All of the words listed below will appear in the third WordMasters Challenge™, which will be held at your school between April 8th and April 26th. (Your teacher will tell you exactly when the Challenge is scheduled for your team.) The WordMasters Challenge™ is an analogy-solving competition. The contest will challenge you to use the words from your list in logical pairs that will look like this:

HEROIC : PRAISE :: LUDICROUS : ____________
   a.  gloat
   b.  fume
   c.  tolerate
   d.  mock
   e.  despise

To succeed in this competition, you will have to understand the exact meanings of all your words, and you will have to reason carefully about the relationships shown in the pairs. In the example above, the correct answer is (d) mock because you would be likely to praise a person for performing a heroic act; in a similar way, you would be likely to mock a person for performing a ludicrous act.

Here are some tips to help you get ready for the WordMasters Challenge™:
- After you have learned the meanings of your words, think about possible relationships among them.
  - Which words have similar meanings?
  - Which words have nearly opposite meanings?
  - Remember, some words have more than one meaning.
- Think about some categories into which several words might be grouped.
- Be sure you understand the part of speech of a word (for example, noun, verb or adjective) as it is used in the analogy.
  - Many words on this list (such as “garnish”, “fume” and “sulk”) can be either a noun or a verb depending upon how they are used.
- Pay special attention to the prefixes and suffixes of words, because they are often clues to meaning and part of speech.
- Try to familiarize yourself with other forms of these words, for example:
  - Not just “toxin”, but also “toxic”
  - Not just “mockery”, but also “mock”
  - Not just “despicable”, but also “despise”
  - Not just “delicacy”, but also “delicate”
  - Not just “tedium”, but also “tedious”

1. aristocrat  10. consumer  19. toxin  
2. garnish  11. detect  20. sulk  
3. harrowing  12. earnest  21. potable  
4. recluse  13. mockery  22. hothead  
5. gloat  14. humiliate  23. captivate  
6. impoverished  15. edible  24. facetious  
7. delicacy  16. tedium  25. solitude  
8. obtain  17. fume  
9. gregarious  18. despicable