skim: to move quickly over the top of something



John threw his board and tried to skim on the top of the water.

span: the spread from one end to the other



The <u>span</u> of the bridge across the river was immense.

shabby: things that look old and worn out





George wanted to look in the shabby old house for ghosts.

embarrass: If you embarrass someone, you make that person feel uncomfortable or ashamed.



Please don't embarrass me by using poor language in my room.

midst: If you are in the midst of something, you are in the middle of it.



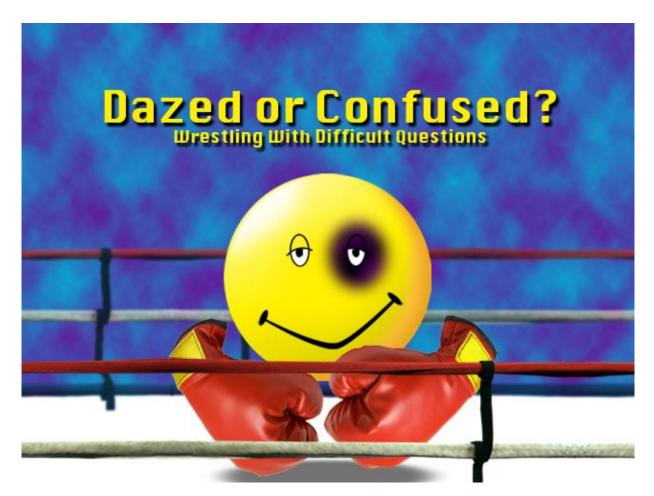
The boats were in the midst of the crashing waves.

elevated: Something that is elevated is high above the ground.



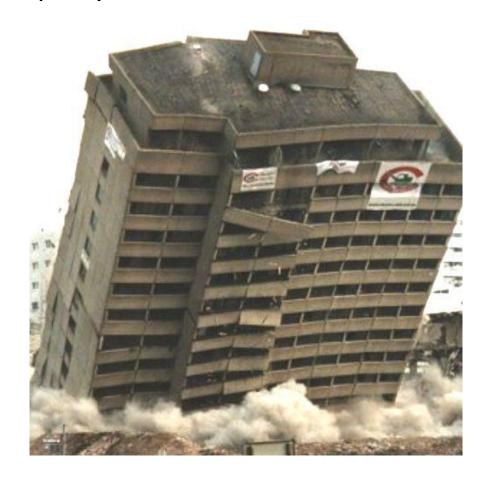
The house was <u>elevated</u> above the rocky ground.

dazed: If you are dazed, you are confused and cannot think straight.



Sometimes I feel <u>dazed</u> when I have been working very hard.

collapses: When something collapses, it falls down because it can't hold itself up anymore.



You should be out of the way when a building collapses!

initiative: is the first step in doing something, often on your own.



Thomas took the <u>initiative</u> to read the next chapter in his text.

contribution: is something someone gives in order to help others.





It is always nice to give a <u>contribution</u> to charities that help people.