

Lesson 8

Definitions



1.	acquiesce	AK wee es	to give in, to comply		
	Synonyms >>	accede, agree, assent, consent, subscribe		Antonym >>	to object; to disagree
		I was so desperate that I had to acquiesce to his demands.			
	Derivatives >>	acquiescence, acquiescent, acquiescingly, acquiescently			
2.	affinity	uh FIN uh tee	a likeness, a natural relationship, a kinship		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	repulsion
		Having suffered himself, he felt an affinity for the homeless.			
	Derivatives >>	affinitive			
3.	blasphemous	BLAS fuh mus	irreverent, profane		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	sacred; reverent
		Telling that sacrilegious joke is blasphemous.			
	Derivatives >>	blaspheme, blasphemed, blaspheming, blaspemer, blasphemousness, blasphemously, blasphemy			
4.	buttress	BUH tris	a support or prop		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
		Many cathedrals are supported by buttresses.			
	Derivatives >>	buttresses, buttressless			
5.	circumspect	SIR kum spekt	careful to consider consequences, cautious, prudent		
	Synonyms >>	chary, wary		Antonym >>	reckless; careless; indiscreet
		Her circumspect behavior left no doubts as to her integrity.			
	Derivatives >>	circumspectness, circumspectly, circumspection, circumspective			
6.	corroboration	kuh rob uh RAY shun	confirmation		
	Synonyms >>	authentication, substantiation, validation, verification		Antonym >>	refutation
		Fortunately, I had some corroboration for my whereabouts on the night of the crime.			
	Derivatives >>	corroborate, corroborated, corroborating, corroboratory, corroboratively, corroborator			
7.	deplete	deh PLETE	to use up gradually, to lessen in amount or value		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	to restore
		Our oil reserves have been depleted because of years of drilling and pumping.			
	Derivatives >>	depleted, depleting, depletion, depletive, depletable			
8.	despotic	deh SPOT ik	ruling oppressively and absolutely; tyrannical		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	ruling democratically
		Americans do not like despotic behavior.			
	Derivatives >>	despotal, despotically, despotism, despotist, despotize, despot			
9.	emaciated	eh MAY she ay tid	very thin (usually as a result of starvation), wasting away		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	fat; corpulent
		As a result of receiving little food, most prisoners of concentration camps become extremely emaciated.			
	Derivatives >>	emaciate, emaciation			
10.	empirical	em PEER eh kul	based on observation or experiment and not on theory		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	theoretical
		We need some empirical data to make our case solid.			
	Derivatives >>	empiric, empiricism, empiricist, empirics, empirism			
11.	extraneous	ik STRAY nee us	not essential or vital		
	Synonyms >>	alien, extrinsic, foreign		Antonym >>	essential
		The extraneous assignments left the student with little time for himself.			
	Derivatives >>	extraneously, extraneousness			

12.	fallow	FAL ow	inactive, plowed but not sowed
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> active
		In order for land to be productive, it must lie fallow occasionally.	
	Derivatives >>	fallowness	
13.	homogeneous	hoe muh JEE nee us	of the same kind
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> heterogeneous
		To get the best results with this research, we need a homogeneous group of people to fill out the questionnaire.	
	Derivatives >>	homogeneously, homogeneousness	
14.	hyperbole	hi PER buh lee	obvious exaggeration
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> understatement
		You have often heard the hyperbole "I've told you a million times;" it's an obvious exaggeration.	
	Derivatives >>	hyperbolic, hyperbolically, hyperbolical, hyperbolism	
15.	incontrovertible	in kon truh VUR tuh	indisputable
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> disputable; arguable
		The district attorney was looking for incontrovertible evidence to prove that the accused arsonist burned the bank.	
	Derivatives >>	incontrovertibly	
16.	irascible	uh RAS uh bul	irritable, easily angered, cranky, cross
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> impassive; imperturbable
		Just about anything could set off his irascible temper.	
	Derivatives >>	irascibleness, irascibly, irascibility	
17.	laconic	luh KON ik	using a minimum of words; concise to the point of seeming rude
	Synonyms >>	compendious, concise, pithy, succinct, summary, terse	Antonym >> verbose
		After the loss, the coach's remarks were laconic.	
	Derivatives >>	laconian, laconical, laconically, laconicism, laconism	
18.	magnanimity	mag nuh NIM eh tee	having a lofty, generous, and courageous spirit
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> greed; stinginess
		The magnanimity of the king endeared him to his subjects.	
	Derivatives >>	magnanimous, magnanimously, magnanimousness	
19.	obsequious	ub SEE kwee us	overly attentive, like a sycophant, servile
	Synonyms >>	slavish, subservient	Antonym >> disinterested
		I believe that his obsequious behavior toward his grandmother is to ensure being included in the will.	
	Derivatives >>	obsequence, obsequent, obsequience, obsequiously, obsequiousness, obsequity	
20.	proliferation	pro lif uh RAY shun	an increase in number, multiplication
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> decline; decrease
		Many are afraid of nuclear proliferation and the possibility that a terrorist country will explode a bomb.	
	Derivatives >>	proliferate, proliferative, proliferous, proliferously, prolific	
21.	scrupulous	SKROO pyuh lus	very principled, very careful and conscientious
	Synonyms >>	meticulous, punctilious	Antonym >> unprincipled
		The scrupulous police officer never took a bribe, and he ceaselessly tried to prevent crime.	
	Derivatives >>	scruple, scrupulosity, scrupulousness, scrupulously	
22.	sublime	suh BLIME	exalted, noble, uplifting
	Synonyms >>	resplendent, superb	Antonym >>
		The romantic dinner, which included delicious food, soft music, and a beautiful setting, was simply sublime.	
	Derivatives >>	sublimely, sublimeness, sublimer	
23.	surreptitious	sur up TISH us	secret, clandestine, stealthy
	Synonyms >>	covert, furtive, underhanded	Antonym >> aboveboard; in an open manner
		The Watergate burglars tried to attain information in a surreptitious manner.	
	Derivatives >>	surreptitiously	
24.	veracity	vuh RAS eh tee	devotion to the truth
	Synonyms >>	truthfulness, accuracy, correctness	Antonym >>
		The lawyer had no confidence in the veracity of the witness.	
	Derivatives >>	veracious, veraciously, veraciousness	
25.	zeal	ZEEL	enthusiasm, fervor
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> lack of enthusiasm
		To the delight of his students, he brought great zeal to the teaching profession.	
	Derivatives >>	zeals, zealous, zealot, zealousness, zealotism, zealotry	

Lesson 8

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

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|-------|-----|---------------|----|---------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | acquiesce | a. | irreverent; profane |
| _____ | 2. | affinity | b. | confirmation; proof |
| _____ | 3. | blasphemous | c. | wasted away; very thin |
| _____ | 4. | buttress | d. | to use up gradually; to lessen |
| _____ | 5. | circumspect | e. | based on observation |
| _____ | 6. | corroboration | f. | a support or prop |
| _____ | 7. | deplete | g. | lofty, generous spirit |
| _____ | 8. | despotic | h. | careful; cautious; prudent |
| _____ | 9. | emaciated | i. | truthfulness |
| _____ | 10. | empirical | j. | to give in; to comply; to agree |
| _____ | 11. | magnanimity | k. | tyrannical; autocratic |
| _____ | 12. | veracity | l. | a natural liking or affection |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | fallow | a. | obvious exaggeration |
| _____ | 2. | homogeneous | b. | enthusiasm; fervor |
| _____ | 3. | hyperbole | c. | very principled; moral |
| _____ | 4. | incontrovertible | d. | not essential or vital; extra |
| _____ | 5. | irascible | e. | of the same kind |
| _____ | 6. | laconic | f. | inactive; plowed but not sowed |
| _____ | 7. | extraneous | g. | increase in number |
| _____ | 8. | obsequious | h. | irritable; easily angered |
| _____ | 9. | proliferation | i. | lofty; noble; exalted |
| _____ | 10. | scrupulous | j. | overly attentive; servile |
| _____ | 11. | sublime | k. | secret; clandestine; stealthy |
| _____ | 12. | surreptitious | l. | concise; to the point; terse |
| _____ | 13. | zeal | m. | indisputable; cannot be argued |

Lesson 8

Sentence Completion



acquiesce	affinity	blasphemous	buttress
circumspect	corroboration	deplete	despotic
emaciated	empirical	extraneous	fallow

1. In the absence of _____ evidence, evidence based on specific facts, we may have to theorize about the results of the data we have gathered.
2. None of the many parts were _____; if just one of the hundreds had been missing, the machine would not have worked.
3. The rich field had not been planted for two years; after this period of lying _____, the soil was even better than before.
4. However strong the _____ between two lovers, sometimes it is better for them to resist this attraction.
5. I depended upon my brother for _____ of my story to prove to my mother that I did not, in fact, break the vase.
6. Hitler's _____ rule was brought to an end after World War II.
7. The man saw that he was losing the argument and decided to _____ to his opponent's view.
8. The book was unjustly censured for containing what some people thought to be _____ remarks about the church.
9. The _____ prisoner of war was near death as a result of his lack of nourishment.
10. The woman was characterized by her _____ behavior after her divorce; she was hesitant to trust anyone again after having been hurt so badly.
11. If I continue to withdraw my money and not replace it, I will _____ my savings account in another month.
12. In order to destroy the building, the charges were set beside the _____; if the support could be destroyed, the wall would fall easily.

Lesson 8



homogeneous	hyperbole	incontrovertible	irascible	laconic
magnanimity	obsequious	proliferation	scrupulous	sublime
surreptitious	veracity	zeal		

13. He loves to use exaggeration; his favorite _____ is “I’m so hungry, I could eat a horse.”
14. We tried to maintain _____ grouping in the class; it is easier to teach when everyone in the room is at the same level.
15. The president’s _____ speech was brief, but to the point.
16. The romantic dinner, which included delicious food, soft music and a beautiful setting was simply _____.
17. Their _____ meetings could not be discovered; they had taken great care to keep them secret.
18. He approached the task with great _____, anxious to get the job done well.
19. The _____ of insects in the garden was uncontrollable; they had already destroyed most of the vegetables and were still multiplying.
20. The _____ child had absolutely no control over his temper and was always angry.
21. There was one man _____ enough to trust with the position; he alone had the integrity and the honesty to lead the people.
22. The waiter’s _____ manner ruined our meal; he would not leave us alone even for a minute because of his attentiveness.
23. Mother Theresa is known for her love and _____ toward the poor.
24. I do not doubt Tom’s _____, but I have some questions as to his brother’s devotion to the truth.
25. These facts are simply _____; they cannot be argued.