**LA10 VOCABULARY**

**Lesson Three**

1. **avarice (noun)** excessive greed; desire for wealth

He became a doctor not to save lives but to appease his *avarice.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *syn*: greed | *ant*: liberality; generosity |

1. **avid (adjective)** eager; extremely interested

He was such an *avid* moviegoer that the theater gave him a half-priced, lifetime pass.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *syn*: voracious; keen | *ant*: apathetic |

1. **bacchanalian (adjective)** wild with drunkenness

The student flunked out of college because of the *bacchanalian* life he had lived.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

1. **balk (verb)** to stop short and refuse to continue; to obstruct

Although he desperately needed the money, he *balked* at the idea of working for less than minimum wage.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *syn*: hesitate; frustrate; block | *ant*: facilitate; abet |

1. **banter (noun)** teasing; good-natured joking

As she sat at the table, Ruth enjoyed listening to the *banter* of her husband and his old college roommate.

1. **barrister (noun)** lawyer

In England, a lawyer or attorney who argues cases in court is called a *barrister.*

1. **bask (verb)** to lie in or be exposed to warmth

While in Florida on vacation, all she did was *bask* in the sun.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

1. **bastion (noun)** a strong defense; a fort

During critical times in the history of the world, the United States has been called the *bastion* of democracy.

1. **bawdy (adjective)** indecent; humorously obscene

Because some people called it a *bawdy* show, the car manufacturer withdrew as a sponsor for the program.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *syn*: risqué |  |

1. **befuddle (verb)** to confuse; to perplex

Did he try to *befuddle* you with his fast talk?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *syn*: bewilder; fluster | *ant*: clarify |