Lesson 3
Speaking

Roots: voc, dict

roots: voc (to call; words, voice), dict (to speak, to say)

1 avocation n. A pastime or hobby; a profession practiced with enjoyment.
Aunt Rachel's avocation is golf, which she plays every weekend that she can.

2 vocal adj. 1. Connected with speaking or with the voice.
Although Megan made no vocal response to the question, her shaking head told us her answer.
adj. 2. Expressing one's ideas firmly and often; outspoken.
We were vocal critics of building another shopping mall in our town.
vocally, adv.

3 vocalist n. Singer
The pianist played a series of notes before the vocalist began singing the lyrics.

4 vocation n. A job; a calling or inclination toward a type of work or services.
Teaching is my father's vocation, the job he feels called to do.

5 addictive adj. Habit-forming, hard to break away from, easy to say yes to.
According to my cousin, who has a hard time sticking to a diet, sugar is a very addictive substance.
addiction, n. addict, n.

6 contradict v. To speak against, to say the opposite of.
The candidate for mayor was quick to contradict every statement his opponent made.

7 dictation n. The act of saying words for someone else to write down.
In French class, Ms. Benoit gave us dictations each week to improve our ability to understand and write the words we heard.

8 dictator n. A person who commands and rules with total authority.
Dictators expect their commands to be followed, not questioned.

9 predict v. To say what will happen in the future, often using reason or experience.
When the sky is full of dark clouds, it is easy to predict rain.
prediction, n. predictable, adj.

10 verdict n. The words of decision from a jury.
After a week of discussions, the members of the jury agreed on a guilty verdict.

11 advocate n. One who speaks or acts in favor of something.
When my friends didn't believe me, my mother was my greatest advocate.
12 **convocation** n. A meeting of people summoned together, often in a religious assembly.

*The preacher spoke at length during the convocation.*

13 **diction** n. way of pronouncing words, enunciation.

*The assembly was impressed with the politician’s diction, but not so much with her ideas.*

14 **valedictorian** n. The student ranking highest academically.

*The valedictorian was especially embarrassed when mispronouncing a word at her acceptance speech.*