
Unit 10 - I See Both Sides

10A Introduction

Do you know people who love to hate? Any little thing they can find to hate on they'll do it. They think that being nice for half a second will make them weak, so they slouch in their chairs and try to look cool. That's okay; I get it: They don't feel confident enough to be passionate about something.

10B Song Lyrics

I'm not dumb, man, I see both sides,
Put myself in my enemy's mind, where my enemy lies.
They argue over who's the best,
Like they **haggle** over the price, these dudes should rest.
Act up, say something that they shouldn't have said,
They need to babysit their whole style, put it to bed.
So I step in to help them agree and stop the hate,
I make peace, man, I **arbitrate**.
Somebody call a medic, 'cause hate is an **epidemic**,
It's a widespread disease; it breathes, it feeds
Off the weak of mind, I'm just speaking my mind.
I see the key and the secret is mine. Why hate?
You're not a baby, why get **irate**?
You get so mad if you can't get your way?
You want to spend your whole life hating?
Go ahead! I'll be smiling on an island on my vacation.
It's not like I don't care, or have **apathy**,
If you think that, you've got it backwards, D.
I try to understand any woman and any man,
I **bestow** and give a whole backstory to them.
Like, why does Batman fight all this crime?
Oh, he watched his parents get murdered; that's **homicide**.
Like, why are some people so racist?
You know, such dumb, what, um...**bigots** and haters?
Well, if as you grow up and your mom tells you, kid,
"The world is flat, yeah, I'm sure of it."
If she tells you this "fact" day after day,
Chances are that's what you'll grow up to say.
It's like that...

*I see both sides...
How everybody's living their lives.*

Me too, yeah, I see both sides
So relationships won't flip over or **capsize**.
You want to make friends? Don't **antagonize**.
Don't try to make them upset and don't tell lies.
When Pinocchio's nose grows a bigger size,



It's harder to come to some kind of **compromise**,
 An agreement where both people feel okay,
 You can still be friends at the end of the day.
 Don't **rant**, don't yell and scream, that ain't the way,
 You've got to listen to what others have to say.
 If you want to eat chicken, and your friend wants fish,
 You should find a place where you can both get your wish.
 Some people get angry, they're filled with **wrath**,
 'Cause if they can't get all, then they don't want half.
 Me, I want relationships to **persist**,
 Go on and on, like Erykah Badu's song.
 So I'll bring both sides together,
 If you listen carefully you can solve whatever.
 Your friends will be **permanent**, they'll last forever.
 You'll get the most respect, the highest honor ever.

Hook

*To the girl with the Mohawk and black lipstick,
 To the dude with the loose jeans and he walks with a limp,
 To the rich lady banking at the stock exchange,
 To the homeless man on the train begging for change,
 To the hip-hop head bumping Andre 3 Stacks ,
 To the girl who loves country and hates my raps.*

10C Words Defined

Below you'll find each vocabulary word that was used in the song. Each word is followed by the part of speech, a simple definition and a meaningful sentence. Some words will also have synonyms, antonyms and other forms of the word listed.

1. antagonize (verb) to make an enemy of; to stir up anger or dislike

Insulting your opponents on the basketball court is an easy way to *antagonize* them.

Synonyms: anger, annoy, offend

Antonyms: aid, compliment

2. apathy (noun) a lack of interest or concern

C-Ray is filled with so much *apathy*; I don't think he would even care if his best friend moved away forever.

Synonyms: indifference, aloofness

Antonyms: care, concern, sympathy

Other forms: Instead of caring, Vlad was *apathetic* (adj) to our problems.

3. arbitrate (verb) to settle a disagreement between two parties by having a third party make a decision after hearing both sides

Ms. Dessario *arbitrated* our big disagreement about who really won the student election.

Synonyms: make a deal, negotiate

Other forms: We were looking for some *arbitration* (noun) to settle who really owned the tree between our houses. The mayor served as the *arbitrator* (noun).

4. bestow (verb) to give as an honor; to present as a gift

Our teacher *bestowed* lots of praise on the kids who had performed in the talent show.

Synonyms: award, confer

Antonyms: deprive

5. bigot (noun) one who is not tolerant of people who are different

We knew Ryan was a *bigot* when we heard him talk about how women shouldn't be allowed to run companies.

Synonyms: prejudiced person

Antonyms: liberal person

Other forms: Though the Nazis were well organized, their entire movement was based on *bigotry* (noun). Some people think Mark Twain was *bigoted* (adj) because he uses an offensive racial term in *Huckleberry Finn*.

6. capsize (verb) to turn bottom-side-up; overturn

Don't rock the boat or it will *capsize*!

Synonyms: roll over, flip over

7. compromise (noun) the settlement of a disagreement by having each side give up something

After arguing for hours, the four leaders reached a *compromise*.

Antonyms: disagreement, dispute

Other forms: *Compromise* is used just as often as a verb: Unable to *compromise*, the two students ended up not getting anything done.

8. epidemic (noun) a rapid spread or increase in the occurrence of something, especially a disease

Cell phone use among teens is sweeping the country like an *epidemic*.

Synonyms: outbreak, rash

9. haggle (verb) to argue in a petty, back-and-forth manner, especially about a price

They spent 20 minutes *haggling* over the price of a dozen chicken wings.

Synonyms: bicker, quarrel

Antonyms: agree

10. homicide (noun) the killing of one person by another

As a detective specializing in *homicides*, Bianca has seen lots of gruesome murder scenes.

Synonyms: murder

11. irate (adj) very angry; furious

Courtney got *irate* when I told her that I had taken her iPod and lost it.

Antonyms: happy

12. permanent (adj) lasting for a long time, maybe forever

Spilling grape juice on my white T-shirt left a *permanent* stain.

Synonyms: fixed

Antonyms: temporary

13. persist (verb) to continue steadily in an action, to refuse to stop or be changed; to last, remain

Despite growing scientific knowledge, certain superstitions have *persisted* for thousands of years.

Synonyms: carry on, stick it out

Antonyms: give up, quit

Other forms: Thanks to his *persistence* (noun), Chiavas finally got a job at Taco Bell.

14. rant (verb) to speak wildly and violently

The man standing on the street corner was *ranting* about how the end of the world was coming next Tuesday.

Synonyms: rave

Other forms: *Rant* can also be a noun meaning “a loud, violent speech”: I had to listen to Nate’s *rant* about how a secret society is taking over the world.

15. wrath (noun) intense anger

The king yelled down for all to hear: “If you betray me, you will feel my *wrath*!”

Synonyms: rage, fury

Antonyms: love

10D Fix the Mistake

Each of the sentences below has a mistake. The wrong vocabulary words have been used, so the sentences don’t make sense. Rewrite each sentence using the correct vocabulary word from this unit.

1. Scooter is such a bully; I stopped riding the school bus because I’m tired of him **arbitrating** me every morning.

2. King Arthur **capsized** a jeweled sword upon Sir Lancelot to thank the knight for his years of service.

3. If you write your name on the wall with this **irate** marker, you’ll never be able to scrub it off!

4. When Clay visited India, he spent one afternoon **ranting** with a shopkeeper over the price of a carpet he wished to buy.
-
5. Terrence was so **permanent** when he learned his younger brother had broken his stereo that he had to leave the house for a while to calm down.
-
6. I wanted to see a different movie than Carrie, so we **bestowed** by seeing a movie neither of us really wanted to see!
-
7. It was clear that Jennifer and I just didn't see eye to eye, so we asked our friend Genevieve to **haggle** the discussion.
-
8. The mighty Zeus unleashed his **apathy** upon the world by throwing lightning bolts down upon all who did not worship him.
-
9. My uncle is such an **epidemic** when it comes to people of other races that I'm afraid other people will think I'm a racist if I talk to him in public.
-
10. The morning show DJ has been **antagonizing** about how orange juice is overpriced for at least 45 minutes.
-
11. If you ever expect to lose weight, you must **compromise** in eating healthy and exercising regularly, even if you don't feel like it.
-
12. Politics fills me with **wrath**; I really don't care who gets elected or who's even running.
-
13. Mrs. Steelers was a suspect for **bigotry** when her husband died under mysterious circumstances.
-

antagonize / apathy / arbitrate / bestow / bigot / capsize / compromise / epidemic / haggle / homicide / irate / permanent / persist / rant / wrath

14. There's been a **homicide** of bad hip-hop songs lately; every time I turn on the radio I hear nothing but weak rhymes and recycled beats.

15. Hugo weighs so much that I'm afraid the canoe will **persist** if we let him ride with us.

10E Pick the Winner

Circle the word that best fits into the sentence. Then write a sentence below that uses the word you didn't pick in a meaningful way.

1. The dog next door is constantly (**compromising OR antagonizing**) my cat with his nonstop barking.

2. _____

3. Mr. Sergio is so cheap he tries to (**haggle OR rant**) over prices at McDonalds.

4. _____

5. The giant was (**irate OR apathetic**) when he discovered that Jack had stolen his favorite harp.

6. _____

7. When my sister got engaged, my grandmother (**arbitrated OR bestowed**) a wedding ring upon her that had been in the family for years.

8. _____

9. Coraline has a (**permanent OR persistent**) scar on her forehead from being dropped on her head as a baby.

10. _____

10F Draw the Relationships

In each grouping of eight words below, draw straight lines between the synonyms (words that mean similar things) and squiggly lines between any antonyms (words that mean nearly opposite things). Every word should have at least one line connected to it. Some may have more.

1

permanent	take away	haggle	capsize
bestow	flip over	temporary	agree

.....

2

murder	negotiate	indifference	award
homicide	bestow	arbitrate	apathy

.....

3

antagonize	compliment	compromise	speak wildy
dispute	furious	irate	rant

.....

4

epidemic	bigotry	outbreak	prejudice
persist	carry on	love	wrath

10G Understanding What You Read

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions.

A Birthday Surprise

I had never seen my father so irate before.

“Can you believe this guy?” he ranted to my mother. “Honestly, I think he gets a sick thrill out of antagonizing me. And on my birthday, no less. My birthday!”

“Now, Herman,” my mother said. “Sal probably just stepped out for a minute. Let’s walk to that little restaurant on the corner—I’m sure we’ll all feel better with some food in our stomachs.”

We had come to Miami on my father’s birthday to visit his brother, Salvatore. For as long as I’ve been alive, Uncle Sal has been a constant source of my dad’s wrath. They’re great friends, but they sure do rub each other the wrong way sometimes. For example, when they go out to dinner together, they always haggle over who’s going to pay the bill. Sometimes I think that if my mom and I weren’t there to arbitrate, one of them might end up in jail for homicide!

I couldn’t really blame my dad for being angry. We had just spent three hours in an airplane to get to Sal’s place. When we arrived on his doorstep, however, the door was locked—and Sal was nowhere to be found. “He better be in the hospital with some kind of permanent disability,” my dad grumbled. “Or I’m going to put him there.”

We decided to head right to the restaurant. When we got there, my dad tried the door. “Just great,” he said. “They’re not open.”

“They aren’t?” my mom asked, perplexed. “But they must be open. You just have to be persistent.” She tried the doorknob herself. “I said, THEY MUST BE OPEN,” she repeated in a louder voice.

“Why are you shouting?” my dad asked.

From inside the restaurant, I heard the sound of a lock being turned. My dad gave the doorknob one more twist. This time, it opened.

“SURPRISE!”

We stepped into the restaurant to find about 20 people standing in front of a big banner that read “Happy 50th Birthday, Herman!” In the center of the group, my Uncle Sal stood holding a birthday cake. He took one look at the shocked expression on my dad’s face and broke into peals of laughter.

“Gotcha!” he said.

1. The narrator’s mother could best be described as

- (A) Excitable
- (B) Distrustful
- (C) Patient
- (D) Forgetful

2. Read this sentence from the passage:

“They’re great friends, but they sure do rub each other the wrong way sometimes.”

To “rub someone the wrong way” is to

- (A) Ignore them
- (B) Annoy them
- (C) Amuse them
- (D) Confuse them

3. From which point of view is this story told?

- (A) First person
- (B) Second person
- (C) Third person
- (D) Stream of consciousness

4. The relationship between Herman and Uncle Sal could best be described as

- (A) Gracious
- (B) Hateful
- (C) Tender
- (D) Combative



The Word Up Project: Level Yellow

antagonize / apathy / arbitrate / bestow / bigot / capsized / compromise / epidemic / haggle / homicide / irate / permanent / persist / rant / wrath

5. Based on the behavior of the narrator's mother, you can guess that she

- (A) Had not eaten for days
- (B) Was angry with her husband
- (C) Had never been to Miami before
- (D) Knew about the surprise party

10H Thinking Creatively

Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

1. Describe a time when you had to **compromise**.

2. Your school experiences an **epidemic** of people forgetting their own names. What happens next?

3. What's the most **permanent** thing in your life?

4. What is something you learned to do by being **persistent**?

5. What's a good title for a book about a **homicide** at a summer camp?

Word Breakdown

The word *bigot* has a fascinating history. According to legend, the word was first uttered when the king of France, Charles III, insisted that the duke of Normandy kiss his foot. The duke refused, saying, "By God," which sounded like "by got" because of his accent. The French began using the word as an insult to Normans. Over time, it came to mean "someone who is prejudiced against others."

The word *haggle* was originally a term used in woodworking. Hundreds of years ago, to *haggle* meant to "hack or cut in an unskillful manner." Today, one of the meanings of *haggle* is to "hack or cut" away at a price.