

VOCABULARY PRACTICE I

2008/09

1. Read the extracts and try to infer the meaning of the selected words, as well as other lexical aspects such as their collocational possibilities, connotations, etc.

AFFLUENT

1) **Affluent** children often have one thing in common; they are more than likely to live in a community with other **affluent** children. It is never safe to make sweeping generalizations, but we can assume that an **affluent** family will be likely to live in an **affluent** neighborhood. There are many differences between **affluent** and poor neighborhoods. These differences result in different outcomes for the children growing up in the respective neighborhood.

2) Most people would agree that it is preferable to grow up in a wealthy family than in one that is impoverished. However, adolescents who live in **affluent** families are in danger of developing a sense of entitlement that may impede future vocational and social success... Eating disorders are more likely to develop in **affluent** youth. Participation in delinquent behaviors may be due to boredom with the **affluent** lifestyle, and such behavior may not be punished since youth from **affluent** families are often shielded from proper discipline by law enforcement authorities.

3) *Wealth Secrets of the Affluent: Keys to Fortune Building and Asset Protection.* ... As a result of this focus on the masses, millions of **affluent** families and hard-working Americans who strive to be wealthy are left with inappropriate, "off-the-rack" advice instead of the customized solutions their unique financial situations require. Financial expert ... has written this book precisely to fill this void. Containing in-depth insights and practical advice, this reliable resource is the first book designed to help **affluent** families and their advisors build and preserve wealth.

ALLEGED

1) It seems that in Texas, they've discovered an amazing new way to deal with **alleged** criminals who **allegedly** engage in criminal acts of child abuse: the criminal justice system. Yes, now that higher courts have stopped Child Protective Services from persecuting the **alleged** victims in the FLDS case, law enforcement is going to try prosecuting **alleged** perpetrators.

2) *Six alleged criminals beaten to death by angry Dhaka mob.* Six people **allegedly** involved in robbing bus and passengers were beaten to death by an angry mob in Keraniganj, a suburb of the Bangladesh capital Dhaka, on Tuesday night, police said Wednesday. Witnesses and the police said seven or eight armed men halted the taxi about 11 p.m. and stole cash and valuables from its driver and passengers. They also robbed bus passengers in the area, but after the passengers informed villagers of the robbery, a mob of hundreds formed, caught six of the **alleged** robbers and beat them to death.

3) *Bihar: Street Justice on the rise, People lynch alleged criminals*

4) *DNA evidence helped catch two alleged criminals in PSL.* PORT ST. LUCIE — Police Chief John Skinner called it a case straight out of "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation." To catch two men now charged with a home invasion, robbery and violent rapes that **allegedly** occurred in April, police department crime scene technicians had to pull used condoms from the septic tank of a Port St. Lucie home.

A woman at the house **allegedly** was "brutally raped an excessive number of times" by the men, Skinner said Monday. At the second house, the two men **allegedly** got some marijuana and cocaine and several pieces of jewelry, including watches and gold rings. The three men reportedly communicated with each other using a combination of their own cell phones and phones stolen from the victims. Using cell phone records, investigators tied the Owens brothers to the **alleged** crimes.

AWARENESS

1) Will increased **awareness** of the health impacts of climate change help in achieving international collective action?

2) US actress visits Kosovo to raise **awareness** of women's cancer.

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3) Recognising the urgent need to bring a behavioural, social and legal change in Pakistan to recognise child domestic labour as one of the worst forms of child labour, IPEC and UNICEF have recently launched a public **awareness** campaign.

4) Health and Sanitation Activities for CCF Indonesia's health and sanitation programs include:

- Building **awareness** among communities about family planning, reproductive health for young couples, breast feeding and nutritional supplements, ...

FACILITIES

1) The campus sports and recreational **facilities** are managed by the Sports Centre. The Centre has **facilities** made accessible to all university staff and students.

2) Standard accommodation comprises a total of 1,470 study bedrooms, which are grouped into self-contained flats with shared bathroom and kitchen **facilities**.

3) Library computing **facilities** are available to all University of Texas at Austin students, faculty, and staff in each Libraries location.

4) More baby changing **facilities** are located in the toilets for wheelchair users in Terminal 1 and Terminal 2.

5) *Bed and Breakfast Room Guide*. Ensuite or Private **facilities**.

Many of our guests have found there is a confusing difference between the definitions of private **facilities** and ensuite **facilities**... The technical definitions are as follows:

Ensuite - Your own toilet and shower/bath accessed from WITHIN your room.

Private - Your own toilet and shower/bath accessed from OUTSIDE your room.

Shared - The toilet and shower/bath is shared between one or more rooms.

6) Day Care **Facilities** may be financed, planned and run solely by NHS organisations or solely by non-NHS organisations or jointly between NHS and non-NHS organisations.

7) Our Dining **Facilities**. Student residents may eat in any of the residential dining **facilities**. This includes the four residential restaurants located in ... and the four quick-service restaurants... Our vending locations provide a wide variety of products when other dining service **facilities** are closed.

LAWSUIT

1) In 2003, Wepner filed a **lawsuit** against Sylvester Stallone for money supposedly owed to him for the *Rocky* movies.

2) Despite its torrid growth, Bostic Construction now faces several **lawsuits** from suppliers and subcontractors alleging the developer owes them money.

3) Medical device maker Spectranetics Corp. said Thursday it faces several **lawsuits** and a Securities and Exchange Commission request for documents as an investigation into its operations continues.

4) Six individual plaintiffs and the Texas Democratic Party today agreed to drop a **lawsuit** that sought to prevent the Texas Attorney General from enforcing specific portions of the Election Code.

5) Woman Suspected of AIDS Wins **Lawsuit** Against Hospital. A local hospital and an epidemic prevention station lost a **lawsuit** filed by a businesswoman because they said AIDS before confirming it.

SUE

1) The geniuses at Fox News threatened to **sue** "The Simpsons" over a parody of the right-wing news channel.

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2) In 1908, John Moser **sued** the *New York World* after it ran an unflattering article about him. But instead of **suing** the newspaper for libel, Moser filed an invasion-of-privacy claim, saying the *World* didn't have his consent to use his name or picture.

3) Margaret Mae Cantrell, whose husband died in the Ohio River bridge accident along with 43 other people, **sued** the newspaper for portraying her in a false light. In the article, the reporter implied that he had interviewed Cantrell even though he had not.

4) Funeral home **sued** over leaking casket.

SALARY

1) Net **salary** is the take home **salary** of the employee while gross **salary** is the figure before making statutory or other deductions.

2) Supply and demand also play a major role in the amount of starting **salary** you will be offered. For example, if you're looking for a job in a field that has a healthy supply of candidates, you'll probably find stiff competition for jobs; so, your ability to negotiate salary will probably be limited.

3) Most people find that **salary** negotiations are the most difficult and ego-involved experiences in the job search process.

4) While everyone wants a handsome **salary**, almost nobody wants to discuss that **salary** before being hired. Few questions inspire as much dread among job seekers as: "So, what kind of **salary** are you looking for?" Here are tips to help you negotiate effectively, before and during the job interview.

5) What is the average monthly **salary** in Bulgaria?

WAGES

1) The poor and the working poor: People can become homeless when they suffer job loss, are forced to live on very low **wages**, or suffer a major financial loss caused by things like catastrophic illness or mortgage foreclosure.

2) In cases where an employee is subject to both the state and federal minimum **wage** laws, the employee is entitled to the higher of the two minimum **wages**.

3) American Axle workers strike against massive **wage** cut.

4) Perhaps part of the reason is because the factory is clean and state of the art and pays a generous **wage** to their workers.

5) The Federal Government sharply increased the prices of basic foodstuffs and other necessities and froze **wages** at midnight Saturday in an effort to hold down Yugoslavia's extraordinarily high inflation.

INNER-CITY

1) Data were collected on the seven day food intakes of 65 schoolchildren, aged 12-13 years, living in an **inner city**, socially deprived area in east London.

2) The Downtown Eastside of Vancouver is an **inner city** area where, as a consequence of poor health status, crowded housing, poor nutrition and hygiene, living on the streets, and high rate of substance abuse and HIV infection, many residents are at high risk of pneumonia following influenza infection.

3) The **inner city** is the central area of a major city or metropolis. In the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Ireland, the term is often applied to the poorer parts of the city centre and is sometimes used as a euphemism with the connotation of being an area, perhaps a ghetto or slum, where residents are less educated and more impoverished and where there is more crime.

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INSURANCE PREMIUM

An **insurance premium** is the actual amount of money charged by insurance companies for active coverage. An **insurance premium** for the same service can vary widely among insurance providers, which is why experts strongly recommend getting several quotes before committing to an insurance policy.

AMENITIES

1) Chalet in Torre Pacheco. Close to all **amenities** such as the new King's College School, the new hospital which is currently under construction, as well as the town of Roldán where there are several shops, bars and restaurants. Only a 15 minute drive to...

2) Mental hospital lacks basic **amenities**.

3) ...the Delhi College of Engineering, one of the celebrated engineering colleges in the capital attached to University of Delhi... Even the basic **amenities** like water coolers are missing. The balconies of the hostel are broken – waiting for a disaster to happen...

4) Public amenities are resources, conveniences, facilities or benefits continuously offered to the general public for their use and/or enjoyment, with or without charge (e.g., restrooms, information displays, public telephones, rain shelters, drinking fountains, etc.).

SLUM

1) For poverty-stricken **slum**-dwelling children, environmental factors such as poor housing, inadequate nutrition, parental illiteracy and infection, seem to override genetic factors so that IQ scores tend to decline with age. Since poor housing characterize **slums**, could the provision of better housing for **slum** dwellers improve prospects for IQ attainment by children?

2) A visitor might find it surprising to see on one street this magnificent skyscraper and just at its back side a big, filthy **slum**. Such heterogeneity makes up this city – beautiful buildings alongside an ugly **slum**...

3) The new Boundary Estate replaced London's most notorious **slum**, 'The Nichol' or 'Friar's Mount,' which the Victorian press of the day described as "vice and debauchery, filth and poverty in dark cellars reeking with disease and death."

2. LESSON FOLLOW-UP

Using an English language collocations dictionary or website, complete a collocations template for each of the words you have worked with in class today, or at least for those you consider necessary (because they are more difficult for you, for example). You can download the collocations template from the GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY ZONE page of the Lengua Inglesa III's website, or from the ZONA COMPARTIDA in SUMA.