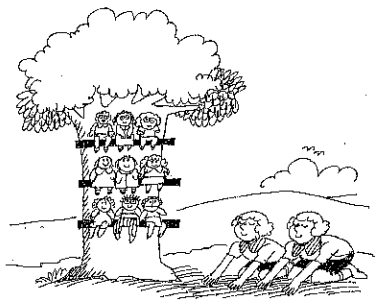


8th Grade Spelling Words

Week of: _____

IDOLATRY
(ai DOLL ah tree) *n.*
blind or excessive devotion to something

Link: **DOLL TREE**

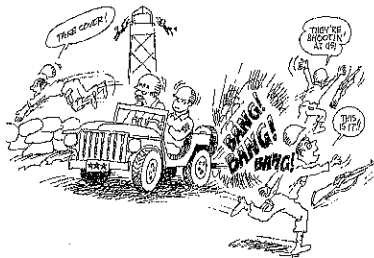


"The twins' love of their **DOLL TREE** bordered on **IDOLATRY**."

- Ben's parents worried about his **IDOLATRY** to the occult.
- Elvis' **IDOLATROUS** fans stormed Graceland.
- Peter has an **IDOLATROUS** addiction to the game of golf.

POLTROON
(poi TROON) *n.*
a coward

Link: **PLATOON**



"A **PLATOON** full of **POLTROONS**"

- John is usually not scared of anything, but when confronted by a spider he turns into a **POLTROON**.
- He was found guilty of **POLTROONERY** for deserting his men while they were under attack.
- Many considered him a **POLTROON** because he was in his 30s yet still afraid of the dark.

SPURIOUS
(SPUR ee us) *adj.*
not genuine; false

Link: **SPURS**



"**SPURIOUS SPURS**"

- The politician made **SPURIOUS** claims about his opponent's views of labor reform.
- The police discovered cheap items which were carrying expensive labels being **SPURIOUSLY** manufactured in an illegal operation in the city.
- An expert was called in to examine the antiques for **SPURIOUSNESS**.

OPAQUE
(oh PAYK) *adj.*
impervious to light; dull; hard to understand; unclear

Link: **FAKE**

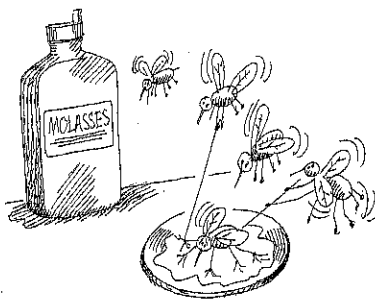


"This 'diamond' is **OPAQUE**; it must be **FAKE**."

- Jean put an **OPAQUE** blue glaze on her ceramic teapot.
- The old dishwashing machine left the water glasses with an **OPAQUE** finish.
- The problem remains **OPAQUE** despite explanation.

MORASS
(mah RASS) *n.*
anything that hinders, traps or overwhelms; low-lying, soggy ground

Link: **MOLASSES**

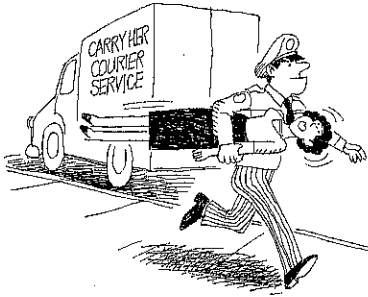


"The **MOLASSES** created a **MORASS**."

- The **MORASS** surrounding the castle was ineffective during the dry season.
- The jeep sank deep into the **MORASS** and could go no further.
- The **MORASS** was too wet for gardening so we brought in some fill dirt.

COURIER
(KUR ee ur) *n.*
a messenger

Link: **CARRY HER**



"The **CARRY HER COURIER** Service"

- ❑ The **COURIER** delivered an important letter from the general.
- ❑ Frederick works as a **COURIER** for United Parcel Service.
- ❑ The spy acted as a **COURIER**, carrying secret information between the United States and Europe.

PANACHE
(pa NASH) *n.*
dashing elegance of manner or style

Link: **MUSTACHE**



"Sir Charles' **MUSTACHE** is a symbol of his **PANACHE**."

- ❑ Eric entered the room with **PANACHE**, wearing his new tux, Rolex watch, and \$500 shoes.
- ❑ It was evident by the woman's **PANACHE** that she was a member of the royal family.
- ❑ Mom was impressed with my **PANACHE** after I returned home from finishing school.

ESPOUSE
(eh SPOWZ) *v.*
to adopt; to support

Link: **SPOUSE**



"Harold's **SPOUSE** **ESPOUSED** a large family."

- ❑ I **ESPOUSE** the idea that we eat dessert before dinner.
- ❑ The candidate for governor **ESPOUSED** a one-cent sales tax to build a new stadium.
- ❑ Because Barbara was always ready to **ESPOUSE** students' privileges, she was elected senior class president.

PATRIARCH
(PAY tree ahrk) *n.*
the leader of a family or tribe

Link: **PASTRY ART**



"The **PATRIARCH'S** specialty is **PASTRY ART**."

- ❑ Abraham is considered one of the **PATRIARCHS** of the Hebrew religion.
- ❑ William Bradford led the pilgrims to the new world and acted as **PATRIARCH** of the colony.
- ❑ The **PATRIARCH** is the one the tribe turns to for leadership and guidance.

DIFFIDENT
(DIF ih dent) *adj.*
lacking self-confidence; timid

Link: **DIFFERENT**



"Is Lord Wellington **DIFFIDENT** about swimming or is he **DIFFERENT**?"

- ❑ The **DIFFIDENT** boy always sat alone in the cafeteria.
- ❑ In order to assuage her **DIFFIDENCE**, Beth was persuaded to enroll in drama class.
- ❑ The **DIFFIDENT** kitten was stuck up in the tree for hours.