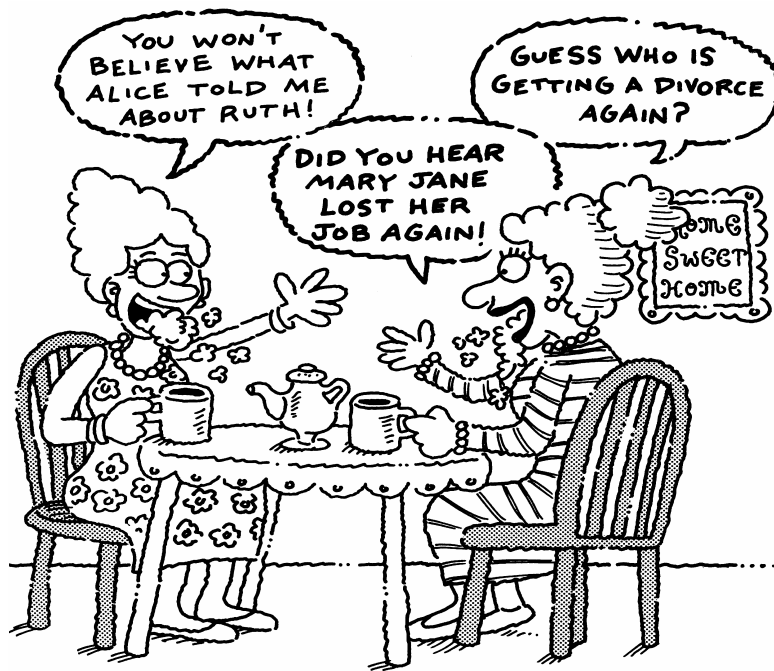
*“You see some **BIZARRE** things for sale at a **BAZAAR**.”*

- 
- Justin’s **BIZARRE** personality estranged him from rest of the group.
  - As the medication began to take effect, Randolph’s eyes took on a faraway look, and he muttered some **BIZARRE** nonsense about wanting to ride the pony one more time.
  - “Wasn’t he **BIZARRE**?” Lorna said of the strange man who appeared from nowhere and offered her an apple.

# BLATHER

(BLA thur) v.  
to talk nonsensically

Link: **LATHER**



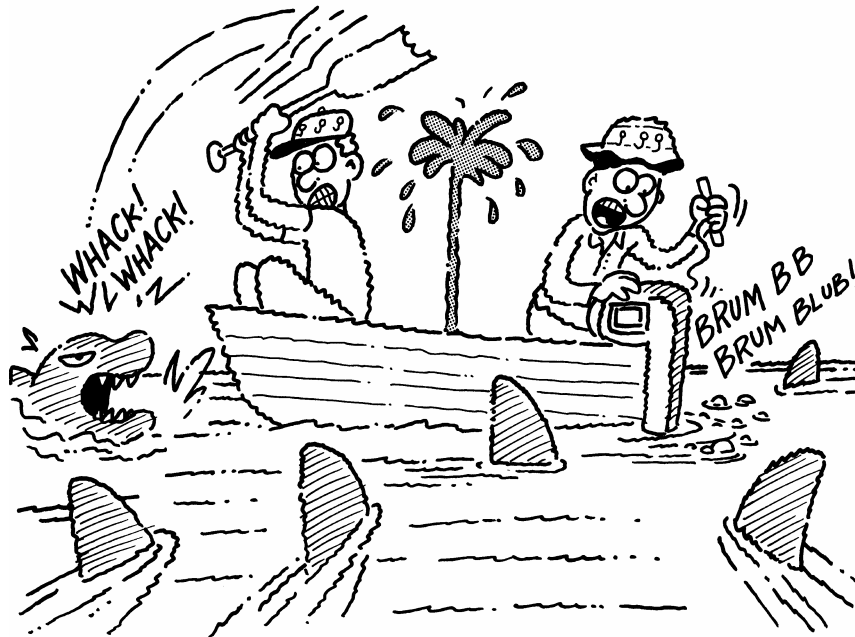
*"Karen and Allison **BLATHERED** until their mouths **LATHERED**."*

- 
- ❑ Everything the media reported about the supposed plane disaster never happened. It was a bunch of **BLATHER** by uninformed journalists.
  - ❑ Children have great imaginations, and often **BLATHER** about ghosts that supposedly enter their rooms and either scare them or play with them.
  - ❑ All Mary likes to do is **BLATHER** with her friends on the phone.

# BLEAK

(bleek) *adj.*  
depressing, discouraging,  
harsh, cold, barren, raw

Link: **LEAK**



*“Sometimes a simple **LEAK** can lead to **BLEAK** consequences.”*

- 
- ❑ The game looked **BLEAK** with our team being down 42 to 7 in the fourth quarter.
  - ❑ The vet said we should keep our hopes up, but the chance of our dog, Spot, surviving the car accident appeared **BLEAK**.
  - ❑ The **BLEAKNESS** of the Aleutian Islands, where the winds howl constantly, makes one shiver just to see a picture of it.



# BLUDGEON

(BLUD jun) *v./n.*

to hit or attack with heavy impact; a short, heavy thick club that has one end larger than the other

Link: **DUNGEON**



*“Why do you suppose they have all these  
**BLUDGEONS** in this **DUNGEON**?”*

- 
- ❑ There was nothing temperate about the lawyer’s summary to the jury; he **BLUDGEONED** them with all the gruesome details of the murder. (*v.*)
  - ❑ The detective suspected the murder weapon was some type of **BLUDGEON**. (*n.*)
  - ❑ The police arrested the lumberjack on suspicion of **BLUDGEONING** a co-worker with an axe handle. (*v.*)

# BUCOLIC

(byoo KAHL ik) *adj.*

rural or rustic in nature, country-like

Link: **BULLS FROLIC**



*“BULLS FROLIC when a farm is **BUCOLIC**.”*

- 
- ❑ The judges gave first prize to the painting of a **BUCOLIC** landscape in greens and blues.
  - ❑ There is nothing **BUCOLIC** about big city life, honking horns and bustling streets are neither peaceful or rustic.
  - ❑ Mr. Pride’s farm with its peaceful green pastures and a babbling brook, was the perfect **BUCOLIC** setting for a picnic.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY CARTOONS: Review #5.1

### Match the word with its definition.

---

- |                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. <b>balm</b>      | a. to surround                     |
| ___ 2. <b>beget</b>     | b. to harass                       |
| ___ 3. <b>beleaguer</b> | c. a short, heavy thick club       |
| ___ 4. <b>bereave</b>   | d. soothing                        |
| ___ 5. <b>beset</b>     | e. to talk nonsensically           |
| ___ 6. <b>bizarre</b>   | f. depressing, discouraging, harsh |
| ___ 7. <b>blather</b>   | g. rural or rustic in nature       |
| ___ 8. <b>bleak</b>     | h. extremely unconventional        |
| ___ 9. <b>bludgeon</b>  | i. to deprive and make desolate    |
| ___ 10. <b>bucolic</b>  | j. to give birth to                |

### Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word.

---

1. All Mary likes to do is \_\_\_\_\_ with her friends on the phone.
2. "Wasn't he \_\_\_\_\_?" Lorna said of the strange man who appeared from nowhere and offered her an apple.
3. The fast moving wildfire \_\_\_\_\_ five families of their homes.
4. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ day, perfect for a game of golf or a trip to the beach.
5. The detective suspected the murder weapon was some type of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Mr. Pride's farm with its peaceful green pastures and a babbling brook, was the perfect \_\_\_\_\_ setting for a picnic.
7. The game looked \_\_\_\_\_ with our team being down 42 to 7 in the fourth quarter.
8. During his last year in office, Richard Nixon was a \_\_\_\_\_ president, struggling to fight off the Watergate scandal.
9. Prior to the development of large farm machinery, farmers used to \_\_\_\_\_ large families to help them run their farms.
10. The losing team was \_\_\_\_\_ with disappointment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY CARTOONS: Review #5.2

**Multiple Choice: Circle the appropriate word for the provided definition.**

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1. shrewd, clever, keen
  - a.) bucolic
  - b.) amenable
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) astute
2. soothing; something that heals
  - a.) bucolic
  - b.) balm
  - c.) austere
  - d.) blather
3. to talk nonsensically
  - a.) beleaguer
  - b.) beget
  - c.) assuage
  - d.) blather
4. to give birth to; to create
  - a.) bludgeon
  - b.) beget
  - c.) beset
  - d.) assuage
5. to soothe; to make less severe
  - a.) beget
  - b.) asunder
  - c.) bereave
  - d.) assuage
6. depressing, discouraging, harsh
  - a.) bizarre
  - b.) beget
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) austere
7. to surround or harass
  - a.) beset
  - b.) beget
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) bludgeon
8. a short heavy club; to hit or attack
  - a.) beleaguer
  - b.) beget
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) bludgeon
9. to wither away
  - a.) beset
  - b.) atrophy
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) asunder
10. to seek, attain, or achieve a goal
  - a.) aspire
  - b.) beget
  - c.) bereave
  - d.) badger
11. extremely unconventional or far fetched
  - a.) bucolic
  - b.) bleak
  - c.) bizarre
  - d.) austere
12. to surround or harass
  - a.) beget
  - b.) beleaguer
  - c.) bereave
  - d.) bludgeon
13. rural or rustic in nature
  - a.) bucolic
  - b.) bleak
  - c.) bizarre
  - d.) austere
14. suffering the death of a loved one
  - a.) beleaguer
  - b.) assuage
  - c.) bereave
  - d.) beget
15. severely simple and plain; without excess
  - a.) bizarre
  - b.) beset
  - c.) bleak
  - d.) austere

**VOCABULARY CARTOONS SAT Word Power**  
Review Answers

**Review #5.1**

**Matching:**

1. d
2. j
3. (a or b)
4. i
5. (a or b)
6. h
7. e
8. f
9. c
10. g

**Fill in the Blank:**

1. blather
2. bizarre
3. bereaved
4. balmy
5. bludgeon
6. bucolic
7. bleak
8. beleaguered
9. beget
10. beset

**Review #5.2**

**Multiple Choice:**

1. d.) astute
2. b.) balm
3. d.) blather
4. b.) beget
5. d.) assuage
6. c.) bleak
7. a.) beset
8. d.) bludgeon
9. b.) atrophy
10. a.) aspire
11. c.) bizarre
12. b.) beleaguer
13. a.) bucolic
14. c.) bereave
15. d.) austere