

Level Purple

SADLER

Vocabulary Workshop

TOOLS FOR COMPREHENSION



stable
honest
present
feast
excuse
greedy
frighten
whisper

UNIT 11

Introducing the Words

Listen to this biography about Margaret Heffernan Borland, one of the first women to lead a cattle drive. Pay attention to the words in the color boxes. These are the words you will be learning in this unit.

Margaret Heffernan Borland: Trail Blazer

(Biography)

In 1873, a brave Texas woman set out on a long and hard trip. Her name was Margaret Heffernan Borland. With her children and a small team of workers, Margaret led a herd of cattle from Victoria, Texas, to Wichita, Kansas. The herd had over a thousand cattle!

At the time, it was **odd** for a woman to lead a cattle drive. Margaret was one of the first women to do it. Many people at that time did not think it was **proper** for a woman to do such work. Margaret, however, was a strong woman. She did not care what others thought. She had a job to do.

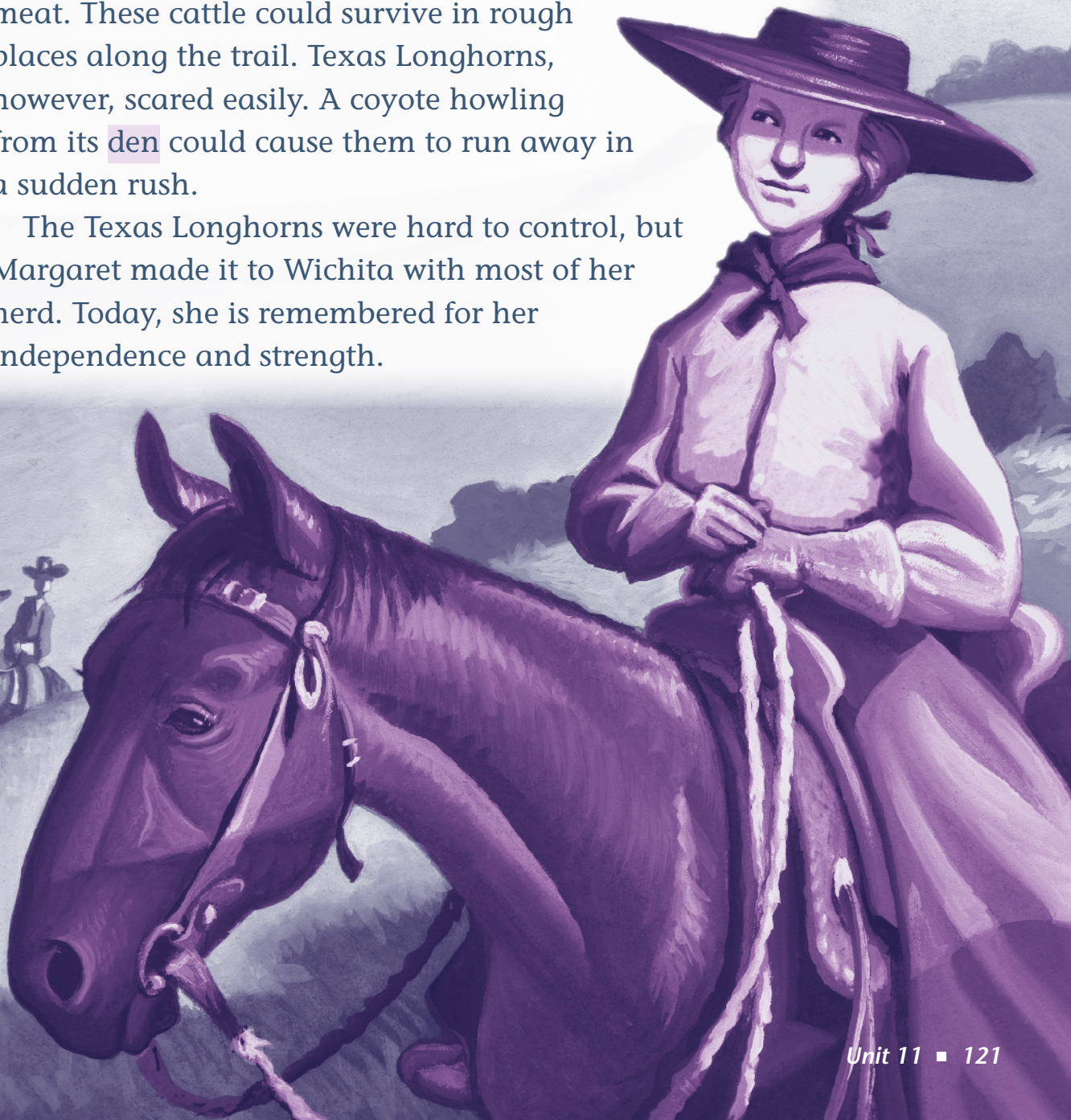
Margaret's trip was **tense**. It was not easy. A few years earlier, cattle drivers had to **carve** a trail through low



mountains and land covered with small trees and bushes. The trail was still rough and dangerous. It was easy to get a **scrape**—or worse. The **tender** skin of a hand or arm was no match for a thorny bush. As workers and herds of cattle traveled, the harsh sun could **beam** down one day. The next day, heavy rains could flood the trails.

Margaret led a type of cattle called the Texas Longhorn. A Texas Longhorn **steer** had very good **lean** meat. These cattle could survive in rough places along the trail. Texas Longhorns, however, scared easily. A coyote howling from its **den** could cause them to run away in a sudden rush.

The Texas Longhorns were hard to control, but Margaret made it to Wichita with most of her herd. Today, she is remembered for her independence and strength.



Word Meanings

Read each word, its meaning, and the example sentence.

1. **beam**

(noun)

(BEEM)

A **beam** is a long, strong piece of wood or metal that holds up part of a building.

After the builders put in the last beam, they built the roof on top.



(verb)

(BEEM)

To **beam** is to send something out.

Faraway stars beam light to Earth.

2. **carve**

(verb)

(KARV)

When you **carve** something, you cut into it.

I can carve a statue out of wood.



3. **den**

(noun)

(DEN)

A **den** is where some wild animals rest.

The wolf left its den to eat.

4. **lean**

(verb)

(LEEN)

When you **lean**, you bend in a certain direction.

Lean back to watch the night sky.

 **Show how you can lean to the left and to the right.**

(adjective)

(LEEN)

Something that is **lean** does not have much fat on it.

The burger had lean meat in it.

5. **odd**

(adjective)

(OD)

If something is **odd**, it is not what you are used to.

A June snowstorm would be odd.

(adjective)

(OD)

An **odd** number cannot be divided evenly by two.

Five is an odd number.

 **Name some examples of odd numbers.**



6. proper

(adjective)

(PROP-ur)

If something is **proper**, it is right or correct.

Wear proper clothing on cold days.



Describe the proper way to act when someone is speaking.

7. scrape

(verb)

(SKRAPE)

When you **scrape** something, you rub it against a rough or sharp surface.

Help me scrape the paint off the door.

(noun)

(SKRAPE)

A **scrape** is a mark made by rubbing or scratching against something rough.

I fell and got a scrape on my knee.



8. steer

(verb)

(STIHR)

When you **steer** something, you move it in a certain direction.

I tried to steer my bike in a straight line.



Name different things that people steer.

(noun)

(STIHR)

A **steer** is a bull that is raised for meat.

A steer eats grass.

9. tender

(adjective)

(TEN-dur)

When something is **tender**, it is soft and easy to cut.

Grandpa's steaks are always tender.

10. tense

(adjective)

(TENSS)

When you are **tense**, you are not relaxed.

I felt tense when I tried out for the school play.



Show how you look if you are tense.



Match the Meaning



Additional activities and practice
with the unit words are available at
[SadlierConnect.com](https://www.SadlierConnect.com).

*Choose the word from the box that matches the meaning
in the clue. Write the word on the line.*

lean

odd

scrape

tender

tense

1. You might feel like this before a big test. _____
2. You can do this to see past someone's head in a movie theater.

3. You can cook a carrot to make it more like this. _____
4. You might do this to a table if you drag a heavy pot across the tabletop.

5. You might use this word to describe a talking cat. _____

beam

carve

den

proper

steer

6. This is a place where a lion sleeps at night. _____
7. This is how you make a statue out of a piece of stone.

8. This helps to hold up a skyscraper. _____
9. This is what you do to turn a car to the right or to the left.

10. This is how you might describe wearing a swimsuit to the pool.

Completing the Sentence

Choose the word from the box that best completes the sentence.
Then write the word on the line.

beam	carve	den	lean	odd
proper	scrape	steer	tender	tense

1. The move to our new house made us _____.
2. The number 3 in our address is an _____ number.
3. The small, nearby farm has goats and a _____.
4. One ceiling _____ had to be replaced after our move.
5. I had to _____ my head back to look at it.
6. A poster of a bear in its _____ is in my bedroom.
7. Mom had to _____ the paint off the kitchen table.
8. She had to pick the _____ tool to get the paint off.
9. Gloves protected the _____ skin on her hands.
10. This fall, we will _____ a turkey at our new table.



Words in Context

✚ Read the article about sled dogs and sled drivers.
Then answer each question. Use complete sentences.

Sled Dogs and Sled Drivers

Racing sled dogs is a big sport in some cold places. Dogs with thick fur and **lean** bodies are best for racing. Their lean bodies help them run quickly. Sled dogs are full of energy. Often, they are **tense** before a race starts.

During a race, the sled's blades **carve** deep lines in the snow. The driver stands in the sled to **steer** it. After the race, the drivers take care of their dogs. They check the **tender** pads on the dogs' paws. If they find a **scrape**, they clean it up so it will heal. Then they hand out treats for a job well done!



1. What does the word **lean** mean in the phrase “**lean** bodies”? _____

2. Why might the dogs get **tense** before a race? _____

3. What does it mean to **steer** a sled? _____

4. Why might a dog get a **scrape** on its paw? _____

Write and Share



Write a story using at least five of the words in the box.

beam

carve

den

lean

odd

proper

scrape

steer

tender

tense

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Talk about your work with your partner to make sure you have used the words correctly. Then write one more detail to add to your story.

Synonyms

If you need help with a word, look it up in the **Glossary** at the back of this book.

Circle the word that has almost the same meaning as the word in **dark print**. Write the word on the line.

1. It would be **strange** to have a bear as a pet.

A. tense

B. honest

C. odd

2. Can you **toss** the ball to me?

A. beam

B. pitch

C. carve

3. You can **pick** the pen you like best.

A. scrape

B. select

C. sniff

4. We saw a young **bull** at the farm.

A. steer

B. label

C. den

5. We cooked the potatoes until they were **soft**.

A. honest

B. tense

C. tender

Antonyms

Circle the word that has almost the opposite meaning as the word in **dark print**. Write the word on the line.

1. The road is very **flat**.

A. proper

B. modern

C. steep

2. This animal has a **fat** body.

A. lean

B. stable

C. proper

3. I felt **relaxed** at the beach.

A. tense

B. steep

C. modern

4. The house is very **old**.

A. odd

B. modern

C. proper

5. My chair is **shaky**.

A. stable

B. lean

C. tender

Classifying

Look at the words in the box. Write each word in the group in which it best fits. Use each word once.

den

escape

honest

lean

pitch

proper

stable

tender

**Places Where
Animals Live**

**Words That Tell
About Meat**

Action Words

**Words That
Tell About Your
Behavior**

Word Associations

Choose the answer that best completes the sentence or answers the question. Pay attention to the word in **dark print**. Fill in the circle next to the answer.

1. Why might you **label** your notebook?
☐ because it's blue
☐ so people know it's yours
☐ because you don't like it
2. What is an **odd** thing to do with your hand?
☐ draw a picture
☐ score a goal in soccer
☐ play piano
3. Where might you find a **beam**?
☐ in a house
☐ in a bowl of cereal
☐ in a lake
4. To make sure a pet mouse doesn't **escape**, you should
☐ clean out its cage.
☐ make sure it takes naps.
☐ close the door to its cage.
5. Which of these is something you **steer**?
☐ a farm
☐ an apple
☐ a bike
6. Which of these is a **modern** thing?
☐ a horse
☐ the Internet
☐ a tree
7. What might you find in a **den**?
☐ a baseball field
☐ a whale
☐ a sleeping wolf
8. What might cause you to **scrape** your elbow?
☐ falling on the sidewalk
☐ watching TV
☐ wearing a sweatshirt
9. If you feel **tense**, you
☐ are great at sports.
☐ are not calm.
☐ own more than nine things.
10. If a house is **stable**, it will
☐ stand for a long time.
☐ fall over.
☐ have to be painted red.

Completing the Idea

Complete each sentence starter so that it makes sense.
Pay attention to the word in **dark print**.

1. The **label** on the can said that _____

2. When I see the sun **beam** through my window, I _____

3. My favorite **object** in my room is _____

4. It was **odd** to find _____

5. I felt **tense** when _____

6. If I **lean** my head back, I can see _____

7. It is not **proper** to _____

8. At the supermarket, I **select** _____

9. I got a **scrape** when I _____

10. I like to **sniff** _____

Word Study Dictionary: Multiple-Meaning Words

A **multiple-meaning word** is a word with more than one meaning.

board 1. (*noun*) a long, flat piece of wood or plastic
2. (*verb*) to get on a vehicle such as a ship, plane, or train

This sentence shows the second meaning (meaning 2) of **board**:

We **board** the bus at 12 noon.



Write the word that completes each sentence. Then write 1 or 2 to show which meaning of the word is used.

beam 1. (*noun*) a long, strong piece of wood or metal that holds up part of a building 2. (*verb*) to send something out

_____ 1. Use a flashlight to _____ the light on the path.

_____ 2. We need another _____ to hold up the roof.

odd 1. (*adjective*) not what you are used to 2. (*adjective*) cannot be divided evenly by two

_____ 3. The number 11 is an _____ number.

_____ 4. I find it _____ that you are here so early.

steer 1. (*verb*) to move something in a certain direction
2. (*noun*) a bull that is raised for meat

_____ 5. Mom will _____ the car around the bus.

_____ 6. The _____ won first prize at the state fair.

Shades of Meaning

Words That Describe Food

The word **lean** can mean “thin” or “without fat.” It is often used to describe meat. Look at the chart for other words that can be used to tell about food. Think about how the words help you to imagine what a food is like.

lean	Lean meat does not have much fat.
spicy	Spicy foods have a strong flavor because there are many spices in them. They can make your mouth feel hot.
juicy	Juicy foods are full of juice and flavor.

Write the name of each food next to the word that best describes it.

chili

hot pepper

skinless chicken

peach

orange

sliced turkey

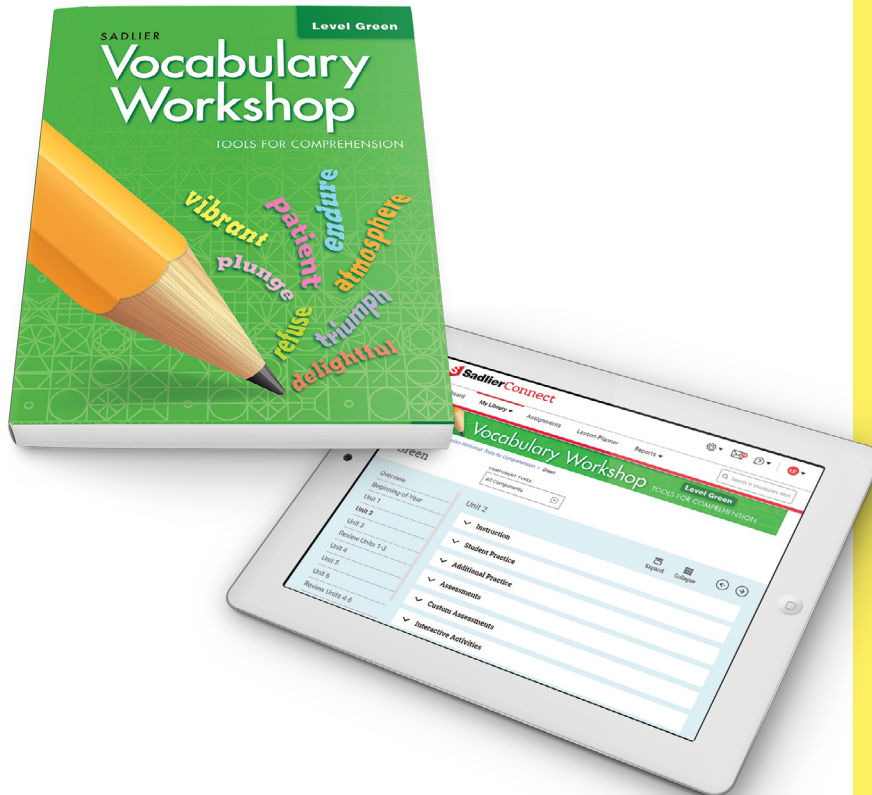
- lean** 1. _____ 2. _____
- spicy** 3. _____ 4. _____
- juicy** 5. _____ 6. _____

Complete each sentence so that it makes sense. Use the word **lean**, **spicy**, or **juicy** in your answer.

7. My hands were a sweet, sticky mess after _____
_____.
8. My mouth was on fire after _____
_____.
9. To become more healthy, my brother exercised and _____
_____.

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