Many words measure feelings. They act like degrees on a thermometer or zones on a gauge, recording very clear measurements. Everyday language is full of such words and phrases.

Has a friendship of yours ever been in the "deep freeze"? If so, you knew beforehand that it was in a danger zone, didn't you? Someone's temper was "boiling." Perhaps one of you got "hot under the collar" or gave the other "the cold shoulder." You reacted with strong feelings.

The words in this lesson are used to describe extreme emotional reactions. As you study each word, think where you would place it on an emotional gauge. At the PLUS or the MINUS end? Exactly where? How positive? How negative?

## WORD LIST

awe crave detestable enchanting fascinate fondness irk loathe rave recoil

## DEFINITIONS

After you have studied the definitions and example for each vocabulary word, write the word on the line to the right.

awe (ô) noun A feeling of mixed wonder, fear, and deep respect.
 verb To cause a feeling of awe.
 Related Word awesome adjective

Example

We gazed in *awe* as thousands of monarch butterflies settled among the trees like a golden cloud.

2. **crave** (krāv) *verb* **a.** To have a very strong desire or need for. **b.** To beg earnestly for something, as forgiveness or mercy.

Related Word craving noun

Example

The young star *craved* fame in the way that a lion needs

meat or a diver needs air.

3. **detestable** (dĭ-tĕs'tə-bəl) *adjective* Deserving strong dislike, even hatred.

Related Words detest verb; detestation noun

Example

"We find the actions of the terrorists detestable,"

announced the ambassador.

4. **enchanting** (ĕn-chăn'tĭng) *adjective* Very charming, attractive, or delightful.

Related Words enchant verb; enchantment noun

Example

The paper described the holiday decorations as a delight for young and old, claiming "Even a Scrooge would find them *enchanting*." USAGE NOTE:The related word awesome is used in slang to mean "remarkable" or "outstanding."

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_

| 5.  | fascinate (fas'ə-nāt') verb a. To capture and hold the interest and attention of. b. To hold motionless or spellbound.   |   |     |   |
|-----|--|---|-----|---|
|     | = : :  | fascination <i>noun</i> Isaac Newton was so <i>fascinated</i> by a falling apple that he eventually discovered the laws of gravity.         |     |   |
| 6.  | fondness (fönd's   | nĭs) noun a. A loving or affectionate feeling; tenderness.  | 6.  |   |
|     | Related Words<br>Example   | fond adjective; fondly adverb My brother's fondness for drums drove me to earplugs and our neighbors to the telephone.                      |     |   |
| 7.  | irk (ûrk) verb   | To annoy; irritate.   | 7.  |   |
|     | Related Word<br>Example  | irksome adjective Nothing irks a bus driver more than passengers who push and shove.  |     |   |
| 8.  | loathe (lōth) ver  | b To dislike greatly; find repulsive.   | 8.  |   |
|     | Related Words<br>Example   | <b>loathing</b> <i>noun</i> ; <b>loathsome</b> <i>adjective</i> Most people <i>loathe</i> the sound of fingernails scratching a chalkboard. |     | USAGE NOTE: Loothe and detest mean "to hate," but loothe suggests an almost physical dislike. |
| 9.  | rave (rāv) verb<br>great enthusiası  | a. To speak wildly or senselessly. b. To speak with m.  | 9.  |   |
|     | Related Words<br>Example   | raving adjective; raving noun Everyone raved about the delicious fish and low prices at the new seafood restaurant.                         | í   |   |
| 10. | <ul> <li>recoil (ri-koil') verb a. To move or jerk back, as a gun upon firing.</li> <li>b. To shrink back in fear or dislike. (rē'koil') noun The act of recoiling.</li> </ul> |   | 10. | USAGE NOTE: Some nouns and verbs that are spelled alike are pronounced differently.           |
|     | Example  | The rifle recoiled so hard that the soldier's shoulder hurt.  | •   |   |