

Thought and Belief

WORD LIST

contemplate	conviction	disseminate	engross	intuition
lucid	moral	profound	puritanical	sanctify

What we think and what we believe help define us as people. The words in this lesson involve thinking, believing, or elements of both. As you study each word, try to determine which concept or concepts are involved.

- 1. contemplate** (kɒn'təm-plāt') *verb*
To consider carefully and thoughtfully

 - Mario **contemplated** a career in physics.

contemplation *noun* After much **contemplation**, Tyrone decided to run for public office.

contemplative *adjective* The monks began their **contemplative** day with prayer.
- 2. conviction** (kən-vɪk'shən) *noun* from Latin *convincere*, "to overcome"

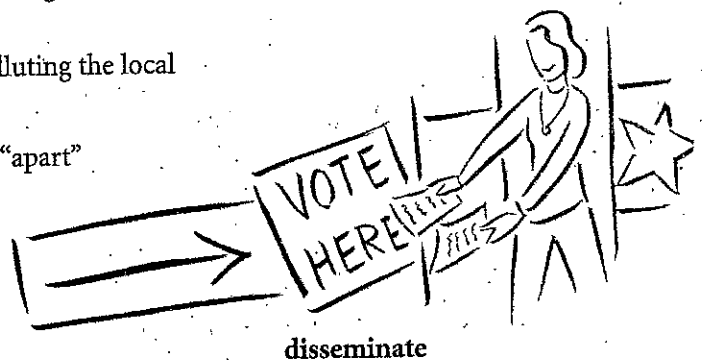
 - A very strong belief or opinion
 - Nothing could shake Julio's **conviction** that logging should be prevented in wildlife areas.
 - Being found guilty
 - Angelo hoped he could avoid **conviction** for receiving stolen property.

convict *verb* The jury **convicted** the company of polluting the local water supply.
- 3. disseminate** (dɪ-sɛm'ə-nāt') *verb* from Latin *dis*, "apart" + *seminare*, "to plant"
To make widely known; to spread

 - Teachers **disseminated** information about the new school schedule to all students and families.

dissemination *noun* The law prohibits **dissemination** of campaign materials inside polling places.
- 4. engross** (ɛn-grɒs') *verb* from Latin *en-*, "in" + *grossus*, "thick"
To occupy the mind completely; absorb

 - Patricia was so **engrossed** in her book that she didn't hear the bell ring.



disseminate

5. **intuition** (in'tōō-īsh'ən) *noun* from Latin *intueri*, "to look at"
A feeling; a sense; understanding gained without thinking
• Fred's **intuition** told him not to enter the cave.
intuitive *adjective* I simply had an **intuitive** feeling that Sammie Jo was going to be my friend.

6. **lucid** (lōō'sīd) *adjective* from Latin *lucere*, "to shine"
Easily understood; clear
• The prosecutor gave a **lucid** summary of the evidence against the defendant.

lucidity *noun* In a rare moment of **lucidity**, the Alzheimer patient recognized his wife.

7. **moral** (mōr'əl) from Latin *mor*, "custom"
a. *adjective* Conforming to a standard of right or good behavior
• Stealing is certainly not **moral** behavior.
b. *noun* The lesson taught by a story, a fable, or an event
• The fable "The Tortoise and the Hare" has the following **moral**:
Slow and steady wins the race.

moralize *verb* Some parents can't help but **moralize** when they lecture their children.

morality *noun* Religious leaders are generally concerned with issues of **morality**.

8. **profound** (prə-found') *adjective* from Latin *pro-*, "toward" + *fundus*, "bottom"
Deep; deeply thought or reasoned
• Geraldine made several **profound** points in her discussion of the democratic process.

profundity *noun* The **profundity** of silence blanketed the funeral procession.

9. **puritanical** (pyōōr'ī-tān'ī-kəl) *adjective* from Latin *purus*, "pure"
Strict in matters of religious or moral conduct
• Katrina thought it was **puritanical** of her parents not to let her date until she was eighteen.

puritan *noun* Our school dress code must have been invented by a bunch of **puritans**.

10. **sanctify** (sāngk'tə-fī') *verb*
To make holy or sacred
• Mamet and Ayba **sanctified** their marriage with a church ceremony.

A *lucid* argument is well reasoned and based on excellent logic.

Puritanical comes from an English Protestant religion of the 1600s. The Puritans, many of whom fled to the American colonies, advocated strict morality.

WORD ENRICHMENT

Getting to the bottom

The word *profound*, or "deep," comes from the Latin word *fundus*, or "bottom." There are other common words that come from *fundus*. Something *fundamental* lies at the base or bottom of other things, as in *fundamental laws of nature*. A *foundation* also lies at the bottom of a building. The common word *found*, also based on *fundus*, can mean "to start" or "to lay the foundation," as in *He founded a new club*.