

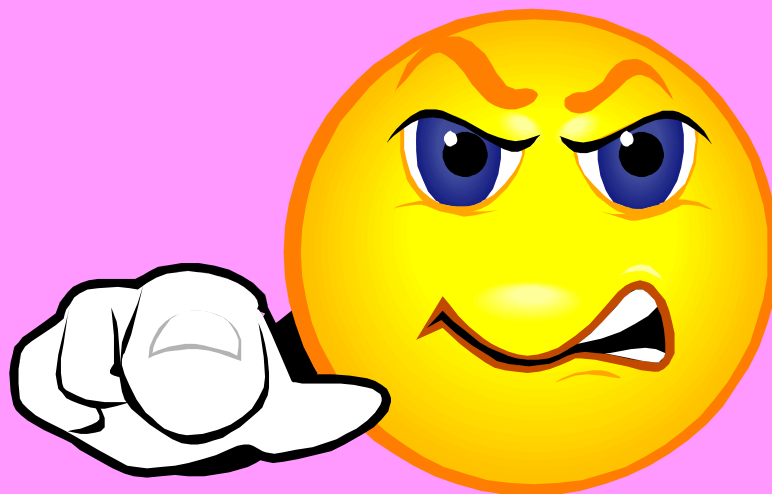
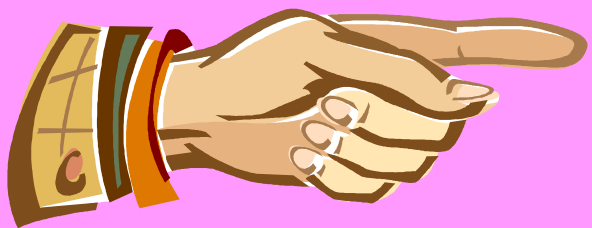
VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

“The Gift of the Magi”
By O. Henry

Imputation (noun)

“Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and vegetable man and the butcher until one’s cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied” (123).

Other forms: impute (verb)



Parsimony (noun)

“Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and vegetable man and the butcher until one’s cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied” (123).

*Other forms: parsimonious (adj.);
parsimoniously (adv.)*

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depreciate (verb)

“Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty’s jewels and gifts” (125).

Other forms: depreciated (past tense); depreciating (present tense)



prudence (noun)

“When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by the generosity added to love” (126).

Other forms: prudent (verb)



scrutiny (noun)

“For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction” (127).

Other forms: scrutinize (verb)



prosperity (noun)

“The “Dillingham” had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of “Dillingham” looked blurred, as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D” (124).

Other forms: prosperous (adj.); prosper (verb)



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