

Unit 10 - Changes

10A Introduction

This song is written about a serious issue - drunk driving, which is a major problem in America. Each year, on average, more than 15,000 people are killed and 250,000 people are injured in drunk driving car accidents. Clearly, this is something that has to change. The narrator in this song knows that all too well.

10B Song Lyrics

*Life changes easily,
Ain't never what it seems to be.
Better hold it like you own it,
'Cause you could lose it in a moment.*

Ice Tea in my hand, ice cubes were melting,
The weather was so hot, it's **sweltering**.
Nighttime, the right time to take a drive,
But my situation turned terrible and **dire**.
The night was **eventful**, full of events,
If I hadn't been lucky, I could have been dead.
A car swerved, I could see the lights,
They were **luminous**, and shining bright.

I hit the breaks, and the sound was **strident**,
It sounded like a baby crying.
This guy's car smashed into me,
Crunched under the door, I could barely breathe.
The pain was **excruciating**,
So intense, and wasn't fading.
This guy hadn't acted **conscientiously**,
He wasn't thinking carefully, you feel me?

Hook

Now this guy had been drinking heavily,
So, the ambulance came and handled me.
The cops arrived, and they tested him,
Then they **apprehended** and arrested him.
The judge had the power and **authority**
To throw him in jail for just forty weeks.
I wish it was a **millennium**, a thousand years,
One for each time that I cried a tear.

They should have let him **languish** in jail,
Sit there, become weak and frail.
To this day, it still **rankles** me,



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Irritates me that they set him free.
What's to say that it won't **recur**?
Occur again, it might be worse.
Now I need a wheelchair to **facilitate**
and make movement easy, you feel me?

For all the people that drink and drive,
Blink your eyes, cause you either think or die.
I hope this **deters** and prevents you
From doing something that you can't undo...

Hook

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10C Words Defined

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

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. apprehend (verb) to arrest or take into custody

Brian would do anything to *apprehend* his wife's murderer.

Other forms: *Apprehend* is also a verb meaning "to perceive or understand," as in: It was difficult for the kindergartners to *apprehend* the idea of death when the class hamster suddenly died.

2. authority (noun) 1. power to influence how others act or think 2. someone who has power or knowledge

Umpires have the *authority* to eject players and coaches from the game. 2. Einstein was an *authority* when it came to physics.

Other forms: You can *authorize* (verb) something if you give your permission for it to happen.

3. conscientious (adj) careful; well thought-out

When my dad and I wrestle in the living room, we have to be very *conscientious* of my baby sister so we do not hurt her.

Antonyms: careless, inattentive, negligent

Other forms: Your *conscience* (noun) is your inner sense of what is right and wrong.

4. deter (verb) to prevent or discourage from proceeding

Karina tried to *deter* her little brother from eating the last cupcake by licking all the frosting off of it.

Antonyms: to encourage, persuade

5. dire (adj) desperate; terrible

Two of the soccer players were in *dire* need of a water break during the game, since the temperature was over one hundred degrees.

Synonyms: urgent, critical, pressing

6. eventful (adj) full of events; important

The day Lisa was born was the most *eventful* day of her father's life.

7. excruciating (adj) extremely intense or painful

The football player was in *excruciating* pain after being tackled by four defensive lineman.

Antonyms: pleasant, soothing, enjoyable

8. facilitate (verb) to assist or make easier

The therapist tried to *facilitate* a conversation between the unhappy husband and wife.

Other forms: The *facilitator* (noun) led the meeting.

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9. languish (verb) to become weak; lose health

The lady *languished* once her partner died.

Synonyms: to weaken, deteriorate

10. luminous (adj) shining and bright

The stage was *luminous* from all the spotlights cast upon it.

Antonyms: dark, dim, obscure

11. millennium (noun) a period of one thousand years

Chelsea felt like a *millennium* had passed before she got her cell phone back from her parents.

12. rankle (verb) to cause irritation or resentment

It *rankles* our PE teacher for days when students openly disrespect him.

Antonyms: to calm, pacify, soothe

13. recur (verb) to repeat or happen again

Gail's nightmare would *recur* night after night, so she eventually refused to go to sleep.

Other forms: There was a *recurrence* (noun) of chicken pox in the elementary school. There was a *recurring* (adj) theme in the books they read this semester: death.

14. strident (adj) harsh or grating, as in a sound

A *strident* tone echoes in the house every time my sister practices her violin.

Antonyms: soft, silent, calm

15. swelter (verb) to be uncomfortably hot

The kids are going to *swelter* out by the pool all day since there is no shade or overhang to keep them cool.

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10D Fix the Mistake

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

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. Luckily, the police were able to **deter** the criminal before he was able to leave the country.

2. Mrs. Dunker's **millennium** in the classroom was clear with her relentless use of detention slips.

3. After being hit by the car, the dog was in **eventful** pain.

4. Teenagers can really **facilitate** their parents by refusing to speak to them.

5. Brandon was a very **dire** babysitter because he renewed his CPR and first aid training annually.

6. My hiking partner was convinced that he was going to **recur** without his water bottle.

7. A metal bat hitting a ball makes a more **excruciating** sound than a wooden bat.

8. The sports spectators were all **apprehending** in the bleacher seats because there was no shade.

9. For Janice, who hated school, it felt like a(n) **authority** until she graduated.

10. The pool looked **strident** at night with all of its lights turned on.

11. The police officer's first night on the job was a(n) **conscientious** one with two murders, a burglary and a car chase.

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12. Jason tried to **languish** his best friend from talking in class so he wouldn't get in any more trouble.

13. Five swimmers were in **luminous** need of being rescued by the lifeguards because the current had started to sweep them out to sea.

14. As an event planner, it was Jocelyn's job to be able to **swelter** numerous activities at once.

15. After I had the hiccups for over two hours, they finally stopped, and I prayed they would not **rankle**.

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10E Pick the Winner

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

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. It was hard to **(deter OR rankle)** the toddler from touching the appetizers on the coffee table since they were at his eye level.

2. The airplane delays, hotel problems and poor weather made for a(n) **(eventful OR luminous)** vacation.

3. Lightning was **(recurring OR languishing)** so often that it was like daylight in the middle of the night.

4. When Sonya got mad in class, she would slowly run her fingernails down the chalkboard and make a **(conscientious OR strident)** noise.

5. New York is already planning the New Year's Eve bash for the next **(millennium OR authority)**.

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10F Draw the Relationships

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

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

encourage	authority	conscientious	arrest
apprehend	negligent	deter	power

.....

2

dire	urgent	busy	facilitate
soothing	eventful	excruciating	assist

.....

3

languish	millennium	dark	a thousand years
waste away	make mad	rankle	luminous

.....

4

recur	sweat	pleasant	conscientious
strident	careful	swelter	repeat

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10G Understanding What You Read

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions.

Andre sat in the car in the sweltering August heat. Man, did he hate the waiting part of this job! Sometimes it would be quick, like an hour. But other times, he would have to sit on the stakeout for a whole night, or for three or four excruciating days, just waiting for something eventful to happen. Tonight, he thought, it might be a long wait, but if they could nab this one, it'd be his biggest bust.

Of course, to do that, all they had to do was catch the West Coast's biggest jewel thief red-handed. They wouldn't need to apprehend him; they just needed to get some photos that showed him coming out of the store. Sounded easy enough, but man, was it hot. Andre's old '89 Civic had a busted air conditioner, and he wasn't sure how long he could languish in the heat.

"Just a few more hours," he told himself. "He's coming out of there soon." He reminded himself how important this was. This would be the bust of the millennium! He thought of the promotion he'd undoubtedly get if he could just wait this one out: more money, more authority, maybe even a paid vacation somewhere. He rubbed his hands in anticipation.

Hours passed. Andre could see the sky slowly grow more luminous. It was still hot, and he couldn't believe he was still awake. He flipped around the radio, stared at the door, and waited for the slightest hint of movement. Every time he thought the door moved, he sat up and gripped the steering wheel of his car. He began to wonder if the guy was even in there at all. Impossible. He'd seen him go in. He had to be in there. Andre started shaking his head. He wasn't even that conscientious of his surroundings anymore. Was he losing his mind?

The door swung open. A tall man wearing a black suit poked his head out the door. He was carrying a large briefcase. Andre started snapping pictures.

1. In the first paragraph, the phrase "excruciating days" is used to mean that the days were

- (A) easy and fun
- (B) eventful and crazy
- (C) boring and long
- (D) interesting but painful

2. The text suggests that Andre was working as

- (A) a professional thief
- (B) an undercover detective
- (C) a police chief
- (D) night-shift worker

3. Andre was uncomfortable waiting because he was

- (A) luminous
- (B) sweltering
- (C) conscientious
- (D) apprehensive

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4. The action in the last two paragraphs most likely takes place at what time of day?

- (A) six in the morning
- (B) two in the afternoon
- (C) seven in the evening
- (D) midnight

5. The end of the passage suggests that Andre

- (A) arrests the thief
- (B) begins to dream
- (C) goes crazy
- (D) gets what he needed

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10H Thinking Creatively

apprehend / authority / conscientious / deter / dire / eventful / excruciating / facilitate / languish / luminous / millennium / rankle / recur / strident / swelter

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

1. What do you think a **conscientious** objector to a war is?

2. Briefly describe a TV show called *Fish or Languish!*

3. If someone said a comedy was **excruciating**, what do you think they'd mean?

4. Why is it so difficult for the FBI to **apprehend** the ten most wanted people in the U.S.?

5. If an author consulted you on a book she was writing about teenagers, what information would you be an **authority** on?

Word Breakdown

A *decade* is ten years. A *century* is ten decades or one hundred years. A *millennium* is one hundred decades, ten centuries or one thousand years. So, what comes after millennium? Well, nothing. There is no specific word for 10 *millennia*. *Era* and *epoch* don't have a specific numerical value. An *eternity* is usually considered to be never ending, or infinite.

Millennium comes from Latin *mille* ("a thousand") and *annus* ("year," as in *annual*). The extra *ion* in *million* means "great," so a million is a "great thousand," now defined as a thousand thousand. A *millionaire* has at least a million dollars. There is no word for a person who has at least a thousand dollars; the word *millaire* doesn't really exist. McDonalds got creative and played around with words to advertise their Dollar Menu, though. They created the phrase *dollar menunaire* to describe a person who has at least one dollar and likes to live frugally.