Nifty Thrifty Fifty Word List

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #1

1. composer (com-pose-er) – A person who creates music. (com- means with or together; pose means put; -er can mean a person or thing that does something)

2. discovery (dis-cover-y) – To find something that was hidden. (dis- changes a word to its opposite meaning; cover can mean to hide something; -y means of or from)

3. encouragement (en-courage-ment) – The act of inspiring someone with hope or confidence. (en- means in or make; courage means brave or confident; -ment means the act of)

4. hopeless (hope-less) – Impossible, having no solution. (hope means to wish, expect or trust; -less means without)

5. impossible (im-possible) - Not able to happen, incapable of occurring. (im-changes the word to its opposite meaning; possible means capable of happening)

6. musician (music-ian) – A person who makes music. (music means sounds that have rhythm, harmony and melody; -ian means a person who does something)

7. richest (rich-est) – Having the most value. (rich means having high value; -est means the most)

8. unfriendly (un-friend-ly) – Not kind or agreeable. (un- changes a word to its opposite meaning; friend means a person who is kind to another; -ly means resembling)

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #2

1. expensive (expense-ive) – Not cheap, costs a great deal of money. (expense means something spent; -ive means related to)

2. governor (govern-or) – an official elected or appointed to act as ruler, chief executive, or head of a political unit (govern means to control or direct; -or means a person or thing that does something)

3. impression (im-press-ion) – Something made by pressing down, or an outward appearance, or portrayal of a person. (im- means into; press means to put pressure on; -ion is used to turn verbs into nouns)

4. independence (in-depend-ence) – Freedom from control, support or influence by another. (in- can change the word to its opposite meaning; depend means to rely on; -ence means state or condition of)

5. submarine (sub-marine) – An underwater vessel. (sub- means under; marine means relating to the sea)

6. transportation (trans-port-ation) – The act of moving from one place to another. (trans- means across or through; port means bring or carry; -ation means an action or process)

7. unfinished (un-finish-ed) – Not completed. (un- can change the word to its opposite meaning; finish means to complete; -ed means the word is in past tense form)

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #3

1. beautiful (beauty[i]-ful) – Having qualities that are pleasing to the senses. [root word beauty (root word) means pleasing, attractive; the y is changed to i; -ful (suffix) means full of]

2. classify (class-ify) – To arrange according to class or category. [class (root word) means a division based on quality, rank or grade; -ify (suffix) means to make or become]

3. community (com-[m]unity) – An interacting group of various species living in the same area. [com- (prefix) means with or together; the m is doubled; unity (root word) means the state of being one]

4. communities (com-[m]unity[i]-es) – Interacting groups of various species living in the same areas. [com- (prefix) means with or together; the m is doubled; unity (root word) means the state of being one; the y is changed to i; -es (suffix) changes the word community into its plural form]

5. electricity (electric-ity) – A form of energy from nature or artificially produced. [electric- (root word) means of, relating to a form of energy; -ity (suffix) means the state or quality of]

6. happiness (happy[i]-ness) – A state of joy, pleasure or satisfaction. [happy (root word) means to be joyful, elated or satisfied; the y is changed to i; -ness (suffix) means state or quality]

7. prettier (pretty[i]-er) – To be more pleasing or attractive. [pretty (root word) means pleasing or attractive; the y is changed to i; -er (suffix) means more or greater]

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #4

1. continuous (continue-ous) – Not stopping, without interruption. [continue (root word) means to go on without interrupting; the e is dropped; -ous (suffix) means “full of”]

2. conversation (converse-ation) – oral communication between people; talking. [converse (root word) means to talk with others; the e is dropped; -ation (suffix) means “the result of” and is used to turn verbs into nouns]

3. forgotten (forgot[t]-en) – to fail to remember; to not think of. [forgot (root word) means failed to remember; the t is doubled; -en (suffix) means “cause to be or have”]

4. nonliving (non-live-ing) – not having life; dead. [non- (prefix) means the opposite of; live (root word) means to have life; the e is dropped; -ing (suffix) means “happening”]

5. swimming (swim[m]-ing) – moving in water using limbs, fins and/or tail. [swim (root word) means to move in water using limbs, fins and/or tail; the m is doubled; -ing (suffix) means “happening”]

6. unpleasant (un-please-ant) – not pleasurable or satisfying; offensive. [un- (prefix) means “the opposite of”; please (root word) means to give pleasure or satisfaction; the e is dropped; -ant (suffix) means “quality of”]

7. valuable (value-able) – costing or bringing a high price. [value (root word) means monetary or material worth; the e is dropped; -able (suffix) means “worth or ability”]

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #5

1. dishonest (dis-honest) – Not truthful; not worthy of trust or belief. [dis- (prefix) means “not; the opposite of”; honest (root word) means truthful; worthy of trust or belief]

2. illegal (il-legal) – unlawful; prohibited by law. [il- (prefix) means “not; the opposite of”; legal (root word) means lawful; allowed by law]

3. irresponsible (ir-response-ible) – not accountable for one’s actions; unreliable. [ir- (prefix) means “not; the opposite of”; response (root word) means to act or answer in words or actions; the e in response is dropped; -ible (suffix) means “capable of”]

4. misunderstand (mis-understand) – to take words or meanings in a wrong way; misinterpret. [mis- (prefix) means “not; the opposite of”; understand (root word) means to comprehend; to know]

5. performance (per-form-ance) – a particular action such as acting in a musical or play before an audience. [per- (prefix) means “through, thoroughly, very”; form (root word) means to arrange in an order; -ance (suffix) means “the state or quality of”]

6. rearrange (re-arrange) – to change the order of. [re- (prefix) means “again or back”; arrange (root word) means to put into order]

7. replacement (re-place-ment) – a substitution or equivalent for something. [re- (prefix) means “again or back”; place (root word) means to put in a particular order; -ment (suffix) means “the state of being acted upon”]

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #6

1. deodorize (de-odor-ize) – to remove an unpleasant scent. [de- (prefix) means “down or away”; odor (root word) means the property of a substance that activates the sense of smell; -ize (suffix) means “to make”]

2. different (differ-ent) – not alike; not ordinary; unusual (adjective). [differ (root word) means to be unlike, dissimilar (verb); -ent (suffix) changes nouns and verbs to adjectives]

3. employee (employ-ee) – a person working for another person or business for pay. [employ (root word) means to hire for a job; -ee (suffix) means “person who”]

4. international (inter-nation-al) – of or pertaining to two or more nations or countries and their citizens. [inter- (prefix) means “between”; nation (root word) means a territory or country; -al (suffix) means “pertaining to”]

5. invasion (invade-sion) – the act of entering as an enemy or harmful entity. [invade (root word) means to enter forcefully as an enemy; the letters d and e are dropped; -sion (suffix) means “the condition or state of being”]

6. prehistoric (pre-history-ic) – the time or period prior to recorded history. [pre- (prefix) means “before”; history (root word) means the record of past events and times; the letter y is dropped; -ic (suffix) means “of, relating to”]

7. signature (sign-ature) – a person’s name written to identify him or her. [sign (root word) means to write down; -ature (suffix) means “the act, process or state of”]

Nifty Thrifty Fifty – Month #7

1. antifreeze (anti-freeze) – substance added to a solvent to lower its freezing point. [anti- (prefix) means “against”; freeze (root word) means to turn from water into ice]

2. forecast (fore-cast) – to estimate in advance; to predict. [fore- (prefix) means “before; in front of”; cast (root word) means to throw; to direct]

3. midnight (mid-night) – middle of the night, specifically 12 o’clock. [mid- (prefix) means “middle”; night (root word) means the period between sunset and sunrise]

4. overpower (over-power) – to overcome using great force or strength; to overwhelm. [over- (prefix) means “more than, too much”; power (root word) means force, strength]

5. semifinal (semi-final) – A match, competition, or examination that precedes the final one. [semi- (prefix) means “half”; final (root word) means occurring at the end]

6. supermarkets (super-market-s) – a large store that sells food and household goods. [super- (prefix) means “really big”; market (root word) means a place where goods are for sale; -s (suffix) means “more than one”]

7. underweight (under-weight) – weighing less than normal. [under- (prefix) means “below”; weight (root word) means the measure of the heaviness of an object]