

Syllasearch Stories

Sequence C, Lists C1–C10

C1 Syllasearch Story

become, beware, income, aware, alert, selection,
sedate, secure



Alex was not getting enough sleep. He only slept about three or four hours every night. It was not enough. He went to work, but he was not alert. He sat at his desk, but soon he became so tired, he could not stay awake.

Alex's friend at work took him aside and said, "Alex, I notice you are not alert at work. Even the boss can see you are not alert. You are not getting your work done. I do not want you to lose your job. You will not have any income. Your family will not be secure." Alex was aware that what his friend said was true.

So Alex told his friend that he knew he had to beware, but he couldn't get enough sleep. So his friend said, "I will come over to your house tonight and help you with your problem."

That night Alex's friend went to Alex's house and gave him a CD of quiet music and sounds. He told Alex to put it on when he was ready to go to sleep. There were sounds of water flowing, soft wind blowing, and animals' footsteps. It soothed Alex and he fell asleep.

The next day, Alex was awake and alert at work. At lunchtime he thanked his friend.

C2 Syllasearch Story

family, suddenly, sudden, another, animal, helpful,
helpfully, hidden



Yesterday, I thought I saw an animal run through the forest. In fact, it was a whole family of wild turkeys. Then all of a sudden, the family of turkeys stopped and hid behind a group of trees.

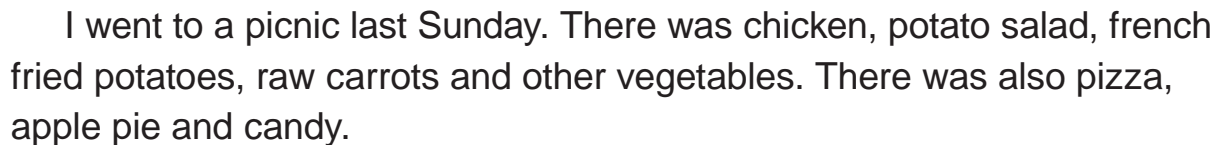
I wondered why they had hidden so suddenly. So I went outside and looked around. I noticed some big footprints and recognized that they were made by a large elk. The footprints had gone close to where the turkeys were hidden and then turned around and went the other way.

I think I figured out what had happened. The turkeys had stopped because they saw a grassy area with lots of small bushes. Wild turkeys eat grass and other leaves. The elk, too, saw the grassy area with shrubs, which elk eat.

So I think that the elk was polite and didn't want to disturb the turkeys. My brother said that was not the way an elk would behave. My sister said she thought I was right.

Why do you think the elk turned around and went away from the turkeys?

picnic, picture, powder, power, powerful, visitor, visible, never



We asked him to eat with us. I was surprised that he did not take any french fried potatoes, pizza or candy. He did take a lot of chicken and vegetables, a little potato salad, fruit, and one piece of pie.

Then my aunt said, "I'll give you a clue, the answer is on his plate."

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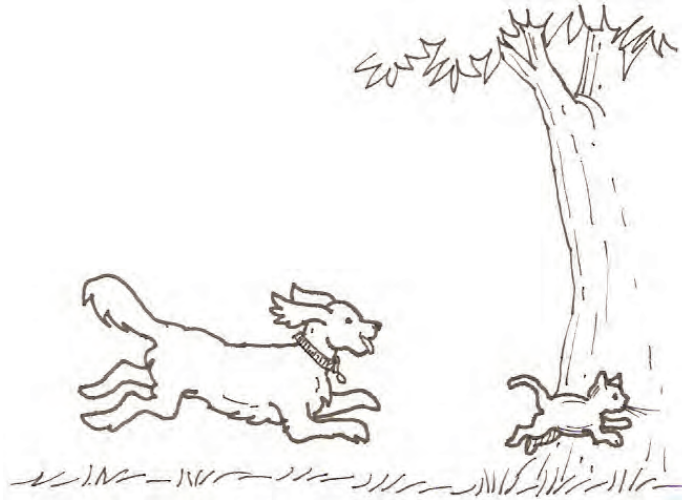
(C3 Syllasearch Story *continues*)

“I’ll give you another clue,” he said. What is not on my plate?” I answered, “there are no french fries, or pizza or candy.” “Right,” said the visitor. “I never eat those foods.”

Why do you think the visitor was so healthy?

C4 Syllasearch Story

rotten, kitten, attention, attendance, commotion, motion,
purchase, pursue



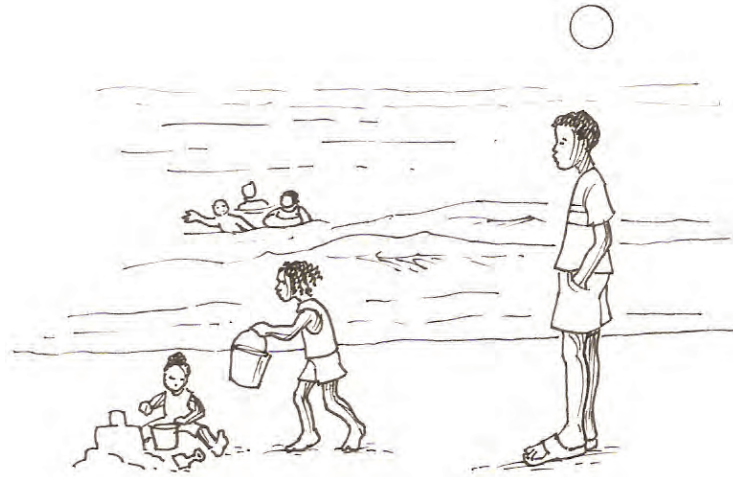
One day, I decided that I wanted a pet. So I went to the local pound and purchased a kitten. She was a beautiful kitten. Cuddly and furry and full of love.

After the purchase, I brought the kitten home. That night, there was a bit of a commotion. A dog from the neighborhood decided to pursue my kitten. He chased her and chased her. He really got her attention. If you ask me, the dog's behavior was rotten. The kitten did not want that kind of attention.

I spoke to the dog's owner and said, "Please tell your dog not to pursue my kitten. His behavior is rotten." The owner said, "I am sorry for all of the commotion." The owner made a motion to the dog and the dog sat still and never disturbed the kitten again.

C5 Syllasearch Story

person, perfect, travel, shovel, gentle, gentleman, generous, prosperous



There was a prosperous man, named Mr. Tyler, who was a perfect gentleman. One day, he decided to go on a vacation. So he got on an airplane and flew until the plane landed near the ocean. Mr. Tyler swam in the ocean and enjoyed the gentle waves. He went to the beach and saw children with shovels digging in the sand. Mr. Tyler began to think about children in his own neighborhood and he got a little sad.

When Mr. Tyler got home, he called a woman who worked at the Boys and Girls Club. He explained that when he was at the beach, he began to feel sad. He told the woman that he was a grown-up enjoying the ocean, but many children were not able to go to the ocean. He asked the woman to find ten children whose parents would give him permission to take them to the beach. He also wanted three parents to help watch the children.

The next thing that happened is that the pilot of an airplane welcomed ten children, three parents and Mr. Tyler. And off they flew to the ocean.

The prosperous man really was a generous gentleman.

C6 Syllasearch Story

improvement, improve, vacation, immense, cancel, canyon, disprove, display



It was summer and time for Ashley and her parents to go on vacation. Her father wanted to go to the Grand Canyon. He was so impressed at how immense the canyon was.

Ashley's mom wanted to go to New York City to see a play, visit the Statue of Liberty, and go to the top of the Empire State Building.

"Wait a minute," said Ashley. "I do not want to go to the immense canyon. I do not want to see the big city. Is there a way we can improve our plans? I would rather go to Disneyland."

Ashley's father said, "I hope we can figure something out because I don't want to cancel our vacation." So they talked and talked and made a new plan. They agreed to go to the Grand Canyon in June and New York in August. Then, if Ashley does well in school and works hard, they will go to Disneyland later that year.

"WOW! That's what I'd call a big improvement," said Ashley.

C7 Syllasearch Story

discover, distract, retire, contract, consider, retract, practical, vertical



My uncle was a teacher. He had a teaching contract under which he was paid well and worked hard. After 37 years, he decided to retire from his job.

When he retired, he discovered that he had a lot of free time on his hands. He was used to being busy, but now he had some free time. What would he do? He considered his choices. He wanted to do something practical. He wanted to do something to help people and make the world a better place.

He decided to volunteer with a group of people that cleans up parks, streets, and playgrounds in the city. He would go out and pick up garbage, sweep, clean, and help others to make the parks greener, the streets cleaner, and the playgrounds safer. Nothing would distract him from his mission.

My uncle helped many people when he worked and now he helps many more when he volunteers.

C8 Syllasearch Story

exam, example, excellent, excel, parcel, parlor, partial, cancel



It was the end of the winter semester. It was time for me to take my final exam! I had been an excellent student and I should be ready for my exam.

But, there was a problem. For two weeks I had been very sick and I could not study for my exam. I did not think I would excel on the exam. I may only be able to give partial answers. This was an example of very bad luck for me.

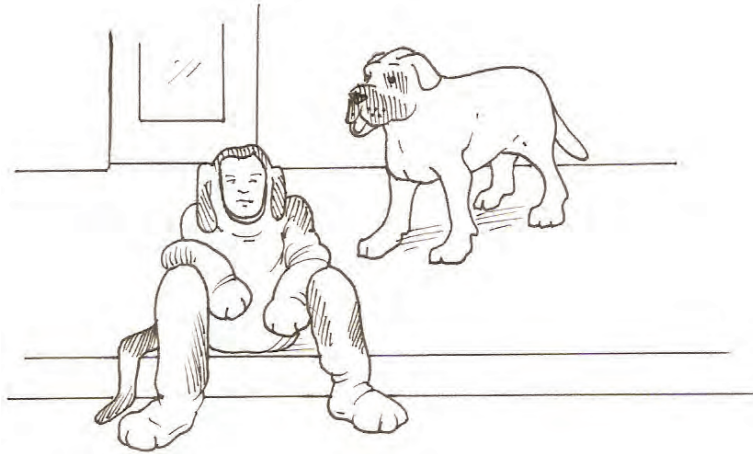
I went home to the parlor to study the last night before the exam. I secretly hoped that they would cancel it. I had to study reading, math, science and social studies. I studied in the parlor until midnight and then fell asleep. I really wanted them to cancel it. I had been an excellent student, but this time, I was quite nervous.

When I woke up, I went down to the kitchen and my mom said, “look outside.” There was about a foot of snow and it was still coming down. “I can’t believe this. Do you think they will cancel school?” My Mom replied, “they already did!”

This was an example of very good luck for me!

C9 Syllasearch Story

protective, reverse, demolish, detective, deform, deceive,
reform, receive



I once knew a detective who worked in the region where I lived. The detective's job was to find bad guys. He would do everything he could to keep everyone safe. His main job was to help find people who committed crimes.

There had been reports of a crime in the region in which the detective worked. In the early evening, someone would run up to people who were walking and push them hard on their backs. Then that person would run away.

The detective decided that he would have to deceive the guy who did the pushing. That means he would play a trick on him. So the detective went to a costume store and dressed up like a dog. Then the detective went back to the region and sat on the sidewalk. All of a sudden something came up to him and pushed him hard. Before the detective could get up, he was pushed again and again. When the detective got up, something jumped up on him and started to lick his face.

Can you guess who the bad guy was? I'll tell you. It was a very large dog, who was looking for someone to play with!

C10 Syllasearch Story

authentic, audible, capable, cater, autumn, gigantic, tradition



My sister is the most capable person I know. She can change the oil in her car. She can paint a beautiful picture. She's a good basketball player. She is very capable.

It has been a tradition in my family to play a basketball game every New Year's Day. My sister's team, which was the A team, always wins. But this time, it might be different. My gigantic cousin was on the B team. He could sink balls into baskets. And he had practiced since autumn.

It came time for the big game. The gigantic cousin's team was ahead 12 to 8. My sister yelled, "Hey B-Team, we just started to play." The gigantic cousin answered, "I couldn't hear what you said. It was barely audible."

There was excitement in the air. First the A team was ahead, then the B team, then the A team again. The score was tied 48 to 48 when a sudden thunderstorm stopped the game.

My sister shouted, "A tie? A tie? All that for a tie! Oh, well!"

The cousin answered, "Now that was audible."