

## Word Mapping #1-Verbal Advantage Vocabulary 1-10

I must admit with all possible **candor** that I approached the task of deciphering the hieroglyphics inscribed in the walls of the tomb of Ramses II with more than a little unease. I had heard of the “curse” of the tomb and the **uncanny** circumstances surrounding the deaths of previous translators.

Considering myself a **pragmatic** man, I tried to shrug off these tales as mere coincidence, viewing this **ostensible** threat in a less than serious light. Yet, when a person spends so much of his or her time deeply involved in a foreign culture, that person can become as **saturated** with that culture’s mythology as a sponge with bath water. Through experience, I have become quite **adept** at staying objective concerning the civilizations I study. However, some of the historical personalities I’ve studied have possessed such **morose** temperaments that I wouldn’t have been surprised to find that they desired a way to reach beyond the grave to cause harm to the living.

But, I **digress**. Although I did feel some initial reluctance concerning this project, I chose to picture Ramses as kind, **congenial** gentleman who would hold doors for ladies and even **paraphrase** philosophers in his everyday conversation. Viewing him in this way, I was able to put aside my fears and concentrate on the task of unlocking the secrets of the past and the real man within it.