

UNIT 5: EXPRESS YOURSELF!



Root Word	Meaning	Origin
dict	say, declare	Latin
scrib/script	write	Latin
graph/gram	write, draw, describe, record	Greek



dictate

(v) - to speak or read something to a person who writes it down; to decree
*For your spelling test, I will **dictate** the words and then you will write them down.*

contradict

(v) - to say the opposite of something that someone else has said; to deny the truth
*I knew my sister was exaggerating when she told her story, but I didn't want to **contradict** her in front of her friends.*

edict

(n) - an official order given by a person with power or by a government
*The government issued an **edict** banning public protests and demonstrations.*

autobiography

(n) - a person's life story written by that person
*In Helen Keller's **autobiography**, she describes how she learned to speak.*

telegram

(n) - a message sent by telegraph and then delivered in written or printed form; sometimes referred to as a wire or cable
*Before the inventions of the phone and the Internet, people sent **telegrams** to each other in order to communicate.*

calligraphy

(n) - the art of making beautiful handwriting
*Ben's certificate for academic achievement was handwritten in ornate and beautiful **calligraphy**.*

graphic

(adj) - shown or described in a very clear way, used especially to refer to things that are unpleasant or shocking
*The scary, **graphic** movie gave me nightmares for weeks.*

inscription

(n) - words that are written on or cut into a surface
*The jeweler etched a beautiful **inscription** inside the couple's wedding bands.*

transcript

(n) - a written, printed, or typed copy of words that have been spoken
*I have a **transcript** of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.*

prescription

(n) - a written message from a doctor that officially tells a patient what medicine to take
*When I got an ear infection my doctor wrote me a **prescription** for antibiotics.*