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Word of the Day – **Ordeal**

Transcript

The word of the day today is **ordeal**. **Ordeal** is a noun. This is not a positive experience. This word describes an unusually terrible and difficult experience.

For instance, let's say you were babysitting for your friend. Because it was such a nice day, you decide to take the child out for some ice cream. But at the ice cream store, you get distracted for a moment and the child has run off. You spend the next two hours looking for him. You can only imagine what has happened to him and start to worry that perhaps he has been kidnapped. Suddenly you come across him at the playground three blocks away. You scold him and take him back home immediately. You decide you will never go through that **ordeal** again. Even if the weather is perfect next time, you will stay home with the child until your friend returns.

In another example, let's say you are camping in the woods for the first time. You are a novice and you cannot identify all of the strange plants that you see, but you have heard that you should be cautious of poison ivy. Never having laid eyes on such a plant, you do your best in avoiding anything that looks malicious. But when you return to the campsite, you notice your skin has become irritated, red and swollen. There are even blisters forming around your ankles and arms, which had been exposed. You are miserable and continue to be miserable for a month as the symptoms persist. This is one **ordeal** you vow will never happen again.

I hope you find this word useful in expressing your thoughts more clearly. For more information you can find the script on our homepage.