

AWESOME STORIES

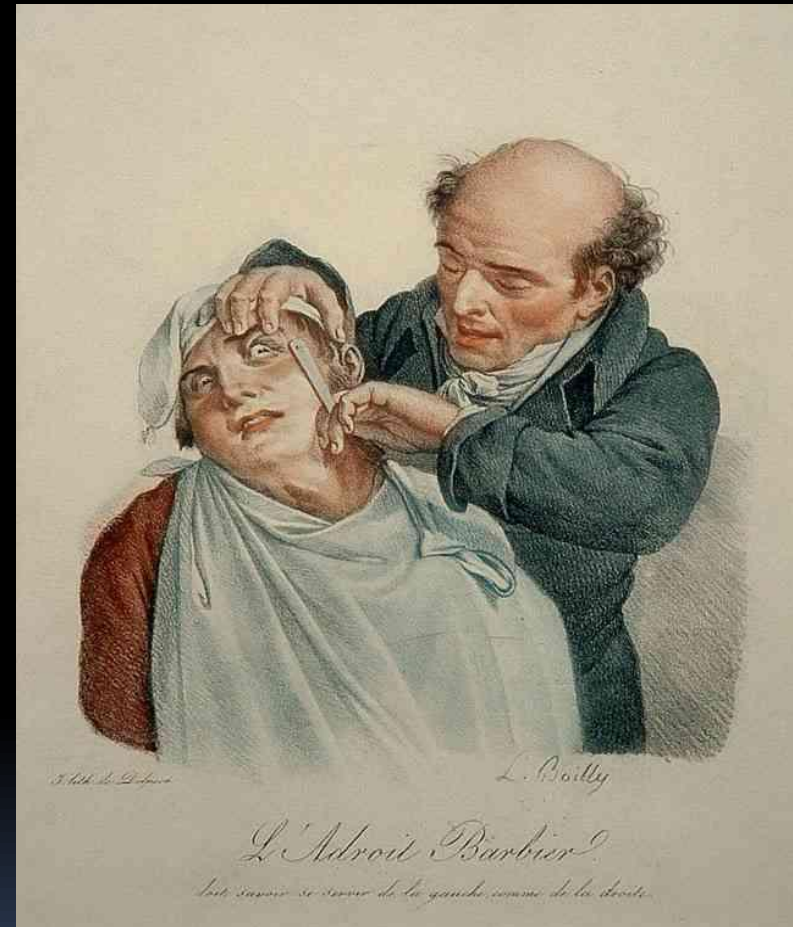
VISUAL VOCABULARY BUILDER

300 – BATTLE OF THERMOPYLAE

adroitly / anecdote / coalition / emissary / ersatz / immortals
retrospective / subjugate / subservient / tenacity

Adroitly* - with great skill or cleverness

- Adroitly – adverb
Louis-Leopold Boilly – a French artist whose work spans the 18th and 19th centuries – created this painting which depicts a barber adroitly shaving his customer.
- Adroit – adjective
The adroit barber carefully shaved his customer.
- Adroitness – noun
Not everyone has the adroitness required to carefully and skillfully shave his customer.



*Adroitly – See [Chapter 6](#) (Gorgo)

Anecdote* - a brief story about something interesting in a person's life

- Anecdotes – noun (plural)
Every person's life is filled with a series of anecdotes which can be shared with friends and family.
- Anecdotal - adjective
The scientist wanted to use the reported case as part of his study, but he worried that the claimed results were merely anecdotal and not provable.
- Anecdotally – adverb
The results of the inquiry were anecdotally submitted instead of provably critiqued.

THE STORIES YOU SHARE WITH
YOUR FRIENDS,
THE MOMENTS YOU FEEL ALIVE,
THE SPECIAL THINGS YOU REMEMBER.
EACH ONE OF THEM YOU CARRY WITH YOU.
TOGETHER THEY MAKE UP YOUR LIFE.
REMARKABLE, PERSONAL, FUN.
EVERY SEASON I SHARE MINE.
SNAPSHOTS OF MY LIFE,
A COLLECTION OF MOMENTS:
ANECDOTE.

* Anecdote – See Chapter 6 (Gorgo)

Coalition* - countries, people or organizations combining for a temporary purpose; growing together (coalescing)

- Coalition – noun
Although they often disagreed on other matters, the four leaders formed a coalition and rallied their teams to fight poverty in their city.
- Coalescing – verb
Once they agreed on the project, the four leaders and their teams realized they were also coalescing as people.



*Coalition – See [Chapter 5](#) (Leonidas)

Emissary* - someone sent on a mission to represent another individual or a country

- Emissaries – noun
The Greek city-state of Sparta had a reputation for badly treating emissaries – from foreign lands – who unwisely demanded Spartans to surrender.
- Emissary – noun
One emissary, sent by his king to deliver a surrender message to Sparta, ended up losing his life as he was pushed to the bottom of a Spartan well.



* Emissary – See [Chapter 8](#) (Thermopylae)

Ersatz* - (1) a fake; (2) something copied from an original (but usually not as good)

- Ersatz – adjective (second meaning)
Mikayla Henderson created a lovely painting, but it is an ersatz van Gogh.
- Ersatz – adjective (second meaning)
When van Gogh decided to be an artist, he also copied the works of other painters. One of *his* creations, for example, is an ersatz Millet.
- Ersatz – noun (first meaning)
Seeking to deceive Xerxes, Themistocles sent an ersatz messenger to deliver a misleading dispatch.



*Ersatz – See [Chapter 11](#) (Victory in Defeat)

- Note – Image of painting by Mikayla Henderson. Copyright, Mikayla Henderson, all rights reserved. Provided here as fair use for educational purposes.

Immortals* - (1) name for elite regiment of soldiers serving Persian rulers; (2) gods of the Greek/Roman pantheon

- Immortals – noun (first meaning)
Soldiers serving Persian rulers were called “Immortals” because when one fell, he was immediately replaced by another. The ranks of the Immortals – numbering exactly 10,000 – were therefore never diminished.
- Immortal – noun (first meaning)
This close-up, of an Immortal who served a Persian ruler, was originally located on a wall at the Palace of Susa (in today’s Iranian city of Shush).



*Immortals – See [Chapter 7](#) (Xerxes and the Immortals)

Retrospective* - looking into the past to assess what went before

- Retrospectively – adverb
Once the study was finished, and the results were filed away, the government retrospectively assessed the merits of the project.
- Retrospective – noun
At the end of the retrospective, the sponsors of the project were pleased they had accurately predicted the results.
- Retrospection - noun
The leader of the study was sure that a future retrospection would support her conclusion that the project was an unqualified success.



*Retrospective – See [Chapter 5](#) (Leonidas)

Subjugate* - (1) to make others submissive; (2) to become the subject of a foreign (or domestic) ruler

- Subjugate – verb (first meaning)
Darius I – King of Persia – celebrated his ability to subjugate so many people by ordering a special inscription on a rock in Behistun, Iran.
- Subjugation – noun (second meaning)
While Darius enjoyed being the ruler of so many people, not everyone living under his subjugation thought it was a good way to live.



*Subjugate – See [Chapter 2](#) (Revenging Marathon)

Subservience* - useful in an inferior capacity; willing to submit to others

- Subservience – noun
Charlie Chaplin, in this clip from a film, expects the shoe-shiner man will act man with subservience toward his customer.
- Subservient– adjective
The subservient shoe-shiner treated his customer with great deference.
- Subserviently – adverb
A shoe-shiner acted subserviently toward his customer.



*Subservience – See [Chapter 2](#) (Revenging Marathon)

Tenacity* - (1) clinging to another substance; (2) persistence in achieving something valued/desired

- Tenacious – adjective
The bird is tenacious as he makes his way across the water.
- Tenacity – noun
With great tenacity, the bird makes its way despite all the obstacles.
- Tenaciously – adverb
Tenaciously making its way across the water, the bird reaches its destination.



*Tenacity – See Chapter 8 (Thermopylae)