The Vocabulary Blues
Term 2, Week 5

Directions: Write an original, complete sentence for each of the following vocabulary words. Be sure to pay attention to spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

1. **astute** (adjective): having or showing shrewdness or perceptiveness; crafty and wily
   ex. Albert was an incredibly **astute** business man who always knew the latest news and facts about world banana trade.

2. **flagrant** (adjective): so obviously wrong in terms of proper behavior that it flouts or mocks law or morality
   ex. By throwing a banana cream pie at the teacher, Marti showed a **flagrant** disrespect for authority.

3. **acquiesce** to (verb): to accept, comply, or submit tacitly or passively; to assent to
   ex. She **acquiesced** to letting him take her out only if he agreed not to give himself ketchup eyebrows, which he did on their last date.

4. **digress** (verb): to turn aside, especially from the main subject of attention
   ex. When discussing the poetry, the students constantly tried to get the teacher to **digress** so that they would not have to work.

5. **coalesce** (verb): to grow together; to unite into a whole; to fuse; to join forces
   ex. Over time, Orcutt and Santa Maria have **coalesced** into a huge community.
   ex. His life experience and education **coalesced** by the time he reached thirty and he became the most eligible bachelor around.

6. **caustic** (adjective): harsh; marked by incisive sarcasm; capable of destroying or eating away by chemical action;
   ex. At the company Christmas party, he made a few **caustic** comments about the mafia boss; he was later found dead and planted on top of the Christmas tree as the year's "featured" ornament.
7. **immutable** (adjective): not capable or susceptible to change  
ex. Johnny’s desire to ask out the most popular girl in school was **immutable**, but so was her boyfriend’s jealousy, so Johnny got his kneecaps broken after school.

8. **vehement** (adjective): marked by forceful energy; intensely emotional; impassioned  
ex. The teacher gave a **vehement** speech to the students about taking school seriously, but they simply threw numerous banana cream pies at his face; later, only vague screams from the students could be heard underneath the gymnasium.

9. **haughty** (adjective): blatantly and disdainfully proud; thinking that they are "all that"  
ex. She seemed so **haughty** as she walked up to accept her reward that nobody clapped for her.

10. **surreptitious** (adjective): done, made, or acquired by stealth or sneakiness; clandestine  
ex. Jessica tried to be **surreptitious** when passing a note in class, but the teacher caught her and gave her three months in juvy.

11. to **assuage** (verb): to lessen the intensity of; to ease or pacify; to put an end to by satisfying  
ex. Fred **assuaged** his parents' anger at his bad grades by cooking them dinner and washing their car.

12. to **emulate** (verb): to strive to equal or excel; to imitate  
ex. In order to succeed in the world, Jimmy **emulated** his older brother who acquired his fortune by making special white gloves for people who get offended easily.