

# Lesson 4

## Definitions



1.	<b>aesthetic</b>	uh THEH tic	relating or pertaining to a sense of beauty or art
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	He is considered to have aesthetic tastes because he loves beauty and the arts.		
	Derivatives >>	aesthete, aesthetical, aesthetically, aesthetician, aestheticism, aesthetics	
2.	<b>aloof</b>	uh LOOF	apart, indifferent
	Synonyms >>	detached, incurious, unconcerned	Antonym >> integrated; friendly
	The woman remained aloof during the party, separating herself from everyone else.		
	Derivatives >>	aloofness	
3.	<b>archaic</b>	are KAY ik	antiquated, old, out of use
	Synonyms >>	ancient, antique, obsolete, venerable	Antonym >> contemporary; modern
	Words such as "thou", which are no longer part of normal vocabulary, are archaic.		
	Derivatives >>	archaically, archaism, archaize, archaized, archaizing, archaizer	
4.	<b>assuage</b>	uh SWAYJ	to ease, to mitigate, to make less painful or burdensome, to calm
	Synonyms >>	allay, alleviate, lighten, soothe	Antonym >> to irritate; to intensify
	Your kind words should assuage her suffering. The medicine should assuage his pain.		
	Derivatives >>	assuaged, assuaging, assuagement, assuager	
5.	<b>belie</b>	buh LIE	to contradict, to give a false impression
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to support; to agree with
	Her first words appeared to belie all the wonderful things I had heard about her.		
	Derivatives >>	belied, belying, belier	
6.	<b>contentious</b>	kun TEN shus	quarrelsome, stirring controversy
	Synonyms >>	bellicose, belligerent, pugnacious	Antonym >> congenial; harmonious
	My contentious child will not listen to any form of reason.		
	Derivatives >>	contentiously, contentiousness, contention	
7.	<b>daunt</b>	DAWNT	to intimidate, to dismay
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to hearten
	I am not daunted by your threats.		
	Derivatives >>	dauntless, dauntlessly, dauntlessness	
8.	<b>debilitate</b>	deh BIL uh tate	to weaken, to enfeeble
	Synonyms >>	sap	Antonym >> to invigorate
	I was debilitated by my bout with pneumonia.		
	Derivatives >>	debilitated, debilitating, debilitation, debilitating, debility	
9.	<b>discord</b>	DIS kord	lack of agreement, tension, strife
	Synonyms >>	contention, dissension, variance	Antonym >> harmony; agreement
	There is a lot of discord in the nation over the issue of abortion.		
	Derivatives >>	discordance, discordancy, discordant, discordantly, discordantness	
10.	<b>dissemination</b>	deh sem uh NAY	the act of spreading widely; scattering
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> consolidation
	The dissemination of these ideas can best be achieved through television.		
	Derivatives >>	disseminate, disseminator	
11.	<b>dogmatic</b>	dog MAT ik	strongly opinionated in an unwarranted manner
	Synonyms >>	dictatorial, doctrinaire, magisterial, oracular	Antonym >> unopinionated; wishy-washy
	He was so dogmatic that having an intelligent discussion with him was impossible.		
	Derivatives >>	dogmatician, dogmatical, dogmatically, dogmaticalness, dogmaticism, dogmatism, dogmatize,	

12.	<b>duplicity</b>	doo PLIS eh tee	double-dealing, hypocrisy		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	sincerity; single-mindedness
		His duplicity was exposed when the girl he was seeing found out he was married.			
	Derivatives >>	duplicitous			
13.	<b>egocentric</b>	ee go SEN trik	self-centered, selfish		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	modest; selfless
		Egocentric people rarely show any concern for others.			
	Derivatives >>	egocentricity, egocentrism			
14.	<b>euphemism</b>	YOO fuh miz um	substitution of an inoffensive term for one that is offensive		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	coarse expression
		People frequently use a euphemism for the word "died." They commonly say someone "passed away."			
	Derivatives >>	euphemistic, euphemious, euphemiously, euphemistically, euphemize, euphemizer			
15.	<b>gluttonous</b>	GLUT uh nus	greedy for food and drink		
	Synonyms >>	rapacious, ravenous, voracious		Antonym >>	temperate
		I am so gluttonous that I would have great difficulty dieting.			
	Derivatives >>	glutton, gluttonize, gluttonously, gluttonousness			
16.	<b>mundane</b>	mun DANE	ordinary, commonplace		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	unusual; outstanding
		After I take care of these mundane matters, we can do something exciting.			
	Derivatives >>	mundanely, mundaneness, mundanity			
17.	<b>ominous</b>	OM uh nus	threatening		
	Synonyms >>	fateful, portentous		Antonym >>	harmless; non-threatening
		The ominous clouds were harbingers of the tornado.			
	Derivatives >>	ominously, ominousness			
18.	<b>petulance</b>	PECH uh luns	unreasonable touchiness or irritability		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	serenity
		Petulance is sometimes the trait of a child who is not getting his way.			
	Derivatives >>	petulant, petulancy, petulantly			
19.	<b>pompous</b>	POM pus	exaggerated show of dignity or self-importance, bombastic		
	Synonyms >>	ostentatious, pretentious		Antonym >>	humble; meek
		It is very pompous of him to believe that his ideas should always receive the first consideration.			
	Derivatives >>	pomp, pomposity, pompously, pompousness			
20.	<b>precocious</b>	preh KOE shus	exceptionally early in development or occurrence		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	backward
		A child prodigy is a young person who is very precocious.			
	Derivatives >>	precociousness, precosity, precociously			
21.	<b>slothful</b>	SLOTH ful	lazy, indolent		
	Synonyms >>	bovine		Antonym >>	industrious
		That student is so slothful that he has never done any of his homework assignments.			
	Derivatives >>	slothfully, slothfulness, sloth			
22.	<b>trivia</b>	TRIV ee uh	insignificant matters		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	important matters
		The English teacher is looking for substance, not trivia, in themes.			
	Derivatives >>	trivial, triviality, trivialization, trivialize, trivially			
23.	<b>verbose</b>	ver BOSE	wordy, very talkative		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	terse
		That professor is so verbose that it takes him an hour to cover material that should take fifteen minutes.			
	Derivatives >>	verbosely, verboseness, verbosity			
24.	<b>virulent</b>	VIR yuh lunt	extremely poisonous; hateful		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	harmless
		The doctor prescribed a lot of medication to arrest the virulent infection.			
	Derivatives >>	virulence, virulently			
25.	<b>volatile</b>	VOL uh til	quickly changeable, easily vaporized		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	static; unchangeable
		Because of his volatile temper, one must use caution in dealing with him.			
	Derivatives >>	volatileness, volatility, volatilization, volatilizable, volatilize			

## Lesson 4

### Matching Test



Directions: Choose the definition that best matches the meaning of the vocabulary word. Place the answer of your choice in the space provided.

#### Exercise A

- |       |                   |                                 |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. aesthetic      | a. to weaken; to enfeeble       |
| _____ | 2. aloof          | b. self-centered; selfish       |
| _____ | 3. archaic        | c. doctrinal; opinionated       |
| _____ | 4. assuage        | d. antiquated; old; out of use  |
| _____ | 5. belie          | e. lack of agreement; tenseness |
| _____ | 6. contentious    | f. quarrelsome                  |
| _____ | 7. daunt          | g. to contradict                |
| _____ | 8. debilitate     | h. a scattering; dispersal      |
| _____ | 9. discord        | i. apart; indifferent           |
| _____ | 10. dissemination | j. artistic; showing good taste |
| _____ | 11. dogmatic      | k. to ease; to mitigate         |
| _____ | 12. egocentric    | l. to intimidate; to dismay     |

#### Exercise B

- |       |               |   |
|-------|---------------|---|
| _____ | 1. duplicity  | a. wordy  |
| _____ | 2. euphemism  | b. ordinary, commonplace                                      |
| _____ | 3. gluttonous | c. insignificant matters                                      |
| _____ | 4. mundane    | d. lazy; indolent   |
| _____ | 5. ominous    | e. vain; ostentatious; bombastic                              |
| _____ | 6. petulance  | f. greedy; voracious  |
| _____ | 7. pompous    | g. unreasonable irritation                                    |
| _____ | 8. precocious | h. quickly changing   |
| _____ | 9. slothful   | i. threatening  |
| _____ | 10. trivia    | j. poisonous; injurious; hostile                              |
| _____ | 11. verbose   | k. double-dealing; hypocrisy                                  |
| _____ | 12. virulent  | l. early in development                                       |
| _____ | 13. volatile  | m. substitution of a less offensive term for an offensive one |

## Lesson 4

### Sentence Completion



aesthetic	aloof	archaic	assuage
belied	contentious	daunted	debilitated
discord	dissemination	dogmatic	egocentric

- When acquiring possessions of beauty and artistic quality, the museum always depends on the advice of Gerald Tremain, who is considered to have true \_\_\_\_\_ tastes.
- If I want immediate \_\_\_\_\_ of information, I will tell a well-known gossip who will quickly scatter the news.
- The patient grew more \_\_\_\_\_ every day; he hated being confined to his bed and was extremely irritable and quarrelsome.
- Even in the midst of the terrible storm, the people maintained a spirit that could not be \_\_\_\_\_; they simply refused to lose hope.
- That family is continually fighting and arguing; I have never seen such \_\_\_\_\_ among relatives.
- Words such as “thou,” which are no longer part of normal vocabulary, are \_\_\_\_\_.
- Having to deal with \_\_\_\_\_ people who think only of themselves is the most disgusting aspect of this job.
- It is a good idea to remain \_\_\_\_\_ from people who use drugs; it is safer not to be their friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ from his bout with the AIDS virus, the man could barely respond to the questions; he was so weak that he could not even speak.
- Although the pink color of her skin appeared to be a sign of good health, the color deceived the doctor and \_\_\_\_\_ her true condition.
- Aspirin will surely \_\_\_\_\_ the pain of my toothache; I need something to lessen my suffering.
- His \_\_\_\_\_ remarks were biased; even though they were based on little evidence, he spoke them with the conviction of a fanatic.

## Lesson 4



duplicity	euphemism	gluttonous	mundane	ominous
petulant	pompous	precocious	slothful	trivia
verbose	virulent	volatile		

13. It took the \_\_\_\_\_ girl three hours to clean her room; she had left it cluttered for so long that it was a wonder she finished in only three hours.
14. His \_\_\_\_\_ eating habits dissuaded me from inviting him to dinner; I think it is rude and disgusting to stuff yourself with food.
15. We were all sick of his \_\_\_\_\_ attitude of thinking that he was so much better than the rest of us; frankly, I'd like to see him cut down a notch or two.
16. The speaker was so \_\_\_\_\_ that her speech lasted forty minutes longer than it should have.
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ child began to read before the age of five and was always several years ahead of his peers.
18. Several types of medicine were prescribed in order to stop the \_\_\_\_\_ infection, which could easily caused his death.
19. His job became so routine and \_\_\_\_\_ that he longed for something exciting and unusual.
20. The \_\_\_\_\_ temper of the man caused him to explode in anger at the slightest provocation.
21. Much of the so-called "news" is really just \_\_\_\_\_, insignificant daily matters that are soon forgotten.
22. A rising tide and increasing winds are both \_\_\_\_\_ signs of an approaching hurricane.
23. Because of her unreasonable irritability, the \_\_\_\_\_ young girl was not always pleasant to be around.
24. When I accused him of \_\_\_\_\_, he demanded proof of his double-dealing.
25. Instead of the word "dying," many people use the \_\_\_\_\_ "passing away."