

Building Vocabulary with Sentence Completions

This Vocabulary Skills Review can be used either in preparation for a specific exam or as a general tool for building vocabulary and reading skills. Whether your objective is to perform well on an exam or to improve your vocabulary and reading skills, you will find the exercises in this review useful.

A good way to build your vocabulary and reading skills is with *sentence completion* items. These items will help to improve your knowledge of sentence structures, transitions, logic, and vocabulary. Sentence completions are also called *completions* or *fill-in-the-blanks*.

Studies have shown that people don't need to hear every word that is said in order to understand the point of what was said. If you think about it, these findings make sense. For example, you could be talking to someone on a cell phone in an area with poor reception and hear: "On your way back to the house, please pick up a medium ----- with mushrooms on it but no anchovies." The most important word in the sentence is missing, but you understand that you're supposed to pick up a pizza. Of course, most sentence completions are not so simple. Consider the following examples of sentence completions:

Examples:

1. To compensate for the funds that will no longer be available due to a decline in the value of the endowment's portfolio, the university will need to find an ----- sum from another source.

A. anticipated
B. equivalent
C. unofficial
D. unstated
E. inconsequential

(B) is the correct answer choice. Since funds will no longer be available from the present source, it will be necessary to replace those funds: to do so, the university will need to find an equivalent sum from another source.

2. Although the mobster's efforts to appear mentally unstable and therefore unable to stand trial were ----- and even -----, the defense lawyers, through clever strategies, were able to postpone the criminal proceedings for several years.

A. unrelenting . . predictable
B. contrived . . convincing
C. unpersuasive . . ludicrous
D. predictable . . amusing
E. ill-advised . . heroic

(C) is the correct answer choice. The "were ----- and even -----" tells you that the second substitution word makes a more extreme statement than the first. Also, the conjunction "although" at the beginning of the sentence tells you that the substitutions describe an effort that seemed unlikely to work, but that in fact resulted in partial success for the lawyers.



Sentence Completion Difficulty Factors

There are two difficulty factors involved in every sentence completion item. The first factor is vocabulary. The second factor is context or sentence structure.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary can determine if a sentence completion item is easy or difficult. Compare the two sets of answer choices that follow each of the item stems in the following examples:

Examples:

1. After working together for several years, members of the crew had developed specialized terms for the tools they used, a(n) ----- only they could understand.

- | | | |
|---------------|-----|---------------|
| A. procedures | vs. | A. procedures |
| B. customs | | B. customs |
| C. jargon | | C. argot |
| D. appetite | | D. appetite |
| E. rhythm | | E. rhythm |

(C) is the correct answer in both sets of answer choices. A specialized vocabulary is called “jargon” or, less commonly, “argot.” Although (C) is the answer in both cases, the difficulty level is not. The second set of answer choices is more difficult because “argot” is a less familiar word. So, the difficulty of a sentence completion item can depend upon the vocabulary in the answer choices.

2. Awed by the credentials of the reviewing committee, the doctoral candidate set forth the central thesis of the paper tentatively and answered questions with -----.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------------------|
| A. confidence | vs. | A. aplomb |
| B. delight | | B. relish |
| C. uncertainty | | C. diffidence |
| D. recklessness | | D. abandon |
| E. directness | | E. imperviousness |

(C) is the correct answer in both sets of answer choices. The candidate was awed and set forth the argument tentatively (i.e., not confidently). We can logically assume that the candidate would answer questions in a similar manner, so “uncertainty” is the best word to complete the sentence. Similarly, “diffidence” would also be the best answer here since it means “reserve, shyness, or modesty.” Again, although (C) is the answer in both cases, the difficulty level is not. Note too that all of the answer choices in the second column are expressed in less familiar vocabulary. As you can see, an entire set of answer choices that consists of more difficult vocabulary words makes for an even more difficult item.

Complexity

Sentence structure can also determine if a sentence completion item is easy or difficult. In short, more difficult items will involve more difficult sentence structures. Compare the following two item stems:

Example:

Every society has a concept of justice, but what counts as a just or an unjust act is -----.

vs.

The concept of justice is universal, found in every society from the most primitive to the most advanced; but the actions to which these terms attach are -----.

- A. variable
- B. laudable
- C. foreseeable
- D. crucial
- E. implicit

(A) is the correct answer choice in both cases. In either sentence, the “but” sets up a contrast between an idea in the first part of the sentence and an idea in the second part of the sentence. The important idea in the first part is universality, so the important idea in the second part must be the opposite (i.e., uniqueness or variability).

Of course, the most difficult sentence completion items will include both unfamiliar vocabulary as well as a complex sentence structure. Consider the following example, which is presented with two different sentence structures and sets of answer choices:

Example:

Although the Best in Show was awarded to a dog owned by a relative of the judge, the decision was entirely -----.

vs.

Although the Best in Show was awarded to a dog owned by a relative of the judge, it cannot be argued that the decision was -----.

- A. wrong
- B. happy
- C. biased
- D. pleasant
- E. justified

- A. warranted
- B. inconclusive
- C. acceptable
- D. appropriate
- E. unjustified

(E) is the correct answer choice for both items. The conjunction “although” sets up a contrast between the two parts of the sentence. The first part of the sentence explains that the prize was awarded to a relative of the judge, which might suggest unfairness. However, “although” signals that the opposite is true; in other words, the judging was fair. So, (E) is the correct answer choice in both cases. It is more difficult to arrive at the correct answer in the second column, though, for the reasons mentioned above. Specifically, the vocabulary in the second column is less familiar. Also, the sentence structure in the second column is more complicated. As you’ll see, sentence structures can be more complicated for several reasons, including the presence of extra clauses, parenthetical notes, or “negative” sentence constructions (i.e., “it cannot be argued that the decision was unjustified” instead of “the decision was entirely justified”).



Sentence Completion Strategies

Anticipation

The first step when solving a sentence completion item is to read the sentence for meaning. Read the sentence at normal speed, as though someone were speaking to you. Then, identify one or two words that could complete the sentence successfully. If you're lucky, one of your words will appear in the list of answer choices. If that does not happen, look for the answer choice that is most similar to what you anticipated and that completes the sentence successfully.

Examples:

1. After his novel was rejected by six publishers, John became embittered and -----, so much so that his friends feared for his sanity.

A. gentle
B. wary
C. morose
D. pacified
E. prudent

The question stem establishes that John was embittered, which is a negative state of emotion. So, you want to select the answer choice that also describes a negative emotional state. You might have anticipated words such as “disappointed,” “angry,” “depressed,” or “sullen” to complete the sentence. These words do not appear in the list of answer choices, but “morose” is a negative emotional state consistent with feeling embittered. So, (C) is the correct answer choice.

2. Given the rapidly changing nature of today’s technological society, schools can no longer hope to teach eternal principles, for by tomorrow, today’s knowledge is -----.

A. enriched
B. reproduced
C. adequate
D. precarious
E. obsolete

The question stem sets up a contrast between “eternal principles” and knowledge that is not eternal. You might have anticipated words such as “temporary,” “outdated,” or “transient” to complete the sentence. These words do not appear in the list of answer choices, but “obsolete” has a similar meaning. So, (E) is the best answer choice.

3. Retiring by nature and ----- even in private, Eleanor hardly ever spoke in public.

A. confident
B. taciturn
C. preoccupied
D. untamed
E. courageous

The question stem tells you that Eleanor was unwilling to speak. So, the sentence could be completed with words such as “quiet” or “silent.” Those words do not appear in the list of answer choices, but “taciturn” has a similar meaning. So, (B) is the correct answer choice.

Analysis

When reading a sentence completion item, pay attention to verbal signals. Verbal signals will tell you how the parts of a sentence fit together. For example, they can tell you:

- if one part of a sentence clarifies or adds detail to another;
- if a later element contradicts an earlier element; and
- if one idea is qualified or overruled by another.

Examples:

1. It is a rare individual who bothers to examine his or her fundamental ethical beliefs; indeed, the effort required ----- most people from even starting.
 - A. cautions
 - B. discourages
 - C. sustains
 - D. recalls
 - E. withdraws

In this item, “indeed” is an important verbal signal. It indicates that the second part of the sentence supports or underscores the first part. So, if the first part states that few people bother to examine their beliefs, the second part goes one step further and says that the effort required “discourages” most people from doing so. Therefore, the correct answer is (B).

2. Although ----- in her criticism of the minutest details, she often ----- the larger picture; so her input was incomplete.
 - A. understated . . conspired
 - B. sparing . . omitted
 - C. exhaustive . . overlooked
 - D. creative . . presented
 - E. meticulous . . emphasized

In this item, “although” is an important verbal signal. It indicates that the second part of the sentence will contrast with the first part. As a result, the two substitutions must be opposites or express dissimilar ideas. One would not expect someone described as “exhaustive” to have “overlooked” any detail, so (C) is the correct answer.

Finally, the following table has two columns. The first column is a list of signal words that are frequently used in sentence completion items. The second column explains the function of each signal word (i.e., it summarizes the logical relationship that is suggested or established by the signal word) and should be helpful when reviewing answer choices for sentence completions items.



<i>Signal Word</i>	<i>What to Look for in Sentence Completions</i>
therefore, thus, consequently, so, as a result	a further conclusion, the effect of a cause, an expected outcome
if, since, because	a premise of a logical argument, a cause leading to an effect, a condition or conditions leading to an outcome
and, additionally, further, moreover, similarly, likewise	further extension of a thought, a parallel or similar idea, added emphasis
although, though, while, but, rather, however, despite, unlike, yet, not	contrasting ideas, an exception, a reversal of thinking
indeed, in fact	an example, an idea for added emphasis
(:) <i>colon</i>	enumeration, clarification, further detail

This list of signal words is not exhaustive, but it highlights the type of verbal clue that can be very important in sentence completion items.

Substitution

In the end, some items still might seem too difficult to solve. The sentence structure might be too complex; the vocabulary might be too unfamiliar; or, even after evaluating verbal signals, the logic of the sentence might not make sense to you. If this happens, try substituting or plugging the answer choices into the sentence. You might find that, in the end, this simple step will help you to locate the correct answer choice.

EXERCISE 1

Anticipating Sentence Completions

DIRECTIONS: For items #1–10, read each sentence through for meaning. Then, in the space provided, write a few possible words that you anticipate could be used to complete the sentence. Answers are on page 797.

1. Stress is the reaction an individual feels when he believes the demands of a situation ----- his ability to meet them.

2. The ----- of his career, capturing the coveted “Most Valuable Player” award, came at a time of deep personal sadness.

3. Martin’s opponent is a(n) ----- speaker who is unable to elicit a reaction from a crowd on even the most emotional of issues.

4. The cold weather caused ----- damage to the Florida citrus crop, prompting growers to warn that the reduced yield is likely to result in much higher prices.

5. The report is so ----- that it covers all of the main points in detail and at least touches on everything that is even remotely connected with its topic.

6. The Constitution sets up a system of checks and balances among the executive, the legislative, and the judicial branches to ensure that no one branch can establish ----- control over the government.



7. The females of many common species of birds have dull coloring that ----- them when they are sitting on a nest in a tree or other foliage.

8. She was one of the most ----- criminals of the 1930s, her name a household word and her face in every post office.

9. Although he had not been physically injured by the explosion, the violence of the shock left him temporarily -----.

10. Good teachers know that study habits learned as a youngster stay with a student for life, so they try to find ways to ----- enthusiasm for studies.

DIRECTIONS: For items #11–20, read each sentence through for meaning. Then, in the space provided, enter your anticipated completion. Finally, match your anticipated completion to one of the answer choices for that item. Answers are on page 797.

11. Even those who vigorously disagreed with the goals of the plan ----- admitted that it had been well designed.

- _____
- A. erroneously
 - B. valiantly
 - C. successfully
 - D. defiantly
 - E. grudgingly

12. The so-called “road rage” is just one more example of a more general ----- that includes disrespect for rules, traditions, and institutions.

- _____
- A. incivility
 - B. caution
 - C. curiosity
 - D. passion
 - E. apprehension

13. Random noises have been shown to ----- sleep cycles, causing fatigue and irritability in test subjects.

- _____
- A. reinforce
 - B. disrupt
 - C. solidify
 - D. undermine
 - E. fracture

14. Increasingly, state legislatures have enacted laws that use a standardized exam as the sole ----- by which the success or failure a school system is to be judged.

-
- A. prediction
 - B. guarantee
 - C. actuality
 - D. criterion
 - E. aspiration

15. A fine public servant with an otherwise untarnished reputation has become the latest ----- in a war being waged by unscrupulous journalists against those who espouse principles they reject.

-
- A. happenstance
 - B. victory
 - C. casualty
 - D. detriment
 - E. fiasco

16. The new bookstore, with its coffee bar and classical music, hopes that its literature selections will appeal to a ----- clientele.

-
- A. sophisticated
 - B. conventional
 - C. provocative
 - D. restrictive
 - E. passive

17. The corporation's spokesperson ----- the report as junk science and accused the researchers of pursuing a political agenda.

-
- A. highlighted
 - B. denounced
 - C. withdrew
 - D. fomented
 - E. inscribed

18. By the terms of the extremely ----- curriculum, all students at the academy were required to take two years of Latin, two years of algebra, and two years of fine arts.

-
- A. industrious
 - B. fractured
 - C. provocative
 - D. valiant
 - E. regimented

19. The polite veneer that John exhibits in public ----- a violent temper that frequently erupts in private, especially when his authority is challenged.

-
- A. condemns
 - B. belies
 - C. validates
 - D. queries
 - E. presages

20. Long hours of ----- rehearsal ensured that the orchestra performed the difficult piece flawlessly.

-
- A. arduous
 - B. spontaneous
 - C. influential
 - D. jubilant
 - E. temporary

EXERCISE 2

Analyzing Sentence Completions

DIRECTIONS: For items #1–10, analyze each sentence by underlining a few words or phrases that provide clues for the completion of the sentences. Then, write down a few possible words that you anticipate could be used to complete the sentence. Answers are on page 797.

1. The survivors had been drifting for days in the lifeboat, and in their weakness, they appeared to be ----- rather than living beings.

2. The guillotine was introduced during the French Revolution as a(n) -----, an alternative to other less humane means of execution.

3. Because of the ----- nature of the chemical, it cannot be used near an open flame.

4. The Mayor’s proposal for a new subway line, although a(n) -----, is not a final solution to the city’s transportation needs.

5. In a pluralistic society, policies are the result of compromise, so political leaders must be ----- and must accommodate the views of others.

6. The committee report vigorously expounded the bill’s strengths but also acknowledged its -----.

7. Because there is always the danger of a power failure and disruption of elevator service, high-rise buildings, while suitable for younger persons, are not recommended for -----.

8. For a child to be happy, his day must be very structured; when his routine is -----, he becomes nervous and irritable.

9. The current spirit of ----- among different religions has led to a number of meetings that their leaders hope will lead to better understanding.

10. Our modern industrialized societies have been responsible for the greatest destruction of nature and life; indeed, it seems that more civilization results in greater -----.

DIRECTIONS: For items #11–20, answer each sentence completion using verbal signals to analyze the logical structure of the sentence. Circle the letter of your answer choice. Answers are on page 797.

11. When Ghana achieved independence from colonial domination in 1957, the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to do so, it ----- economic and political advantages unrivaled elsewhere in tropical Africa.

- A. demanded
- B. enjoyed
- C. proclaimed
- D. denounced
- E. incited

12. Fraktur, a genre of folk art that has its roots in the Rhine Valley, is ----- to the Pennsylvania Dutch region, though Russian-German Mennonites produced similar but ----- ornamental drawings.

- A. endemic . . characteristic
- B. inherent . . distinct
- C. native . . unusual
- D. reduced . . inconsequential
- E. unique . . unrelated

13. The Free Trade Zone law was enacted in order to ----- legal issues left open by the Supreme Court case of California v. Bond.

- A. resolve
- B. undermine
- C. redress
- D. present
- E. nullify

14. Scholars often speak of an early and a late Heidegger, but a more careful reading reveals only a(n) ----- shift rather than a radical ----- in his thought.

- A. evolutionary . . bent
- B. discernible . . consistency
- C. inevitable . . temper
- D. unpredictable . . change
- E. gradual . . discontinuity



15. Van Gogh was virtually ----- at the time of his death: his agent, brother Theo, had sold only one of his paintings.
- A. unknown
 - B. famous
 - C. wealthy
 - D. victorious
 - E. adored
16. Legalized gambling seems to offer unlimited governmental revenue without the need to raise taxes; however, experience shows that casino gambling is not the financial ----- claimed by its proponents.
- A. panacea
 - B. calamity
 - C. incentive
 - D. predicament
 - E. validation
17. Low on supplies and badly in need of fresh troops, General Burgoyne's ----- and even ----- decision to push ahead resulted in disaster at Saratoga.
- A. reflective . . conscientious
 - B. valorous . . cowardly
 - C. rash . . foolhardy
 - D. ill-advised . . calculated
 - E. victorious . . generous
18. Although the Ford Edsel of the 1950s is commonly thought of as a "lemon," the car was actually -----; it was the victim of marketing, not ----- failures.
- A. attractive . . sales
 - B. well-made . . engineering
 - C. high-priced . . design
 - D. desirable . . advertising
 - E. well-known . . manufacturing
19. No reasonable trade-off between unemployment and inflation can be achieved by either monetary or fiscal policy alone; rather, both must be regarded as ----- tools for managing the economy.
- A. complementary
 - B. intelligible
 - C. unnecessary
 - D. delicate
 - E. unlimited
20. Professional schools assemble a(n) ----- student body not for the sake of enriching extracurricular life, but for the variety of personal and academic backgrounds that enhance the learning experience.
- A. homogeneous
 - B. knowledgeable
 - C. elite
 - D. unexceptional
 - E. diverse

EXERCISE 3

Substituting Sentence Completions

DIRECTIONS: For items #1–12, select an appropriate completion for the corresponding blank in the following paragraph. Answers are on page 683 .

Today, the Surgeon General announced the findings of a new -----₁ that concludes that smoking

1. (A) movie
(B) election
(C) report
(D) advertisement
(E) scholarship

represents a serious -----₂ to non-smokers as well as to

2. (A) consciousness
(B) hazard
(C) remedy
(D) possibility
(E) adaptation

-----₃. According to the Surgeon General, disease risk

3. (A) cigarettes
(B) fumes
(C) alcoholics
(D) non-smokers
(E) smokers

due to -----₄ of tobacco smoke is not limited to the

4. (A) observation
(B) criticism
(C) improvement
(D) inhalation
(E) incorporation

-----₅ who is smoking, but it can also extend to those

5. (A) individual
(B) corporation
(C) doctor
(D) campaign
(E) reporter

who -----₆ tobacco smoke in the same room. Simple

6. (A) create
(B) breathe
(C) enjoy
(D) ban
(E) exhibit



----- of smokers and non-smokers within the same
7

- 7. (A) encouragement
- (B) prohibition
- (C) separation
- (D) intermingling
- (E) cooperation

airspace may reduce, but does not -----, exposure
8
of non-smokers to environmental smoke. A

- 8. (A) imagine
- (B) increase
- (C) prepare
- (D) intimidate
- (E) eliminate

spokesperson for the tobacco industry ----- the report,
9

- 9. (A) purchased
- (B) prepared
- (C) understood
- (D) criticized
- (E) underscored

saying the available ----- does not support the
10
conclusion that environmental tobacco smoke is a
hazard to non-smokers. On the other hand, the

- 10. (A) alibi
- (B) publicity
- (C) evidence
- (D) reaction
- (E) conversation

Coalition for Smoking on Health, an anti-smoking
organization, ----- the report and called for -----
11 12

- 11. (A) praised
- (B) rejected
- (C) prolonged
- (D) denied
- (E) criticized

government action to ensure a smoke-free environment
for all non-smokers.

- 12. (A) minimal
- (B) immediate
- (C) reactionary
- (D) uncontrolled
- (E) eliminating

DIRECTIONS: For items #13–17, answer each sentence completion using substitution. Circle the letter of your answer choice. Answers are on page **XXX**.

13. The Senator frequently ----- other members of the chamber with unwarranted attacks on their personal lives.
- A. provokes
 - B. analyzes
 - C. enhances
 - D. deprives
 - E. elevates
14. Clyde's ----- occasionally astonished even his closest friends who knew full-well that his had been a(n) ----- childhood.
- A. sophistication . . extended
 - B. naïveté . . sheltered
 - C. wit . . precocious
 - D. knowledge . . difficult
 - E. wisdom . . uneducated
15. Research into sleep suggests that there are several ----- states between sleeping and waking and that it is difficult to determine where one ends and another begins.
- A. serious
 - B. permissive
 - C. predetermined
 - D. unalterable
 - E. intermediate
16. The playwright took a story so sublime that it has offered the ultimate challenge to composers, choreographers, and writers for centuries and, with a wanton heavy-handedness, gave the audience a hackneyed version that descended into -----.
- A. confusion
 - B. bathos
 - C. inattention
 - D. significance
 - E. indecision
17. Sensing his position was all but lost, the speaker launched into -----, hoping to save the day by rhetoric rather than reason.
- A. rationalization
 - B. recapitulation
 - C. dramatization
 - D. exactitude
 - E. peroration

Building Vocabulary with Sentence Completions

DIRECTIONS: Each of the following sentences has one or two blanks. Choose the word or phrase for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence in its entirety. Circle the letter of your answer choice. Answers are on page 798.

1. While the fame of musical geniuses like Mozart and Beethoven endures for centuries, the idols of pop music quickly fade into -----.
 - A. obscurity
 - B. disbelief
 - C. permanence
 - D. poverty
 - E. notoriety

2. In order to prevent an increase in the number of unemployed people, the economy must expand to ----- new jobs to offset those lost to factories in other countries.
 - A. extinguish
 - B. create
 - C. prolong
 - D. conceal
 - E. avoid

3. In order to protect her privacy, the former employee spoke to reporters about the safety violations only after they guaranteed her -----.
 - A. compensation
 - B. publicity
 - C. representation
 - D. anonymity
 - E. loyalty

4. In the *State of Nature*, described by Thomas Hobbes in *Leviathan* as a state of war, one against all others, no individual has sufficient physical strength to be assured of personal security, so all rely on -----.
 - A. animosity
 - B. premeditation
 - C. principles
 - D. prowess
 - E. allies

5. Members of the Research and Development Council had been warned that the prototype was extremely -----, but were pleasantly surprised to see a model with many ----- usually incorporated only much later in the design process.
 - A. crude . . refinements
 - B. flexible . . advances
 - C. rudimentary . . deficiencies
 - D. unreliable . . trappings
 - E. casual . . advantages

6. Although the developmental sequence of the reproductive cycle in insects is similar for many species, the timing can ----- greatly in regard to the beginning and duration of each stage.
 - A. endure
 - B. accelerate
 - C. vary
 - D. proceed
 - E. coincide

7. The “framers’ original intent” theory of Constitutional interpretation, though now ----- within academic circles, still has considerable practical effect because it is ----- by many sitting judges.
- A. propounded . . accepted
 - B. disseminated . . rejected
 - C. corroborated . . critiqued
 - D. dismissed . . espoused
 - E. encapsulated . . emphasized
8. Proponents of a flat tax hope to substitute a single federal revenue-raising measure for the ----- of convoluted and even self-contradictory provisions of the present tax code.
- A. tapestry
 - B. concordance
 - C. cacophony
 - D. duplicity
 - E. welter
9. An examination of the psychological forces that shape the personality of the title character of *The Magus* naturally invites closer study of its form, as story content and form are carefully ----- by Fowles in the novel.
- A. delineated
 - B. anticipated
 - C. integrated
 - D. determined
 - E. reserved
10. The broadcast of the story has seriously compromised the credibility of the entire news department: the key piece of information, though not ----- on the one particular point, is expected to support a vast ----- of implications for which no other proof is offered.
- A. fabricated . . contradiction
 - B. unconvincing . . superstructure
 - C. persuasive . . convocation
 - D. inextricable . . skein
 - E. conclusive . . facsimile
11. By and large, Wittgenstein’s treatment of language in *The Philosophical Investigations* will be ----- to the lay person, but the more ----- points will be grasped only by specialists in the philosophy of language.
- A. granted . . general
 - B. accessible . . esoteric
 - C. concrete . . ingenious
 - D. alien . . technical
 - E. attractive . . abstract
12. For many years, the cost of faculty salaries and benefits rose faster than tuition and contributions to endowments so that some ----- were in danger of becoming -----.
- A. colleges . . expensive
 - B. universities . . insolvent
 - C. students . . dropouts
 - D. unions . . superfluous
 - E. teachers . . replaceable
13. In an effort to render as accurately as possible ----- lighting conditions, French Impressionist Claude Monet worked on several paintings at once, frantically changing canvases as ----- alterations in illumination created almost imperceptible new visual effects.
- A. essential . . unimportant
 - B. transitory . . subtle
 - C. momentary . . evident
 - D. prototypical . . minute
 - E. classical . . improbable
14. During the 1980s, fortunes were made on a seemingly daily basis by ----- traders who ----- conventional wisdom on investing in the stock market.
- A. maverick . . flouted
 - B. rogue . . applied
 - C. impoverished . . acknowledged
 - D. devious . . promulgated
 - E. renegade . . propounded



15. A fire in the Peoples Republic of China destroyed the factory responsible for producing most of the world's RAM memory components; the ensuing shortage was so ----- that computer users came to believe that the high prices were the result of ----- by suppliers.
- A. prolonged . . coddling
 - B. insignificant . . touting
 - C. ineffectual . . directing
 - D. severe . . gouging
 - E. unpredictable . . misleading
16. The idea that a single individual can alter the course of history is not mere speculation; in fact, well-documented instances are not even -----.
- A. established
 - B. confirmable
 - C. conceivable
 - D. actualized
 - E. exceptional
17. Some proponents of an author's lending royalty plan argue that borrowing a book from a library is a form of ----- since the reader enjoys the intellectual property without ----- the author.
- A. theft . . acknowledging
 - B. piracy . . protecting
 - C. contract . . paying
 - D. servitude . . releasing
 - E. larceny . . compensating
18. Though it seemed that director Robert Altman had firmly established his artistic reputation with the nomination of *Nashville* for Best Film of 1970, the 1979 film *Quintet*, perhaps the ----- of his career, earned him only the ----- of the critics.
- A. nadir . . disapprobation
 - B. continuation . . notice
 - C. denouement . . acclaim
 - D. climax . . commentary
 - E. low point . . recommendation
19. Albert's advanced degree in urban planning made him the most qualified person on the committee, but his status as the junior member made his criticism of transportation policy seem ----- even though his remarks were always -----.
- A. unwarranted . . superficial
 - B. opportunistic . . spontaneous
 - C. presumptuous . . incisive
 - D. vapid . . insincere
 - E. practical . . inappropriate
20. The professor's ----- treatment of students in the classroom contrasted with her behavior in the office, where those who sought advice found her to be genuinely ----- to their problems.
- A. supercilious . . sympathetic
 - B. arrogant . . indifferent
 - C. cavalier . . calloused
 - D. cautious . . attentive
 - E. inconsistent . . hardened
21. Legal positivists deny that international law can properly be called law because international organizations can only ----- prohibited conduct but do nothing to ----- it.
- A. investigate . . review
 - B. identify . . encourage
 - C. provoke . . rectify
 - D. outline . . satisfy
 - E. define . . punish
22. Following the ----- emotional pleas for passage of the bill by members known for rambling speeches, the ----- argument for its rejection was a welcome relief for the House.
- A. protracted . . trenchant
 - B. lengthy . . specious
 - C. flowery . . ornate
 - D. undisguised . . deceiving
 - E. blatant . . unfocused

23. In his treatment of science, Ernst Cassirer rejects the traditional ----- of fact and theory, approvingly quoting Goethe as saying “All fact is theory.”
- A. asymmetry
 - B. dichotomy
 - C. frequency
 - D. conjunction
 - E. dysfunction
24. Although Jacques Derrida’s writings held considerable theoretical promise, deconstructionism in America quickly deteriorated into a ----- as academics of limited intellectual ability mimicked its style without ----- its secrets.
- A. farce . . plumbing
 - B. battle . . understanding
 - C. burlesque . . concealing
 - D. comedy . . purporting
 - E. pretense . . sharing
25. Students had become so ----- to the principal’s capriciousness that they greeted the announcement of yet another dress code with complete indifference.
- A. receptive
 - B. inured
 - C. sensitive
 - D. attuned
 - E. evasive
26. Recent journalistic reports of respected researchers ----- experimental results favorable to their own theories ----- the popular conception of science as a pure search for the truth.
- A. manufacturing . . supports
 - B. presenting . . belies
 - C. finding . . reinforces
 - D. fabricating . . contradicts
 - E. concealing . . undermines
27. A recurring theme in science fiction is the contest between good and evil for control over technology that is, in itself, -----.
- A. productive
 - B. ill-conceived
 - C. independent
 - D. amoral
 - E. inconsequential
28. In *The Ontology of Political Violence*, Professor Nogarola argues that so-called ----- evidence often dismissed as unreliable would be admissible in a court of law as testimony and has value in the political arena as well.
- A. anecdotal
 - B. practical
 - C. sensational
 - D. collaborative
 - E. probative
29. Ironically, the modern Olympic games, which are held up as the ideal of amateur athletics, originated with games in honor of Athena in which winners were rewarded not with laurel wreaths of little ----- worth but oil-filled amphorae with considerable ----- value.
- A. practical . . sentimental
 - B. financial . . honorific
 - C. market . . aesthetic
 - D. capital . . sacrificial
 - E. intrinsic . . economic
30. Supply creates its own demand; and advertising, if sufficiently -----, can convince consumers to ----- products for which they have little desire and even less need.
- A. strident . . approve
 - B. pervasive . . purchase
 - C. unscrupulous . . honor
 - D. distasteful . . disregard
 - E. vehement . . anticipate



31. In an effort to ----- the strike, the mediators suggested a compromise that they thought would be ----- to both the union and the company.
- A. shorten . . unpalatable
 - B. resolve . . satisfactory
 - C. end . . unacceptable
 - D. extend . . acceptable
 - E. accelerate . . puzzling
32. Because of the tremendous magnifying power of the Hubble Telescope, astronomical features that were before ----- are now resolved into fine detail.
- A. indistinguishable
 - B. inapplicable
 - C. intractable
 - D. inalienable
 - E. invaluable
33. Paradoxically, the more the audiences applauded his performances and critics praised his artistic accomplishments, the more ----- Isaac felt about his ability as a musician.
- A. decisive
 - B. insecure
 - C. confident
 - D. reluctant
 - E. assertive
34. An important goal of Black History Month is to ensure that African-Americans who have often received too little credit for their achievements in fields ranging from literature to physics are more widely -----.
- A. sustained
 - B. acknowledged
 - C. embellished
 - D. retained
 - E. envied
35. The directors who favored the plan to diversify overseas operations, though in ----- following their failed experiment on the domestic side, constituted a sufficiently ----- political force on the Board to gain a favorable vote.
- A. retreat . . cohesive
 - B. disarray . . ineffective
 - C. control . . powerful
 - D. abeyance . . contentious
 - E. disfavor . . fragmented
36. Our relegation of the fairy tale to the status of bedtime reading for children has resulted in the ----- of the goriest details from the Grimm tales.
- A. ratification
 - B. reinsertion
 - C. accentuation
 - D. expurgation
 - E. codification
37. For all of his outlandish costumes and immoderate behavior on-stage, rock musician Arlen Quigby was, in his private life, a(n) ----- person who was described by associates as a simple businessman.
- A. enigmatic
 - B. famous
 - C. conventional
 - D. unstable
 - E. flamboyant
38. As vaccines have become increasingly -----, cases of Haemophilus influenza among children under the age of five dropped nearly 99% in the last ten years, and the disease has been nearly -----.
- A. routine . . eradicated
 - B. virile . . annihilated
 - C. innocuous . . obliterated
 - D. problematic . . rampant
 - E. inefficacious . . contained

39. The script writers for the stage version of Kipling's *Just So Stories* wisely decided to make only ----- use of the author's original diction; the occasional flashes of alliteration are charming but overdone; their arcane sound would quickly have become ----- to the modern ear.
- A. judicious . . familiar
 - B. intermittent . . inaudible
 - C. sporadic . . cloying
 - D. exacting . . familiar
 - E. limited . . dissonant
40. Several highly publicized disagreements within the scientific community have become so ----- that many lay people now wonder whether the scientific process is a search for the truth or a contest of -----.
- A. repetitive . . platitudes
 - B. egregious . . wills
 - C. cacophonous . . theories
 - D. acrimonious . . egos
 - E. exuberant . . resources

Building Vocabulary with Antonyms

Antonym items ask you to find a word that means the opposite of the given word.

Example:

ACCEPT:

- A. desire
- B. pretend
- C. reject
- D. inquire
- E. trap

(C) is the correct answer choice because to reject something is the opposite of to accept something.

Antonym items on standardized tests tend to be arranged in order of increasing difficulty since they test variations on meaning. Consider another example:

Example:

CULTIVATED:

- A. treacherous
- B. prepared
- C. worried
- D. insightful
- E. uncultured

“Cultivated” can function as a verb or an adjective. To determine what part of speech is being tested, examine all of the answer choices. (B) and (C) can be verbs or adjectives. (A), (D), and (E) can only be adjectives. So, in this case, the item stem (“CULTIVATED”) should be treated as an adjective. The primary definition of the adjective “cultivated” is “of, or relating to the preparation of land.” You might anticipate an adjective like “fallow” as a possible antonym; however, no such word appears in the answer choices. Instead, the secondary definition of the adjective “cultivated” (“cultured” or “highly developed”) is being tested. For example, a person may have cultivated or refined tastes. Therefore, (E) is the correct answer choice because “uncultured” means the opposite of “cultivated.”

The two definitions of the adjective “cultivated” are not unrelated, and you should be able to see that the literal idea of cultivating land resembles the more figurative idea of cultivating or refining one’s taste. Both definitions involve the idea of refinement or improvement. Such relationships between definitions are referred to as “echoes”. Correctly answering antonym items often depends on the ability to hear these echoes.

In the following example, the meaning of a word varies based on whether it’s used as a noun or a verb. As a result, the antonym item is more difficult.

Example:

AIR:

- A. vacate
- B. remind
- C. take
- D. conceal
- E. pose

The word “air” typically functions as a noun, which means “atmosphere.” Again, though, review all of the answer choices to determine the part of speech being tested. All of the answer choices function only as verbs except for (E), which can also function as a noun. So, the item stem (“AIR”) should be treated as a verb. The verb “air” can mean either “to expose to air” or “to make public.” Both of these definitions involve the idea of exposure. Therefore, (D) is the correct answer choice because to conceal, which means “to hide,” is the opposite of to publicize.

Building Vocabulary with Analogies

Analogy items, like antonym items, test your ability to understand relationships between vocabulary words. The most helpful example of an analogy is a mathematical proportion:

$$\frac{2}{3} = \frac{10}{15}$$

This mathematical statement asserts that 2 has the same relationship to 3 that 10 has to 15. This parallelism is an important feature of all analogies. We find the same parallelism in the following verbal analogy:

PULVERIZE : DUST :: SHATTER : SHARDS

The colons in the verbal analogy serve the same function as the slashes in the mathematical proportion. Also, the double colon in the verbal analogy serves the same function as the equals sign in the mathematical proportion:

$$\frac{\text{PULVERIZE}}{\text{DUST}} = \frac{\text{SHATTER}}{\text{SHARDS}}$$

This verbal analogy asserts that “pulverize” has the same relationship to “dust” as “shatter” has to “shards.” To pulverize something is to reduce it to dust, and to shatter something is to reduce it to shards.

Verbal analogies are also often characterized by a secondary feature. To pulverize and to shatter are *both* means of destruction, and dust and shards are *both* the results of destruction. Such secondary relationships can often help you answer analogy items more quickly and accurately.

Building Vocabulary through Context

Unlike other vocabulary books that provide random lists of words and their definitions, this program builds vocabulary by helping you to learn the meaning of words in the context of short stories, essays, and other types of reading selections.

Students often believe that if they don't know what a word means, they won't be able to answer correctly an item that includes that word. This is simply not true. This section will help you to recognize word parts, become more familiar with challenging vocabulary words, and use context clues to determine what difficult words mean. This section will also help you to understand the logical structure of a sentence and how to use that understanding to anticipate appropriate words in vocabulary-related items.

The exercises in this section will enrich and build your vocabulary skills. You will learn vocabulary words in the context of a reading selection (vocabulary-in-context and sentence completion items) so you can actually learn them rather than simply memorize them. Additionally, antonym and analogy items will build your awareness of “echoes” or secondary relationships—a skill that will also strengthen your vocabulary and reading skills.

Building Vocabulary through Context

DIRECTIONS: The following passage is followed by several items. Read the passage and choose the best answer for each item based on what is stated or implied in the passage. You may refer to the passage as often as necessary to answer the items. Answers are on page 798.

SOCIAL SCIENCE: The following passage is an excerpt from a history of the political career of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the “Declaration of Independence.”

“Heartily tired” from the brutal, almost daily conflicts that erupted over questions of national policy between himself and Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson resigned his position as Secretary of State in 5 1793. Although his Federalist opponents were convinced that this was merely a strategic withdrawal to allow him an opportunity to plan and promote his candidacy for the Presidency should Washington step down in 1796, Jefferson insisted that this retirement 10 from public life was to be final.

But even in retirement, the world of politics pursued him. As the election grew nearer and it became apparent that Washington would not seek a third term, rumors of Jefferson’s Presidential ambitions grew in 15 intensity. Reacting to these continuous insinuations in a letter to James Madison, Jefferson allowed that while the idea that he coveted the office of chief executive had been originated by his enemies to impugn his political motives, he had been forced to examine his 20 true feelings on the subject for his own peace of mind. In so doing he concluded that his reasons for retirement—the desire for privacy, and the delight of family life—coupled with his now failing health were insuperable barriers to public service. The “little spice 25 of ambition” he had in his younger days had long since evaporated and the question of his Presidency was forever closed.

Jefferson did not actively engage in the campaign on his own behalf. The Republican party, anticipating 30 modern campaign tactics, created grass roots sentiment

for their candidate by directing their efforts toward the general populace. In newspapers, Jefferson was presented as the uniform advocate of equal rights among the citizens while Adams was portrayed as the champion of rank, titles, heredity, and distinctions. 35 Jefferson was not certain of the outcome of the election until the end of December. Under the original electoral system established by the Constitution, each Presidential elector cast his ballot for two men without designating between them as to office. The candidate 40 who received the greater number of votes became the President; the second highest, the Vice President. Jefferson foresaw on the basis of his own calculations that the electoral vote would be close. He wrote to 45 Madison that in the event of a tie, he wished for the choice to be in favor of Adams. In public life, the New Englander had always been senior to Jefferson; and so, he explained, the expression of public will being equal, Adams should be preferred for the higher honor. 50 Jefferson, a shrewd politician, realized that the transition of power from the nearly mythical Washington to a lesser luminary in the midst of the deep and bitter political divisions facing the nation could be perilous, and he had no desire to be caught in 55 the storm that had been brewing for four years and was about to break. “This is certainly not a moment to covet the helm,” he wrote to Edward Rutledge. When the electoral vote was tallied, Adams emerged the victor. Rejoicing at his “escape,” Jefferson was completely 60 satisfied with the decision. Despite their obvious and basic political differences, Jefferson genuinely respected John Adams as a friend and compatriot. Although Jefferson believed that *Adams* had deviated from the course set in 1776, in Jefferson’s eyes he 65 never suffered diminution; and Jefferson was quite confident that Adams would not steer the nation too far from its Republican tack. Within two years, Jefferson’s views would be drastically altered as measures such as the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 convinced him of 70 the need to wrest control of the government from the Federalists.

1. In line 1, the word *heartily* most nearly means:
 - A. sincerely.
 - B. vigorously.
 - C. zealously.
 - D. completely.

2. In line 10, the word *public* most nearly means:
 - A. communal.
 - B. open.
 - C. official.
 - D. people.

3. In line 10, the word *final* most nearly means:
 - A. last.
 - B. closing.
 - C. ultimate.
 - D. conclusive.

4. In line 16, the word *allowed* most nearly means:
 - A. permitted.
 - B. admitted.
 - C. tolerated.
 - D. granted.

5. In line 29, the word *anticipating* most nearly means:
 - A. expecting.
 - B. presaging.
 - C. awaiting.
 - D. inviting.

6. In line 33, the word *uniform* most nearly means:
 - A. standard.
 - B. unchanging.
 - C. militant.
 - D. popular.

7. In line 35, the word *champion* most nearly means:
 - A. victor.
 - B. opponent.
 - C. colleague.
 - D. defender.

8. In line 47, the word *senior* most nearly means:
 - A. older in age.
 - B. higher in rank.
 - C. graduate.
 - D. mentor.

9. In line 52, the word *luminary* most nearly means:
 - A. bright object.
 - B. famous person.
 - C. office holder.
 - D. candidate.

10. In line 65, the word *diminution* most nearly means:
 - A. foreshortening.
 - B. shrinkage.
 - C. abatement.
 - D. degradation.

Vocabulary Builder: Prose Fiction Passages

DIRECTIONS: Each passage in this exercise is followed by sets of sentence completion, vocabulary-in-context, antonym, and analogy items for building vocabulary through context. In addition to using the passages to infer word meanings, you may use a dictionary or refer to the Vocabulary List beginning on page 655.

The first set of items following each passage are sentence completion items based on words from the passage. Each sentence has one blank. Choose the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence in its entirety.

The second set of items following each passage are vocabulary-in-context items based on words from the passage. Choose the best answer for each item based on what is stated or implied in the passage.

The third set of items following each passage are antonym items based on words from the passage. For each item, choose the word that has a meaning most nearly opposite of the capitalized word.

The fourth set of items following each passage are analogy items based on words from the passage. For each item, find the pair of words that expresses a relationship most like that expressed by the capitalized words.

Answers are on page 798.

Passage I

PROSE FICTION: This passage is adapted from Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Oval Portrait.”

The portrait was that of a young girl. It was a mere head and shoulders, done in what is technically termed a vignette manner; much in the style of the favorite heads of Sully. The arms, the bosom, and even the ends of the radiant hair, melted imperceptibly into the vague yet deep shadow, which formed the background of the whole. The metallic yellow frame was a valuable oval, richly gilded and filigreed in exquisitely fine detail. As a thing of art nothing could be more admirable than the painting itself. But it could have been neither the execution of the work nor the immortal beauty of the countenance, which had so suddenly and so vehemently moved me. Least of all could it have been that my fancy, shaken from its half slumber, had mistaken the head for that of a living person. I saw at once that the peculiarities of the design, of the vignetting, and of the frame, must have instantly dispelled such ideas—must have prevented even its momentary entertainment. Thinking earnestly upon these points, I remained, for an hour perhaps, half sitting, half reclining, with my vision riveted upon the portrait. At length, satisfied with the true secret of its

effect, I fell back within the bed. I had found the spell of the picture in an absolute *life-likeness* of expression, which at first startling, finally confounded, subdued, and appalled me. With deep and reverent awe, I replaced the candelabrum in its former position. The cause of my deep agitation being thus shut from view, I sought eagerly the volume which discussed the paintings and their histories. Turning to the number which designated the oval portrait, I there read the vague and quaint words which follow:

“She was a maiden of rarest beauty, and not more lovely than full of glee. And evil was the hour when she saw, and loved, and wedded the painter. He, passionate, studious, austere, and having already a bride in his Art; she all light and smiles and frolicsome as the young fawn; loving and cherishing all things: hating only the Art which was her rival; dreading only the palette and brushes and other untoward instruments which deprived her of the countenance of her lover. It was thus a terrible thing for this lady to hear the painter speak of his desire to portray even his young bride. But she was humble and obedient, and sat meekly for many weeks in the dark high turret-chamber where the light dripped upon the pale canvas only from overhead. But he, the painter, took glory in his work, which went on from hour to hour from day to day. And he was a

passionate and moody man, who became lost in
 50 reveries; so that he *would* not see that the light which
 fell so ghastly in that lone turret withered the health
 and the spirits of his bride, who pined visibly to all but
 him. Yet she smiled on and still on, uncomplainingly,
 55 because she saw that the painter (who had great
 renown) took a fervid and burning pleasure in his task,
 and wrought day and night to depict her who so loved
 him, yet who grew daily more dispirited and weak.
 And in sooth some who beheld the portrait spoke of its
 60 resemblance in low words, as of a mighty marvel, and
 a proof not less of the power of the painter than of his
 deep love for her, whom he depicted so surpassingly
 well. But at length, as the labor drew nearer to its
 conclusion, there were admitted none into the turret;
 for the painter had grown wild with the ardor of his
 65 work, and turned his eyes from the canvas rarely, even
 to regard the countenance of his wife. And he would
 not see that the tints which he spread on the canvas
 were drawn from the cheeks of her who sat beside him.
 And when many weeks had passed, but little remained
 70 to do, save one brush upon the mouth and one tint upon
 the eye, the spirit of the lady again flickered up as the
 flame within the socket of the lamp. And then the brush
 was given, and the tint was placed; and for one
 moment, the painter stood entranced before the work
 75 which he had wrought but in the next, while he yet
 gazed, he grew tremulous and very pallid, and aghast,
 and crying with a loud voice, ‘this is indeed *Life* itself!’
 turned suddenly to regard his beloved—*She was dead!*”

- The physical differences between the fraternal twins were so ----- that only their family members were able to tell them apart.
 - apparent
 - invisible
 - detectable
 - imperceptible
 - noticeable
- Many Republicans are ----- opposed to fighting climate change with legislation, charging that the Democrat’s current bill would drastically raise costs for the average American family.
 - impassively
 - sarcastically
 - vehemently
 - ironically
 - humbly

- To help control the rapidly increasing national debt, the Finance Minister recently announced a very ----- set of economic measures that drastically cut government services.
 - mysterious
 - lackadaisical
 - lenient
 - inept
 - austere
- The critic wrote in her review of the ballet that the ----- and conviction with which the dancers performed excused any minor imperfections in the overall performance.
 - doubt
 - ardor
 - flawlessness
 - indifference
 - deliberation
- When the animal control officer cornered the stray dog in an attempt to catch it, the dog bristled and whined in a low ----- tone.
 - tremulous
 - confident
 - unexpected
 - erratic
 - passive
- It can be inferred that the word *vignette*, as it is used in line 3, primarily refers to:
 - a brief incident or scene.
 - a particular style of brushstroke.
 - a short musical composition.
 - a picture with no definite border, shading off gradually at its edges.
- In line 8, *gilded* is best understood to mean:
 - sponsored.
 - overlaid with gold.
 - entangled.
 - overfilled.



8. In line 8, *filigreed* is best understood to mean:
- A. excessive greed or avarice.
 - B. characterized by lack of taste.
 - C. adorned with delicate ornamentation.
 - D. to be unfounded.
9. As it is used in line 12, the word *countenance* most nearly means:
- A. facial features.
 - B. approval.
 - C. pretense.
 - D. motif.
10. In context, *designated* (line 31) most nearly means:
- A. delegated.
 - B. indicated.
 - C. appointed.
 - D. delivered.
11. In line 40, *untoward* most nearly means:
- A. appropriate.
 - B. disorderly.
 - C. fortunate.
 - D. troublesome.
12. It can be inferred that the word *reveries*, as it is used in line 50, primarily refers to:
- A. indifferences.
 - B. daydreams.
 - C. certainties.
 - D. reverences.
13. As it is used in line 52, the word *pined* most nearly means:
- A. longed for.
 - B. increased.
 - C. wasted away.
 - D. imagined.
14. In line 55, *renown* is best understood to mean:
- A. fame.
 - B. aptitude.
 - C. obscurity.
 - D. perseverance.
15. As it is used in line 56, the word *wrought* most nearly means:
- A. hammered.
 - B. wreaked havoc.
 - C. worked with great care.
 - D. operated carelessly.
16. WITHER:
- A. embarrass
 - B. ignore
 - C. nurture
 - D. produce
 - E. limit
17. CONFOUND:
- A. announce
 - B. beckon
 - C. ridicule
 - D. welcome
 - E. clarify
18. PALLID:
- A. colorful
 - B. ancient
 - C. private
 - D. talkative
 - E. excellent
19. APPALLING:
- A. visible
 - B. pleasing
 - C. widening
 - D. knowing
 - E. humane

20. AGITATE:

- A. remind
- B. select
- C. list
- D. delete
- E. quiet

21. ENTRANCE:

- A. elongate
- B. bore
- C. reward
- D. accept
- E. withdraw

22. SUBDUED:

- A. active
- B. hidden
- C. queer
- D. perfect
- E. wooden

23. DISPEL:

- A. wince
- B. correct
- C. assemble
- D. attempt
- E. grin

24. FERVID:

- A. cool
- B. sad
- C. enjoyable
- D. incomplete
- E. reckless

25. QUAIN:

- A. homey
- B. current
- C. stiff
- D. backward
- E. likable

26. ENTERTAIN : PROPOSAL ::

- A. suppress : revival
- B. sign : form
- C. invite : retaliation
- D. consider : suggestion
- E. address: conference

27. EXECUTE : PLAN ::

- A. punish : criminal
- B. obey : refusal
- C. deny : hope
- D. accept : question
- E. fulfill : dream

28. PORTRAY : CHARACTER ::

- A. act : role
- B. describe : drama
- C. direct : orchestrate
- D. perform : actor
- E. write : report

29. CHERISH : DEAR ::

- A. reject : suitor
- B. enable : law
- C. hoard : jewel
- D. treasure : valuable
- E. deposit : money

30. AWE : DREAD ::

- A. concern : delight
- B. fright: reassure
- C. fear : alarm
- D. invitation : beckon
- E. agreement: negotiate

Passage II

PROSE FICTION: This passage is adapted from Arthur Conan Doyle’s “The Adventure of the Devil’s Foot.”

In recording from time to time some of the curious experiences and interesting recollections, which I associate with my long and intimate friendship with Mr. Sherlock Holmes, I have continually been
5 faced with difficulties caused by his own aversion to publicity. To his sombre and cynical spirit all popular applause was always abhorrent, and nothing amused him more at the end of a successful case than to hand over the actual exposure to some orthodox official, and
10 to listen with a mocking smile to the general chorus of misplaced congratulation. It was indeed this attitude upon the part of my friend and certainly not any lack of interesting material, which has caused me of late years to lay very few of my records before the public. My
15 participation in some of his adventures was always a privilege, which entailed discretion and reticence upon me.

It was in the spring of the year 1897 that Holmes’s iron constitution showed some symptoms of
20 giving way in the face of constant hard work of a most exacting kind, aggravated perhaps by occasional indiscretions of his own. In March of that year Dr. Moore Agar, of Harley Street, whose dramatic
25 introduction to Holmes I may some day recount, gave positive injunctions that the famous private agent lay aside all his cases and surrender himself to complete rest if he wished to avert an absolute breakdown. The state of his health was not a matter in which he himself
30 took the faintest interest, for his mental detachment was absolute, but he was induced at last, on the threat of being permanently disqualified from work, to give himself a complete change of scene and air. Thus, it was that in the early spring of that year we found
35 ourselves together in a small cottage near Poldhu Bay, at the further extremity of the Cornish peninsula.

It was a singular spot, and one peculiarly well suited to the grim humor of my patient. From the windows of our little whitewashed house, which stood
40 high upon a grassy headland, we looked down upon the whole sinister semicircle of Mounts Bay, that old death trap of sailing vessels, with its fringe of black cliffs and surge-swept reefs on which innumerable seamen have met their end. With a northerly breeze it lies placid and sheltered, inviting the storm-tossed craft to tack into it
45 for rest and protection.

Then come the sudden swirl round of the wind, the blustering gale from the south-west, the dragging anchor, the lee shore, and the last battle in the creaming breakers. The wise mariner stands far out from that evil
50 place.

On the land side our surroundings were as sombre as on the sea. It was a country of rolling moors, lonely and dun-colored, with an occasional church tower to mark the site of some old-world village. In every
55 direction upon these moors were traces of some vanished race, which has passed utterly away, and left as its sole record strange monuments of stone, irregular mounds which contained the burned ashes of the dead, and curious earthworks which hinted at prehistoric
60 strife. The glamour and mystery of the place, with its sinister atmosphere of forgotten nations, appealed to the imagination of my friend, and he spent much of his time in long walks and solitary meditations upon the moor. The ancient Cornish language had also arrested
65 his attention, and he had, I remember, conceived the idea that it was akin to Chaldean, and had been largely derived from the Phoenician traders in tin. He had received a consignment of books upon philology and was settling down to develop this thesis when
70 suddenly, to my sorrow, and to his unfeigned delight, we found ourselves, even in that land of dreams, plunged into a problem at our very doors which was more intense, more engrossing, and infinitely more mysterious than any of those which had driven us from
75 London. Our simple life and peaceful, healthy routine were violently interrupted, and we were precipitated into the midst of a series of events, which caused the utmost excitement not only in Cornwall but throughout the whole west of England. Many of my readers may
80 retain some recollection of what was called at the time “The Cornish Horror,” though a most imperfect account of the matter reached the London press. Now, after some thirteen years, I will give the true details of this inconceivable affair to the public.

31. Due to her strong moral ----- to eating animals or animal-by-products, Maggie has been a life-long vegetarian.

- A. adversity
- B. aversion
- C. sympathy
- D. confliction
- E. upbringing

32. Trafficking in human beings and other contemporary forms of slavery constitute a(n) ----- violation of the dignity and rights of human beings.
- A. alluring
 - B. laudatory
 - C. docile
 - D. abhorrent
 - E. pedestrian
33. J. D. Salinger was best known for his 1951 novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, as well as his ----- and reclusive nature following his withdrawal from public life in 1965.
- A. arrogance
 - B. experience
 - C. loquaciousness
 - D. nervousness
 - E. reticence
34. The governor stepped down from office after his ----- were made public and the state assembly demanded his resignation.
- A. decisions
 - B. prudence
 - C. indiscretions
 - D. responsibilities
 - E. virtues
35. In his book, *The Great Crash, 1929*, John Kenneth Galbraith argued that the 1929 stock market crash was ----- by rampant speculation and the belief of participants that they could become rich without work.
- A. considered
 - B. precipitated
 - C. protracted
 - D. belabored
 - E. delivered
36. In line 9, *orthodox* is best understood to mean:
- A. conventional.
 - B. original.
 - C. eccentric.
 - D. personal.
37. The word *recount* (line 24) most nearly means to:
- A. conceal facts.
 - B. calculate.
 - C. reimburse.
 - D. tell a story in detail.
38. Based on the use of the word *injunctions* in line 25, it can be inferred that *injunction* primarily refers to a(n):
- A. command.
 - B. embargo.
 - C. ruling.
 - D. reprimand.
39. In line 36, *singular* is closest in meaning to:
- A. similar.
 - B. allegorical.
 - C. individual.
 - D. remarkable.
40. As it is used in line 43, the word *placid* most nearly means:
- A. flabby.
 - B. calm.
 - C. noisy.
 - D. appeasable.
41. It can be inferred that the word *tack*, as it is used in line 44, primarily means to:
- A. deal fairly.
 - B. fasten.
 - C. change course.
 - D. attack.
42. It can be inferred that the word *lee*, as it is used in line 48, primarily refers to:
- A. the side sheltered from the wind.
 - B. the rear of a boat.
 - C. a breeze from the west.
 - D. the far side of an object.

43. As it is used in line 68, the word *consignment* most likely refers to:

- A. a meeting or appointment.
- B. a homework assignment.
- C. items in a shipment.
- D. an error in communication.

44. In line 70, *unfeigned* most nearly means:

- A. affected.
- B. legitimate.
- C. insincere.
- D. genuine.

45. In line 80, *recollection* refers to a(n):

- A. collection of items.
- B. recalled memory.
- C. religious contemplation.
- D. act of recoiling.

46. SOMBRE:

- A. lacking movement
- B. brightly colored
- C. overly long
- D. completely finished
- E. high overhead

47. INTIMATE:

- A. stranger
- B. official
- C. bungler
- D. drunkard
- E. author

48. POPULAR:

- A. incorrect
- B. improper
- C. unknown
- D. righteous
- E. welcome

49. ARREST:

- A. back up
- B. start up
- C. move up
- D. slow up
- E. accelerate

50. EXACTING:

- A. faithful
- B. vengeful
- C. hopeful
- D. desirous
- E. lenient

51. SURRENDER:

- A. resist
- B. invite
- C. renew
- D. follow
- E. mistreat

52. INDUCED:

- A. exhaled
- B. reminded
- C. confirmed
- D. discouraged
- E. started

53. BLUSTERING:

- A. content
- B. quiet
- C. fearful
- D. sad
- E. determined

54. IMPERFECT:

- A. complete
- B. flowery
- C. wishful
- D. contrived
- E. aged

55. MEDITATE:

- A. remember
- B. foresee
- C. act
- D. deny
- E. understand

56. PHILOLOGY : LANGUAGE ::

- A. biology : physics
- B. astrology : astronomy
- C. archaeology : relics
- D. learning : study
- E. geology : geography

57. AGGRAVATE : CONDITION ::

- A. inform : announcement
- B. confirm : doubt
- C. relax : play
- D. insist : option
- E. worsen: problem

58. SINISTER : EVIL ::

- A. threatening : danger
- B. entertaining : drama
- C. fanciful : book
- D. conclusive : end
- E. protective : help

59. SOLITARY : CROWDED ::

- A. confined : locked
- B. comfortable : padded
- C. empty : occupied
- D. fortunate : lucky
- E. medical : healthy

60. DETACHED : CONNECTION ::

- A. harmful : fear
- B. unconscious : awareness
- C. permanent : foundation
- D. rewarding : profit
- E. gloomy : health

Passage III

PROSE FICTION: This passage is adapted from a letter written by the playwright George Bernard Shaw in response to critics of his plays.

10 There is a good reason, however, why I should take this haughty attitude towards those representative critics whose complaint is that my plays, though not unentertaining, lack the elevation of sentiment and seriousness of purpose of Shakespeare and Ibsen. They can find, under the surface brilliancy for which they give me credit, no coherent thought or sympathy, and accuse me, in various terms and degrees, of an inhuman and freakish wantonness; of preoccupation with “the seamy side of life”; of paradox, cynicism, and eccentricity, reducible, as some contend, to a trite formula of treating bad as good, and good as bad, important as trivial, and trivial and important, serious as laughable, and laughable as serious and so forth. As to this formula I can only say that if anyone is simple enough to think that even a good comic opera can be produced by it, I invite him to try his hand, and see whether anything remotely resembling one of my plays will result.

20 I could explain the matter easily enough if I chose, but the result would be that people who misunderstand the plays would misunderstand the explanation ten times more. The particular exceptions taken are seldom more than symptoms of the underlying fundamental disagreement between the romantic morality of the critics and the realistic morality of the plays. For example, I am quite aware the Swiss officer in *Arms and the Man* is not a conventional stage soldier. He suffers from want of food and sleep; his nerves go to pieces after three days under fire, ending in the horrors of a rout and pursuit; he has found by experience it is more important to have a few bits of chocolate to eat than cartridges for his revolver. When many of my critics rejected these circumstances as fantastically improbable and cynically unnatural, it was not necessary to argue them into common sense; all I had to do was to brain them, so to speak, with the first half-dozen military authorities at hand. But when it proved that such unromantic facts implied to them a denial of the existence of courage, patriotism, faith, hope, and charity, I saw it was not really mere matter of fact at issue between us.

45 The real issue between us is whether idealism can survive the general onslaught, which is implicit in *Arms and the Man* and other realistic plays. For my

part, I hope not; for idealism, which is only a flattering name for romance in politics and morals, is as obnoxious to me as romance is in ethics or religion. I can no longer be satisfied with fictitious morals and fictitious good conduct, shedding fictitious glory on overcrowding, disease, crime, drink, war cruelty, infant mortality, all the other commonplaces of civilization which drive men to the theater to make foolish pretenses. These things are progress, science, morals, religion, patriotism, imperial supremacy, national greatness, and all the other names the newspapers call them.

50 On the other hand, I see plenty of good in the world working itself out as fast as the idealists will allow it; if they would only leave it alone and learn to respect reality, which would include the beneficial exercise of respecting themselves, and incidentally respecting me, we should all get along much better and faster. At all events, I do not see moral chaos and anarchy as the alternative to romantic convention; furthermore, I am not going to pretend that I do just to please the less clear-sighted people who are convinced the world is only held together by the force of unanimous, strenuous, eloquent, trumpet-tongued lying. To me, the tragedy and comedy of life lie in the consequences, sometimes terrible, sometimes ludicrous, of the persistent attempts to found our institutions on the ideas suggested to our imaginations by our half-satisfied passions, instead of on a genuinely scientific natural history.

61. Dazed by the explosion, nothing Fredrick said was -----; he babbled about the need for lace curtains on the machine shop windows.

- A. illogical
- B. coherent
- C. adequate
- D. sensitive
- E. informal

62. The suspect drove his car at 60 miles per hour through the school zone, demonstrating a(n) ----- disregard for the safety of the school-children.
- A. justifiable
 B. moral
 C. ambitious
 D. lucid
 E. wanton
63. The aviation magnate Howard Hughes is remembered for his ----- behavior and reclusive lifestyle in later life, caused in part by a worsening obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- A. gregarious
 B. customary
 C. eccentric
 D. habitual
 E. extroverted
64. The politician claimed that he would ----- middle-class income taxes by eliminating wasteful government spending and fraud.
- A. enhance
 B. augment
 C. increase
 D. reduce
 E. maintain
65. Arguably one of the most ----- presidents in American history, John F. Kennedy delivered an inaugural address in 1961 that was an inspirational call to action.
- A. inarticulate
 B. reticent
 C. taciturn
 D. belligerent
 E. eloquent
66. Based on the use of the word *elevation* in line 4, it can be inferred that *elevate* means to:
- A. decrease or drop.
 B. raise or lift up.
 C. assess or estimate.
 D. intensify or accelerate.
67. As it is used in line 10, the word *seamy* most nearly means:
- A. wholesome
 B. feeble
 C. unpleasant
 D. vigorous
68. In line 10, *paradox* is best understood to mean a(n):
- A. contradiction
 B. insincerity
 C. intricacy
 D. obscurity
69. The word *cynicism* (line 10) refers to the belief that:
- A. there are not absolute truths about the world.
 B. negative perceptions are the cause of negative realities.
 C. people and events are inherently good.
 D. human nature and motives cannot be trusted.
70. As the word *realistic* is used in line 26, it can be inferred that *realism* refers to the principle of:
- A. representation through generalization.
 B. representation without idealization.
 C. reproduction by individualization.
 D. change through moderate action.
71. In line 43, *idealism* refers to behavior or thought based on:
- A. a conception of things as one wishes them to be, rather than as they actually are.
 B. a conception of how things actually are.
 C. a conception of people motivated only by greed or some other selfish motive.
 D. delusion of persecution or extreme fear.

72. It can be inferred that the word *onslaught*, as it is used in line 44, primarily refers to a(n):

- A. apology.
- B. justification.
- C. attack.
- D. excuse.

73. Based on the use of the word *pretenses* in line 54, it can be inferred that *pretense* refers to all of the following EXCEPT:

- A. a charade.
- B. pretension.
- C. candor.
- D. a false claim.

74. In line 61, *beneficial* most nearly means:

- A. bountiful.
- B. helpful.
- C. extensive.
- D. refreshing.

75. As it is used in line 65, *anarchy* can be inferred to mean:

- A. lawlessness.
- B. order.
- C. transformation.
- D. reformation.

76. HAUGHTY:

- A. angry
- B. ignorant
- C. trustworthy
- D. above
- E. humble

77. BRILLIANCY:

- A. honor
- B. dullness
- C. travel
- D. drama
- E. entertainment

78. TRITE:

- A. long
- B. outspoken
- C. fresh
- D. confused
- E. limp

79. REMOTE:

- A. calm
- B. firm
- C. near
- D. exact
- E. simple

80. EXCEPTION:

- A. bargain
- B. condition
- C. comfort
- D. agreement
- E. fatigue

81. ROUT:

- A. orderly retreat
- B. vicious bite
- C. careless planning
- D. quick march
- E. long delay

82. IMPROBABLE:

- A. hopeful
- B. caring
- C. thrown
- D. flat
- E. likely

83. OBNOXIOUS:

- A. pleasant
- B. harmful
- C. uninteresting
- D. inflated
- E. required

84. FICTITIOUS:

- A. invented
- B. real
- C. warm-blooded
- D. self-contained
- E. outmaneuvered

90. LUDICROUS : LAUGHABLE ::

- A. careful : reckless
- B. completion : start
- C. absurd : ridiculous
- D. outlandish : believable
- E. sweet : sour

85. CHAOS:

- A. defeat
- B. script
- C. order
- D. doom
- E. openness

86. SYMPTOMATIC : SYMBOLIC ::

- A. apparent : real
- B. diseased : healthy
- C. indicative : representative
- D. endearing : suggestive
- E. obvious : hidden

87. CHARITY : LOVE ::

- A. benevolence : kindness
- B. giving : receiving
- C. donation : deduction
- D. target : aim
- E. outrage : affection

88. FREAKISH : CHANGE ::

- A. concerned : humiliate
- B. annoying : please
- C. whimsical : vary
- D. controlled : worry
- E. tearful : work

89. IMPERIAL : AUTHORITY ::

- A. supreme : control
- B. needy : privilege
- C. legal : crime
- D. master : slave
- E. resentful : gift

Vocabulary Builder: Social Science Passages

DIRECTIONS: Each passage in this exercise is followed by sets of sentence completion, vocabulary-in-context, antonym, and analogy items for building vocabulary through context. In addition to using the passages to infer word meanings, you may use a dictionary or refer to the Vocabulary List beginning on page 655.

The first set of items following each passage are sentence completion items based on words from the passage. Each sentence has one blank. Choose the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence in its entirety.

The second set of items following each passage are vocabulary-in-context items based on words from the passage. Choose the best answer for each item based on what is stated or implied in the passage.

The third set of items following each passage are antonym items based on words from the passage. For each item, choose the word that has a meaning most nearly opposite of the capitalized word.

The fourth set of items following each passage are analogy items based on words from the passage. For each item, find the pair of words that expresses a relationship most like that expressed by the capitalized words.

Answers are on page 799.

Passage I

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an essay entitled “Animal Images in Human History” in an art history and philosophy anthology.

Among the first images created by man were those of animals, and over the centuries mankind’s preoccupation with the nonhuman inhabitants of the earth has never abated. Even when at pains to prove how different he was from the beast, man has depended on the animal world for the imagery by which to explain his interior being as well as his relationship to the cosmos. Endowed with a vitality in common with man, yet following the dictates of an intelligence not readily definable by human reason, the animal, whether wild or domesticated, threatening attacker or docile prey, has remained something of an enigma and often the subject of wonder. To reconstruct the history of religion, philosophy, or art without reference to the animal image would be impossible. Although in our satisfied moment of sophistication, we no longer depend on the literal imagery of hawk-headed gods or rulers with the body of a lion, we still strut like a peacock and search ardently for the dove of peace.

20 No one knows for sure why the painters in prehistoric times represented bison on the walls of caves, but it is significant that the animals were rendered with more care and completeness than the human creatures. Whatever their utility, the swiftly moving, rhythmic figures show an appreciation for animal beauty that can still be understood with sympathy. “Animal beauty” is a term we tend to use when we wish to describe some particularly adroit and rhythmic coordination of muscles and movement that magnificently fulfills a prescribed act, an act that seems to be accomplished as answer to an interior impulse untrammelled by rational restraint or an imposed pattern of behavior. There is something magical in an artistic form expressive of such pure vitality, which seems purposive and yet has no rational end. It is as if this summons from far back in the mind a cherished memory of simply being, of existing in a vital continuity not qualified by reason nor limited by concept of time. This particular kind of vital beauty is not the exclusive property of any particular animal; it belongs no less to the hare than to the lion. That remarkable art known as the “animal style,” which spread in the early centuries from Central Asia across China and westward through Europe, carried its animal magic through forms that often lose all specific identity. However, the taut, curving forms live with

50 animal exuberance and transform any object they adorn
 into a living thing. Significantly enough, this intensive
 vitality was rarely associated with images of human
 beings. Possibly the human image was not considered
 to have the same magical power as the animal to
 bestow perpetual life on the inanimate.

55 Quite probably there are two levels of appeal in
 this kind of animal beauty in art. One is the promise of
 an otherwise unattainable sense of muscular triumph,
 of physical freedom. To run like an antelope or spring
 like a lion has its reward, even though experienced
 vicariously. Prudence is not a matter of concern when
 we identify ourselves with the image of a charging
 60 horse or the streamlined form of a plunging hawk.
 Possibly there is even an element of envy in man's
 admiration of the animal in which beauty and utility are
 inseparable, and form and act seem to be one. Blessed
 with the faculty to cogitate and rationalize conclusions,
 65 we seem also to need moments in which we can live
 beyond thought.

The intuitive basis for action is the other appeal
 of that beauty we identify as peculiar to the animal and
 possibly explains in part why animals have so often
 70 become cosmic symbols. When in doubt about his own
 power or the direction of his thinking, man has looked
 upon the animal as more closely attuned to the
 universe, living within a natural cycle from which man
 has been alienated by an excess of his own thought. It
 75 is not that most thinking human beings would want to
 become animals, but the image presented by the animal
 becomes the foundation upon which a different
 ordering of the universe can be conceived.

1. Hayley was a very ----- child, naturally inclined
 to be calm and agreeable.
- A. noisy
 - B. feral
 - C. orderly
 - D. docile
 - E. sensitive

2. After thirty years of incarceration, the prisoner
 was exonerated and released, finally free and
 -----.
- A. untrammelled
 - B. confined
 - C. restrained
 - D. intractable
 - E. unruly
3. In spite of his nervousness, Will finally ----- the
 courage to telephone Kate and ask her to the
 prom.
- A. invited
 - B. summoned
 - C. eliminated
 - D. condensed
 - E. disparaged
4. The nylon rope was ----- as the rock climber's
 weight pulled it hard against the cliff.
- A. taunt
 - B. slack
 - C. pliant
 - D. elastic
 - E. taut
5. Always late, George ----- misses his bus and is
 never on time to appointments.
- A. momentarily
 - B. perpetually
 - C. temporarily
 - D. randomly
 - E. briefly
6. In context, *abated* (line 4) most nearly means:
- A. increased.
 - B. commenced.
 - C. continued.
 - D. diminished.



7. As it is used in line 6, the word *imagery* most nearly means:
- A. mental images.
 - B. paintings.
 - C. instruction.
 - D. reflections.
8. It can be inferred that the word *endow*, based on the use of *endowed* in line 8, most nearly means to:
- A. be indebted or owing money.
 - B. donate goods or services.
 - C. have talent or be gifted.
 - D. be engaged or betrothed.
9. In line 8, *vitality* is best understood to mean:
- A. lethargy.
 - B. life's energy.
 - C. humor.
 - D. habitat.
10. Based on the word *ardently* as it is used in line 19, *ardent* means to be:
- A. aggressive.
 - B. indifferent.
 - C. passionate.
 - D. persuasive.
11. Based on the word *rendered* as it is used in line 23, *render* means to:
- A. repeat.
 - B. tear apart.
 - C. raise up.
 - D. represent or depict.
12. In line 28, *adroit* is closest in meaning to all of the following EXCEPT:
- A. gauche.
 - B. skillful.
 - C. dexterous.
 - D. clever.
13. In context, *prescribed* (line 30) most nearly means:
- A. spontaneous.
 - B. imagined.
 - C. donated.
 - D. required.
14. As used in line 58, *vicariously* most nearly means:
- A. for a short time.
 - B. to behave scandalously.
 - C. through imagined participation.
 - D. feeling extreme pleasure.
15. In line 67, *intuitive* most nearly means:
- A. intruding.
 - B. demanding immediate attention.
 - C. conscious reasoning.
 - D. possessing insight.
16. ALIENATED:
- A. discussed
 - B. prolonged
 - C. derived
 - D. focused
 - E. attracted
17. PREOCCUPATION:
- A. disinterest
 - B. knowledge
 - C. discipline
 - D. livelihood
 - E. want
18. IMPOSE:
- A. combine
 - B. adjust
 - C. relieve
 - D. return
 - E. suppose

19. ATTUNED:

- A. out of step with
- B. from another country
- C. in training for
- D. without shame
- E. under a shadow

20. PURPOSIVE:

- A. acceptable
- B. unguided
- C. generous
- D. quarrelsome
- E. angry

21. CONTINUITY:

- A. break
- B. tie
- C. scratch
- D. usefulness
- E. income

22. EXCLUSIVE:

- A. rich
- B. simple
- C. shared
- D. friendly
- E. cuddly

23. EXUBERANCE:

- A. ignorance
- B. depression
- C. zeal
- D. forwardness
- E. looseness

24. BESTOW:

- A. send out
- B. ask for
- C. take back
- D. move over
- E. lie to

25. STRUT:

- A. jump
- B. announce
- C. amass
- D. slink
- E. pretend

26. RECONSTRUCT : PICTURE ::

- A. deduce : conclusion
- B. prepare : consume
- C. withhold : money
- D. fulfill : dream
- E. deny : enemy

27. IMPULSE : MOTION ::

- A. cause : effect
- B. trembling : fear
- C. wealth : riches
- D. harm : danger
- E. action : thought

28. UNATTAINABLE : ACHIEVE ::

- A. unavailable : present
- B. untoward : unfortunate
- C. unhealthy : ill
- D. unfinished : work
- E. unproductive : foolish

29. INSEPARABLE : APART ::

- A. bound : tied
- B. intertwined : together
- C. married : wed
- D. indivisible : split
- E. beloved : worshipped

30. DICTATES : COMMANDS ::

- A. advertisements : products
- B. directions : refusals
- C. warnings : dangers
- D. announcements : news
- E. instructions : orders

Passage II

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an essay entitled “More on Animal Images in Human History” in an art history and philosophy anthology.

There are aspects of animal beauty other than those of transcendent vitality and natural unity that have a long history of appeal. The gorgeous plumage, intricate patterns, and luxurious fur of the birds and beasts set the standards, and often provided the materials—for man’s raiment and domestic decoration from the beginning of history. Although the use of skins might be considered to a degree utilitarian, a more persistent dependence on the animal world was for spectacular adornment, especially for ritualistic occasions. In almost every early culture, most significant decoration has been inseparable from animal inspiration. On the whole, flora played a poor second to fauna in the beginning, although it too had its role to play. It was the animal that taught man to live beyond himself. As theorists have pointed out, only man had to dress himself and felt the need to give decorative meaning to his environment; to meet this peculiarly human need, he depended enthusiastically on the elegant examples provided by his animal associates.

If man has liked to adorn himself in imitation of the animals, he has also found it instructive and useful to depict animals as people, using them as embodiments of human traits or projecting human patterns on their actions. Aesop’s fables, the *Panchatantra*, and folk tales from almost every culture put moral judgments in the mouths of animals, as if certain kinds of lessons can best be learned when experienced in a non-human context. Furthermore, we take special pleasure in seeing ourselves—or at least our neighbors—tellingly characterized in the animal world. The cartoon of an irascible duck underscores human traits in a universal way that the likeness of a habitually angry person would not, and a porcine puppet conveys more about some aspects of our life and times than any simple human character could, becoming a kind of popular heroine in the process. The figures of animals have carried much of the social satire in historic times, being immune to the social restrictions that might inhibit our speaking ill of our fellows. Is it our fault a particularly fat man looks like a toad?—or rather, that a picture of a toad is immediately recognized as a likeness of a fat man? Not only has the animal world served to sublimate and

personify our aspirations, it also has acted as a mirror to our foibles and a tutor to our ethical behavior.

Aside from everything else, man has usually wanted to be liked by animals, as if their affection, or at least recognition, was a mark of special acceptance. Of course, he has also wanted to dominate them, but the compassionate dog, the contented cat, or the wise, devoted parrot make contributions that no amount of dominating can win. In such a relationship, who is the teacher and who is taught?

It is good to know the long traditions of mystery, humor, and wisdom associated with animals have not been entirely lost to modern craftsmen. Even today, we find works that run the full gamut from mysterious symbol to gentle satire. In fact, in recent years, with increasing domination of the man-made and oppressive blunting of sensibility by the preference for generalization over the particular, the threatened animal has assumed an even more poignant role. Perhaps animal imagery can serve to remind us of this important point.

31. Colorado has a very rich -----, with over 3,200 species of seed plants collected, documented, and described by botanists since the first botanical exploration by Edwin James in 1819.

- A. culture
- B. history
- C. flora
- D. entourage
- E. fauna

32. Carl Linnaeus, Sweden’s most famous natural scientist, catalogued the country’s animal life, or -----, in 1746.

- A. flora
- B. society
- C. agriculture
- D. geography
- E. fauna

33. The 1938 Disney cartoon, *Self Control*, features the ----- Donald Duck as he attempts to manage his anger when some pesky insects make it difficult for him to maintain composure.
- A. easygoing
 - B. irascible
 - C. mysterious
 - D. blasé
 - E. anxious
34. Although the Russian writer Anton Chekhov sketched his characters with compassionate good-humor, he never abstained from highlighting their ----- and human weaknesses.
- A. talents
 - B. accomplishments
 - C. traditions
 - D. foibles
 - E. predilections
35. The novel *Old Yeller*, written by Fred Gipson in 1956, is arguably one of the most disturbing children's stories ever, mainly due to the ----- and emotionally devastating ending.
- A. dispassionate
 - B. esoteric
 - C. poignant
 - D. hackneyed
 - E. abstruse
36. In context, *transcendent* (line 2) most nearly means:
- A. extraordinary.
 - B. transparent.
 - C. conventional.
 - D. observable.
37. As it is used in line 6, the word *raiment* most nearly means:
- A. narrative.
 - B. evolution.
 - C. shelter.
 - D. clothing.
38. In line 8, *utilitarian* is best understood to indicate stressing the importance of:
- A. beauty over function.
 - B. function over beauty.
 - C. free will over fate.
 - D. individual freedom.
39. Based on the use of the word *embodiments* in line 25, it can be inferred that *embodiment* refers to the:
- A. deprivation of property or title.
 - B. representation of a deity or spirit in earthly form.
 - C. concrete expression of some abstract idea or concept.
 - D. abstract expression of real objects.
40. Based on the use of the word *projecting* in line 25, it can be inferred that *project* most nearly means to:
- A. imagine.
 - B. protect.
 - C. build.
 - D. predict.
41. It can be inferred that the word *porcine*, as it is used in line 35, primarily refers to something:
- A. related to mushrooms.
 - B. made from ceramic.
 - C. homemade.
 - D. pig-like.
42. In line 45, *sublimate* most nearly means to:
- A. submerge in liquid.
 - B. reduce in quality or value.
 - C. bring under control or conquer.
 - D. make nobler or purer.
43. In context, *gamut* (line 59) most nearly means:
- A. an obstacle course.
 - B. the entire range or extent of something.
 - C. a division within a classification system.
 - D. a collection of many items.



44. In line 61, *oppressive* is closest in meaning to:

- A. uplifting.
- B. tyrannical.
- C. tolerant.
- D. exacting.

45. In line 62, *sensibility* most nearly means the:

- A. inability to feel or perceive emotions.
- B. state of being aware of oneself.
- C. capacity for feeling pain or stimulation.
- D. capacity for being affected emotionally or intellectually.

46. GORGEOUS:

- A. fat
- B. plain
- C. studious
- D. lovely
- E. wealthy

47. COMPASSIONATE:

- A. wise
- B. delightful
- C. foolish
- D. unfeeling
- E. realistic

48. ADORN:

- A. release
- B. strip
- C. control
- D. sell
- E. open

49. LUXURIATE:

- A. hate
- B. tire
- C. waste
- D. defend
- E. report

50. ELEGANT:

- A. tasteless
- B. timid
- C. sincere
- D. new
- E. incurable

51. INHIBIT:

- A. grind
- B. plod
- C. promote
- D. flatten
- E. mark

52. HABITUALLY:

- A. earnestly
- B. likely
- C. properly
- D. occasionally
- E. openly

53. BLUNT:

- A. accept
- B. sharpen
- C. enforce
- D. respond
- E. correct

54. TELLING:

- A. unimportant
- B. rash
- C. bold
- D. unstable
- E. pleasurable

55. UNDERSCORE:

- A. invite
- B. downplay
- C. renew
- D. attempt
- E. succeed

56. TRAIT : CHARACTER ::

- A. feature : face
- B. behavior : norm
- C. desire : prayer
- D. endurance : strength
- E. pressure: deadline

57. THEORIST : HYPOTHESIS ::

- A. singer : microphone
- B. linguist : language
- C. thinker : explanation
- D. painter : easel
- E. teacher : student

58. PLUMAGE : FEATHER ::

- A. foliage : leaf
- B. lake : river
- C. fur : mammal
- D. marriage : couple
- E. bird : flight

59. SATIRE : RIDICULE ::

- A. parody : humor
- B. drama : comedy
- C. education : books
- D. learning : school
- E. imitation : flattery

60. ASPECT : ANGLE ::

- A. sight : eye
- B. light : vision
- C. view : perspective
- D. total : part
- E. record : report

Passage III

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an article entitled “Early Adolescence and Human Development” in a sociology journal.

Early adolescence is the second most rapid time of growth and change in human development. Only infancy exceeds early adolescence in velocity of growth. Physically, young adolescents are experiencing a growth spurt and the onset of puberty. They have special health, nutritional, and mental health needs in relation to these physical changes. These needs have implications for school curricula. Emotionally and socially, young adolescents are exploring a sense of uniqueness and belonging, of separation and commitment, future goals and their personal pasts. For the first time in their lives, they see themselves as having a personal and a social destiny, and as being part of a generation. Again, these have curricular implications. Intellectually, young adolescents are exploring values and ideas in a new way. Some are beginning to form abstractions, to generalize, to think about thinking. This intellectual development makes it possible for some to become engaged with concepts, imagery, contingencies, logical arguments, and even philosophical speculation. It also enables them to shift from an authoritarian sense of right and wrong to a more open and complex approach to value formation, both personal and social. This cognitive shift makes it possible for young adolescents to struggle for the first time with conflicting concepts like individual rights and “the greater social good”—the underpinnings of democracy. This change in cognitive style has import for curriculum and teaching techniques.

And so, early adolescence is a critical time in human development; critical to the individual, and to the social order. We tend to be fearful of this stage of development. While acknowledging the plasticity of this stage, we anticipate that young adolescents are more receptive to negative than to positive influences. We are apprehensive that the great majority who maneuver their way successfully through a time of life requiring considerable coping skills will “catch” the “diseases” of our “new epidemics”—pregnancy, running away, dropping out of school, alcoholism, drug addiction, violence, and suicide. I do not mean to belittle the personal pain or social risk of such behaviors, but rather to insist that most young adolescents, for many reasons, most of which we do not know, manage to cope with amazing stability through such a demanding period of life. Partly

because of our fears, we label the age group “transitional” and put young adolescents on hold. By doing so, we fail to assign our talents and financial resources to an extremely vulnerable and impressionable age group.

61. To prepare for every -----, the space authorities developed emergency evacuation plans for the International Space Station crew.
- A. criteria
 - B. option
 - C. inclination
 - D. inconsistency
 - E. contingency
62. The conference was intended to provide the scientists with a forum to engage in ----- about the origins of the universe and humanity’s ultimate destiny.
- A. recklessness
 - B. absolution
 - C. abolition
 - D. speculation
 - E. accusation
63. The ----- government maintained its control over the people by severely punishing anyone who even attempted to question its policies.
- A. deposed
 - B. authoritarian
 - C. antediluvian
 - D. bacchanalian
 - E. laissez-faire
64. While ----- that he often turned in homework late, the student argued that this did not merit a failing grade in the course.
- A. denying
 - B. ignoring
 - C. believing
 - D. repudiating
 - E. acknowledging

65. Since the South African government disbanded the police force's endangered species unit in 2003, black rhinos have become extremely ----- to poaching by organized crime gangs.
- A. impermeable
 - B. invincible
 - C. amenable
 - D. vulnerable
 - E. manageable
66. Based on the use of the word *curricula* in line 8, it can be inferred that *curriculum* refers to:
- A. a building code.
 - B. a required course of study.
 - C. an underground passage.
 - D. a standard on which a decision is based.
67. Based on the use of the word *abstractions* in line 17, it can be inferred that *abstraction* most nearly means:
- A. a causal or logical relation or sequence.
 - B. the mental act of contemplating the parts of an object as separate from the object itself.
 - C. a condition of being clogged or blocked.
 - D. an unrestrained expression of feelings.
68. As it is used in line 20, the word *arguments* refers to:
- A. fights or quarrels.
 - B. disputed statements.
 - C. persuasive reasoning or discussions.
 - D. indications or suggestions.
69. The word *underpinnings* (line 27) most nearly means:
- A. growth.
 - B. attenuation.
 - C. hidden opinions.
 - D. foundation.
70. It can be inferred that the word *import*, as it is used in line 28, primarily means to have:
- A. significance.
 - B. futility.
 - C. foreign origins.
 - D. urgency.
71. In line 29, the word *techniques* refers to:
- A. attitudes.
 - B. methods.
 - C. technologies.
 - D. designs.
72. As it is used in line 34, the word *anticipate* most nearly means to:
- A. expect.
 - B. disperse.
 - C. prevent.
 - D. argue.
73. In line 36, *apprehensive* is closest in meaning to:
- A. inexperienced.
 - B. assured.
 - C. confident.
 - D. fearful.
74. In line 39, the word *epidemics* refers to:
- A. characteristics of a particular region.
 - B. required courses of study.
 - C. outbreaks of sudden rapid growth or development.
 - D. cultures or histories.
75. In line 42, *belittle* most nearly means to:
- A. pay tribute.
 - B. treat as having little importance.
 - C. give emphasis.
 - D. express deep regret or remorse.



76. UNIQUE:

- A. forward
- B. warped
- C. factual
- D. undeniable
- E. ordinary

77. GENERATE:

- A. destroy
- B. quiet
- C. slice
- D. stun
- E. grope

78. PLASTICITY:

- A. emotionalism
- B. youthfulness
- C. security
- D. resistance
- E. conformity

79. RECEPTIVE:

- A. in favor of
- B. inclined to
- C. indifferent to
- D. ignorant of
- E. anxious to

80. TRANSITIONAL:

- A. permanent
- B. footloose
- C. generous
- D. captive
- E. gentle

81. IMPRESSIONABLE:

- A. exact
- B. hard
- C. timid
- D. favorable
- E. content

82. SPURT:

- A. hold tight
- B. lean over
- C. fill up
- D. rain heavily
- E. flow steadily

83. COPE:

- A. renew
- B. surrender
- C. plead
- D. accept
- E. help

84. INFANCY:

- A. childhood
- B. maturity
- C. age
- D. graduation
- E. life

85. MANEUVER:

- A. pray
- B. drift
- C. prevent
- D. allow
- E. point

86. VALUE : PRICE ::

- A. product : cost
- B. profit : markup
- C. esteem : worth
- D. donation : gift
- E. debt : interest

87. ADOLESCENCE : YOUTHFUL ::

- A. childhood : aged
- B. adulthood : mature
- C. seniority : old
- D. parent : middle-aged
- E. puberty : offspring

88. ASSIGN : PROJECT ::

- A. delegate : duty
- B. enforce : law
- C. require : demand
- D. insist : compliance
- E. renew : license

89. ADDICTION : RELY ::

- A. depression : enjoy
- B. pressure : relax
- C. failure : assist
- D. dependence : need
- E. intention : succeed

90. VELOCITY : MOTION ::

- A. structure : condition
- B. sincerity : honor
- C. change : circumstance
- D. failure : requirement
- E. speed : movement

Passage IV

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from a chapter in an agricultural science textbook exploring modern agricultural problems.

Rapid increases in human population have steadily intensified pressures to augment the productivity of existing grazing and agricultural land.

5 Grazing land in the Indian subcontinent and isolated islands in the Philippines have a relatively low carrying capacity and are currently capable of sustaining only marginal levels of subsistence. Over-exploitation has not only decreased their productivity, but is continuously destroying the fertility and stability of affected soils. The problem is particularly injurious in areas of Pakistan and Northeast India, where over-grazing is resulting in desertification. In the Luni blocks of Rajasthan, most pastures now have only 10 to 15 percent of their original carrying capacity and the forage deficit is met by expansion into standing vegetation. Within a twenty-year period, infecund sand cover has increased from 25 to 33 percent of the area.

10 In most Asian countries, rice is the principal food crop. Increased cultivation has barely met the demands of the growing populations. In the Philippines, while food production has increased slightly faster than the size of population, even greater increases in per capita food demand have created new shortfalls. Indonesia, once an important rice exporter, has been dependent on imported rice for several years. Most countries are merely keeping up with their current needs and gross shortages can be anticipated.

15 The intensified agricultural production required in these countries has potential adverse side effects on other resources. The disruptive effects of the large-scale reservoirs needed for irrigation of more land are self-evident. Some other problems include waterlogging and salinity, soil erosion, increased populations of pests, and agricultural pollution.

20 Waterlogging and salinity can be a problem wherever surface water is applied to irrigated land with inadequate underground drainage. Water will rise to within a few feet of the surface, vitiating the growth of deep-rooted crops and allowing a concentration of minerals and salt to build up near the surface. This has been seen in China, India, and Pakistan. Control projects involving the construction of new wells and

drainage systems have been successful in reversing some of the deleterious effects, but at prodigious costs.

25 The establishment of broad area monoculture, primarily irrigated riceland, can result in difficult pest management problems. Recently, Indonesia has had some destructive and noisome pest outbreaks that have reduced rice yields up to 60 percent in the last two years. Double-cropping does not allow dry-season pest population enervation, and their numbers are therefore maintained. An integrated pest management program is needed to realize increased productivity. This program must be done assiduously, not on an intermittent schedule.

30 Soil erosion is occurring in hilly and mountainous areas, which often constitute the only remaining land available for cultivation. With the monsoon rains, erosion is inevitable unless there is an extensive terracing system. The rivers of Nepal annually carry over 240 million cubic meters of soil to India. This deprivation has been called Nepal's "most dear export."

91. In the nineteenth century, expanding European-American settlement of the United States forced large numbers of Native Americans onto ----- lands.

- A. valuable
- B. sustentative
- C. precarious
- D. central
- E. marginal

92. Michael Pollan argues in *The Botany of Desire* that while ----- may offer economic advantages, it invites serious environmental risks because a field of identical plants will always be vulnerable to all the forces of nature.

- A. agriculture
- B. monoculture
- C. nomenclature
- D. polyculture
- E. permaculture

93. The neighbors of the confined animal feeding operation complained about the ----- odors and groundwater pollution.
- A. harmless
 - B. noisome
 - C. helpful
 - D. noisy
 - E. benign
94. Donna tended her garden -----, taking care to weed every other day and to fertilize with every watering.
- A. inconsistently
 - B. strenuously
 - C. assiduously
 - D. irreverently
 - E. respectfully
95. Although a ceasefire had been signed, ----- and sporadic gunfire disturbed the silence of the desert night.
- A. constant
 - B. incipient
 - C. contented
 - D. intermittent
 - E. deliberate
96. It can be inferred that the word *augment*, as it is used in line 2, means to:
- A. decrease.
 - B. increase.
 - C. remain constant.
 - D. cease.
97. In context, *subsistence* (line 7) most nearly means:
- A. extinction.
 - B. productivity.
 - C. wastefulness.
 - D. survival.
98. It can be inferred that the word *desertification* (line 12) refers to the process by which:
- A. land becomes wet and humid.
 - B. land becomes dry and arid.
 - C. air becomes wet and humid.
 - D. air becomes dry and arid.
99. As it is used in line 16, the word *infecund* most nearly means:
- A. offensive smelling.
 - B. infectious.
 - C. unproductive.
 - D. fertile.
100. In line 29, *adverse* is best understood to mean:
- A. unfavorable.
 - B. constructive.
 - C. poisonous.
 - D. beneficial.
101. The word *salinity* (line 33) most nearly means:
- A. sourness.
 - B. sweetness.
 - C. saltiness.
 - D. bitterness.
102. As it is used in line 38, the word *vitiating* most nearly means:
- A. assisting or helping.
 - B. energizing or strengthening.
 - C. depriving of oxygen.
 - D. making faulty or defective.
103. It can be inferred that the word *deleterious*, as it is used in line 44, most nearly means:
- A. delicious.
 - B. harmless.
 - C. involuntary.
 - D. destructive.



104. In line 44, *prodigious* most nearly means:

- A. enormous.
- B. marginal.
- C. average.
- D. luxuriant.

105. The word *enervation* (line 51) refers to:

- A. weakening.
- B. strengthening.
- C. extinction.
- D. animation.

106. INTENSIFY:

- A. relax
- B. improve
- C. shorten
- D. claim
- E. wipe out

107. DEFICIT:

- A. loss
- B. debt
- C. excess
- D. sinful
- E. calm

108. SUSTAIN:

- A. collapse
- B. prolong
- C. bear
- D. carry
- E. fulfill

109. EXPLOITED:

- A. cautious
- B. weary
- C. tremendous
- D. unused
- E. unprotected

110. DISRUPT:

- A. implant
- B. restore
- C. simplify
- D. create
- E. dampen

111. INTEGRATED:

- A. proper
- B. simple
- C. stolen
- D. piecemeal
- E. golden

112. PRINCIPAL:

- A. wholesome
- B. dietetic
- C. unimportant
- D. declining
- E. serious

113. REALIZE:

- A. fail
- B. offer
- C. deny
- D. avoid
- E. remind

114. INEVITABLE:

- A. blank
- B. unlikely
- C. late
- D. hurried
- E. advanced

115. DEPRIVATION:

- A. taking away
- B. giving back
- C. sending out
- D. withholding from
- E. pushing ahead

116. RESERVOIR : WATER ::

- A. highway : automobile
- B. den : lion
- C. silo : grain
- D. library : reader
- E. land : farming

117. TERRACED : STAIRS ::

- A. sunken : mound
- B. roofed : yard
- C. leveled : door
- D. sheer : wall
- E. rolling : mountains

118. IRRIGATED : WATER ::

- A. fertilized : nutrients
- B. farmed : crops
- C. produced : vegetables
- D. eroded : soil
- E. polluted : water

119. FORAGE : SEARCH ::

- A. hide : seek
- B. garden : plant
- C. harvest : sell
- D. water : weed
- E. hunt : pursue

120. CROP : CUT ::

- A. reduce : increase
- B. plant : harvest
- C. trim : snip
- D. sew : fit
- E. wheat : corn

Passage V

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an introductory economics course textbook.

The function of payment systems is to provide means for conducting exchanges of values. These values usually involve goods, services, financial obligations, or ownership records on one side, which are exchanged for money from the other party in the transaction. However, in recent years, surrogates for money, such as checks or credit, have received increasing acceptance. Since they facilitate the exchange process, payment systems have become all-persuasive and essential to the operation of modern society. All of us make use of one or more of these systems so easily and casually almost daily, we are seldom aware of the process.

Payment systems have a long history. One of the first steps in organizing any nation is the enactment and promulgation of laws to provide for and regulate the value of some form of money and to enforce, to the greatest extent possible, its universal acceptance. Without widespread use and acceptance of a standardized medium of exchange, the growth of industry and commerce would be stunted.

In early times, coins were the most prevalent form of money and are still widely used for many types of transactions; in fact, during the last two decades, coin transactions have enjoyed a resurgence. The impetus for this increased reliance on coins was the spread of coin-operated vending machines. The development of paper currency provided a more convenient alternative to coins for all except low-value transactions and facilitated the spread of commercial activity. More recently, the large-scale acceptance of checks provided a still better means for making many types of payments, especially those that have to be made over a distance; thus, their growth has been rapid.

A host of other, more specialized instruments have also been developed. Travelers' checks, a widely-accepted and convenient medium of exchange for those away from home, are safer than cash. Letters of credit, which are employed for similar reasons by businesses, usually involve larger amounts than those for which travelers' checks are used. Money orders offer a means for individuals without checking accounts to effect safe and rapid payments at a distance. Telegraph transfers of money can be relied on where speed is critical. Each system has other distinctive characteristics. Some offer

greater safety from loss or theft than do others; some are more susceptible to fraud or misuse. Thus, we can choose among a wide range of options to suit our needs.

The importance of efficient payment mechanisms is amplified by their close relationship to another key social activity—the granting of credit. This relationship derives from the fact that the decision to extend credit is often based to a large extent on the past performance of the recipient in making payments on prior credit offerings. This characteristic makes records of past payments an important component in the credit-granting process.

The most important factor, in social and economic terms, has been the rapid growth in the extension of consumer credit as part of the process of conducting retail sales transactions. Both merchants and financial institutions offering credit—as well as those who receive it—have perceived benefits from the frequent use of short-term credit systems, so a variety of means for providing such credit has arisen in recent years. This has led to a wide-spread and increasing use of credit cards provided by merchants, banks, and independent operators as a substitute for cash or checks when making retail purchases.

Initially, however, credit cards were almost always associated with specific purchases (often from the single company issuing the card), and the grant of credit terminated upon the presentation of a monthly bill. In this forum of use, the dominant features of value to the card-user were the convenience provided when making purchases, the greater safety of carrying smaller amounts of cash, and the possibility of aggregating a number of smaller payments into a single large payment. More recently, and arising primarily from the introduction of bank credit cards, some systems provide extended credit, automatic use of credit when a checking account becomes overdrawn, and opportunities to borrow money unrelated to specific purchases. These features can become more important than the convenience, security, and payments aggregation characteristics. In the process, payments and credit have grown still more tightly related, and the two elements have become increasingly difficult to disentangle.

121. In the United States, the ----- of federal laws occurs upon signing by the President or overriding of a presidential veto.
- A. dissimulation
 - B. promulgation
 - C. proscription
 - D. extension
 - E. destruction
122. To suggest that jazz enjoyed a(n) ----- in the 1980s is to imply that it fell out of favor in the 1970s—a proposition with which many jazz fans would take issue.
- A. resurgence
 - B. acquiescence
 - C. insurgence
 - D. disappearance
 - E. importance
123. After the comptroller was caught embezzling funds from government accounts, her appointment was immediately -----.
- A. delegated
 - B. initiated
 - C. relegated
 - D. renegotiated
 - E. terminated
124. According to Leo Tolstoy, history—that is to say the collective life of the ----- of human beings—turns each moment of a monarch’s life to account, and bends kings to its own ends.
- A. faction
 - B. aggregate
 - C. entourage
 - D. separation
 - E. range
125. Because she wrote checks totaling more than the available balance, Jill’s bank account became -----.
- A. solvent
 - B. accessible
 - C. overhauled
 - D. financed
 - E. overdrawn
126. In context, *transaction* (line 6) primarily refers to a(n):
- A. performance.
 - B. alteration.
 - C. transition.
 - D. business deal.
127. As it is used in line 6, the word *surrogates* refers to:
- A. descendants.
 - B. replications.
 - C. recipients.
 - D. substitutes.
128. It can be inferred that the word *facilitate*, as it is used in line 8, most nearly means to:
- A. inhibit or slow down.
 - B. make briefer.
 - C. make less difficult.
 - D. complicate.
129. In line 18, *universal* is best understood to mean:
- A. used by everyone.
 - B. the state of being excluded.
 - C. limited in availability.
 - D. better than average.
130. According to the passage, the word *prevalent* (line 22) is used to refer to something:
- A. exceptional.
 - B. absent.
 - C. widespread.
 - D. current.
131. The word *impetus* (line 26) most nearly means:
- A. inertia.
 - B. stimulus.
 - C. lethargy.
 - D. insolence.



132. It can be inferred that the word *currency*, as it is used in line 28, primarily refers to a:

- A. prevalent trend.
- B. technique for making money.
- C. record-keeping device.
- D. medium of trade or exchange.

133. In line 47, *susceptible* most nearly means:

- A. insensitive.
- B. easily affected.
- C. suspicious.
- D. accessible.

134. In line 53, *derives* most nearly means:

- A. comes from a source.
- B. creates from new.
- C. depart from an established course.
- D. expresses contempt.

135. In line 57, *component* refers to a(n):

- A. aggregate.
- B. role or position.
- C. substitute.
- D. part.

136. CASUAL:

- A. light
- B. preplanned
- C. homey
- D. valuable
- E. rare

137. STANDARDIZED:

- A. involuntary
- B. official
- C. widespread
- D. new
- E. variable

138. HOST:

- A. one of something
- B. matched set
- C. living tissue
- D. wide appeal
- E. moment in time

139. SPECIALIZED:

- A. timely
- B. free
- C. general
- D. quiet
- E. victorious

140. DISTINCTIVE:

- A. open-ended
- B. poorly defined
- C. keenly felt
- D. easily seen
- E. properly dressed

141. EXTEND:

- A. trick
- B. relax
- C. withdraw
- D. correct
- E. lengthen

142. RETAIL:

- A. wholesale
- B. stored
- C. shipping
- D. cheap
- E. insignificant

143. ASSOCIATED:

- A. trapped
- B. unrelated
- C. worn
- D. trained
- E. insulted

144. ISSUE:

- A. argue about
- B. walk out on
- C. invite discussion
- D. feel out
- E. take back

150. MERCHANT : TRADE ::

- A. clerk : advertisement
- B. manager : store
- C. businessperson : commerce
- D. director : stock
- E. seller : purchase

145. DISENTANGLE:

- A. cut off
- B. tie up
- C. wear down
- D. look forward
- E. pull down

146. OBLIGATION : PAY ::

- A. promise : perform
- B. duty : ignore
- C. honor : defend
- D. virtue : reward
- E. taxes : evade

147. VENDOR : SELLER ::

- A. machine : coin
- B. goods : delivery service
- C. purchaser : buyer
- D. manufacturer : user
- E. banker : clerk

148. RECIPIENT : ACCEPT ::

- A. donor : give
- B. creator : destroy
- C. enforcer : violate
- D. informant : lie
- E. priest : confess

149. OPTIONS : CHOOSE ::

- A. routes : travel
- B. courses : enroll
- C. alternatives : select
- D. possibilities : realize
- E. rooms : inhabit

Passage VI

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an essay entitled “Customs and Opinions of Ancient Nations” in an introductory sociology textbook.

5 Nature being everywhere the same, men must necessarily have adopted the same verities, and fallen into the same delusions, in regard to those things which are the immediate objects of sense, and the most striking to the imagination. They simply have ascribed the noise and effects of thunder to some superior being inhabiting the air. The people bordering upon the ocean, seeing great tides inundate their coasts at the time of the full moon, must naturally have imputed to the moon the vicissitudes which attended her cyclical phases.

15 Among animals, the serpent must have appeared to them to be endowed with superior intelligence; because, seeing it sometimes cast its skin, they had reason to think it became young again. It might, then, by this process of rejuvenation always remain youthful and therefore immortal. In Egypt and Greece, it was the symbol of immortality. The larger serpents found in proximity to fountains deterred the timorous from approaching them, hence they were imagined to be guardians of hidden treasure. Serpents were also found to be mischievous animals, but as they were supposed to possess something divine, nothing less than a deity was imagined capable of destroying them.

25 Dreams too much have introduced the same superstitions all over the earth. If while awake, I am uneasy for my wife’s or son’s health, and in my sleep I see them in the agonies of death, should they die a few days later, it cannot be denied the gods sent me this warning. If my dream is not fulfilled? It was a fallacious representation, with which the gods wished to terrify me. Or a woman applies to the oracles to know whether her husband will die within the year. One answers yes, the other no. It is certain that one of them must be correct, and she will proclaim all over the city the wisdom of the one whose prognostication was fulfilled.

40 The origin of good and evil is a more philosophical question. The first theologians must have put the same question which we all do from the age of fifteen or so: Why is there any evil in the world? It was taught in India, that Adimo, the daughter of Brahma, brought forth from the navel, the just from her right side and the unjust from her left; it was from this left

45 side that evil was originally introduced. We know of Pandora of the Greeks. This is the finest of all the allegories which antiquity has handed down to us.

50 So too all peoples have provided for the expiation of wrongdoing, for where was the man or woman who had not been guilty of some injury against society? Who had not profaned the gods? Who had not debased himself? Where was the person whose natural instinct did not prompt a feeling of remorse? Water cleanses the body and our apparel, and fire purifies metal. It was natural then that water and fire should purge the soul of its guilt, and in every temple were found holy water and sacred fire.

60 Men plunged themselves into the Ganges, the Indus, and the Euphrates when it was the noon moon. This immersion expiated their sins. If they did not purify themselves in the Nile, it was only fear that the penitents might have been devoured by crocodiles. However, the priests who purified themselves on the people’s behalf immersed themselves in large tubs of water. The Greeks had in all of their temples sacred baths as well as sacred fires, which were universal symbols for all men of the purity of their souls.

151. The authorship of the ancient Sanskrit epic *Mahabharata*, a major text of Hinduism and cornerstone of Hindu mythology, is traditionally ----- to Vyasa.

- A. subscribed
- B. ascribed
- C. delivered
- D. propelled
- E. transmitted

152. The inability of the Congress to pass any legislation was ----- to the Republicans for their perceived refusal to attempt negotiations with the Democrats.

- A. demoted
- B. transferred
- C. promoted
- D. imputed
- E. donated

153. Because Elizabeth was so ----- and lacking in confidence, she was an easy target for every peddler and door-to-door salesperson.
- A. brave
 - B. timorous
 - C. confrontational
 - D. outgoing
 - E. devious
154. The irony of the Nobel Peace Prize bearing the name of the inventor of dynamite has given rise to the myth that Alfred Nobel established the award as a way to ----- his guilty conscience.
- A. augment
 - B. idealize
 - C. scrutinize
 - D. justify
 - E. expiate
155. We hoped that the media would not ----- the memory of our deceased father by reporting the malicious gossip and rumors surrounding his death.
- A. profane
 - B. sustain
 - C. abolish
 - D. inflate
 - E. defend
156. As it is used in line 2, the word *verities* refers to:
- A. methods.
 - B. truths.
 - C. histories.
 - D. falsehoods.
157. In context, *inundate* (line 8) most nearly means to:
- A. dehydrate.
 - B. capitulate.
 - C. overflow.
 - D. emphasize.
158. In line 10, the word *vicissitudes* refers to:
- A. changes in fortune.
 - B. mental confusion.
 - C. alteration of plans.
 - D. fierceness or aggression.
159. It can be inferred that the word *rejuvenation*, as it is used in line 16, primarily refers to the:
- A. ending of life.
 - B. appearance of illusion.
 - C. personification of characteristics.
 - D. restoration of youth.
160. The word *proximity* (line 19) is used to indicate:
- A. agility.
 - B. probability.
 - C. relevance.
 - D. nearness.
161. Based on the use of the word *oracles* in line 32, it can be inferred that *oracle* primarily refers to a(n):
- A. public speech or debate.
 - B. person believed to foretell the future.
 - C. organization or coalition.
 - D. person making a donation.
162. As it is used in line 36, the word *prognostication* refers to a:
- A. delay.
 - B. responsibility.
 - C. prediction.
 - D. perception.
163. Based on the use of the word *allegories* in line 47, it can be inferred that *allegory* primarily refers to a(n):
- A. unsupported assertion.
 - B. symbolic story about human existence.
 - C. musical composition.
 - D. pledge of allegiance.



164. In line 53, *remorse* is closest in meaning to:

- A. shame.
- B. arrogance.
- C. humility.
- D. compassion.

165. Based on the use of the word *immersion* in line 60, *immerse* most nearly means to:

- A. absorb excess liquid.
- B. confront one's emotions.
- C. rise up from or come into view.
- D. completely cover with liquid.

166. DELUSION:

- A. true belief
- B. unproved assumption
- C. worthless notion
- D. widely held opinion
- E. crafty plan

167. SUPERIOR:

- A. complete
- B. lower
- C. intense
- D. practical
- E. stronger

168. DETER:

- A. prevent
- B. encourage
- C. remain
- D. omit
- E. sort

169. MISCHIEVOUS:

- A. youthful
- B. corrupt
- C. forgiving
- D. tarnished
- E. well behaved

170. DIVINE:

- A. holy
- B. angelic
- C. human
- D. immortal
- E. perfect

171. UNEASY:

- A. reckless
- B. foreboding
- C. relaxed
- D. frightful
- E. worthwhile

172. FALLACIOUS:

- A. probably
- B. inconceivable
- C. particular
- D. correct
- E. loud

173. PROCLAIM:

- A. suppress
- B. contend
- C. presuppose
- D. terrify
- E. renew

174. DEBASE:

- A. victimize
- B. relate
- C. concentrate
- D. lift up
- E. tear down

175. PURGE:

- A. remove
- B. stain
- C. reline
- D. wash
- E. prevent

176. CYCLICAL : REPETITION ::

- A. artificial : genuine
- B. truthful : evident
- C. circular : continuity
- D. applicable: question
- E. tremendous : strength

177. PENITENT : REPENT ::

- A. musician : play
- B. acrobat : fall
- C. judgment : pronounce
- D. guilty party : defend
- E. confessant : admit

178. THEOLOGY : RELIGION ::

- A. botany : plants
- B. biology : human beings
- C. archaeology : history
- D. numerology : letters
- E. geology : poetry

179. EAT : DEVOUR ::

- A. feed : accept
- B. drink : sip
- C. consume : gobble
- D. cook : prepare
- E. plant : pick

180. PLUNGE : ENTER INTO ::

- A. cover : take out of
- B. fall : go down
- C. ascend : cross over
- D. return : go on
- E. exit : remain within

Vocabulary Builder: Humanities Passages

DIRECTIONS: Each passage in this exercise is followed by sets of sentence completion, vocabulary-in-context, antonym, and analogy items for building vocabulary through context. In addition to using the passages to infer word meanings, you may use a dictionary or refer to the Vocabulary List beginning on page 655.

The first set of items following each passage are sentence completion items based on words from the passage. Each sentence has one blank. Choose the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence in its entirety.

The second set of items following each passage are vocabulary-in-context items based on words from the passage. Choose the best answer for each item based on what is stated or implied in the passage.

The third set of items following each passage are antonym items based on words from the passage. For each item, choose the word that has a meaning most nearly opposite of the capitalized word.

The fourth set of items following each passage are analogy items based on words from the passage. For each item, find the pair of words that expresses a relationship most like that expressed by the capitalized words.

Answers are on page 800.

Passage I

HUMANITIES: This passage is adapted from an essay discussing the epic poem *Kalevala*, compiled by Elias Lönnrot from Finnish folklore in the nineteenth century.

Those who enjoyed the *Star Wars* films would probably fall under the spell of the Finnish epic, *Kalevala*. Though first published nearly 150 years ago, many of the adventures in this epic could easily be scripted into scenes for our modern fantasy adventure films. Instead of battling with advanced technological gadgets such as rockets and lasers, however, the heroes of *Kalevala* engage in bouts of wisdom and magic, casting spells of enchantment over their foes. Thus, when wise old Vainamoinen, the greatest singer of the runes, is challenged by a young up-start, Joukahainen, it takes but a few magical charms to cause the young man to sink neck-deep into the seemingly solid ground. The thoroughly intimidated Joukahainen offers his sister, Aino, as ransom for his release, and Vainamoinen accepts. The young girl, dismayed at the prospect of marriage to such an old man, drowns herself and becomes a fish. Vainamoinen later catches the fish, but he fails to recognize her and she escapes, leaving him to grieve.

These fantastic adventures of charm-chanting heroes and sorcerers were known to illiterate Finnish singers for many hundreds of years. The episodes were sung as individual songs by traditional singers who lived in isolated villages along the Finnish-Russian frontier. They became known to the educated, urban Finns only after the texts of some songs were set down on paper. Although a few of the songs had been sporadically recorded since the eighteenth century, it was primarily the work of one individual—Elias Lönnrot—that clearly demonstrated the richness of these oral traditions. A medical doctor by profession, but an avid folklore collector by avocation, Lönnrot logged many miles on foot in the early 1830s, writing down as many variants as he could find of the songs about Vainamoinen, Lemminkainen, Ilmarinen, and others. Instead of publishing the songs as individual pieces, however, he arranged them into a linear story line.

In 1835, he published the *Kalevala* as an epic—the Finnish counterpart to the Nordic *Edda*, the Germanic *Nibelungenlied*, the Scottish Ossian poems, and harkening back to the classics, the Greek *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.

45 For Finland, the publication of songs sung by the ordinary folk in the hinterlands of their country served as a major stimulus to the building and fostering of a distinct national identity. Until then, the Finnish language and identity were held in rather low esteem;

50 Finland's educated, urban elite had accepted, for the most part, the language, culture, and traditions of the governing Swedes. Through Lönnrot's *Kalevala*, the intelligentsia began to awaken to the richness of the Finnish heritage.

55 Although it took some time, the *Kalevala* helped to kindle national aspirations that eventually culminated in the establishment of an independent Finland. For the Finnish people, much under the sway of the general Romantic trends of the times, the

60 *Kalevala* presented a past of which they could be proud. Scholars argued about the historicity of the heroes and engaged in discussion about the evolution of the songs through time. It became required reading in secondary schools, and playwrights, composers, and

65 other artists were soon using its themes and motifs for their own creative ventures.

The *Kalevala* was indeed something of which to be proud, for soon after its publication in Finnish, it was translated into Swedish, French, German, and

70 Russian. In America, the work received considerable publicity when Longfellow published his *Song of Hiawatha* in 1885, and critics accused him of plagiarizing the Finnish epic. Longfellow admitted that he was acquainted with the work through German

75 translation and that he purposely copied the meter of the *Kalevala* in order to imbue his work with a certain ancient and noble tone and cadence. Prompted by the controversy, the English translation appeared in 1889. Since those times, translations have been printed in 30

80 languages. The *Kalevala* is probably the best known Finnish literary work throughout the world.

1. Because the dog barked ----- for no apparent reason, we decided he was not a very reliable watchdog.
 - A. quietly
 - B. callously
 - C. temporarily
 - D. sporadically
 - E. shyly

2. A passionate skateboarder, Jonathan is planning a regional tour of neighborhood community centers to share his ----- love of the sport with underprivileged teens.

- A. apathetic
- B. average
- C. unreasonable
- D. aversive
- E. avid

3. The schedule for the six-week acting workshop indicates it will ----- in the final presentation of a one-act play to the entire student body.

- A. initiate
- B. converge
- C. culminate
- D. founder
- E. corroborate

4. From all around the country, young men with no work and ----- with patriotism rushed to serve in World War I.

- A. subdued
- B. withered
- C. placated
- D. imbued
- E. diminished

5. The high school concert band marched to a swift ----- played by the rhythmic drum section.

- A. dalliance
- B. irreverence
- C. cadence
- D. silence
- E. insurgence

6. In context, *prospect* (line 17) most nearly means:

- A. trust or confidence.
- B. mental consideration.
- C. a declaration.
- D. condition of success.

7. As it is used in line 33, the word *avocation* most nearly means:
- A. hobby.
 - B. training.
 - C. birth.
 - D. job.
8. It can be inferred that the word *hinterlands*, as it is used in line 46, primarily refers to:
- A. areas close to big cities or towns.
 - B. areas far from big cities or towns.
 - C. capital cities.
 - D. elevated or mountainous lands.
9. In line 53, *intelligentsia* is best understood to refer in general to the:
- A. educated class.
 - B. uneducated class.
 - C. university academic employees.
 - D. farmers and peasants.
10. In line 54, *heritage* is best understood as referring to:
- A. innovations.
 - B. political systems.
 - C. landscape.
 - D. customs and traditions.
11. The word *aspirations* (line 56) most nearly means:
- A. failures.
 - B. realities.
 - C. ambitions.
 - D. legends.
12. It can be inferred that the word *establishment*, as it is used in line 57, most nearly means:
- A. destruction.
 - B. formation.
 - C. interpretation.
 - D. purchase.
13. As it is used in line 58, the word *sway* most nearly means:
- A. freedom.
 - B. support.
 - C. influence.
 - D. overindulgence.
14. In line 61, *historicity* most nearly means:
- A. authenticity.
 - B. humility.
 - C. exaggeration.
 - D. origin.
15. In line 65, *motifs* is closest in meaning to:
- A. impulses.
 - B. replications.
 - C. main elements.
 - D. mechanisms.
16. ELITE:
- A. lofty
 - B. ordinary
 - C. verbal
 - D. continuous
 - E. brief
17. ESTEEM:
- A. despise
 - B. allow
 - C. protrude
 - D. complete
 - E. insure
18. ILLITERATE:
- A. well known
 - B. well read
 - C. well worn
 - D. well supplied
 - E. well fought

19. DISMAYED:

- A. confused
- B. courageous
- C. mournful
- D. pretentious
- E. dangerous

20. KINDLE:

- A. preserve
- B. assure
- C. import
- D. dampen
- E. renew

21. INTIMIDATE:

- A. suggest
- B. postpone
- C. study
- D. encourage
- E. exile

22. FOSTER:

- A. crush
- B. uphold
- C. withdraw
- D. respond
- E. rotate

23. STIMULUS:

- A. disorder
- B. quiet
- C. restraint
- D. approval
- E. joy

24. LINEAR:

- A. random
- B. elongated
- C. worthwhile
- D. consistent
- E. gorgeous

25. EPIC:

- A. factual
- B. insignificant
- C. tiresome
- D. modern
- E. useful

26. PLAGIARIZE : WRITING ::

- A. condemn : criminal
- B. release : information
- C. steal : property
- D. pay : dividend
- E. perform : drama

27. NATIONS : FRONTIER ::

- A. lots : boundaries
- B. highways : cities
- C. immigrants : citizens
- D. governments : leaders
- E. Earth : space

28. FANTASTIC : IMPOSSIBLE ::

- A. unrealistic : inconceivable
- B. dramatic : thinkable
- C. logical : workable
- D. scientific : speculative
- E. permanent : movable

29. VENTURE : RISK ::

- A. heroism : actor
- B. confidence : disbelief
- C. favoritism : choice
- D. real : honest
- E. gamble : danger

30. ENCHANT : CHARMED ::

- A. put off : offended
- B. describe : known
- C. forego : delighted
- D. insist : free
- E. proceed : finished

Passage II

HUMANITIES: This passage is adapted from an essay discussing an anthology of American songs based on the classic, “Tie a Yellow Ribbon.”

In 1972, Irwin Levine and L. Russell Brown copyrighted a song with the title of “Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Ole Oak Tree,” and it was recorded by some 30 different vocalists in the late 1970s and sold millions of copies. The hit version was recorded by the popular group Dawn, featuring Tony Orlando. In 1949, Aigogy Pictures released a motion picture starring John Wayne and Joanne Dru, called *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*. The picture was popular and the theme song, “Round Her Neck She Wore a Yellow Ribbon,” became a hit. Not surprisingly, the lyrics make reference to the characters and events in the film. In one form or another, this song antedates both the movie and the hit tune. It has been registered for copyright a number of times, the earliest claim for it being the composition of George Norton in 1917. Norton gave as his title “Round Her Neck She Wears a Yeller Ribbon.”

It has also been reported as a college song of the 1920s in which environment it displayed considerable variation, both in its symbolism and in its suitability for public expression. A verse typical of the college type:

Around her knee, she wore a purple garter;
She wore it in the Springtime, and in the month of May.
And if you asked her why the Hell she wore it,
She wore it for her William’s man who’s far, far away.

Other emblematic appurtenances of the young lady include a baby carriage and a shotgun-wielding father. The color of the ribbon or garter could be varied in order to implicate a student of an appropriate college: crimson for Harvard, orange for Princeton, and so on. It was a slightly refined version of this college tradition, rather than the movie theme song, which became a great favorite on the early 1960s, television show, “Sing Along with Mitch.” It appears on pages 22 and 24 of the *Sing Along with Mitch Songbook*, where an accompanying headnote describes it as an “old army marching song (based on a traditional theme).” Although the second verse is essentially the “purple garter” type, the first verse begins, “Around her neck, she wore a yellow ribbon.”

It seems likely that Mitch Miller’s popular printing, a decade after the motion picture, helped foster the perhaps erroneous idea that wearing a yellow ribbon as a token of remembrance was a custom of the Civil War era, but the song does not appear in any known anthology of Civil War songs. Although it is plausible that the families of Union army troops did adopt such a token, prudent historiography would demand evidence from a diary, photograph, or source contemporary to the war. Without such evidence, it seems likely that distant recollections of the Civil War have subsequently been grafted onto the symbolism of a much later popular motion picture. Occurrences of this sort are often noticed in the study of folk balladry in which the anachronistic combinations are among the more interesting features of the genre.

Whether Levine and Brown were consciously or unconsciously influenced by *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon* is not known. If they were, it would be worth noting that the George Norton song that influenced them has a pedigree that stretches far beyond the college environment of the 1920s. A similar song was heard in minstrel shows in this country around 1838: “All Round My Hat,” which is unquestionably the ancestor of the later “Round Her Neck She Wore a Yellow Ribbon,” with all of its variants and imitations. Likewise, in *Othello*, Shakespeare has Desdemona refer to an earlier version of the song.

In its long descent from Tudor lyric to Cockney ballad to American minstrel ditty to ribald college song to motion picture theme to popular recording, we see garters and ribbons of every hue—and the symbol of constancy in love has been anything but constant itself.

31. Dove releases are traditional following marriage ceremonies because the life-long pairing of doves is ----- of what the state of human marriage should be.

- A. antagonistic.
- B. sympathetic.
- C. phobic.
- D. empiric.
- E. emblematic

32. The Innocence Project is comprised of law professors and their students who re-investigate and challenge the evidence in convictions of murder defendants whose claims of innocence seem -----.
- A. plausible
 - B. deniable
 - C. expected
 - D. unlikely
 - E. incredible
33. The mayoral candidate is campaigning on a platform of reigning in government expenditures, stressing that he is fiscally ----- and a friend of the business community.
- A. insensible
 - B. furtive
 - C. intensive
 - D. prudent
 - E. supple
34. Mel Brooks' 1974 film *Blazing Saddles*, set in the Wild West in 1874, contains many ----- props from the 1970s, including a stylish Gucci costume for the sheriff and an automobile.
- A. suitable
 - B. decorous
 - C. mundane
 - D. anticlimactic
 - E. anachronistic
35. There are a number of criteria by which one may classify musical -----, including the distinction between popular and traditional, regional and national differences, influences, and origins.
- A. instruments
 - B. plots
 - C. genres
 - D. arrangements
 - E. conflagrations
36. The word *antedates* (line 13) most nearly means:
- A. anticipates.
 - B. precedes.
 - C. prevents.
 - D. follows.
37. Based on the use of the word *appurtenances* in line 29, it can be inferred that *appurtenance* refers to something:
- A. exaggerated or embellished.
 - B. resembling a particular characteristic.
 - C. subordinate to another, more important thing.
 - D. fundamental in existence.
38. Based on the use of the word *wielding* in line 30, it can be inferred that *wield* means to:
- A. give up.
 - B. handle or carry something.
 - C. produce or bring forth.
 - D. conceal
39. In line 32, *implicate* is best understood to mean to:
- A. make a copy of something.
 - B. set about or attempt.
 - C. indicate and set apart for a purpose.
 - D. involve with or show a connection between things.
40. In line 34, *refined* most nearly means:
- A. defined essential characteristics.
 - B. lowered in status or quality.
 - C. cultivated or freed from coarseness.
 - D. abbreviated or cut short.
41. It can be inferred that the word *anthology*, as it is used in line 49, primarily refers to:
- A. the study of human nature.
 - B. an autobiographical account.
 - C. an inventory of stock.
 - D. a collection of songs.

42. It can be inferred that the word *historiography*, as it is used in line 51, primarily refers to the:

- A. scholarly study of history.
- B. process of producing images.
- C. science of drawing maps.
- D. deliberate display of emotion for effect.

43. Based on the use of the word *grafted* in line 55, it can be inferred that *graft* most nearly means to:

- A. work without compensation.
- B. attach or join together.
- C. obtain legally.
- D. duplicate or reproduce.

44. It can be inferred that the word *ditty*, as it is used in line 73, primarily refers to a(n):

- A. previously mentioned word.
- B. means of production.
- C. simple song.
- D. epic poem.

45. In line 73, *ribald* most nearly means:

- A. refined.
- B. popular.
- C. vulgar.
- D. mediocre.

46. LYRICAL:

- A. dramatic
- B. flexible
- C. repetitious
- D. short
- E. active

47. VOCAL:

- A. odd
- B. interesting
- C. forgetful
- D. silent
- E. powerful

48. TOKEN:

- A. false idea
- B. genuine article
- C. loved one
- D. wanted criminal
- E. known amount

49. TRADITIONAL:

- A. innovative
- B. well suited
- C. long winded
- D. zealous
- E. learned

50. CONTEMPORARY:

- A. modern
- B. outdated
- C. ill-advised
- D. well conceived
- E. nearby

51. COMPOSED:

- A. aloud
- B. intentional
- C. early
- D. upset
- E. qualified

52. ADOPT:

- A. believe
- B. select
- C. reject
- D. insist
- E. fulfill

53. ERR:

- A. tilt
- B. fold
- C. correct
- D. gladden
- E. find

54. CONSTANCY:

- A. disloyalty
- B. validity
- C. construction
- D. humility
- E. rivalry

60. HEADNOTE : FOOTNOTE ::

- A. beginning : opening
- B. end : closing
- C. top : bottom
- D. face : hand
- E. cover : book

55. CIVIL:

- A. impolite
- B. chief
- C. rigorous
- D. required
- E. new

56. SUBSEQUENT : LATER ::

- A. onetime : long term
- B. former : earlier
- C. brief : permanent
- D. historical : important
- E. predicted : reported

57. COPYRIGHT : WRITING ::

- A. royalty : work
- B. composition : ownership
- C. patent : invention
- D. brand : trademark
- E. violation : duplicate

58. ENVIRONMENT : CONTEXT ::

- A. location : movement
- B. transportation : commute
- C. place : home
- D. surroundings : locale
- E. building : land

59. MINSTREL : SINGER ::

- A. evangelist : preacher
- B. gardener : reaper
- C. lawyer : defender
- D. actor : scene
- E. runner : marathon

Passage III

HUMANITIES: This passage is adapted from an introductory textbook on the history of American music.

Harmonica, mouth organ, French harp, harp—there are dozens of appellations in American English for this simple instrument, evidence of the local and regional level of its widespread appeal. The ubiquitous little music maker may seem homely when compared with more cultivated species, but the hardy perennial has taken root in our musical landscape, and has been owned and played by more Americans than any other instrument. This wildflower has long been mistaken for a weed by stodgy and established musical experts; consequently, there has been little scholarly writing devoted to it.

Like many familiar domestic blooms, the harmonica is an Old World transplant. The ancestral rootstock of the free-reed family, to which the mouth harp belongs, comes from Asia where according to myth, the Chinese female sovereign Nyn-Kwa invented the *sheng* or mouth organ about 3000 B.C. Written descriptions of the instrument date from a thousand years later, and examples and representations of *sheng* have been found at grave sites in central China dating from the 5th century B.C. Although its invention has been credited to several people, the first patent for the familiar mouth harmonica was filed in Berlin by Friedrich Buschmann in 1821. Within ten years of its invention, the European mouth organ was being produced commercially in Austria, Switzerland, and the German kingdom of Saxony.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, German manufacturers began the mass production of harmonicas with an eye to the huge export market. Towards the end of the century, German factories were producing up to ten million instruments a year, and more than half were sold in the United States. Popularity of the instrument peaked between the world wars, when it was used for music education in public schools, on the vaudeville stage, and on early blues and “hillbilly” recordings. In the late 1940s, electric “city” blues bands featured amplified harmonicas as lead instruments, and their records, though less popular in black communities since the mid-1960s, continue to be a strong influence on popular music both here and abroad.

With millions of mouth organs imported each year for over a century, the harmonica is the most popular musical instrument in our nation’s history. Why, then, the dearth of literature on the harmonica? One explanation is the type of sound produced by the instrument. In reed instruments such as the saxophone or oboe, a flexible sliver of reed is vibrated against something. Once the reed is vibrating, the length of a resonating column of air is varied to produce different pitches. Free-reed instruments, like the harmonica, have reeds that vibrate without touching anything else. As the vibrations of the free reeds are unhindered, the resulting sounds are dense with overtones, producing a timbre alternately described as mellifluous or irritating, according to the tastes of the listener. However, the same may also be said of a “serious” instrument such as the violin. A more likely explanation is the simplicity and cost of the harmonica. Small and cheap, it has been the instrument of choice for children, working people, and vagabonds. Thus, the social status of the most visible harp players has not encouraged the attention of students of “serious” music.

Fortunately, critical neglect has not prevented harmonica players from making good music, much of it endemic to the U.S. Harmonica tune books from the 1920s suggest the instrument’s repertory embraced familiar dance tunes, popular songs, and sentimental favorites of the preceding half-century. Prominent among early recordings are entertaining solo pieces in which harmonica virtuosos imitate the sounds of animals, crying babies, electric pumps, and railroads. Train whistles and fox chases pervaded the recorded harmonica repertory.

Other virtuoso pieces make use of “note bending” to make sounds and play pitches which are, in theory, impossible to play on the instrument. The technique, as yet unexplained by acoustic physicists, makes possible the distinctively fluid phrasing and wailing sound of the blues harmonica. By deflecting air with the mouth, the player can “bend” or flatten a note, almost to the tonal value of the next lower-pitched reed. This technique was widely employed by blues players of the 1920s. In some solo recordings, the player sings a line, then uses the mouth harp to play an improvised instrumental response.

It is difficult to generalize about an instrument used in making so many different kinds of music, except to say the differences in style between individuals are stronger than most regional characteristics. There is an intimate relationship be-

95 tween player and harp; the resulting music reflects experience, outlook, and even mood more than with most instruments. While limited in range, the harmonica can speak with a very personal voice. Perhaps its versatile adaptability is the real key to the small instrument's large role in the musical life of
100 America.

61. The ----- presence of the extremely demanding and critical factory owner made the workers fearful for their jobs.
- A. vacuous
 - B. ubiquitous
 - C. distant
 - D. ambiguous
 - E. dubious
62. A(n) ----- of certified teachers has forced the school board to hire teachers who are still working on their certification.
- A. abundance
 - B. compliment
 - C. cooperation
 - D. indictment
 - E. dearth
63. Although Peter was just over five and half feet tall, when he spoke you had to be impressed by the deep, ----- quality of his voice.
- A. faint
 - B. resonant
 - C. vulnerable
 - D. irreproachable
 - E. commendable
64. Articulated in his smooth and ----- prose, the English novelist Colin Thubron's eye for detail and command of scope make for an absorbing, complex read.
- A. callous
 - B. terse
 - C. temperamental
 - D. mellifluous
 - E. sarcastic
65. The ----- of the assembly hall were very poor, making it difficult to hear the speaker past the tenth row of seats.
- A. semantics
 - B. ballistics
 - C. aesthetics
 - D. antics
 - E. acoustics
66. Based on the use of the word *appellations* in line 2, it can be inferred that *appellation* most nearly means:
- A. name.
 - B. appearance.
 - C. destination.
 - D. manifestation.
67. It can be inferred that the word *perennial*, as it is used in line 6, primarily refers to something that is:
- A. original.
 - B. rude in behavior.
 - C. continuous.
 - D. annoying.
68. As it is used in line 10, the word *stodgy* most nearly means:
- A. substantial.
 - B. boring.
 - C. unaffected.
 - D. lively.
69. In line 17, *sovereign* is best understood to mean:
- A. ruler.
 - B. traveler.
 - C. explorer.
 - D. supplicant.

70. It can be inferred that the word *timbre*, as it is used in line 57, primarily refers to:

- A. a nervous characteristic.
- B. the wood of growing trees.
- C. a short, simple song.
- D. the quality of sound.

71. In line 68, *endemic* most nearly means:

- A. widespread or rapid growth.
- B. characteristic of a particular region.
- C. a long poetic composition.
- D. external to one's country or origin.

72. In line 69, *repertory* most nearly refers to a(n):

- A. musical play or production.
- B. entire collection of works.
- C. place where something is kept safe.
- D. history of development.

73. Based on the use of the word *virtuosos* in line 73, it can be inferred that *virtuoso* primarily refers to a(n):

- A. student.
- B. amateur.
- C. expert.
- D. entertainer.

74. In line 87, *improvised* most nearly means:

- A. skillful or accomplished.
- B. made up or performed spontaneously.
- C. immediately pertinent.
- D. dramatic monologue.

75. Based on its use in line 98, *versatile* can be defined as all of the following EXCEPT:

- A. adaptable.
- B. multipurpose.
- C. resourceful.
- D. inflexible.

76. **HOMELY:**

- A. powerless
- B. clean
- C. fancy
- D. timely
- E. happy

77. **CULTIVATED:**

- A. witty
- B. sad
- C. aloof
- D. uncultured
- E. tardy

78. **AMPLIFY:**

- A. simplify
- B. lift
- C. announce
- D. empower
- E. improve

79. **DOMESTIC:**

- A. simple
- B. far-fetched
- C. complete
- D. afraid
- E. imported

80. **UNHINDERED:**

- A. restrained
- B. blameworthy
- C. satisfied
- D. qualified
- E. preferred

81. **NEGLECT:**

- A. attention
- B. rejection
- C. consent
- D. wariness
- E. excuse

82. PERVASIVE:

- A. calm
- B. new
- C. limited
- D. roomy
- E. marvelous

83. FEATURED:

- A. collected
- B. opposed
- C. suppressed
- D. allowed
- E. widened

84. CRITICAL:

- A. wasteful
- B. unthinking
- C. scholarly
- D. evasive
- E. quiet

85. PROMINENT:

- A. famous
- B. anonymous
- C. youthful
- D. popular
- E. cautious

86. PITCH : SCALE ::

- A. word : page
- B. letter : alphabet
- C. person : crowd
- D. strand : rope
- E. closing : speech

87. VAGABOND : WANDER ::

- A. traveler : destination
- B. hobo : migrate
- C. voyager : home
- D. tramp : work
- E. worker: search

88. OVERTONE : SUGGEST ::

- A. echo : remind
- B. satisfaction : displease
- C. package : return
- D. victor : war
- E. expert : repair

89. DEFLECT : REFLECT ::

- A. set free : imprison
- B. turn aside : turn back
- C. throw out : take in
- D. move forward : move sideways
- E. lift up : set down

90. COMMERCE : TRADE ::

- A. property : sale
- B. business : exchange
- C. profit : motive
- D. enterprise : owner
- E. purchase : delivery

**Passage IV**

HUMANITIES: This passage is adapted from an essay about *La Gioconda*, the painting by Leonardo da Vinci more commonly known as the “Mona Lisa.” The actual person in the painting may have been Lisa, the third wife of Francesco del Giocondo.

5 *La Gioconda* is, in the truest sense, Leonardo’s masterpiece; the revealing paradigm of his mode of thought and work. We all know the face and hands of the figure, set in its marble chair, in that circle of fantastic rocks, as in some faint light under the sea. Perhaps of all ancient pictures, time has chilled it least.

10 As often happens with works in which genius seems to surpass its limit, there is an element in it transmitted by, but not invented by, the master. In that inestimable folio of drawings, once in the possession of Vasari, were certain designs by Verrocchio, faces of such impressive beauty that Leonardo, in his boyhood copied them many times. It is difficult not to see these designs of the elder master as the germinal principle of that unfathomable smile, with its touch of something sinister, which infects all Leonardo’s work.

20 Besides, the picture is a portrait. From childhood, we see this image defining itself on the fabric of his dreams, and were it not for explicit historical testimony, we might fancy this was his ideal lady, embodied and beheld at last.

25 What was the relationship of a living Florentine to the creature of his thought? By what strange affinities had the dream and the person grown up so apart, and yet so close? Present from the first incorporeal ideas in Leonardo’s brain, dimly traced in the designs of Verrocchio, she is found present at last in *Il Giocondo*’s house.

30 To be sure, it is a portrait, a painting, and legend has it that mimes and musicians were used to protract that smile. Was it in four months or as by a stroke of magic the image was projected?

35 The presence that rises so strangely beside the waters is expressive of what after a thousand years men had come to desire. Hers is the head upon all “the ends of the world are come,” and the eyelids are a little weary. It is a beauty brought out from within and deposited upon the flesh, bit by bit, cell by cell—strange thoughts and fantastic reveries and exquisite passions. Set it for a moment beside one of those Greek

45 statues of beautiful women of antiquity. How they would be troubled by this beauty, into which the soul with all of its maladies had been passed! All the thoughts and experience of the world are etched and molded there: the animalism of Greece, the lust of Rome, the mysticism of the Middle Ages with its spiritual ambition and imaginative loves, the return of the pagan world, the sins of the Borgias.

50 She is older than the rocks among which she sits. Like the vampire, she has been dead many times, and learned the secrets of the grave; and has submerged herself in deep seas and kept their fallen day about her; and trafficked for some strange webs with Easter merchants and as Leda, the mother of Helen of Troy, and as Saint Anne, the mother of Mary. All of this has been to her but as the sound of lyres and flutes, and lives only in the delicacy with which it has molded the changing lineaments and tinged the eyelids and the hands.

91. The established and successful member-owned cooperative served as a(n) ----- for the small, locally-owned food markets that have recently sprung up in the region.

- A. benefit
- B. substitution
- C. paradigm
- D. affliction
- E. anomaly

92. There is such a strong ----- between new cars made by rival automakers today that the casual observer cannot tell them apart.

- A. dissimilarity
- B. competition
- C. deterioration
- D. affinity
- E. variation

93. The notion that there is a(n) ----- realm of existence that is distinct from the material universe is fundamental to the belief in a divine being.
- A. physical
 - B. logistical
 - C. imaginary
 - D. substitute
 - E. incorporeal
94. In order to ----- the telephone call long enough to put a trace on it, the detective kept the caller engaged in seemingly pointless conversation.
- A. distract
 - B. mitigate
 - C. protract
 - D. contract
 - E. interrupt
95. Katya's memory of the moment was ----- with sorrow; while her voice was firm, it was obviously touched with grief.
- A. confused
 - B. tipped
 - C. prolonged
 - D. tinged
 - E. arranged
96. In context, *masterpiece* (line 2) most nearly refers to an artist's:
- A. most important work.
 - B. beginning stages of a piece.
 - C. posthumously published work.
 - D. rehearsal or practice pieces.
97. As it is used in line 2, the word *mode* most nearly refers to a(n):
- A. sound.
 - B. feeling.
 - C. asset.
 - D. method.
98. In line 10, *folio* is best understood to refer to a(n):
- A. duplicate.
 - B. burial.
 - C. booklet.
 - D. painting.
99. It can be inferred that the word *germinal*, as it is used in line 14, refers to the:
- A. overriding themes.
 - B. early stages.
 - C. destructive elements.
 - D. tutorial process.
100. The word *explicit* (line 19) most nearly means:
- A. clearly expressed.
 - B. involved or entwined.
 - C. embedded or contained.
 - D. brought out.
101. In line 39, *exquisite* most nearly means characterized by:
- A. an even temperament.
 - B. expensive taste.
 - C. mind-numbing detail.
 - D. intense emotions.
102. It can be inferred that the word *antiquity*, as it is used in line 41, most nearly means belonging to:
- A. modern culture.
 - B. ancient times.
 - C. the future.
 - D. prehistory.
103. In line 43, *maladies* is best understood to refer to:
- A. dreams.
 - B. sicknesses.
 - C. painful emotions.
 - D. memories.



104. In line 46, *mysticism* refers to:

- A. the historical record.
- B. exciting curiosities.
- C. the beliefs of mystics.
- D. a political system.

105. It can be inferred that the word *lineaments*, as it is used in line 58, refers to:

- A. skin ointments.
- B. descendants from a common ancestor.
- C. facial features.
- D. ground plans.

106. ANCIENT:

- A. classical
- B. modern
- C. worthless
- D. changing
- E. revered

107. GENIUS:

- A. uninspired
- B. continued
- C. hated
- D. tremendous
- E. practical

108. INESTIMABLE:

- A. boring
- B. worthless
- C. unstable
- D. required
- E. important

109. DESIGN:

- A. events
- B. history
- C. present
- D. denial
- E. chance

110. DEPOSIT:

- A. add to
- B. put down
- C. throw away
- D. pick up
- E. ask for

111. LUST:

- A. attract
- B. follow
- C. reject
- D. treat
- E. provoke

112. AMBITIOUS:

- A. uncaring
- B. forward
- C. clownish
- D. large
- E. worrisome

113. IMAGINATIVE:

- A. fantastic
- B. ordinary
- C. crude
- D. youthful
- E. drastic

114. SUBMERGE:

- A. pass over
- B. enter into
- C. slide along
- D. go down
- E. take out of

115. DELICACY:

- A. strength
- B. error
- C. trick
- D. emotion
- E. water

116. SURPASS : TOP ::

- A. fail : completion
- B. exceed : limit
- C. leap : speed
- D. claim : right
- E. adjust : center

117. INFECT : FEELING ::

- A. invent : story
- B. name : child
- C. fill : emotion
- D. confuse : love
- E. demand : answer

118. TESTIMONY : WITNESS ::

- A. proof : evidence
- B. defendant : accuser
- C. prosecutor : jury
- D. guilty : innocence
- E. account : reporter

119. MIME : SILENCE ::

- A. painter : canvas
- B. author : novel
- C. dancer : music
- D. playwright : drama
- E. actor : stage

120. PAGAN : RELIGION ::

- A. heathen : belief
- B. believer : worship
- C. creed : tenet
- D. minister : sermon
- E. convert : belief



Passage V

HUMANITIES: This passage is adapted from an essay about Joseph Turner’s 1840 oil painting entitled “Slavers throwing overboard the Dead and Dying—Typhoon coming on,” or more commonly, “The Slave Ship.”

I think the noblest sea that Turner has ever painted, and so the noblest ever painted by man, is that of “The Slave Ship.” It is a sunset on the Atlantic after a prolonged storm, but the storm is partially lulled, and the torn and streaming rain clouds are scudding across the sky in scarlet lines to dissipate into the hollow of the night. The whole surface of the sea comprised within the canvas is divided into two ridges of enormous swell, not high, nor local, but a low, broad heaving of the whole ocean, like the lifting of its bosom by a deep-drawn breath after the torture of the storm. Between these two ridges, the fire of the sunset falls along the trough of the sea, dyeing it with an awful but glorious light, the intense and lurid splendor which burns like gold and bathes like blood.

Along this fiery path and valley, the tossing waves by which the swell of the sea is restlessly divided, lift themselves in the dark, indefinite, fantastic forms, each casting a faint and ghastly shadow behind it along the illumined foam. They do not rise everywhere, but three or four together in wild groups, fitfully and furiously, as the under-strength of the swell compels or permits them; leaving between them treacherous spaces of level and whirling water, now lighted with green lamp-like fire, now flashing back the gold of the declining sun, now fearfully dyed from above with the indistinguishable images of the burning clouds, which fall upon them in flakes of crimson and scarlet and give to the reckless waves the added motion of their own fiery flying.

Purple and blue, the lurid shadows of the hollow breakers are cast upon the mist of night, which gathers cold and low, advancing like the shadow of death upon the guilty ship as it labors amidst the lighting of the sea, its thin masts written upon the sky in lines of blood, girded with condemnation in that fearful hue which signs the sky with horror and mixes its flaming flood with the sunlight, and cast far along the desolate heave of the sepulchral waves, incarnadines the multitudinous sea.

I believe, if I were reduced to rest Turner’s immortality upon any single work, I should choose

this. Its daring conception—ideal in the highest sense of the word—is based upon the purest truth and wrought out with the concentrated knowledge of a life; its color is absolutely perfect, not one false or morbid hue in any part or line, and so modulated that every square inch of canvas is a perfect composition; its drawing as accurate as it is fearless, the ship buoyant, bending, and full of motion; its tones as true as they are wonderful; and the whole picture dedicated to the most sublime of truths which we have shown to be formed by Turner’s works—the power, majesty, and a depth of the open, deep, illimitable sea.

121. The morning fog was quickly ----- by the rays of the sun, allowing us to see the mountains far in the distance.

- A. condensed
- B. extended
- C. accumulated
- D. dissipated
- E. illuminated

122. Known for its sensationalism, the tabloid newspaper reported the horrendous crime in all of its ----- detail.

- A. exquisite
- B. lurid
- C. insipid
- D. ingenuous
- E. modest

123. With a ----- fascination, people flocked to the bombing scene from outer areas to catch a glimpse of the devastation.

- A. intelligent
- B. healthy
- C. cheery
- D. poignant
- E. morbid

124. Towards the end of the song, the Webb sisters' voices began to ----- into pitch-perfect harmony.
- A. vary
 - B. intensify
 - C. stratify
 - D. modulate
 - E. displace
125. Although Marie had only known Martin for six months, she felt that her feelings for him were vast and -----.
- A. illimitable
 - B. controlled
 - C. confidential
 - D. definable
 - E. inapt
126. As it is used in line 4, the word *lulled* most nearly means to have become:
- A. tense.
 - B. calm.
 - C. irate.
 - D. defeated.
127. Based on the use of the wording *scudding* in line 5, it can be inferred that *scud* most nearly means to:
- A. fall quietly.
 - B. pass rapidly.
 - C. expand quickly.
 - D. slow to a halt.
128. In context, *comprised* (line 7) most nearly means:
- A. pressed together.
 - B. prohibited.
 - C. exposed to suspicion.
 - D. included.
129. As it is used in line 13, *trough* is best understood to refer to:
- A. a receptacle for feeding animals.
 - B. low point of a business cycle.
 - C. an area of low barometric pressure.
 - D. a depression between two waves.
130. The word *ghastly* (line 19) most nearly means:
- A. shockingly frightful.
 - B. lacking in substance.
 - C. spiritual.
 - D. pleasant.
131. As it is used in line 20, the word *illuminated* most nearly means:
- A. educated.
 - B. extinguished.
 - C. lit up.
 - D. cast a shadow.
132. It can be inferred that the word *condemnation*, as it is used in line 36, primarily refers to:
- A. praise.
 - B. discord.
 - C. appeasement.
 - D. judgment.
133. It can be inferred that the word *sepulchral*, as it is used in line 39, primarily means:
- A. joyous.
 - B. weakening.
 - C. overpowering.
 - D. dismal.
134. Based on the use of the word *incarnadines* in line 39, it can be inferred that *incarnadine* most nearly means to make:
- A. alive.
 - B. red.
 - C. dead.
 - D. dark.

135. The word *immortality* (line 42) most nearly means:

- A. enduring fame.
- B. immediate demise.
- C. infamous reputation.
- D. collection of works.

136. PROLONG:

- A. give back
- B. cut short
- C. add to
- D. move back
- E. win over

137. SWELL:

- A. depression
- B. castle
- C. raft
- D. draft
- E. wire

138. LOCAL:

- A. trapped
- B. hurried
- C. barren
- D. widespread
- E. wise

139. TREACHEROUS:

- A. loyal
- B. excitable
- C. tremendous
- D. boorish
- E. fruitful

140. FITFUL:

- A. probable
- B. regular
- C. sincere
- D. doubtful
- E. plentiful

141. INDISTINGUISHABLE:

- A. well done
- B. well read
- C. well defined
- D. well informed
- E. well bred

142. ADVANCE:

- A. speak
- B. retreat
- C. confide
- D. sense
- E. announce

143. LABOR:

- A. refuse
- B. pass over
- C. call forth
- D. prevent
- E. send out

144. MULTITUDINOUS:

- A. singular
- B. complex
- C. required
- D. deniable
- E. hopeful

145. DEDICATE:

- A. share
- B. rent
- C. provide
- D. persuade
- E. hold out

146. RIDGE : LINE ::

- A. mountain : valley
- B. box : cube
- C. hill : dot
- D. river : water
- E. cloud : sky

147. WHIRL : CIRCULAR ::

- A. drill : spiral
- B. recall : memorial
- C. question : answerable
- D. raise : horizontal
- E. cross : limited

148. GIRD : BELT ::

- A. hand : hat
- B. wear : coat
- C. wrap : bandage
- D. wash : garment
- E. remove : cloak

149. HUE : VISION ::

- A. tone : hearing
- B. race : training
- C. painting : easel
- D. vessel : sea
- E. danger : warning

150. BUOYANT : CHEERFUL ::

- A. confined : freed
- B. lazy : busy
- C. endearing : hopeless
- D. lighthearted : glad
- E. reasonable : silly

Vocabulary Builder: Natural Science Passages

DIRECTIONS: Each passage in this exercise is followed by sets of sentence completion, vocabulary-in-context, antonym, and analogy items for building vocabulary through context. In addition to using the passages to infer word meanings, you may use a dictionary or refer to the Vocabulary List beginning on page 655.

The first set of items following each passage are sentence completion items based on words from the passage. Each sentence has one blank. Choose the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence in its entirety.

The second set of items following each passage are vocabulary-in-context items based on words from the passage. Choose the best answer for each item based on what is stated or implied in the passage.

The third set of items following each passage are antonym items based on words from the passage. For each item, choose the word that has a meaning most nearly opposite of the capitalized word.

The fourth set of items following each passage are analogy items based on words from the passage. For each item, find the pair of words that expresses a relationship most like that expressed by the capitalized words.

Answers are on page 801.

Passage I

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an article entitled “Cosmic Evolution” in a popular cosmology journal.

Through the centuries, man has unceasingly searched the firmament for clues to his destiny. His imagination has been captivated by the stars, his mind challenged by the mystery of their origin and extent, and his spirit imbued with a thirst for some understanding of his role in the cosmos.

Scientific discoveries in fields as diverse as astronomy and molecular biology in the course of the last 15 years have brought us closer to solving three timeless enigmas: How did the universe begin? How did life originate and evolve? What is our place and destiny in the universe?

This burst of interdisciplinary discoveries has given rise to new concepts of the origin of life from inanimate material on primitive Earth, the formation of planets and stars, the synthesis of fundamental particles of matter, and the beginnings of the universe itself. All seem to be founded on the same basic laws of chemistry and physics. The conclusion that the origin

and evolution of life is inextricably interwoven with the origin and evolution of the cosmos seems ineluctable. Taken in its totality, this pathway, from fundamental particles to advanced civilizations, constitutes the essence of the concept of cosmic evolution.

To be sure, the sequence from primordial fireball to matter, to stars, to planets, to prebiotic chemistry, to life, and to intelligence, is fragmented and even controversial in some particulars. A broad picture, however, is emerging: a picture that is both imaginative and illuminating.

Man appeared very late in this sequence of events, and with his increased intelligence came civilization, science, and technology. Cultural evolution began and has proceeded very rapidly in the last few millennia. An infinitesimal fraction of the matter of the universe has been converted into the organic matter of the human brain. As a result, one part of the universe can now reflect upon the whole process of cosmic evolution leading to the existence of human cognition. We wonder whether this process is a frequent occurrence in the universe; in doing so, we come to the postulate that life is widespread in the universe and at least in some cases, this life may have

45 evolved to the stage of intelligence and technological civilizations that it did on Earth.

Some of these civilizations may have learned to communicate with each other and achieved major advances in their own evolution as a result. Can we
50 detect them? Although many gaps, puzzles, and uncertainties remain, this unifying concept, in which the expansion of the universe, the birth and death of galaxies and stars, the formation of planets, the origins of life, and the ascent of humans are all explained by
55 the process of cosmic evolution, provides a sound scientific rationale on which to base a program to search for extraterrestrial intelligence.

1. The new Biomedical Research Center, which coordinates many aspects of the university's research, has developed ----- working relationships with the Neuroscience and Medical Physics departments.

- A. adversary
- B. disciplinary
- C. evolutionary
- D. interdisciplinary
- E. reactionary

2. Linus Pauling, winner of the Chemistry Nobel Prize in 1954, was an advocate of high doses of vitamin C, since it is vital to the ----- of collagen, the body's main connective tissue protein.

- A. destruction
- B. analysis
- C. substitution
- D. combination
- E. synthesis

3. An atheist is a person without a belief in, or who does not ----- the existence of, a god or deities.

- A. deny
- B. calculate
- C. postulate
- D. warrant
- E. feign

4. The liberals' ----- for universal health care is that access to high-quality health care is a human right, while the conservatives argue that coverage is a market commodity best left to the free market.

- A. protection
- B. substitution
- C. disagreement
- D. apology
- E. rationale

5. Until Congress canceled its funding, the NASA Deep Space Network used radio dishes to detect non-natural radio emissions from locations outside our solar system in an attempt to discover ----- civilizations.

- A. extraterrestrial
- B. ancient
- C. modern
- D. terrestrial
- E. foreign

6. It can be inferred that the word *firmament*, as it is used in line 2, primarily refers to:

- A. a thin thread or strand.
- B. hell or the underworld.
- C. the heavens.
- D. the earth or material world.

7. It can be inferred that the word *cosmos*, as it is used in line 6, primarily refers to the:

- A. planets.
- B. sky.
- C. universe.
- D. earth.

8. In context, *enigmas* (line 10) most nearly means:

- A. solutions.
- B. puzzles.
- C. doubts.
- D. certainties.

9. Based on the use of the word *inextricably* in line 20, it can be inferred that *inextricable* most nearly means:
- A. indescribable.
 - B. uncontrollable.
 - C. inseparable.
 - D. unexplainable.
10. In line 22, *ineluctable* is best understood to mean:
- A. unsolvable.
 - B. inescapable.
 - C. unappeasable.
 - D. avoidable.
11. It can be inferred that the word *primordial*, as it is used in line 26, most nearly means existing:
- A. in the future.
 - B. in modern times.
 - C. in outer space.
 - D. from the beginning of time.
12. It can be inferred that the word *prebiotic*, as it is used in line 27, most nearly means:
- A. existing before the origin of life.
 - B. containing beneficial bacteria.
 - C. inhibiting bacterial growth.
 - D. pertaining to life.
13. The word *millennia* (line 36) refers to:
- A. millions of years.
 - B. thousands of years.
 - C. hundreds of years.
 - D. tens of years.
14. As it is used in line 36, the word *infinitesimal* most nearly means:
- A. extending indefinitely.
 - B. immeasurably tiny.
 - C. enormous.
 - D. calculable.
15. In line 41, *cognition* refers to:
- A. knowledge.
 - B. misunderstanding.
 - C. unawareness.
 - D. existence.
16. CONTROVERT:
- A. revise
 - B. understand
 - C. agree
 - D. believe
 - E. ridicule
17. ILLUMINATE:
- A. instruct
 - B. burden
 - C. obscure
 - D. flatten
 - E. decline
18. SEQUENTIAL:
- A. random
 - B. broad
 - C. unintentional
 - D. confined
 - E. dull
19. ASCENT:
- A. miracle
 - B. decline
 - C. harbor
 - D. enforcement
 - E. fortune
20. INANIMATE:
- A. lively
 - B. confused
 - C. refined
 - D. victorious
 - E. satisfied

21. PRIMITIVE:

- A. unhappy
- B. lengthy
- C. sophisticated
- D. determined
- E. obvious

22. REFLECTION:

- A. width
- B. settlement
- C. fulfillment
- D. resentment
- E. absorption

23. CONSTITUTE:

- A. affirm
- B. remain
- C. lift
- D. take apart
- E. move in

24. ESSENTIAL:

- A. extra
- B. clever
- C. pointed
- D. motionless
- E. rancid

25. DESTINED:

- A. prepared
- B. free
- C. alone
- D. divided
- E. current

26. CAPTIVATE : INTEREST ::

- A. liberate : chains
- B. hold : attention
- C. return : investment
- D. prefer : favorite
- E. define : term

27. UNIFORM : DIVERSIFY ::

- A. identifiable : point
- B. intense : involve
- C. assured : dictate
- D. cool : test
- E. constant : vary

28. PARTICULAR : DETAIL ::

- A. window : casement
- B. fragment : piece
- C. closet : room
- D. age : maturity
- E. hope : despair

29. SOUND : UNRELIABLE ::

- A. healthy : new
- B. constant : afraid
- C. certain : lacking
- D. errorless : doubtful
- E. garbled: understandable

30. CONVERSION : CONTINUE ::

- A. transformation : maintain
- B. death : evolve
- C. civilization : advance
- D. evolution : emerge
- E. intelligence : learn

Passage II

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an essay entitled “Antarctic Exploration” in an introductory earth sciences textbook.

At 3:29 p.m. on November 28, 1929, a heavily laden Ford Trimotor bounced down the rough ice runway of ‘Little America’ and clawed its way through an Antarctic overcast—embarking on an epic flight that was anything but routine. The little plane, called the Floyd Bennett, weighed only 6,000 pounds. With its four-man crew, extra gasoline, food, and survival gear, it was carrying more than seven tons. The plane’s three engines put out 975 horsepower; cruising speed was just over 100 miles per hour. For navigating the desolate wastes, there were two drift meters and a sun-compass. The only other scientific instrument aboard was a bulky 100-pound aerial camera. Eighteen hours and 37 minutes (and 1,600 miles) later, the Floyd Bennett touched back down on the Little America landing strip, mission completed. Richard E. Byrd and his crew were the first to conquer the South Pole by air, and their historic journey, the consummation of years of work and meticulous planning, had opened a new era of scientific exploration.

Simply establishing the Little America base camp a year earlier was a triumph of logistics. Byrd’s men unloaded and hauled several hundred tons of food, fuel, and equipment (including three airplanes) over the crumbling ice barrier on dog sleds. The dismantled all-metal Ford Trimotor was stored that winter in a hangar made of snow blocks. After the long months of darkness set in, Byrd and his companions began final planning for their aerial assault on the South Pole. The 1,600-mile-long flight involved unprecedented features. For hundreds of miles, they would fly over a barren, rolling surface, then climb a mountain rampart 14,000 feet high, with a 10,500-foot pass, and continue the journey across a 10,000-foot plateau. Factors of speed, horsepower, rate of climb, and other engineering problems entailed endless hours of tedious and complicated calculations.

Excavated from its snow cave in early November, the Floyd Bennett was reassembled in temperatures that reached 50 degrees below zero. Without photographer Ashley McKinley and his equipment and survival gear, the plane could fly to the South Pole and back with no problem. To Byrd, McKinley’s task was the crux of the plan: to photograph every mile of the flight and to make a permanent record available to

science. Since the extra weight would make a nonstop trip impossible, it would be necessary to cache gasoline and food near the base of the mountain range that bordered the high Antarctic plateau. The aircraft would then land and refuel during the return leg of the flight. Even so, weight and fuel consumption calculations were critical. The Floyd Bennett had to be light enough by the time it reached the Queen Maud Mountains to climb 11,000 feet and slip through the pass at the head of the Axel Heiberg glacier.

On November 19, Byrd and his crew flew 400 miles to reconnoiter the jagged mountain barrier, then landed to establish their forward camp. On November 28, a geological party radioed that the weather over the mountains was excellent, so that afternoon the Floyd Bennett headed south toward the pole. As the plane neared the Axel Heiberg glacier with its 10,500-foot pass, the men sighted another glacier which seemed low enough and wide enough to cross. The decision had to be made quickly: to tackle the Axel Heiberg, altitude known but air currents unknown—the bordering peaks might be so high that air currents would dash the plane to the ground—or to take the unknown glacier, which looked feasible?

Byrd opted for the unknown glacier. As powerful air currents tossed the plane about, the pilot fought to gain altitude. Suddenly, the wheel turned loosely in his hands. The pass loomed ahead, but the Floyd Bennett would go no higher. If gasoline were jettisoned, it would be impossible to reach the pole and return. If food were thrown overboard, all lives would be endangered in the event of a forced landing. “A bag of food overboard,” ordered Byrd. The plane responded immediately and began to climb, but the fast-approaching glacier was higher. Byrd gestured and another 150-pound bag of food careened through the trapdoor of the aircraft. Byrd reported “those were the slowest minutes we ever spent. Finally, we reached the pass. We ambled over—a few hundred yards to spare.”

The vast Antarctic plateau ranged from 11,000 to 7,000 feet, sloping toward the South Pole. Cruising at only 90 miles per hour against a brisk headwind, Byrd navigated carefully over the jumbled terrain. At 1:14 a.m. on November 29, the big moment had come. The crew dropped an American flag.

Flying at 2,500 feet over the snow, the plane then angled back over the original line of flight to cross again over the pole and make certain the feat was

95 accomplished. Then, the aircraft veered north toward Little America. Byrd's navigation was unerring.

100 Several hours later, the weary crew spotted the Axel Heiberg glacier in the distance. This time the lightened plane soared through the pass with no difficulty. After landing and refueling, Byrd and his crew resumed the flight. At 10:10 a.m., the Floyd Bennett touched down at Little America. "We were deaf from the roar of the motor," according to Byrd, "tired from the strain of the flight, but we forgot all that in the tumultuous welcome of our companions."

105 The welcome echoed far beyond the cluster of huts at Little America. Congratulations poured in from all over the world. Byrd was a national hero. His dramatic adventure had captured the imagination of millions of Americans, and Antarctica was etched on the national consciousness.

31. The overly ----- drill sergeant even required the troops to polish the soles of their boots.

- A. solicitous
- B. careless
- C. audacious
- D. meticulous
- E. cautious

32. Though previously the locals remained neutral, recently there has been a(n) ----- surge of support for the fundamentalists that can only be attributed to the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan.

- A. unremarkable
- B. predictable
- C. unprecedented
- D. conventional
- E. predetermined

33. While the negotiators claim there are several issues as stake, the ----- of the matter is really the President's refusal to agree to a reduction in military aid to Latin America.

- A. detail
- B. outcome
- C. adage
- D. crux
- E. mandate

34. In the backyard of the suspect's suburban home, under a doghouse, the police found a ----- of counterfeit bills.

- A. manifesto
- B. cache
- C. exposé
- D. deficit
- E. wealth

35. A roar greeted the appearance of the legendary guitarist on the stage, and the ----- applause did not subside for over twenty minutes.

- A. peaceful
- B. diplomatic
- C. lackadaisical
- D. aggressive
- E. tumultuous

36. As it is used in line 11, the word *desolate* most nearly means:

- A. without human inhabitants.
- B. hopeless.
- C. marked by indulgence.
- D. densely populated.

37. It can be inferred that the word *aerial*, as it is used in line 13, most nearly means:

- A. pertaining to radio.
- B. a small area between things.
- C. of, in, or produced by the air.
- D. a level piece of ground.

38. In context, *consummation* (line 18) most nearly means:

- A. antithesis.
- B. completion.
- C. conservation.
- D. utilization.

39. In line 22, *logistics* refers to:
- A. defense of an encampment.
 - B. analysis of data.
 - C. planning and coordination of operation details.
 - D. the formal principles of knowledge.
40. In line 25, *dismantled* most nearly means:
- A. violently shattered.
 - B. deprived of courage.
 - C. taken apart and stripped of essential parts.
 - D. dismissed or discharged.
41. The word *rampart* is used in line 32 to refer to:
- A. extravagance or absence of restraint.
 - B. low place in mountain range.
 - C. a way of entrance or exit.
 - D. a wall-like ridge or dirt embankment.
42. In line 57, *reconnoiter* most nearly means to:
- A. restore.
 - B. explore.
 - C. climb.
 - D. contemplate.
43. Based on the use of the word *jettisoned* in line 74, it can be inferred that *jettison* most nearly means to:
- A. throw overboard.
 - B. burn or extinguish.
 - C. overflow.
 - D. illuminate.
44. In line 81, *careened* most nearly means:
- A. exploded.
 - B. wedged.
 - C. lurched.
 - D. poked.
45. In line 109, *etched* most nearly means:
- A. misused.
 - B. engraved.
 - C. irritated.
 - D. erased.
46. LADE:
- A. hurry
 - B. unload
 - C. defy
 - D. consent
 - E. tune
47. EMBARK:
- A. conclude
 - B. deny
 - C. insist
 - D. extend
 - E. open
48. BARREN:
- A. helpful
 - B. doubtful
 - C. gigantic
 - D. premature
 - E. fertile
49. BRISK:
- A. lively
 - B. dull
 - C. wet
 - D. clever
 - E. difficult
50. RESUME:
- A. discontinue
 - B. overlook
 - C. pronounce
 - D. warm
 - E. undo

51. EXCAVATE:

- A. bury
- B. admit
- C. return
- D. avoid
- E. welcome

52. ROUTINE:

- A. helpful
- B. distant
- C. worn
- D. unusual
- E. living

53. DASHING:

- A. beautiful
- B. new
- C. knowledgeable
- D. withdrawn
- E. constant

54. AMBLE:

- A. stroll
- B. dash
- C. please
- D. tire
- E. erode

55. CLUSTER:

- A. turn back
- B. hold tight
- C. spread out
- D. wish for
- E. move aside

56. GEOLOGY : EARTH ::

- A. biology : organisms
- B. history : government
- C. military : war
- D. geography : politics
- E. chemistry : physics

57. PLATEAU : CLIMB ::

- A. approval : failure
- B. level : progress
- C. disappointment : search
- D. insight : focus
- E. garden: plant

58. GESTURE : IDEA ::

- A. repay : loan
- B. announce : information
- C. bury : scandal
- D. propose : date
- E. stare : sight

59. VAST : LIMITED ::

- A. frank : generous
- B. lengthy : extended
- C. hopeful : expectant
- D. extensive : narrow
- E. powerful: strong

60. TEDIOUS : TIRESOME ::

- A. refreshing : exhausting
- B. prolonged : delightful
- C. annoying : irksome
- D. relaxing : boring
- E. caring : hateful

Passage III

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from a discussion on the application of science and technology in the field of meteorology.

We can think of science as the attempt to comprehend the workings of nature, and of technology as the practical application of this knowledge. There are three major steps in applying science and technology: experimental observation, analysis, and utilization.

There are two aspects of the experimental observation phase. One is the observation of natural phenomena as they occur. The second is the observation of controlled experiments. The former has necessarily been the way of the past. However, with sounding rockets and satellites, the second became feasible and is being more extensively used.

The observation of natural phenomena as they occur involves the development of sensors to observe important phenomena, and the collection of results into a data inventory that is readily accessible to all. For example, in meteorology, this involves a ground activity of assembling temperature, humidity, wind velocity and direction, and other weather data. This information is observed at myriad locations throughout the world and forwarded regularly to central data collection stations. The development of a wide variety of sensors will be used for continued weather satellite observations to provide an even wider variety of data—daily and on a global scale. A very significant meteorological observation activity now underway is the Global Atmospheric Research Program (GARP). This activity involves a large number of countries throughout the world, cooperating to gather weather data of unprecedented scope on a global scale to help in the understanding of weather systems and phenomena throughout the world and the major factors that control their origin, development, and movement.

The observation of controlled experiments involves the development and use of techniques for conducting both passive and active experiments with natural phenomena and observation of the results. An example of the passive approach is the barium cloud experiment, in which a sounding rocket was used to disperse a quantity of fine barium powder high above the atmosphere in the earth's magnetic field. In this case, the natural phenomena were undisturbed, and the barium cloud was used to chart with considerable

definition the earth's magnetic-field lines. An example of an active experiment is the injection of silver iodide pellets in cloud formations to induce rainfall.

In the analysis phase, basic relationships and trends are discerned and a better understanding of the phenomena evolves. From the observed relationships and growing understanding, theories are developed and models of the phenomena are postulated. These theories and models are intended to help understand the complex cause and effect interactions among the many variables involved. Definitive experiments are then sought to test the validity of the theories and models. Such experiments often entail further observations to obtain critical elements of data. It is via progressive iterative steps between experimental observation and analysis that models evolve sufficiently for use on an operational basis. Using meteorology as an example, we currently have general models of weather system behavior. Although these models are limited to very crude weather forecasting, continued satellite observations—together with programs like GARP—can lead to improvements in our global weather models, our understanding, and our ability to predict it.

In the utilization phase, all of the understanding from observations made and models analytically developed is employed to predict what can or will happen under a specified set of conditions. Weather prediction is a typical example of how models are used in conjunction with current observation to develop forecasts for public use. It is the combination of an ability to monitor and forecast events, together with an understanding of the basic mechanisms which cause predicted events—be they natural events or those created by man—that eventually will lead to global systems for management of our resources and control of our environment in ways that best suit the needs of man.

61. Knowledge of the concentration of elements is important in managing a nuclear reactor and requires constant ----- of neutron activation.

- A. distention
- B. consumption
- C. disclosure
- D. exploitation
- E. analysis

62. The ----- of low-cost recycled material in the production process allowed the manufacturing plant to increase profits by over 35 percent.
- A. elimination
 - B. depreciation
 - C. utilization
 - D. accumulation
 - E. capitulation
63. The plan to build a new highway on the north side of the city is -----, but it will be necessary to raise taxes.
- A. feasible
 - B. imaginary
 - C. impossible
 - D. argumentative
 - E. temporary
64. There are ----- small tasks required to keep an airplane in safe condition, so most pilots keep a detailed log of maintenance and safety checks.
- A. moderate
 - B. generous
 - C. effusive
 - D. useful
 - E. myriad
65. Accustomed to the frequent outbursts of their coach, the team members listened ----- as he shouted at them during half-time.
- A. actively
 - B. passionately
 - C. favorably
 - D. passively
 - E. aggressively
66. In context, *phenomena* (line 9) refers to:
- A. unobservable events or facts.
 - B. observable events or facts.
 - C. unrecorded events or facts.
 - D. recorded events or facts.
67. In context, *data* (line 17) refers to:
- A. unobservable events or facts.
 - B. observable events or facts.
 - C. unrecorded events or facts.
 - D. recorded events or facts.
68. As used in line 17, the word *inventory* refers to a(n):
- A. discovery or finding.
 - B. secure place of storage.
 - C. division for classification.
 - D. organized list of collected information.
69. In line 17, *accessible* most nearly means:
- A. easily used.
 - B. valuable.
 - C. capable of being estimated.
 - D. unobtainable.
70. It can be inferred that the word *disperse*, as it is used in line 41, most nearly means to:
- A. separate or divide.
 - B. distribute or scatter.
 - C. set on fire.
 - D. replace or drive out.
71. Based on the use of the word *discerned* in line 49, it can be inferred that *discern* most nearly means to:
- A. ignore.
 - B. analyze.
 - C. identify.
 - D. eliminate.
72. In line 56, *validity* is best understood to mean:
- A. error.
 - B. illusion.
 - C. accuracy.
 - D. strength.

73. As it is used in line 57, the word *entail* most nearly means to:

- A. cause to be ineffective.
- B. plan or carry out with great care.
- C. indicate or set apart.
- D. cause or involve by necessity.

74. It can be inferred that the word *iterative*, as it is used in line 59, most nearly means:

- A. extreme or outermost.
- B. involving repetition.
- C. traveling from place to place.
- D. obligatory or necessary.

75. In line 73, *conjunction* most nearly means:

- A. contradiction.
- B. combination.
- C. exclusion.
- D. estimation.

76. FORWARD:

- A. remove
- B. remind
- C. return
- D. reopen
- E. relive

77. GLOBAL:

- A. light
- B. even
- C. local
- D. moving
- E. open

78. COMPREHENSIVE:

- A. partial
- B. early
- C. useful
- D. humorous
- E. special

79. UNDERWAY:

- A. centered
- B. connected
- C. young
- D. concealed
- E. planned

80. UNDISTURBED:

- A. planted
- B. proved
- C. stopped
- D. changed
- E. covered

81. DEFINITIVE:

- A. terrible
- B. temporary
- C. quiet
- D. long
- E. burning

82. INJECT:

- A. withdraw
- B. untie
- C. rethink
- D. proceed
- E. fall back

83. EXTENSIVE:

- A. far-reaching
- B. little known
- C. limited
- D. startling
- E. sudden

84. MONITOR:

- A. watch
- B. ignore
- C. send
- D. withhold
- E. trim

85. PROGRESSIVE:

- A. lacking interest
- B. moving backward
- C. opening up
- D. watching for
- E. pulling into

86. SENSORS : OBSERVE ::

- A. eyes : see
- B. nose : face
- C. hands : throw
- D. mouth : open
- E. neck : throat

87. METEOROLOGY: WEATHER ::

- A. history : geography
- B. language : speech
- C. music : performance
- D. anthology : ants
- E. psychology : thinking

88. FORMATION : ARRAY ::

- A. arrangement : order
- B. military : company
- C. permission : idea
- D. backyard : front yard
- E. dunce : teacher

89. COOPERATE : RESIST ::

- A. follow : include
- B. accept : deny
- C. move : rely
- D. retain : keep
- E. withstand : hold

90. CHART : REGION ::

- A. show : animal
- B. map : area
- C. present : plan
- D. wait : date
- E. insist : money

Passage IV

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from a lecture entitled “Memory and Learning.”

Long-term learning—positive and negative—is made possible by the fact that the mind is able to remember virtually all it was ever aware of, including the most trivial details. However, there are several conditions to this process of retention.

One condition is that such memory (learning) is situational: It is determined in part by the nature of the situation in which the learning occurs. Students “pay attention” in school and learn things tied to a concrete, not abstract, teaching/learning situation; they learn something solely for the purpose of earning a grade. Consequently, since most school situations have no counterparts outside of school, a student often develops amnesia and is unable to recall information learned in another context. Memory is like a filing system, in which an item is stored to be retrieved with a code keyed to that specific situation. If the situation eliciting that particular code is not encountered again, the filed item remains untouched and unused. It is important to remember the filed item is not transient; it does not fade or die. It is merely dormant during the time it is not in use.

A second condition of “memory” learning is it appears to be bound to the state of arousal that existed for the original learning. The ability to remember, therefore, depends to some degree on the ability to recreate or re-enter the formative state of arousal: the feeling, tone, or affective quality that characterized the brain at the time of learning. Thus, since there is always some subjective element, some aura of feeling that accompanies all we ever learn, it is simply not enough to consider what so-called objective content or skill is being taught. The student’s feelings while or after learning takes place will determine whether learning will be effective.

Since students are often in a classroom for hours, it seems reasonable to assert that teachers must be concerned with the ambience of the classroom. Perhaps teachers should also be more aware of their countenance; even a temporary lapse into boredom or irritation can place the students in a situation which makes learning unnecessarily onerous.

91. The new secretary was so consumed by petty office politics and ----- matters that she failed to take care of the tasks that were vital to the company’s daily operations.

- A. vital
- B. voluble
- C. trivial
- D. relevant
- E. complicated

92. The teacher used fun games to aid the students in their ----- of the important concepts, dates, and facts that would be crucial for a passing grade on the exam.

- A. rejection
- B. deletion
- C. miscomprehension
- D. retention
- E. management

93. The general of the American army met with his ----- in the British forces, and they quickly realized that while their uniforms were different, their perspectives were similar.

- A. advisor
- B. prototype
- C. partner
- D. counterpart
- E. superior

94. Because they are ----- during hibernation, ground squirrels prepare for winter by building up a thick insulating layer of body fat during late summer and fall.

- A. active
- B. efficient
- C. dormant
- D. occupied
- E. vigorous

95. The aide had not researched the question completely, but his personal and ----- impression was that the governor should veto the bill.
- A. informed
 - B. objective
 - C. educated
 - D. impartial
 - E. subjective
96. In context, *virtually* (line 3) most nearly means:
- A. nearly.
 - B. completely.
 - C. exclusively.
 - D. superficially.
97. As it is used in line 9, the word *concrete* most nearly means:
- A. insubstantial.
 - B. significant.
 - C. particular or specific.
 - D. abstract.
98. In line 12, *consequently* most nearly means:
- A. in addition.
 - B. regardless.
 - C. for the reason.
 - D. as a result.
99. As it is used in line 16, the word *retrieved* most nearly means:
- A. repeated.
 - B. recovered.
 - C. withdrawn.
 - D. deleted.
100. Based on the use of the word *eliciting* in line 17, it can be inferred that *elicit* most nearly means to:
- A. make unlawful.
 - B. evoke.
 - C. offer.
 - D. misplace.
101. It can be inferred that the word *transient*, as it is used in line 20, most nearly means:
- A. easily seen through.
 - B. altered.
 - C. temporary.
 - D. transferrable.
102. In line 28, *affective* most nearly means:
- A. useful.
 - B. stern.
 - C. aloof.
 - D. emotional.
103. It can be inferred that the word *aura*, as it is used in line 30, most nearly means:
- A. of or relating to the ear or sense of hearing.
 - B. of, in, or pertaining to air.
 - C. distinctive and persuasive quality or atmosphere.
 - D. an observable luminous phenomenon.
104. In line 38, *ambience* primarily refers to the:
- A. mood or feeling associated with a place.
 - B. decoration and furnishings of a room.
 - C. surrounding influences or environment.
 - D. structure or foundation of a room.
105. In line 42, *onerous* most nearly means:
- A. effortless.
 - B. costly.
 - C. burdensome.
 - D. mistaken.
106. CONDITIONED:
- A. strong
 - B. comfortable
 - C. exact
 - D. unqualified
 - E. rare



107. SPECIFIED:

- A. tight
- B. unnamed
- C. wishful
- D. confessed
- E. winning

108. KEY:

- A. disconnect
- B. reinforce
- C. prolong
- D. decide
- E. complete

109. BOUND:

- A. lost
- B. free
- C. secure
- D. private
- E. interesting

110. AROUSE:

- A. kindle
- B. shape
- C. conceal
- D. dampen
- E. whitewash

111. SYSTEMATIC:

- A. haphazard
- B. orderly
- C. temporary
- D. competent
- E. pressured

112. RECREATE:

- A. destroy
- B. finish
- C. copy
- D. redo
- E. outdo

113. EFFECTIVE:

- A. simple
- B. full
- C. useless
- D. tempting
- E. equal

114. ENCOUNTER:

- A. establish
- B. avoid
- C. tell
- D. repay
- E. stand

115. RECALL:

- A. classify
- B. expect
- C. triumph
- D. send
- E. gamble

116. FORMATIVE : MOLD ::

- A. developing : shape
- B. aging : growth
- C. working : employ
- D. expressive : shout
- E. precious : dislike

117. OBJECTIVE : UNBIASED ::

- A. conclusive : incomplete
- B. final : continuing
- C. accurate : factual
- D. avoidable : delayed
- E. sweetened : tart

118. AMNESIA : MEMORY ::

- A. hearing : sense
- B. blindness : sight
- C. motion : legs
- D. lungs : air
- E. teeth : mouth

119. LAPSE : INTENTIONAL ::

- A. slip : planned
- B. force : controlled
- C. renew : overdue
- D. operate : stolen
- E. work : paid

120. ASSERT : STATE ::

- A. announce : listen
- B. question : ask
- C. paint : remodel
- D. close : continue
- E. waken : sleep

Passage V

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from a science news article about the Infrared Astronomical Satellite.

The birth of new stars and the death of old ones will be witnessed by a new Earth-orbiting instrument that will probe through space in quest of celestial phenomena that are invisible to our eyes but glow in the infrared portion of the light spectrum. The instrument's array of infrared detectors will also lift the veil of thick dust clouds that block starlight streaming from the center of our galaxy and sharply limit our study of the densest and most active part of the Milky Way. It will provide a new chart of the universe, mapping perhaps a million infrared sources for future study and will radically transform our concept of the universe. The new instrument is the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS), and it will be operated by an international team of scientists and engineers.

Infrared astronomy is a recent development in astrophysics because most infrared radiation from space never reaches Earth's surface. Water vapor and other gases in the atmosphere absorb it, hence the importance of situating the telescope above the atmosphere in Earth's orbit. Most infrared observations have been obtained by the use of balloons, sounding rockets, and high-altitude aircraft. The view has been highly circumscribed compared to the broad vista that will be opened to IRAS.

Astronomers have received some tantalizing hints about what may be out there. An exciting example came from a brief survey of infrared objects by the Cambridge Laboratory. It found that some highly evolved stars apparently shed a large percentage of their mass to the interstellar medium. This had not been observed with optical instruments (those that see only visible light). Those highly evolved stars are quite bright at infrared wavelengths, but are only dim specks in conventional star photographs.

The theory of star formation accorded general acceptance today says that vast clouds of dust and gas float in space until some mechanism, which is not yet fully understood, triggers gravitational collapse. Over hundreds of thousands of years each mote of dust, each atom of gas, attracts other motes and atoms until a huge, spinning globe is formed. When gravitational pressure is sufficient and when temperatures at the center of the globe soar high enough—about ten

million degrees—thermonuclear reactions commence, and the star begins to glow.

From the time the incipient star is a tenuous dust cloud until soon after the nuclear reactions begin, the heat produced by gravitational collapse is emitted as infrared radiation. That is one of the most exciting prospects of IRAS' mission: the possibility of attending the birth of a star. What appears to be the first nascent star ever observed is buried deep within the nebula or gas cloud in the sword of the constellation Orion, a small dot that while dim by optical measurements, is bright in infrared.

Millions or billions of years after they are born, stars approach their moment of death, when all their nuclear fuel is exhausted. As it begins to die, the star ejects a cloud of dust, and the faint visible light from the moribund star is absorbed by the dust shell and then reemitted as infrared. With IRAS, scientists hope to observe the maternity wards and graveyards of the universe.

121. Though she complained every step of the way, Millie agreed that the panoramic ----- was well worth the four-hour hike to the top of the mountain pass.

- A. angle
- B. dead end
- C. opinion
- D. descent
- E. vista

122. The ----- descriptions of the products are designed to lure in customers and motivate them to buy what otherwise seems unnecessary.

- A. uninspiring
- B. disturbing
- C. reassuring
- D. tantalizing
- E. mundane

123. The artist was multitalented and worked in an assortment of -----, including watercolor, oil and acrylic, and sculpture.
- A. resources
 - B. locations
 - C. incentives
 - D. processes
 - E. mediums
124. Because the defendant's hold on reality was so -----, the judge ruled that she was not competent to stand trial.
- A. firm
 - B. discernible
 - C. tenuous
 - D. humble
 - E. convincing
125. The ----- grassroots "tea party" movement is more popular with many conservatives than the long-established Grand Old Party.
- A. struggling
 - B. nascent
 - C. obsolete
 - D. mature
 - E. prosaic
126. It can be inferred that the word *quest*, as it is used in line 3, most nearly means:
- A. discovery.
 - B. deliberation.
 - C. rotation.
 - D. search.
127. It can be inferred that the word *celestial*, as it is used in line 3, pertains to the:
- A. ancient civilization or world.
 - B. modern civilization or world.
 - C. sky or heavens.
 - D. earth or material world.
128. In context, *radically* (line 12) most nearly means:
- A. momentarily.
 - B. fundamentally.
 - C. unsubstantially.
 - D. temporarily.
129. In line 17, *astrophysics* is best understood to refer to the:
- A. science of the behavior and physical properties of stars.
 - B. divination of supposed influences of stars on human affairs.
 - C. study of objects within the earth's atmosphere.
 - D. science of the physical properties of the earth's surface.
130. As it is used in line 22, the word *obtained* most nearly means:
- A. eliminated.
 - B. acquired.
 - C. undermined.
 - D. negotiated.
131. The word *circumscribed* (line 24) most nearly means:
- A. limited.
 - B. traveled around.
 - C. surrounded.
 - D. cut off.
132. In line 40, *mote* is best understood to refer to a:
- A. method.
 - B. feeling.
 - C. small particle.
 - D. small creature.
133. It can be inferred that the word *incipient*, as it is used in line 47, most nearly means:
- A. lacking taste.
 - B. in an initial stage.
 - C. dull or uninteresting.
 - D. brightly burning.



134. As it is used in line 47, the word *tenuous* most nearly means:

- A. sturdy.
- B. dense.
- C. unsubstantial.
- D. harmless.

135. It can be inferred that the word *moribund*, as it is used in line 61, most nearly means:

- A. sinking.
- B. glowing.
- C. thriving.
- D. dying.

136. VEIL:

- A. disallow
- B. return
- C. install
- D. deny
- E. reveal

137. ATTEND:

- A. remind
- B. win
- C. close
- D. impart
- E. ignore

138. NEBULOUS:

- A. spatial
- B. important
- C. beautiful
- D. clear
- E. cramped

139. EXHAUSTED:

- A. filled
- B. ruined
- C. torn
- D. angry
- E. incapable

140. TRANSFORM:

- A. reinforce
- B. deduct
- C. remind
- D. believe
- E. permit

141. COMMENCE:

- A. prove
- B. turn
- C. end
- D. part
- E. wonder

142. CONVENTIONAL:

- A. solid
- B. scientific
- C. unusual
- D. borrowed
- E. true

143. EMIT:

- A. absorb
- B. denounce
- C. confess
- D. let in
- E. hope for

144. ACCORD:

- A. deceive
- B. deny
- C. denounce
- D. deprive
- E. delete

145. FAINT:

- A. weak
- B. ineffective
- C. complete
- D. brilliant
- E. irate

146. MATERNITY : MOTHER ::

- A. paternity : father
- B. brotherhood : sister
- C. family : members
- D. priesthood : congregation
- E. faculty : student

147. OPTICAL : ILLUSION ::

- A. eyesight : object
- B. heard : deafness
- C. visual : mistake
- D. perceived : sight
- E. eyeball: vision

148. COLOR : SPECTRUM ::

- A. rung : ladder
- B. cow : herd
- C. carpet : floor
- D. painting : frame
- E. puddle : rain

149. ASTRONOMY : STARS ::

- A. chemistry : physics
- B. biology : politics
- C. history : war
- D. botany : plants
- E. geology: farming

150. CONSTELLATION : STARS ::

- A. space : moon
- B. formation : intelligence
- C. box : marbles
- D. school : fish
- E. seating arrangement : guests

Passage VI

NATURAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from an essay entitled “The Growth of Intelligence” in an introductory life science textbook.

There is a wide variety of opinions on what evolutionary factors were responsible specifically for hominid intelligence; probably many were important. One theory is that intraspecific warfare plays an important role. War seems to require rapid invention. Strategy discussions that are connected with the planning of warfare tend to involve a kind of verbal competition which requires resourcefulness. Furthermore, intraspecific conflict makes special demands on organisms that their battle with the environment does not: the difference is between intelligence versus intelligence on the one hand, and intelligence versus mere non-intelligence on the other. Finally, warfare involves the young organisms as well, and organisms not suited to it suffer the consequences in that their genes are eliminated from the breeding population. As attractive as the theory is, it is far from having been conclusively proven. Territoriality is a common trait, and some social mammals, such as man and the hyena, exhibit, as a form of territorial behavior, organized violent conflict between social groups. However, territoriality is not a basic biological trait; many species are not afflicted with the desire to make war.

More likely, the most important stimuli to the development of intelligence in early hominids were the demands of communication and language. About three million years ago, the rate of evolution in the brain accelerated, and was correlated with the increased use of stone tools. Such artifacts are evidence of complex social structures, which in turn improved communication. At minimum, the techniques for manufacturing the articles had to be transmitted from one generation to the next. Some of the hominids’ increased cranial capacity may have been related to a general increase in motor coordination. The notion that man is a puny beast is a spurious one. He is actually fantastically powerful and yet possessing extreme dexterity, possessed as he is with subtle and accurate motor control of the hands and limbs. He also has very complex feedback mechanisms that allow him to determine accurately the course of a thrown projectile with little practice.

There is general agreement that the need to adopt a predatory lifestyle on the savannah stimulated at least the early development of manipulative ability, motor

coordination, and the complex social organization in the hominids. The arboreal environment of the jungle could not have produced these traits. No monkey or ape can control a thrown projectile the way a man can; independent finger control is a uniquely hominid characteristic. Moreover, chimpanzees and other apes, though they use natural objects such as sticks for tools, have never developed a systematic tool-making ability.

Thus, the demands of the savannah environment were probably responsible for the development of intelligence and technological society in man, but it does not follow that this type of environment is a prerequisite to the development of these characteristics. It is possible such characteristics could have developed in entirely different circumstances, nor were the environmental challenges themselves sufficient to produce this result. It was crucial that an animal well-adapted to live in the complex forest environment be pre-adapted to a new ecological niche on the savannah and therefore able to invade it successfully.

151. My dogs are very -----: they bark and act aggressively whenever another dog walks by our yard.

- A. passive
- B. territorial
- C. terrestrial
- D. nonchalant
- E. dormant

152. Advocates of the “war on drugs” argue that strong drug enforcement in the United States is ----- with dramatic reductions in crime, drug use, and drug addiction rates.

- A. disassociated
- B. correlated
- C. motivated
- D. demonstrated
- E. unconnected

153. The new study published in *Genetics and Biotechnology* identifies a mechanism that plays a key role in how mutations are ----- from one generation to the next.
- A. borrowed
 - B. disconnected
 - C. transmitted
 - D. isolated
 - E. inflated
154. Recent discoveries in South America and Asia suggest that *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the largest meat-eating ----- dinosaur, had a range much greater than originally thought.
- A. ambulatory
 - B. predatory
 - C. satisfactory
 - D. reactionary
 - E. precursory
155. Very different animals occupy the same ecological ----- in different continents: for example, the bison is the largest land herbivore in America, while in Australia it is the kangaroo.
- A. destination
 - B. imperative
 - C. prospect
 - D. cache
 - E. niche
156. It can be inferred that the word *hominid*, as it is used in line 3, refers to all forms, both extinct and living, of:
- A. primate.
 - B. animal.
 - C. flora.
 - D. insect.
157. In context, *intraspecific* (line 4) most nearly means:
- A. eliminating specific characteristics.
 - B. mutually joined or related.
 - C. occurring between members of the same species.
 - D. occurring between members of different species.
158. As it is used in line 23, the word *afflicted* most nearly means:
- A. acted upon.
 - B. accomplished by.
 - C. inclined toward.
 - D. troubled with.
159. In line 29, *artifacts* is best understood to mean:
- A. clever or artful skills.
 - B. evidence.
 - C. tools used by animals.
 - D. human-made objects.
160. It can be inferred that the word *cranial*, as it is used in line 33, pertains to the:
- A. body.
 - B. skull.
 - C. lungs.
 - D. environment.
161. The word *spurious* (line 36) most nearly means:
- A. genuine.
 - B. hypocritical.
 - C. false.
 - D. improbable.
162. It can be inferred that the word *dexterity*, as it is used in line 37, most nearly means:
- A. gentleness.
 - B. agility.
 - C. clumsiness.
 - D. loquaciousness.



163. The word *savannah* (line 44) refers to:

- A. grassland with scattered trees.
- B. tropical rainforest.
- C. an area far from cities or big towns.
- D. temperate hardwood forest.

164. The word *arboreal* (line 47) most nearly means:

- A. native.
- B. flexible.
- C. sheltered.
- D. tree-like.

165. In line 58, *prerequisite* most nearly means a(n):

- A. requirement.
- B. option.
- C. development.
- D. opportunity.

166. VERBAL:

- A. wordy
- B. physical
- C. contained
- D. dense
- E. tremendous

167. RESOURCEFUL:

- A. rugged
- B. overbearing
- C. incompetent
- D. crowded
- E. underhanded

168. SUFFER:

- A. avoid
- B. control
- C. receive
- D. supply
- E. return

169. EXHIBIT:

- A. insist
- B. hide
- C. wash
- D. berate
- E. crow

170. CONCLUSIVE:

- A. final
- B. rash
- C. firm
- D. poor
- E. open

171. ACCELERATE:

- A. rush
- B. slow
- C. return
- D. widen
- E. pull back

172. SUBTLE:

- A. charming
- B. clumsy
- C. mental
- D. poisonous
- E. deadly

173. MINIMUM:

- A. necessity
- B. guilty
- C. work
- D. most
- E. little

174. PUNY:

- A. concerned
- B. victorious
- C. correct
- D. robust
- E. valiant

175. INVADE:

- A. withdraw
- B. conquer
- C. lose
- D. battle
- E. negotiate

176. STRATEGY : PLAN ::

- A. war : battle
- B. hostilities : win
- C. tactics : fight
- D. victory : surrender
- E. soldier : army

177. PROJECTILE : THROW ::

- A. bullet : wound
- B. rocket : land
- C. car : drive
- D. discus : leap
- E. stone : sling

178. MANIPULATION : CONTROLS ::

- A. punishment : criminals
- B. exploitation : workers
- C. handling : instruments
- D. abuse : people
- E. joyfulness : hearts

179. MOTOR : MUSCLES ::

- A. mental : mind
- B. past : present
- C. physical : emotions
- D. prepared : product
- E. threatening : harm

180. MANUFACTURE : PRODUCT ::

- A. strengthen : steel
- B. prefer : favorite
- C. contain : pressure
- D. remind : memory
- E. weave : fabric

Word Parts List

It isn't necessary to memorize vocabulary words in order to do well on vocabulary-related items. However, it can be helpful to make yourself familiar with the prefixes, suffixes, and vocabulary words on the following list. Each prefix or suffix is followed by a definition as well as one or two words that incorporate the prefix or suffix. Each vocabulary word is followed by a definition.

Prefixes

a, ab, abs—from, away

abrade—wear off

absent—away, not present

a, an—lacking, not

asymptomatic—showing no symptoms

anaerobic—able to live without air

ad, ac, af, ag, al, an, ap, ar, as, at—to, toward

accost—approach and speak to

adjunct—something added to

aggregate—bring together

ambi, amphi—around, both

ambidextrous—using both hands equally

amphibious—living both in water and on land

ana—up, again, anew, throughout

analyze—loosen up, break up into parts

anagram—word spelled from letters of other word

ante—before

antediluvian—before the Flood, extremely old

anti—against

anti-war—against war

arch—first, chief

archetype—first model

auto—self

automobile—self-moving vehicle

bene, ben—good, well

benefactor—one who does good deeds

circum—around

circumnavigate—sail around

com, co, col, con, cor—with, together

concentrate—bring closer together

cooperate—work together

collapse—fall together

contra, contro, counter—against

contradict—speak against

counterclockwise—against the clock

de—away from, down, opposite of

detract—draw away from

di—twice, double

dichromatic—having two colors

dia—across, through

diameter—measurement across

dis, di—not, away from

dislike—to not like

digress—turn away from the subject

dys—bad, poor

dyslexia—poor reading

equi—equal

equivalent—of equal value

ex, e, ef—from, out

expatriate—one living outside a native country

emit—send out

extra—outside, beyond

extraterrestrial—from beyond the earth

fore—in front of, previous

forecast—tell ahead of time

foreleg—front leg

homo—same, like

homophonic—sounding the same

hyper—too much, over

hyperactive—overly active

hypo—too little, under

hypothermia—having too little body heat

in, il, ig, im, ir—not

innocent—not guilty

ignorant—not knowing

irresponsible—not responsible

in, il, im, ir—on, into, in

impose—place on

invade—go into

intra, intro—within, inside
 intrastate—within a state

mal, male—bad, wrong, poor
 maladjusted—poorly adjusted
 malevolent—ill-wishing

mis—badly, wrongly
 misunderstand—understand incorrectly

mis, miso—hatred
 misogyny—hatred of women

mono—single, one
 monorail—train that runs on a single rail

neo—new
 Neolithic—of the New Stone Age

non—not
 nonentity—a nobody

ob—over, against, toward
 obstruct—stand against

omni—all
 omnipresent—present in all places

pan—all
 panorama—a complete view

peri—around, near
 periscope—device for seeing all around

poly—many
 polygonal—many-sided

post—after
 postmortem—after death

pre—before, earlier than
 prejudice—judgment in advance

pro—in favor of, forward, in front of
 proceed—go forward
 pro-war—in favor of war

re—back, again
 rethink—think again
 reimburse—pay back

retro—backward
 retrospective—looking backward

se—apart, away
 seclude—keep away

semi—half
 semiconscious—half conscious

sub, suc, suf, sug, sus—under, beneath
 subscribe—write underneath
 suspend—hang down
 suffer—undergo

super—above, greater
 superfluous—beyond what is needed

syn, sym, syl, sys—with, at the same time
 synthesis—a putting together
 sympathy—a feeling with

tele—far
 television—literally, a machine for seeing far off

trans—across
 transport—carry across a distance

un—not
 uninformed—not informed

vice—acting for, next in rank to
 vice president—second in command

Suffixes

able, ble—able, capable
 acceptable—able to be accepted

acious, cious—characterized by, having the quality of
 spacious—having the quality of space

age—sum, total
 mileage—total number of miles

al—of, like, suitable for
 theatrical—suitable for theater

ance, ancy—act or state of
 disturbance—act of disturbing

ant, ent—one who
 defendant—one who defends himself

ary, ar—having the nature of, concerning
 military—relating to soldiers
 polar—pertaining to the poles of the earth

cy—act, state, or position of
 presidency—position of president
 ascendancy—state of being raised up

dom—state, rank, that which belongs to
 wisdom—state of being wise

ence—act, state, or quality of
 dependence—state of depending



er, or—one who, that which
doer—one who does
conductor—that which conducts

escent—becoming
obsolescent—becoming obsolete

fy—to make
pacify—make peaceful

ic, ac—of, like
demonic—of or like a demon

il, ile—having to do with, like, suitable for
civil—having to do with citizens
tactile—having to do with touch

ion—act or condition of
operation—act of operating

ious—having, characterized by
anxious—characterized by anxiety

ish—like, somewhat
foolish—like a fool

ism—belief or practice of
racism—belief in racial superiority

ist—one who does, makes, or is concerned with
scientist—one concerned with science

ity, ty, y—character or state of being
amity—friendship
jealousy—state of being jealous

ive—of, relating to, tending to
destructive—tending to destroy

logue, loquy—speech or writing
monologue—speech by one person
colloquy—conversation

logy—speech, study of
geology—study of the earth

ment—act or state of
abandonment—act of abandoning

mony—a resulting thing, condition, or state
patrimony—trait inherited from one’s father

ness—act or quality
kindness—quality of being kind

ory—having the quality of, a place or thing for
compensatory—quality of compensation
lavatory—place for washing

ous, ose—full of, having
glamorous—full of glamour

ship—skill, state of being
horsemanship—skill in riding
ownership—state of being an owner

some—full of, like
frolicsome—playful

tude—state or quality of
rectitude—state of being morally upright

ward—in the direction of
homeward—in the direction of home

y—full of, like, somewhat
wily—full of wiles

Roots

acr—bitter
acid, acrimony

act, ag—do, act, drive
action, react, agitate, agent

acu—sharp, keen
acute, acumen

agog—leader
pedagogue, demagogic

agr—field
agronomy, agriculture

ali—other
alias, alienate, inalienable

alt—high
altitude, contralto

alter, altr—other, change
alternative, altercation, altruism

am, amic—love, friend
amorous, amiable

anim—mind, life, spirit
animism, animate, animosity

annu, enni—year
annual, superannuated, biennial

anthrop—man
anthropoid, misanthropy

apt, ept—fit
apt, adapt, ineptitude

aqu—water
aquatic, aquamarine

arbit—judge
 arbiter, arbitrary

arch—chief
 anarchy, matriarch

arm—arm, weapon
 army, armature, disarm

art—skill, a fitting together
 artisan, artifact, articulate

aster, astr—star
 asteroid, disaster, astral

aud, audit, aur—hear
 auditorium, audition, auricle

aur—gold
 aureate, aureomycin

aut—self
 autism, autograph

bell—war
 anti-bellum, belligerent

brev—short
 brevity, abbreviation, abbreviate

cad, cas, cid—fall
 cadence, casualty, accident

cand—white, shining
 candid, candle, incandescent

cant, chant—sing, charm
 cantor, recant, enchant

cap, capt, cept, ceipt, cept, cip—take, seize, hold
 capable, captive, accept, incipient

capit—head
 capital, decapitate, recapitulate

cede, ceed, cess—go, yield
 secede, exceed, process, intercession

cent—hundred
 century, percentage, centimeter

cern, cert—perceive, make certain, decide
 concern, certificate, certain

chrom—color
 monochrome, chromatic

chron—time
 chronometer, anachronism

cide, cis—cut, kill
 genocide, incision, suicide

cit—summon, impel
 cite, excite, incitement

civ—citizen
 uncivil, civilization

clam, claim—shout
 clamorous, proclaim, claimant

clar—clear
 clarity, clarion, declare

clin—slope, lean
 inclination, recline

clud, clus, clos—close, shut
 seclude, recluse, closet

cogn—know
 recognize, incognito

col, cul—prepare
 colony, cultivate, agriculture

corp—body
 incorporate, corpse

cosm—order, world
 cosmetic, cosmos, cosmopolitan

crac, crat—power, rule
 democrat, theocracy

cre, cresc, cret—grow
 increase, crescent, accretion

cred—trust, believe
 credit, incredible

crux, cruc—cross
 crux, crucial, crucifix

crypt—hidden
 cryptic, cryptography

cur, curr, curs—run, course
 occur, current, incursion

cura—care
 curator, accurate

dem—people
 demographic, demagogue

dent—tooth
 dental, indentation

derm—skin
 dermatitis, pachyderm

di, dia—day
 diary, quotidian

dic, dict—say, speak
 indicative, edict, dictation

dign—worthy
 dignified, dignitary

doc, doct—teach, prove
 indoctrinate, docile, doctor

domin—rule
 predominate, domineer, dominion

dorm—sleep
 dormitory, dormant

du—two
 duo, duplicity, dual

duc, duct—lead
 educate, abduct, ductile

dur—hard, lasting
 endure, obdurate, duration

dyn—force, power
 dynamo, dynamite

equ—equal
equation, equitable

erg, urg—work, power
energetic, metallurgy, demiurge

err—wander
error, aberrant

ev—time, age
coeval, longevity

fac, fact, fect, fic—do, make
facility, factual, perfect, artifice

fer—bear, carry
prefer, refer, conifer, fertility

ferv—boil
fervid, effervesce

fid—belief, faith
infidelity, confidant, perfidious

fin—end, limit
finite, confine

firm—strong
reaffirm, infirmity

flect, flex—bend
reflex, inflection

flor—blossom
florescent, floral

flu, fluct, flux—flow
fluid, fluctuation, influx

form—shape
formative, reform, formation

fort—strong
effort, fortitude

frag, fract—break
fragility, infraction

fug—flee
refuge, fugitive

gam—marry
exogamy, polygamous

ge, geo—earth
geology, geode, perigee

gen—birth, kind, race
engender, general, generation

gest—carry, bear
gestation, ingest, digest

gon—angle
hexagonal, trigonometry

grad, gress—step, go
regress, gradation

gram, graph—writing
cryptogram, telegraph

grat—pleasing, agreeable
congratulate

grav—weight, heavy
grave (situation), gravity

greg—flock, crowd
gregarious, segregate

habit, hibit—have, hold
habitation, inhibit, habitual

heli—sun
helium, heliocentric, aphelion

her, hes—stick, cling
adherent, cohesive

hydr—water
dehydration, hydrofoil

iatr—heal, cure
pediatrics, psychiatry

iso—same, equal
isotope, isometric

it—journey, go
itinerary, exit

ject—throw
reject, subjective, projection

jud—judge
judicial, adjudicate

jug, junct—join
conjugal, juncture, conjunction

jur—swear
perjure, jurisprudence

labor—work
laborious, belabor

leg—law
legal, illegitimate

leg, lig, lect—choose, gather, read
illegible, eligible, select, lecture

lev—light, rise
levity, alleviate

liber—free
liberal, libertine

liter—letter
literate, alliterative

lith—rock, stone
Neolithic, lithograph

loc—place
locale, locus, allocate

log—word, study
logic, biology, dialogue

loqu, locut—talk, speech
colloquial, loquacious, interlocutor

luc, lum—light
translucent, pellucid, illumine

lud, lus—play
allusion, ludicrous, interlude

magn—large, great
magnificent, magnitude

mal—bad, ill
malodorous, malady

man, manu—hand
manifest, manicure, manuscript

mar—sea
maritime, submarine

mater, matr—mother
matrilocal, maternal

medi—middle
intermediary, medieval

ment—mind
demented, mental

merg, mers—plunge, dip
emerge, submersion

meter, metr, mens—measure
chronometer, metronome, geometry

micr—small
microfilm, micron

min—little
minimum, minute

mit, miss—send
remit, admission, missive

mon, monit—warn
admonish, monument, monitor

mor—custom
mores, immoral

mor, mort—death
mortify, mortician

morph—shape
amorphous, anthropomorphic

mov, mob, mot—move
removal, automobile, motility

mut—change
mutable, transmute, mutation

nasc, nat—born
native, natural, nascent, innate

necr—dead, die
necropolis, necrosis

neg—deny
reneege, negative

nom, noun, nown—name, order, rule
anonymous, antinomy, misnomer

nam, nym, nomen, nomin—name
nomenclature, cognomen, nominate

nomy—law, rule
astronomy, antinomy

nov—new
novice, innovation

ocul—eye
binocular, oculist

onym—name
pseudonym, antonym

oper—work
operate, cooperation, inoperable

ora—speak, pray
oracle, oratory

orn—decorate
adorn, ornate

orth—straight, correct
orthodox, orthopedic

pan—all
panacea, pantheon

pater, patr—father
patriot, paternity

path, pat, pass—feel, suffer
telepathy, patient, compassion

ped—child
pedagogue, pediatrics

ped, pod—foot
pedestrian, impede, tripod

pel, puls—drive, push
impel, propulsion

pend, pens—hang
pendulous, suspense

pet, peat—seek
petition, impetus, repeat

phil—love
philosopher, Anglophile

phob—fear
phobic, agoraphobia

phon—sound
phonograph, symphony

phor—bearing
semaphore, metaphor

phot—light
photograph, photoelectric

pon, pos—place, put
component, repose, postpone

port—carry
report, portable, deportation

pot—power
potency, potential

press—press
pressure, impression

prim, proto, prot—first
primal, proton, protagonist



psych—mind
psychic, metempsychosis

quer, quir, quis, ques—ask, seek
query, inquiry, inquisitive, quest

reg, rig, rect—straight, rule
regulate, dirigible, corrective

rid, ris—laugh
deride, risible, ridiculous

rog—ask
rogation, interrogate

rupt—break
erupt, interruption, rupture

sanct—holy
sacrosanct, sanctify, sanction

sci, scio—know
nescient, conscious, omniscience

scop—watch, view
horoscope, telescopic

scrib, script—write
scribble, proscribe, description

sed, sid, sess—sit, seat
sediment, sedate, session

seg, sect—cut
segment, section, intersect

sent, sens—feel, think
nonsense, sensitive, sentient

sequ, secut—follow
sequel, consequence, consecutive

sol—alone
solitary, solo, desolate

solv, solu, solut—loosen
dissolve, soluble, absolution

somn—sleep
insomnia, somnolent

son—sound
sonorous, unison

soph—wise, wisdom
philosophy, sophisticated

spec, spic, spect—look
specimen, conspicuous, spectacle

spir—breathe
spirit, conspire, respiration

stab, stat—stand
unstable, status, station

stead—place
instead, steadfast

string, strict—bind
astringent, stricture, restrict

stru, struct—build
construe, structure, destructive

sum, sumpt—take
presume, consumer, assumption

tang, ting, tact, tig—touch
tangent, contingency, contact

tax, tac—arrange, arrangement
taxonomy, tactic

techn—skill, art
technique, technician

tele—far
teletype, telekinesis

tempor—time
temporize, extemporaneous

ten, tain, tent—hold
tenant, tenacity, retention

tend, tens, tent—stretch
contend, extensive, intent

tenu—thin
tenuous, attenuate

test—witness
attest, testify

the—god
polytheism, theologian

tom—cut
atomic, appendectomy

tort, tors—twist
tortuous, torsion, contort

tract—pull, draw
traction, attract, protract

trib—assign, pay
attribute, tribute, retribution

trud, trus—thrust
obtrude, intrusive

turb—agitate
perturb, turbulent, disturb

umbr—shade
umbrella, penumbra

urb—city
urbane, suburb, urban

vac—empty
vacuous, evacuation

vad, vas—go
invade, evasive

val, vail—strength, worth
valid, avail, prevalent

ven, vent—come
advent, convene, prevention

ver—true
aver, veracity, verity

verb—word
verbose, adverb, verbatim

vert, vers—turn
 revert, perversion, versatile

vest—dress
 vestment

vid, vis—see
 video, evidence, vision, revise

vinc, vict—conquer
 evince, convict, victim

viv, vit—life
 vivid, revive, vital

vo, voc, vok, vow—call
 vociferous, provocative, equivocate

vol—wish
 involuntary, volition

volv, volut—roll, turn
 involve, convoluted, revolution

vulg—common
 divulge, vulgarity

zo—animal
 zoologist, Paleozoic

Vocabulary List

The following list is composed of words that students may find challenging on standardized tests. The list is divided into three difficulty levels. Familiarity with the Vocabulary List can only improve your chances of answering items correctly.

Difficulty Level 1

abstraction—mental act of contemplating the parts of a complex object as separate from the object itself
accelerate—to bring about at an earlier time; to cause to move faster
accessible—easily approached, entered, or used
accord—to bring into agreement
acknowledge—admit, grant, accept
acoustic—pertaining to the sense of hearing
addiction—compulsive physiological and psychological need for a habit-forming substance; the condition of being habitually or compulsively occupied with or involved in something
adolescence—the state or process of growing up
adopt—to take by choice into a relationship, especially to take voluntarily as one’s own child; to take up and practice or use
adorn—to enhance the appearance of, especially with beautiful objects
advance—to accelerate the growth or progress of
aerial—pertaining to the air
affective—influencing the emotions, emotional
aggravate—to make worse, more serious, or more severe
alienate—to make unfriendly, hostile, or indifferent
ambience—environment, surroundings
ambitious—having a desire to achieve a particular goal
amnesia—loss of memory due usually to brain injury, shock, fatigue, repression, or illness
amplify—to make larger or greater (as in amount, importance, or intensity)
analysis—careful study of a situation or problem by examining all parts of the situation or problem
ancient—having had an existence of many years
anthology—collection of poems, songs
anticipate—foresee, expect
apprehensive—fearful, worried
argument—logical reasoning, a reasoned, persuasive discussion
arouse—to awaken from sleep

arrest—to bring to a stop; to take or keep in custody by authority of law
artifact—an object made by human hands
ascent—the act of rising or mounting upward
aspect—appearance to the eye or mind
assert—to state or declare positively and often forcefully or aggressively
assign—to appoint to a post or duty
associate—to join as a partner, friend, or companion
astronomy—the study of objects and matter outside the earth’s atmosphere and of their physical and chemical properties
astrophysics—science of the physical properties of the stars
attend—to pay attention to
aura—an invisible atmosphere surrounding a person, halo
avid—very eager
awe—an emotion variously combining dread, veneration, and wonder that is inspired by authority or by the sacred or sublime
beneficial—helpful
blunt—slow or deficient in feeling
blustering—to talk or act with noisy and swaggering threats
bound—intending to go
brilliancy—very bright
brisk—keenly alert; sharp in tone or manner
casual—occurring without regularity; done without serious intent or commitment
celestial—pertaining to the heavens or sky
chaos—a state of utter confusion
charity—generosity and helpfulness especially toward the needy or suffering
chart—a sheet giving information in tabular form
cherish—to hold dear
civil—adequate in courtesy and politeness
cluster—a number of similar things that occur together

coherent—consistent, holding together
color—a phenomenon of light (i.e., red, brown, pink, or gray) or visual perception that enables one to differentiate otherwise identical objects
commence—to have or make a beginning
commerce—the exchange or buying and selling of commodities on a large scale involving transportation from place to place
compassionate—possessing a sympathetic consciousness of others’ distress along with a desire to alleviate it
component—part or ingredient
composed—free from agitation
comprehensive—covering completely or broadly
comprise—include
conclusive—putting an end to debate or question especially by reason of irrefutability
concrete—particular or specific, not general or abstract
conditioned—brought or put into a specific state
consequence—effect, result, outgrowth
constellation—a configuration of stars
constitute—to appoint to an office, function, or dignity
conventional—formed by agreement or compact
conversion—to bring over from one belief, party, or view to another
cooperate—to act or work with another or others
cope—to deal with and attempt to overcome problems and difficulties
copyright—the exclusive legal right to reproduce, publish, sell, or distribute the matter and form of something
correlated—to be related, occurring together
cosmos—the universe and all that exists
counterpart—person or thing corresponding to another person or thing
cranial—pertaining to the skull
critical—of, relating to, or being a turning point or specially important juncture
crop—a plant, animal, or plant or animal product that can be grown and harvested extensively for profit or subsistence
culminated—reached the high point in development
currency—a medium of trade or exchange
curriculum—required course of study or courses in a school
cyclical—of, relating to, or being in a cycle
 cynicism—belief that people are motivated only by greed or some other selfish motive

dashing—marked by vigorous action
data—observed events, facts, or occurrences
delicacy—the quality or state of being luxurious

delusion—something that is falsely or delusively believed or propagated
deposit—to place especially for safekeeping or as a pledge
deprivation—to take something away from
designated—indicated, specified
design—to create, fashion, execute, or construct according to plan
destine—to decree beforehand
detached—standing by itself
dismantle—to take apart and strip of essential parts
disperse—to break up, to scatter, to spread
disrupt—to break apart
distinctive—something marked as separate or different
ditty—a short, simple song
divine—of, relating to, or proceeding directly from God or a god; supremely good
domestic—living near or about human limitations

effective—producing a decided, decisive, or desired effect
elegant—of a high grade or quality
elevation—the act of raising up
elite—the choice part
eloquent—persuasive, well spoken
enchant—to influence by or as if by charms and incantation
encounter—to meet as an adversary or enemy
entertain—to show hospitality to; to keep, hold, or maintain in the mind
entrance—the means or place of entry
environment—the circumstances, objects, or conditions by which one is surrounded
epic—extending beyond the usual or ordinary especially in size or scope
epidemic—an outbreak of sudden rapid growth or development
essential—of the utmost importance
etch—to engrave
exception—a case in which a rule does not apply
exclusive—limiting or limited to possession, control, or use by a single individual or group
execute—to carry out fully
exhaust—to consume entirely
exhibit—to present to view
exploit—to make use of meanly or unfairly for one’s own advantage
extend—to spread or stretch forth
extensive—having wide or considerable range
exuberance—joyously unrestrained and enthusiastic

facilitate—to ease, to make less difficult

faint—lacking courage or spirit, dim or weak, or to lose consciousness

featured—displayed, advertised, or presented as a special attraction

formation—an act of giving form or shape to something; group

formative—giving or capable of giving form

forward—near, at, or belonging to the forepart; strongly inclined

freakish—markedly strange or abnormal

genius—extraordinary intellectual power

genre—type, kind, category

geology—a science that deals with the history of the earth and its life especially as recorded in rocks

gesture—a movement of the body or limbs that expresses or emphasizes an idea, sentiment, or attitude

global—of, relating to, or involving the entire world

gorgeous—splendidly or showily brilliant or magnificent

heritage—something handed down from one’s ancestors; customs and traditions

host—one who receives or entertains guests in a social or official capacity

hue—gradation of color

illiterate—unable to read or write

illuminate—to brighten with light

imagery—representations, pictures

imaginative—devoid of truth

immerse—to place in and completely cover with liquid

imperfect—not perfect

imperial—of, relating to, befitting, or suggestive of an empire or an emperor

impose—to establish or apply by authority

impressionable—easily influenced

improbable—unlikely to be true or occur

improvise—to make up or perform spontaneously and on the spur of the moment

impulse—a force so communicated as to produce motion suddenly

inanimate—not endowed with life or spirit

indistinguishable—indeterminate in shape or structure

inestimable—incapable of being measured

inevitable—unable to be avoided or evaded

infancy—a beginning or early period of existence

infect—to contaminate with a disease-producing substance or agent

inhibit—to prohibit from doing something

inject—to introduce into something forcefully

inseparable—seemingly always together

intensify—to make stronger, more acute

intimate—belonging to or characterizing one’s deepest nature

intimidate—to make timid or fearful

invade—to enter for conquest or plunder

inventory—a stock or store of something, also an itemized list of goods

irrigate—to supply land or crops with water by artificial means

issue—a vital or unsettled matter

key—something that gives an explanation or identification or provides a solution

labor—expenditure of physical or mental effort especially when difficult or compulsory

linear—of, relating to, resembling, or having a straight line

local—of, relating to, or characteristic of a particular place; not general or widespread

lull—subside, become calm

lust—an intense longing

luxuriate—to thrive; to indulge oneself

lyrical—expressing deep personal emotion or observations

maneuver—evasive movement or shift of tactics

manipulate—to change by artful or unfair means so as to serve one’s purpose

manufacture—to make from raw materials by hand or by machinery

masterpiece—an artist’s most important work

maternity—the quality or state of being a mother

meditate—to engage in contemplation or reflection

merchant—a buyer and seller of commodities for profit

meteorology—a science that deals with the atmosphere and its phenomena and especially with weather and weather forecasting

mime—an ancient dramatic entertainment where scenes from life are represented silently and usually in a ridiculous manner

minimum—the least quantity assignable, admissible, or possible

mischievous—able or tending to cause annoyance, trouble, or minor injury

mode—way, method, or form

monitor—one that warns or instructs

morbid—diseased, or with a tendency to dwell on unwholesome matters

motor—one that imparts motion; engine

neglect—to give little attention or respect to

objective—factual; unbiased
obligation—a commitment to a course of action
obnoxious—highly offensive, objectionable
obtain—to acquire, to get
optical—of or relating to vision
options—things that may be chosen
overdrawn—having written a check for more than is in an account

particular—of, relating to, or being a single person or thing
passive—not acting; receiving impressions
placid—quiet, tranquil
plagiarize—to steal the words of another and pass off as one’s own
plateau—an extensive flat area; a place or region of little or no change
plunge—to cause to penetrate or enter quickly and forcibly into something
popular—suitable to the majority
portray—to depict; to describe in words
preoccupation—extreme or excessive concern with something
prescribed—required, directed
pretense—a false claim or a false show of something
prevalent—widespread, generally accepted
primitive—of or relating to the earliest age or period
principal—most important, consequential, or influential
proclaim—to declare publicly
profane—to treat with irreverence or impiety
progressive—making use of or interested in new ideas, findings, or opportunities
projectile—an object propelled by external force
project—to see mentally or to imagine
prolong—to lengthen in time
prominent—readily noticeable
proximity—nearness
puny—slight or inferior in power, size, or importance
purge—to clear of guilt; to get rid of; to remove
purposive—serving or effecting a useful function

quest—search, inquiry

rationale—the fundamental reason for something
realize—to bring into concrete existence; to understand
recall—to bring back to mind
receptive—open and responsive to ideas
recipient—one that receives
reconstruct—to establish or assemble again
recreate—to give new life or freshness to
reduce—to consolidate, to diminish in size
refined—purified of coarse elements

reflection—the production of an image by or as if by a mirror
remorse—a deep sense of guilt
remote—separated by an interval or space greater than usual
renown—fame, reputation
resourceful—capable of devising ways or means
resume—to assume or take again
retail—to sell in small quantities directly to the consumer
retrieve—recover, call to mind
ridge—a range of hills or mountains
routine—a regular course or procedure

satire—a literary work holding up human vices to ridicule or scorn
seamy—unattractive, unpleasant
sensor—a device that responds to a physical stimulus and transmits a resulting impulse
sequential—of or relating to a continual series
singular—unusual, remarkable
sinister—singularly evil
solitary—being, living, or going alone or without companions
sound—free from injury or disease; showing good judgment or sense
specialized—designed, trained, or fitted for one particular purpose or occupation
specified—to name or state explicitly or in detail
spurt—to gush forth
standardized—to bring into conformity
stimulus—something that rouses or incites to activity
strategy—a careful plan or method
strut—to walk with a proud gait
submerge—to put under water
subsequent—following in time, order, or place
subtle—delicate, elusive
suffer—to submit to or be forced to endure
summons—a call or order to perform some action
superior—of higher rank, quality
surpass—to become better, greater, or stronger than
surrender—to yield to the power, control, or possession of another upon compulsion or demand
sustain—to give support or relief to
sway—influence or control
swell—to expand beyond a normal or original limit

taut—tightly stretched, tense
technique—method, procedure
terminate—to come to an end
theology—the study of religious faith, practice, and experience

traditional—an inherited, established, or customary pattern of thought, action, or behavior
trait—a distinguishing quality
transaction—business deal
transform—to change in composition or structure
transitional—passing from one state, stage, subject, or place to another
trivial—unimportant, insignificant

unattainable—impossible to achieve
underway—no longer at rest; in progress
undisturbed—untroubled by interference
uneasy—lacking a sense of security; apprehensive
unhindered—not slowed or interfered with
uniform—showing a single form in all occurrences
unique—being the only one of its kind
universal—used or intended for use by everyone
utilitarian—stressing the importance of function over beauty

utilization—use

value—the worth of something
vast—very great in size or amount
veil—a cover of cloth
velocity—quickness of motion
vendor—one that sells
venture—to undertake risks and dangers of; an undertaking involving uncertainty
verbal—of, relating to, or consisting of words
versatile—able to do many things
vital—living, manifesting life, necessary or essential to life
vocal—uttered by the voice
vulnerable—capable of being injured or wounded

whirl—to move in a circle especially with force or speed

Difficulty Level 2

abacus—a frame with beads or balls used for doing or teaching arithmetic
abash—disconcert; to make embarrassed and ill at ease
abated—lessened, diminished
abate—to deduct; to make less
abduction—to carry off by force
aberration—a deviation from the normal or the typical
abeyance—temporary suspension
abhor—to detest; to shrink from in disgust or hatred
abhorrence—loathing; detestation
abhorrent—hateful, loathsome
abide—to stay; stand fast; remain
abjure—recant; to give up (opinions) publicly
abominate—to loathe; to dislike very much
abrade—to scrape or rub off
abridge—to shorten; to reduce in scope or extent
abrogate—to cancel; call off
abscond—to go away hastily and secretly
absolve—to acquit; to pronounce free from guilt or blame
abstinence—the act of voluntarily doing without pleasures
abstruse—hard to understand; deep; recondite
absurdity—nonsense
abyss—chasm; a deep fissure in the earth; bottomless gulf
acclaim—to greet with loud applause or approval
accretion—growth in size by addition or accumulation

acerbic—sharp, bitter, or harsh in temper and language
acquisition—something or someone acquired or added
acrimony—asperity; bitterness or harshness of temper, manner, or speech
acute—shrewd; keen or quick of mind
adapt—to adjust; to make fit or suitable by changing
adjunct—connected or attached in a secondary or subordinate way
adorn—ornament; to put decorations on something
adroit—expert; clever; skillful in a physical or mental way
adulterate—to make something inferior, false, or impure
adversary—opponent; a person who opposes or fights against another
adverse—contrary to one’s interest, undermining otherwise good results
advocate—a person who pleads another’s cause
aesthete—a person who artificially cultivates artistic sensitivity or makes a cult of art and beauty
aesthetic—artistic; sensitive to art and beauty
affable—gentle and kindly
affinity—close connection, resemblance, or relationship
afflicted—troubled with, suffering from, burdened by
afflict—to cause pain or suffering to; to distress very much
affluent—plentiful; abundant; flowing freely
aggrandize—to make seem greater

agitate—to move with irregular, rapid, or violent action; to trouble the mind or feelings of

alias—an assumed name

allegiance—loyalty or devotion

alleviate—to reduce or decrease; to lighten or relieve

allocate—to allot; to distribute in shares or according to a plan

alloy—the relative purity of gold or silver; fineness

allude—to refer in a casual or indirect way

altercation—an angry or heated argument

amalgamate—to unite; to combine

ambiguous—not clear; having two or more possible meanings

ambivalence—simultaneously conflicting feelings toward a person or thing

amble—to go easily and unhurriedly; to stroll

ameliorate—to improve; to make or become better

amenable—willing to follow advice or suggestion; answerable

amiable—good-natured; having a pleasant and friendly disposition

amicable—peaceable; showing good will

amphibious—able to live both on land and in water

anagram—a word or phrase made from another by rearranging its letters

analogy—partial resemblance; similarity in some respects between things otherwise unlike

anarchy—the complete absence of government

anathema—a thing or person greatly detested

anatomist—a person who analyzes in great detail

anecdote—a short, entertaining account of some happening

anhydrous—without water

animosity—hostility; a feeling of strong dislike or hatred

annexation—attachment; adding on

anomalous—abnormal; deviating from the regular arrangement, general rule, or usual method

anthology—a collection of poems, stories, songs, or excerpts

antidote—a remedy to counteract a poison

antigen—a protein, toxin, or other substance to which the body reacts by producing antibodies

antipathy—strong or deep-rooted dislike

antiquity—belonging to ancient times

anvil—an iron or steel block on which metal objects are hammered into shape

apathetic—feeling little or no emotion; unmoved

apocryphal—not genuine; spurious; counterfeit; of doubtful authorship or authenticity

appall—to overcome with consternation, shock, or dismay

appease—to satisfy or relieve

appellation—name or title

appraise—to set a price for; to decide the value of

apprehension—an anxious feeling of foreboding; dread

apprentice—novice; any learner or beginner

arabesque—a complex and elaborate decorative design

arbitrary—unreasonable; unregulated; despotic

arbitrate—to decide a dispute

arboreal—of or like a tree

arcane—hidden or secret

ardor—devotion, passion, emotional warmth

arduous—difficult to do; laborious; onerous

arid—dry and barren; lacking enough water for things to grow

aromatic—smelling sweet or spicy; fragrant or pungent

arouse—to awaken, as from sleep

articulate—expressing oneself easily and clearly

artisan—craftsman; a worker in a skilled trade

ascribe—to attribute to (as a cause)

aspiration—desire, hope, or wish for something, especially an honor or advancement

aspiration—strong desire or ambition

assail—to assault; to attack physically and violently

assay—an examination or testing

assert—to state positively, declare, or affirm

assimilate—to absorb and incorporate into one's thinking

astound—to amaze; to bewilder with sudden surprise

astute—cunning; having or showing a clever or shrewd mind

atrocious—brutality; a very displeasing or tasteless thing

attune—to bring into harmony

auditor—a hearer or listener

augment—to enlarge; to make greater, as in size, quantity, or strength

auspicious—successful; favored by fortune

austere—forbidding, severe, harsh, rigid, stern

authoritarian—characterized by unquestioned obedience to authority

aversion—intense dislike

avid—eager and enthusiastic

avocation—hobby

avow—to declare openly or admit frankly

ballad—a romantic or sentimental song

banal—commonplace; dull or stale because of overuse

bane—ruin; death; deadly harm

barrage—a heavy, prolonged attack of words or blows

barren—empty; devoid; unable to produce offspring

barrio—in Spanish-speaking countries, a district or suburb of a city

bask—to warm oneself pleasantly, as in the sunlight

baste—to sew with long, loose stitches; to moisten food while cooking

beacon—any light for warning or guiding

bedazzle—to dazzle thoroughly

bedizen—to dress or decorate in a cheap, showy way

belated—tardy; late or too late

belittle—to treat as having little importance

belligerent—at war; showing a readiness to fight or quarrel

beneficent—doing good

benevolence—a kindly, charitable act or gift

benign—good-natured; kindly

bequeath—to hand down; pass on

berate—to scold or rebuke severely

bestow—to be put to use; to convey as a gift

bewilder—to puzzle; to confuse hopelessly

bias—a mental leaning or inclination; partiality; bent

bilge—the bulge of a barrel or cask

bilk—to cheat or swindle; to defraud

blandishment—a flattering act or remark meant to persuade

blatant—obvious

blithe—carefree; showing a gay, cheerful disposition

boisterous—rowdy; noisy and unruly

bolster—a long, narrow cushion or pillow; to support

boon—blessing; welcome benefit

boor—a rude, awkward, or ill-mannered person

bourgeois—a person whose beliefs, attitudes, and practices are conventionally middle-class

brazen—like brass in color, quality, or hardness; impudent

breach—a breaking or being broken

breadth—width; lack of narrowness

brevity—the quality of being brief

buoyant—capable of floating

buttress—a projecting structure built against a wall to support or reinforce it

cadence—flow of rhythm, regularity of beat

cadet—a student at a military school

cadge—to beg or get by begging

cajole—to coax with flattery and insincere talk

callous—unfeeling; lacking pity or mercy

camaraderie—loyal, warm, and friendly feeling among comrades

candid—honest or frank

capacious—roomy; spacious

caprice—whim; a sudden, impulsive change

capricious—erratic; flighty; tending to change abruptly

caption—a heading or title, as of an article

careen—to cause to lean sideways, to tip or tilt

carping—tending to find fault

cartographer—a person whose work is making maps or charts

castigate—to punish or rebuke severely

catalyst—a person or thing acting as the stimulus in bringing about or hastening a result

catapult—a slingshot or type of launcher

catastrophe—any great and sudden disaster or misfortune

caustic—corrosive; that which can destroy tissue by chemical action

cavern—a cave

cerebral—intellectual; appealing to the intellect rather than the emotions

charlatan—a person who pretends to have expert knowledge or skill

chary—careful; cautious

chasten—to punish; to refine; to make purer in style

chide—to scold

chivalrous—gallant; courteous; honorable

circuitous—roundabout; indirect; devious

circumlocution—an indirect way of expressing something

circumscribed—narrow, restricted, limited

circumspect—cautious; careful

circumvent—to go around

citizenry—all citizens as a group

clairvoyant—having the power to perceive that which is outside of the human senses

clamor—a loud outcry; uproar

clamorous—noisy; loudly demanding or complaining

clandestine—kept secret or hidden

cleave—to split; to divide by a blow

cliché—an expression or idea that has become trite

coalesce—to grow together; to unite or merge

coddle—to treat tenderly

codicil—an appendix or supplement

coerce—to enforce; to bring about by using force

coeval—of the same age or period

cognition—thinking or thought

cognizance—perception or knowledge

cognizant—aware or informed

coherent—clearly articulated; capable of logical, intelligible speech and thought

colloquial—conversational; having to do with or like conversation

combustion—the act or process of burning

commend—to praise; to express approval of

commensurate—proportionate; corresponding in extent or degree

commingle—to intermix; to blend; to mingle together

commodity—anything bought and sold

communicable—that which can be communicated

compassion—deep sympathy; sorrow for the sufferings of others
compatible—that which can work well together, get along well together, combine well
compelling—captivating; irresistibly interesting
competent—well qualified; capable; fit
complacency—quiet satisfaction; contentment
complacent—self-satisfied; smug
complaisant—willing to please; obliging
compliance—agreement, conformance, or obedience; a tendency to give in readily to others
compliant—yielding; submissive
comprehend—to understand fully
comprise—to include; to contain
compulsion—that which compels; driving force
computation—calculation; a method of computing
concession—an act or instance of granting or yielding
conciliatory—tending to reconcile
concise—brief and to the point; short and clear
concoct—to devise, invent, or plan
condemnation—judgment, doom
condemn—to censure; to disapprove of strongly
condescension—a patronizing manner or behavior
condolence—expression of sympathy with another in grief
condone—to forgive, pardon, or overlook
conduit—a channel conveying fluids; a tube or protected trough for electric wires
confiscate—to seize by authority
conformity—action in accordance with customs, rules, and prevailing opinion
confound—to bring into ruin
congregation—a gathering of people or things
congruent—in agreement; corresponding; harmonious
conjoin—to join together, unite, or combine
conjunction—a joining together, union, or association
consensus—an opinion held by all or most
consignment—items in a shipment
conspire—to plan and act together secretly
constancy—steadfastness of mind under duress
consternation—great fear or shock that makes one feel helpless or bewildered
constituent—component; a necessary part or element
consummate—supreme; complete or perfect in every way; to finish; to complete
contemn—to scorn; to view with contempt
contemporaneous—existing or happening in the same period of time
contemporary—happening, existing, living, or coming into being during the same period of time
contemptuous—scornful; disdainful
contentious—always ready to argue; quarrelsome

contentment—the state of being satisfied
context—the whole situation, background, or environment relevant to a particular event, personality, or creation.
contingency—possible, accidental, or chance event
continuity—uninterrupted connection, succession, or union
contrite—penitent; feeling sorry for sins
controvert—to dispute or oppose by reasoning
contumacious—disobedient; obstinately resisting authority
conventional—customary; typical
conversion—a change from one belief, religion, doctrine, or opinion to another
convey—to make known; to carry
conviction—a strong belief
convoluted—extremely involved; intricate; complicated
copious—very plentiful; abundant
coronation—act or ceremony of crowning a sovereign
corpuscle—a very small particle
corroborate—to confirm; to make more certain the validity of
countenance—facial expression; composure
coup—a sudden, successful move or action
covert—concealed; hidden; disguised
covet—to want ardently; to long for with envy
crass—tasteless; insensitive; coarse
craven—very cowardly; abjectly afraid
credence—belief, especially in the reports or testimony of another
credulity—a tendency to believe too readily
crescendo—any gradual increase in force, intensity
criterion—a standard on which judgment can be based
critique—a critical analysis or evaluation
crux—essential or most important point
cryptic—mysterious; having a hidden or ambiguous meaning
culmination—climax; the highest point
culpable—deserving blame; blameworthy
cultivate—to prepare; to grow
cultivated—refined; educated
cumulative—accumulated; increasing in effect, size, or quantity.
cunning—skillful or clever
curator—a person in charge of a museum or library.
cynical—sarcastic; sneering

daunt—to intimidate; to make afraid or discouraged
dearth—any scarcity or lack
debacle—an overwhelming defeat
debase—to cheapen; to make lower in value, quality, character, or dignity
debilitate—to make weak or feeble

decelerate—to reduce speed; to slow down
decipher—to decode; to make out the meaning of
decisive—showing determination or firmness
decry—to denounce; to speak out against strongly and openly
dedicate—to commit to a goal or way of life; to set apart for a definite use
deference—courteous regard or respect
defiance—open, bold resistance to authority or opposition
defiant—openly and boldly resisting
deficit—a lack; an absence
definitive—final; authoritative
deflect—to turn aside especially from a straight course or fixed direction
defunct—no longer living or existing; dead or extinct
defuse—to render harmless
degenerate—having sunk below a former or normal condition
delegate—to send from one place to another; appoint; assign
deleterious—injurious; harmful to health or well-being
delineate—to describe; to depict in words
delirium—uncontrollably wild excitement or emotion
demagogue—a leader who gains power using popular prejudices and false claims; a leader of the common people in ancient times
demise—a ceasing to exist; death
demure—affectedly modest or shy; coy
denouement—the outcome, solution, unraveling, or clarification of a plot in a drama, story
denounce—to condemn strongly
derive—to come from a source
desertification—process by which land becomes dry and arid
desolate—without inhabitants, lonely
despotic—of or like a despot; autocratic; tyrannical
destitute—living in complete poverty
desuetude—disuse; the condition of not being used
deter—to turn aside, discourage, or prevent from acting
detonate—to explode violently and noisily
detumescence—a gradual shrinking of a swelling
devastate—to make helpless; to overwhelm
devious—not straightforward or frank
dictate—to speak or act domineeringly
diction—manner of expression in words
diminutive—very small; tiny
disabuse—to rid of false ideas or misconceptions
discern—to make out clearly
discern—to see, perceive, or recognize
discombobulate—to upset the composure of
discomfit—to make uneasy

disconcert—to embarrass; to confuse
discordant—disagreeing; conflicting
discord—disagreement; conflict
discourteous—impolite; rude; ill-mannered
discrepancy—difference; inconsistency
disentangle—to free from entanglement
disinter—to bring to light
dismay—to cause to lose courage or resolution
disparage—to show disrespect for; to belittle
dispel—to drive away by or as if by scattering
dissident—not agreeing
distillate—the essence; purified form
distraught—extremely troubled
divergence—a separation; a difference
divergent—deviating; different
diverse—different; dissimilar
diversion—distraction of attention
divination—the art of foretelling future events; clever conjecture
docile—easily disciplined, easily led
doggerel—trivial, awkward, satirical verse
dogma—a doctrine; tenet; belief
dolt—a stupid, slow-witted person; blockhead
dormant—inactive, idle, sleeping
dross—waste matter; worthless stuff; rubbish
drub—to defeat soundly in a fight or contest
dubious—feeling doubt; hesitating; skeptical
dulcet—sweet-sounding; melodious
duress—constraint by threat; imprisonment

eccentricity—irregularity; oddity
eccentric—peculiar, odd
eclectic—selecting from various systems, doctrines, or sources
efficacious—having the intended result; effective
effusive—expressing excessive emotion
eject—to throw out, to expel
elicit—to draw forth, to bring out, to evoke
embark—to make a start
embellish—to decorate by adding detail; to ornament
emblematic—symbolic
embodiment—the concrete expression of some abstract idea or concept
emend—to correct or improve
eminent—rising above other things or places
emissary—a person sent on a specific mission
emit—to throw or give off or out
emollient—softening; soothing
empathy—ability to share in another’s emotions, thoughts, or feelings
emulate—to imitate
enamored—to fill with love and desire; to charm
encroach—to trespass or intrude



endowed—provided with talent or virtue
enigma—riddle; a perplexing and ambiguous statement
enmity—hostility; antagonism
entail—to necessitate; to logically require
enthrall—to captivate; to fascinate
enumerate—to count; to determine the number of
epigram—a short poem with a witty point
epithet—a descriptive name or title
epitome—a person or thing that shows typical qualities of something
equipoise—state of balance or equilibrium
equivocal—having two or more meanings
equivocate—to be deliberately ambiguous
eradicate—to wipe out; to destroy; to get rid of
erroneous—mistaken; wrong
err—to stray; to make a mistake
espionage—the act of spying
espouse—to support or advocate
esteem—the regard in which one is held
euphoria—feeling of vigor or well-being
evocation—calling forth
ewe—female sheep
exacting—tryingly or unremittingly severe in making demands
exalt—to elevate; to praise; to glorify
exasperate—to irritate or annoy very much; to aggravate
excavate—to form a cavity or hole in
excoriate—to denounce harshly
exemplary—serving as a model or example
explicit—plain, clear, obvious
expunge—to erase or remove completely
exquisite—characterized by intense emotion
extant—still existing; not extinct
extol—to praise highly
extrapolate—to arrive at conclusions or results
extraterrestrial—originating outside of the earth
exuberance—high spirits; joy; energy

faddish—having the nature of a fad
fallacious—misleading or deceptive
famine—hunger; a withering away
fantastic—marked by extravagant fantasy or extreme individuality
fauna—animals or animal life
feasible—workable, possible
feckless—weak; ineffective
feint—a false show; sham
feral—untamed; wild
fervent—hot; burning; glowing
fervid—impassioned; fervent; hot; burning
fictitious—not genuinely felt; false

finite—having measurable or definable limits; not infinite
fissure—a long, narrow, deep cleft or crack
fitful—having an erratic or intermittent character
flippant—frivolous and disrespectful; saucy
flora—plants or plant life
florid—highly decorated; gaudy; showy; ornate
flout—to show scorn or contempt
folio—book or booklet
forage—to search for food or provisions
forbearance—patience
forbid—to not permit; to prohibit
forensics—debate or formal argumentation
forge—a furnace for heating metal to be wrought; to advance; to craft;
forlorn—without hope; desperate
formidable—causing fear or dread
forthright—straightforward; direct; frank
fortify—to strengthen
foster—to nurture; affording, receiving, or sharing nurture or parental care though not related by blood or legal ties
fracas—a noisy fight or loud quarrel; brawl
fractious—hard to manage; unruly
fraught—emotional; tense; anxious; distressing
frenetic—frantic; frenzied
frieze—ornamental band formed by a series of decorations
froward—not easily controlled; stubbornly willful
fulsome—offensively flattering
futile—ineffectual; trifling or unimportant

gamut—the entire range or extent of anything
generate—to bring into existence
genial—cheerful; friendly; sympathetic
germinate—to start developing or growing
ghastly—horrible, frightening, terrible
gilded—overlaid with gold
gird—to encircle or bind
glib—done in a smooth, offhand fashion
goad—to drive on; to spur
gouge—to scrape or hollow out
gourmand—a glutton; one who indulges to excess
graft—to attach so that two things grow together
gregarious—fond of the company of others; sociable
gristle—cartilage found in meat
grouse—to complain; to grumble
grovel—to behave humbly or abjectly

habitually—usually; doing, practicing, or acting in some customary manner
hackney—to make trite by overuse
hapless—unfortunate; unlucky; luckless



haste—the act of hurrying; quickness of motion
haughty—blatantly and disdainfully proud; arrogant
headnote—a prefixed note of comment or explanation
heed—to take careful notice of
hence—thereafter; subsequently
herbaceous—like a green leaf in texture, color, shape
heroine—girl or woman of outstanding courage and nobility
hew—to chop or cut with an ax or knife; to hack or gash
hierarchy—an arrangement in order of rank, grade, class
hindsight—ability to see, after the event, what should have been done
hirsute—hairy; shaggy; bristly
historicity—authenticity
homely—unaffectedly natural
homogeneous—of the same race or kind
hone—to perfect; to sharpen;
hoodwink—to mislead or confuse by trickery
hue—a particular shade or tint of a given color
humble—not proud; not self-assertive; modest
humdrum—lacking variety; dull; monotonous
humility—absence of pride or self-assertion
hybrid—anything of mixed origin; unlike parts
hypocrisy—pretending to be what one is not
hypothesis—unproved theory

idealism—behavior or thought based on a conception of things as they should be or one wished them to be, rather than as they actually are
idealist—visionary or dreamer
idiosyncrasy—personal peculiarity or mannerism
idolatrous—given to idolatry or blind adoration
idolatry—worship of idols
idol—object of worship; false god
illimitable—boundless, infinite
illuminated—lit up
imbued—filled, inspired with feeling
immaculate—perfectly clean; unsoiled
immortality—unending life; everlasting fame
import—to make known; to tell or reveal
impeccable—without defect or error; flawless
impede—to obstruct or delay
impenitent—without regret, shame, or remorse
im perceptibly—not obviously, hardly noticeably
imperturbable—cannot be disconcerted, disturbed, or excited; impassive
impervious—not affected
impetuous—moving with great, sudden energy
impinge—to make inroads or encroach
impious—lacking respect or dutifulness
implacable—unable to be appeased or pacified; relentless

implicate—to involve; to show a connection between
import—weight, consequence
imposture—fraud; deception
inadvertent—not attentive or observant; heedless
incantation—chanted words or formula
incarcerate—to imprison; to confine
incessant—continual; never ceasing
incinerate—to burn up; to cremate
incongruous—lacking harmony or agreement
incontrovertible—not disputable or debatable
incorrigible—unable to be corrected, improved, or reformed
incumbent—lying, resting on something; imposed as a duty
indignation—righteous anger
indignity—unworthiness or disgrace
indiscernible—imperceptible
indiscretion—imprudence, rashness, error
indiscriminate—confused; random
indispensable—absolutely necessary or required
indomitable—not easily discouraged, defeated, or subdued
induced—moved by persuasion or influence
industrious—diligent; skillful
ineffable—too overwhelming to be expressed in words
inefficacious—unable to produce the desired effect
ineluctable—unavoidable, inescapable
inextricable—incapable of being disentangled or untied
infallible—incapable of error; never wrong
infamy—bad reputation; notoriety; disgrace
infinitesimal—extremely small, immeasurably tiny
ingratiate—to achieve one’s good graces by conscious effort
inimical—hostile; unfriendly
injunction—command, order
innate—existing naturally rather than through acquisition
innocuous—harmless; not controversial, offensive, or stimulating
inquisitor—harsh or prying questioner
insipid—not exciting or interesting; dull
insouciant—calm and untroubled; carefree
insularity—detachment; isolation
integrated—combined or added parts that make a unified whole
intelligible—clear; comprehensible
intemperate—lacking restraint; excessive
interdisciplinary—involving several different fields of study
intermittent—stopping and starting, irregular
interstellar—between or among the stars

intuitive—characterized by a knowing that is immediate, without conscious reasoning
inundate—to overflow, to spread over as a flood
inveterate—habitual; of long standing; deep-rooted
irascible—easily angered; quick-tempered
iterative—characterized by repetition

jaunty—gay and carefree; sprightly; perky
jubilant—joyful and triumphant; elated; rejoicing
jurisprudence—a part or division of law

kernel—the most central part; a grain
kindle—to start a fire burning

lackluster—lacking energy or vitality
lambaste—to scold or denounce severely
lament—to mourn or grieve
languid—without vigor or vitality; drooping; weak
lapse—a slight error typically due to forgetfulness or inattention
laudable—praiseworthy; commendable
laudatory—expressing praise
lee—the side sheltered from the wind
legion—a large number; multitude
lethargic—abnormally drowsy or dull; sluggish
limerick—nonsense poem of five anapestic lines
limn—to describe
lineament—feature of the face
lionize—to treat as a celebrity
listless—spiritless; languid
literati—scholarly or learned people
lithe—bending easily; flexible; supple
litigant—a party to a lawsuit
liturgy—ritual for public worship in any of various religions or churches
livid—grayish-blue; extremely angry
logistics—the science of moving supplies
loquacious—fond of talking
loquacity—talkativeness
lucid—transparent
ludicrous—amusing or laughable through obvious absurdity
lummox—a clumsy, stupid person
lurid—vivid in a shocking way, startling

magnanimous—noble in mind
magnitude—greatness; importance or influence
malevolence—malice; spitefulness; ill will
malfeasance—wrongdoing or misconduct
malingering—to pretend to be ill to escape duty or work; to shirk
marginal—of only slight value
masque—dramatic composition

maverick—a person who takes an independent stand
maxim—statement of a general truth
mazurka—a lively Polish folk dance
meager—thin; lean; emaciated
medieval—characteristic of the Middle Ages
medium—surrounding substance
mellifluous—sounding sweet and smooth; honeyed
menace—to threaten harm or evil
mercenary—motivated by a desire for money or other gain
merriment—gaiety and fun
metamorphose—to transform
metaphor—a figure of speech containing an implied comparison
methodology—system of procedures
meticulous—extremely careful with small points, very detailed
millennia—thousands of years
minatory—menacing; threatening
minstrel—a medieval musical entertainer
miser—a greedy, stingy person
mitigate—to make less rigorous or less painful; to moderate
mnemonic—helping, or meant to help, the memory
modicum—small amount
modulate—to adjust or adapt to a certain proportion
monarch—hereditary head of a state
monoculture—a single, undiversified crop
mordant—biting; cutting; caustic; sarcastic
moribund—dying
morose—ill-tempered; gloomy
mote—a small particle
motif—main element or idea
myriad—consisting of very large numbers
mysticism—doctrines or beliefs of mystics
mythical—imaginary; fictitious

narcissism—self-love
negate—to make ineffective
nexus—a connected group or series
nib—point of a pen
nocturnal—active during the night
noisome—having a bad odor; foul-smelling
nomad—one who has no permanent home, who moves about constantly
nostalgia—a longing for things of the past
notoriety—prominence or renown, often unfavorable
novice—apprentice; beginner
nuance—a slight or delicate variation

obliterate—to erase; to efface
obsequious—compliant; dutiful; servile
obsolete—no longer in use or practice



obstinate—unreasonably determined to have one’s own way; stubborn

obtuse—not sharp or pointed; blunt

occult—secret; esoteric

odium—disgrace brought on by hateful action

officious—ready to serve; obliging

ominous—threatening; sinister

omnipotent—unlimited in power or authority

onerous—burdensome; laborious

onslaught—attack, furious assault

oppressive—weighing heavily on the mind or spirit, causing distress

opulent—very wealthy or rich

oracle—a place where, or a medium by which, a deity is consulted; also, a person believed to be in communication with a deity, and one who can foretell the future

oration—a formal public speech

orator—eloquent public speaker

ornate—heavily ornamented or adorned

orthodox—conventional, proper, correct

oscillate—to be indecisive in purpose or opinion; to vacillate

ossify—to settle or fix rigidly

ostracism—rejection or exclusion by general consent

overtone—a secondary effect, quality, or meaning

overwrought—overworked; fatigued

paean—a song of joy, triumph, praise

pagan—one who has little or no religion and who delights in pleasures and material goods

palliate—to relieve without curing; to make less severe

pallid—deficient in color

palpable—tangible; easily perceived by the senses

pantomime—action or gestures without words as a means of expression

paradigm—example or model

paradox—seeming contradiction

paramount—ranking higher than any other

parch—to dry up with heat

pariah—outcast

parody—a poor or weak imitation

pathology—conditions, processes, or results of a particular disease

peccadillo—minor or petty sin; slight fault

pellucid—transparent or translucent; clear

penchant—strong liking or fondness

penitent—expressing pain or sorrow for sins or offenses; truly sorry

peremptory—intolerantly positive or assured

perennial—continually present, perpetual, never failing

peril—exposure to harm or injury; danger

peripheral—outer; external; lying at the outside

perpetual—unceasing, never ending

pervade—to become prevalent throughout

pervasive—diffusing throughout every part

petrous—of or like rock; hard

petulant—peevish; impatient or irritable

phenomena—events, facts, or occurrences

philistine—a person smugly narrow and conventional in views and tastes

philology—the study of literature and of disciplines relevant to literature or to language as used in literature

pinion—to confine or shackle

pitch—degree of slope; top, zenith

placate—to stop from being angry; to appease

plasticity—capacity for being molded or altered

platitude—commonplace, flat, or dull quality

plausible—conceivable, possible

plethora—overabundance; excess

plumage—the feathers of a bird

poignant—sharp or painful to the feelings

poseur—a person who assumes attitudes or manners merely for their effect upon others

postulate—to claim; to demand; to require

pragmatic—busy or active in a meddlesome way; practical

prebiotic—on the verge of having life

precipitated—brought on, caused to happen

preclude—to shut out; to prevent

precocious—exhibiting premature development

predatory—living by robbing or preying on others

predilection—preconceived liking; partiality or preference

prerequisite—required before, a necessary condition for a further occurrence

presage—sign or warning of a future event; omen

prescience—foreknowledge

preside—to exercise control or authority

prig—annoyingly pedantic person

proclivity—natural or habitual inclination

procure—to obtain; to secure

prodigious—enormous, huge

profane—to show disrespect for sacred things; irreverent

profuse—generous, often to excess

proliferate—to reproduce (new parts) in quick succession

prolific—turning out many products of the mind

prolix—wordy; long-winded

propagate—to reproduce; to multiply

propinquity—nearness of relationship; kinship

propriety—properness; suitability

prosaic—matter of fact; ordinary

prose—ordinary speech; dull
prospect—mental consideration
protracted—drawn out in time
protuberance—projection; bulge
provocative—stimulating; erotic
prudent—cautious, sensible
pugnacious—eager and ready to fight; quarrelsome
pundit—actual or self-professed authority
punitive—inflicting, concerned with, or directed toward punishment

quaff—to drink deeply in a hearty or thirsty way
quaint—unusual or different in character or appearance
quell—to crush; to subdue; to put an end to
querulous—full of complaint; peevish
quotidian—everyday; usual or ordinary

radical—fundamental, basic, important
ramify—to divide or spread out into branches
rancor—deep spite or malice
rapacious—taking by force; plundering
rasp—rough, grating tone
ratify—to approve or confirm
raucous—loud and rowdy
realism—behavior or thought based on a conception of how things actually are; in literature the attempt to picture people and things as they really are
reciprocate—to cause to move alternately back and forth
recluse—secluded; solitary
recollection—the act of remembering something
recompense—to repay; to compensate
recount—to relate, tell, describe in detail
regale—to delight with something pleasing or amusing
rejuvenation—the process of making young again, restoring youth
relegate—to exile or banish
relinquish—to give up; to abandon
remedial—providing a remedy
render—to represent or depict
reparation—restoration to good condition
repertory—collection, stock, store
replete—well-filled or plentifully supplied
reprieve—to give temporary relief to, as from trouble or pain
reprobate—to disapprove of strongly
repugnant—contradictory; inconsistent
requiem—musical service for the dead
reservoir—a large or extra supply of something
resonating—vibrating, resounding
resplendent—dazzling; splendid
restitution—return to a former condition or situation
resurgence—revival, new force

retention—remembering, memory
reticent—habitually silent; reserved
rhapsodize—to describe in an extravagantly enthusiastic manner
rogue—a rascal; scoundrel
rubric—a category or section heading, often in red; any rule or explanatory comment
ruffian—brutal, violent, lawless person
ruse—trick or artifice

sacred—holy; of or connected with religion
salinity—saltiness
salutary—healthful; beneficial
salutation—greeting, addressing, or welcoming by gestures or words
salve—balm that soothes or heals
sanctimonious—pretending to be very holy
sanction—support; encouragement; approval
savannah—grassland with only scattered trees
savant—learned person; eminent scholar
scrupulous—having principles; extremely conscientious
scud—to pass or skim rapidly
scurvy—low; mean; vile; contemptible
semaphore—system of signaling
seminal—important; critical;
sensibility—the capacity for being affected emotionally or intellectually
serene—calm; peaceful; tranquil
servile—humbly yielding or submissive; of a slave or slaves
shroud—to cover, protect, or screen; veil; shelter
signatory—joined in the signing of something
sinister—wicked; evil; dishonest
sinuous—not straightforward; devious; twisting
slake—to make less intense by satisfying
snide—slyly malicious or derisive
sodden—filled with moisture; soaked
solace—comfort; consolation; relief
soluble—able to be dissolved
somber—dark and gloomy or dull
sombre—shaded as to be dark and gloomy
soporific—pertaining to sleep or sleepiness
sovereign—supreme ruler, highest authority
speculation—intellectual examination or analysis
sporadically—occasionally, irregularly
spurious—not true or genuine; false
squalid—foul or unclean
stealth—secret, furtive, or artfully sly behavior
stigma—mark or sign indicating something not considered normal or standard
stint—to restrict or limit
stolid—unexcitable; impassive

stymie—to obstruct or frustrate
subdued—lacking in vitality, intensity, or strength
subjectivity—pertaining to thoughts or emotions of the person thinking, as opposed to the actual situation or reality
subliminal—on the threshold of consciousness; under the surface
submission—resignation; obedience; meekness
subsistence—survival, state of remaining alive
suffice—to be adequate
sully—to soil or stain; to tarnish by disgracing
sunder—to break apart, separate, or split
superfluous—excessive
supine—sluggish; listless; passive
surfeit—too great an amount or supply; excess
surreptitious—acting in a secret, stealthy way
surrogate—a substitute
susceptible—easily affected, open to
symbiosis—relationship of mutual interdependence
symptomatic—having the characteristics of a particular disease
syntax—orderly or systematic arrangement of words
synthesis—the joining of elements to make a new whole
systematic—presented or formulated as a coherent body of ideas or principles

tactile—perceived by touch; tangible
tangible—having actual form and substance
tantalizing—teasing, interesting
tawdry—cheap and showy; gaudy; sleazy
tedious—tiresome because of length or dullness
tedium—tediousness
telling—carrying great weight and producing a marked effect
tempt—to persuade, induce, or entice
tenet—principle, doctrine, or belief held as a truth
tenuous—unsubstantial, slight, flimsy
terrestrial—worldly; earthly
territorial—characterized by behavior associated with the defense of a territory
testimony—firsthand authentication of a fact
throng—crowd
timorous—fearful, timid
tinge—to give a slight trace of color
token—an outward sign or expression
toupee—a man’s wig
tractable—easily worked; obedient; malleable
tranquil—calm; serene; peaceful
transcendent—surpassing, excelling, or extraordinary
transgress—to go beyond a limit
transient—temporary, passing, not permanent
translucent—partially transparent or clear
transmit—to pass; to send on

transmute—to transform; to convert
treacherous—likely to betray trust; untrustworthy; insecure
treachery—perfidy; disloyalty; treason
trepidation—fearful uncertainty; anxiety
trite—not fresh or original
troubadour—minstrel or singer
trough—depression between two waves
truncate—to cut short
tumultuous—noisy, disorderly, boisterous
turgid—swollen; distended
turmoil—commotion; uproar; confusion
tyranny—very cruel and unjust use of power or authority

uncanny—inexplicable; preternaturally strange; weird
underling—one in a subordinate position; inferior
underpinnings—supports, foundation
underscore—to make evident
unfeigned—genuine, sincere, real
unfetter—to free from restraint; to liberate
unification—state of being unified
unintelligible—unable to be understood; incomprehensible
unity—oneness; singleness
univocal—unambiguous
unprecedented—new, novel, never done before
unscrupulous—not restrained by ideas of right and wrong
untenable—indefensible; incapable of being occupied
untoward—unfortunate, unfavorable, troublesome
unwitting—not knowing; unaware
upbraid—to rebuke severely or bitterly
uproarious—loud and boisterous
usury—interest at a high rate
utilitarian—stressing usefulness over beauty
utopia—idealized place

vacillate—to sway to and fro; to waver or totter
vacuum—completely empty space
vagabond—a person without a permanent home who moves from place to place; wandering
vagrant—a person who lives a wandering life
valiant—brave
validity—accuracy, factualness
vapid—tasteless; flavorless; flat
variegate—to vary; to diversify
veer—to change direction; to shift
vehement—acting or moving with great force
venerate—to show feelings of deep respect; to revere
vengeance—revenge
verity—truth
vestige—a trace of something that once existed

vex—to distress; to afflict; to plague
vicariously—by substitution, through imagined participation
villainous—evil; wicked
virtually—for all practical purposes, in effect
virtuoso—expert, highly skilled person
vitality—power to live or survive, mental or physical energy
vitiate—to spoil; to corrupt
vivacious—full of life and animation; lively
vocation—trade; profession; occupation
volatile—flying or able to fly
voluble—talkative
voluminous—large; bulky; full
voracious—ravenous; gluttonous

waft—to float, as on the wind
wane—to grow dim or faint
wary—cautious; on one’s guard

welter—to become soaked; stained; bathed
wheedle—to coax; to influence or persuade by flattery
whet—to make keen; to stimulate
wield—to use as a tool; to carry
wile—sly trick
wither—to dry up or shrivel
witty—cleverly amusing
wrath—intense anger; rage; fury
wrench—sudden, sharp twist or pull
wrought—made by artistry or effort, worked

yacht—small vessel for pleasure cruises or racing
yearn—to have longing or desire
yielding—submissive; obedient

zeal—intense enthusiasm
zenith—highest point; peak

Difficulty Level 3

allegory—parable
abstemious—exercising moderation; self-restraint
adroit—skilled, clever
aggregate—to collect into a sum
alacrity—cheerful promptness; eagerness
ambient—surrounding
amorphous—shapeless; formless
anachronistic—the representation of something as existing at an impossible or inappropriate time
antedate—to precede, to come before in time
antediluvian—before the flood; antiquated
apostate—fallen from the faith
appurtenance—a thing pertaining to or connected with something else
arboreal—pertaining to trees
arrogate—to claim or seize as one’s own
ascetic—practicing self-denial; austere
ascribe—to attribute to a cause
asperity—having a harsh temper; roughness
assiduous—diligent
assiduously—diligently, carefully
assuage—to lessen; to soothe
attenuation—a thinning out
august—great dignity or grandeur
aver—to affirm; to declare to be true

bacchanalian—drunken
baleful—menacing; deadly

beguile—to deceive or cheat; to charm or coax
beleaguer—to besiege or attack; to harass
belie—to misrepresent; to be false to
bellicose—belligerent; pugnacious; warlike
bombastic—pompous; puffed up with conceit; using inflated language
bovine—resembling a cow; placid or dull
bucolic—rustic; pastoral
burgeon—to grow forth; to send out buds

cache—to store or to hide; a hidden supply
cacophony—harsh or discordant sound; dissonance
calumny—slander
capitulate—to surrender
cathartic—purgative; inducing a figurative cleansing
cavil—to disagree; to nit-pick; to make frivolous objections
celerity—swiftness
chassis—framework and working parts of an automobile
chimerical—fantastically improbable; highly unrealistic
churlish—rude; surly
circumscribe—to limit
cogent—convincing
collusion—conspiring in a fraudulent scheme
comely—attractive; agreeable
compendium—brief, comprehensive summary
concord—harmony

confluence—flowing or coming together
consecrate—to induct into a religious office; to declare sacred
consonance—agreement; harmony
contrite—penitent; repentant; feeling sorry for sins
contumely—an insult; contemptuous treatment
conundrum—a riddle; difficult problem
cosset—to pamper
countenance—face, expression, features
cupidity—excessive desire for money; avarice
cursor—hasty; done without care

decimate—to destroy a great number
defer—to yield; to delay
deleterious—destructive, injurious
demur—to take exception; to object
denigrate—to blacken someone’s reputation or character
derision—ridicule
desiccate—to dry up; to drain
desultory—aimless; unmethodical; unfocused
dexterity—skill in using one’s hands or body
diaphanous—translucent; see-through
diatribe—speech full of bitterness
didactic—intended primarily to instruct
diffidence—modesty; shyness; lack of confidence
dilatory—given to delay or procrastination
dilettante—aimless follower of the arts; amateur; dabbler
din—loud confusing noise
disaffection—lack of trust; to cause discontent
disarming—charming; peaceable; able to remove hostility
discursive—rambling; passing from one topic to another
disingenuous—deceitful; lacking in candor; not frank
disparate—basically different; unrelated
disputatious—argumentative
disquietude—uneasiness; anxiety
dissemble—to conceal true motives; to pretend
dissipate—to dissolve, to fade
dissolute—loose in morals or conduct
dissonant—lacking in harmony; discordant
dogmatic—adhering to a tenet
dolorous—sorrowful; having mental anguish
duplicity—deception by pretending to feel and act one way while acting another; bad faith; double dealing

ebullient—greatly excited
edify—to instruct; to correct morally
efface—to erase; to obliterate as if by rubbing it out
efficacy—power to produce desired effect
effrontery—shameless boldness; impudence; temerity
egregious—notorious; shocking

encomium—glowing praise
encumber—to hinder
endemic—belonging to, or found only in a certain nation or region
enervation—process of depriving of strength, weakening
engender—to cause; to produce
enigma—riddle, puzzle
ensconce—to settle in; to hide or conceal
ephemeral—fleeting; short-lived
equanimity—calmness; composure
erudite—learned; scholarly
eschew—to shun
esoteric—hard to understand
etymology—study of word parts
evanescent—tending to vanish like vapor
evince—to show clearly
exacerbate—to worsen; to embitter
exculpate—to clear from blame
execrable—detestable
exegesis—explanation, especially of biblical passages
exhort—to urge
exigency—urgent situation
expatriate—one choosing to live abroad
expiate—to atone for

facile—easily accomplished; ready or fluent
fatuous—foolish or inane
fealty—loyalty; allegiance
felicitous—well chosen; apt; suitable
ferment—to agitate;
fetid—malodorous
filial—pertaining to a son or daughter
filigree—delicate, lacelike ornamentation
firmament—the sky, the heavens
flaccid—flabby
foible—small moral or character weakness
foment—to stir up; to instigate
fortuitous—accidental; by chance
fulminate—to thunder; to explode
fungible—capable of being used in place of something else

gainsay—to contradict; to speak or act against
galvanize—to stimulate by shock; to stir up; to revitalize
gambol—to romp; to skip about
garrulous—loquacious; wordy; talkative
germinal—beginning, of the first stages
gossamer—sheer, like cobwebs
gratuitous—free; unnecessary; without reason
guile—slyness and cunning

hackles—hairs on back and neck
halcyon—calm; peaceful
harbinger—one that announces or foreshadows what is coming; precursor; portent
hedonist—one who believes pleasure is sole aim in life
hegemony—dominance, especially of one nation over another
heinous—atrocious; hatefully bad
hermetic—obscure and mysterious; relating to the occult
hinterland—area far from big cities or towns
historiography—the scholarly study of history
hominid—all forms of man, both extinct and living
hubris—arrogance; excessive self-conceit
hummock—small hill
humus—substance formed by decaying vegetable matter

iconoclastic—attacking cherished traditions
ignominious—dishonorable; disgraceful
imbroglio—complicated situation
immolate—to offer as a sacrifice; to destroy by fire
immutable—unchangeable
impalpable—imperceptible; intangible
impecunious—without money
impetus—stimulus, incentive
importune—to urge repeatedly
impuissance—powerlessness; feebleness
impunity—freedom from punishment or harm
impute—to attribute to (as a fault or crime)
incarnadines—to make red, especially blood or flesh-colored
inchoate—recently begun; rudimentary
incipient—beginning, in the first stages
incisive—sharply expressive
incorporeal—without physical existence, not having a material body
inculcate—to impress on the mind by admonition
incursion—temporary invasion
indelible—not able to be removed or erased
indemnify—to make secure against loss
indigent—poor
indite—to write or compose
indolent—lazy
ineluctable—irresistible; not to be escaped
inexorable—not to be moved by entreaty; unyielding; relentless
infecund—not fertile, barren
iniquitous—wicked; immoral
insidious—deceitful; treacherous
intelligentsia—people regarded as the learned class
internecine—mutually destructive
interpolate—to insert between other things

intractable—stubborn
intransigence—refusal to compromise
intraspecific—pertaining to or occurring between or among members of the same species
intrepid—brave
inure—to make accustomed to something difficult
invective—abuse
inveigh—to condemn; to censure
irascible—easily irritated, easily angered
jaundice—prejudice; envy; yellow discoloring of skin or tissue
jettison—to throw overboard
jocose—given to joking
jocund—merry
juggernaut—irresistible, crushing force
juxtapose—to place side by side

ken—range of knowledge
kinetic—producing motion
kismet—fate
knell—tolling of a bell
knoll—little round hill
lachrymose—producing tears
laconic—using few words
lade—to put a load or burden on or in
largess—liberal giving; generous gift
lascivious—lustful
lassitude—weariness; debility
latent—potential but undeveloped; dormant
laxity—carelessness
legerdemain—sleight of hand
licentious—amoral; lewd and lascivious
Lilliputian—extremely small
limpid—clear
lugubrious—mournful, often to an excessive degree

maelstrom—whirlpool
maladroit—clumsy; bungling
malady—sickness, disease, illness
malediction—curse
malignant—growing worse
malleable—capable of being shaped
maraud—to rove in search of plunder
martinet—one who issues orders
masticate—to chew
maudlin—effusively sentimental
megalomania—mania for doing grandiose things
melee—a fight
mellifluous—flowing sweetly and smoothly
mendacity—untruthfulness
mendicant—beggar

mercurial—volatile; changeable; fickle
meretricious—flashy; tawdry
miasma—a poisonous atmosphere
misanthrope—a person who hates mankind
miscreant—villain
mollify—to soothe
monolithic—consisting of a single character; uniform; unyielding
moribund—dying
multitudinous—existing in or consisting of innumerable elements or aspects
munificent—generous
myopic—nearsighted; lacking foresight

nadir—lowest point
nascent—in the process of being born
nebulous—indistinct or vague; hazy or cloudy
necromancy—black magic; dealing with the dead
nefarious—wicked
niche—a place particularly well suited to the thing occupying it
noisome—hurtful, harmful
nostrum—questionable medicine
nubile—marriageable
nugatory—futile; worthless

obdurate—stubborn; unyielding
obfuscate—to make obscure; to confuse
obloquy—slander; disgrace; infamy
obstreperous—unruly; boisterous; noisy
obviate—to make unnecessary
occlude—to shut or close
odious—hateful; vile
oligarchy—government by a privileged few
onerous—burdensome
opprobrium—infamy; vilification
ostensible—apparent; showing outwardly; professed

panegyric—formal praise
paradigm—model or pattern
paragon—model of perfection
parlance—language; idiom
parlay—to exploit successfully
parsimonious—stingy
paucity—scarcity
pecuniary—obsessed by money
pedantic—bookish
pejorative—negative in connotation; having a tendency to make worse; disparaging
penurious—marked by penury; stingy
perdition—eternal damnation; complete ruin
perfidy—treacherous; betrayal of trust

perfunctory—indifferent; done merely as a duty; superficial
pernicious—fatal; very destructive or injurious
perspicacious—having insight; penetrating; astute
perspicuous—plainly expressed
phlegmatic—calm; not easily disturbed
piebald—of different colors; mottled; spotted
piety—devoutness; reverence for God
pillory—to criticize or ridicule
pinched—wasted away, grew thin
piquancy—something that stimulates taste; tartness
pithy—essential; brief and to the point
polemic—controversy; argument in support of a point of view
polyglot—speaking several languages
porcine—pig-like
portent—sign; omen; something that foreshadows a coming event
postulate—assumption or supposition
precipitous—abrupt or hasty
primordial—first in time, existing from the beginning
probity—honesty; integrity
prodigal—wasteful; reckless with money
prodigious—marvelous; enormous
profligate—dissolute; reckless; loose in morals; wanton
profundity—intellectual depth
prognostication—prediction, prophesy
promulgate—to announce publicly, especially a law
propitious—favorable; timely
proscribe—to outlaw, ostracize, or banish
protract—to prolong in time or space; to extend or lengthen
puerile—childish; lacking in maturity
pungent—stinging; sharp in taste; caustic
pusillanimous—cowardly

quiescent—at rest; dormant; temporarily inactive
quixotic—idealistic but impractical

raconteur—someone who is skilled at telling stories or anecdotes
raffish—vulgar; crude
raiment—clothing or dress
rampart—an embankment of earth
recalcitrant—stubborn; refractory; reluctant; unwilling; refusing to submit
recidivism—habitual return to crime
recondite—abstruse; profound; secret
reconnoiter—to survey, examine, or explore
recumbent—reclining; lying down
redolent—suggestive of an odor; fragrant
redoubtable—formidable; causing fear
refractory—stubborn; obstinate

remand—to order back; to return to service
remonstrate—to object; to protest
remunerative—compensating; rewarding for service
repine—to complain, mourn, or fret
reticence—silence, reserve, reluctance to speak
reveries—dreamy thinking, daydreaming
ribald—irreverent or coarse
rout—a crowd of people; an overwhelming defeat; to defeat overwhelmingly

sagacious—perceptive; shrewd; having insight
salacious—lustful; lecherous; lascivious
salient—standing out conspicuously; prominent
salubrious—healthful
sanguine—having a ruddy complexion; cheerful; hopeful
sardonic—sneering; sarcastic; cynical
sartorial—tailored
saturnine—sullen; sardonic; gloomy
sedition—resistance to authority
sedulous—diligent; persevering
sententious—terse; concise; aphoristic
sepulchral—pertaining to burial and the grave, hence dismal, gloomy, tomblike
sophistry—seemingly plausible but fallacious reasoning
specious—seeming reasonable but incorrect
spendthrift—one who spends money extravagantly
splenetic—bad-tempered; irritable
spurious—false, counterfeit
static—showing a lack of motion
stentorian—powerful in sound; extremely loud
stodgy—dull, tedious, uninteresting
stringent—vigorous; rigid; binding
sublimate—to purify or refine
succor—aid; assistance; comfort
supercilious—contemptuous; arrogant
syccophant—one who seeks favor by flattering; a parasite

taciturn—quiet; habitually silent
tack—to change course, to zigzag
tangential—peripheral; only slightly connected
temerity—foolish or rash boldness
temporal—not lasting forever; limited by time
tenacity—holding fast
timbre—distinguishing quality of a sound
toady—servile flatterer; a “yes man”
tome—large book
torpor—lack of activity; lethargy
tortuous—winding; full of curves
traduce—to speak falsely
transcendent—exceeding usual limits; incomparable; beyond ordinary existence; peerless

tremulous—trembling, fearful, timid
trenchant—effective; thorough; cutting; keen
truculent—threatening; aggressively self-assertive; savage
turbid—muddy
turpitude—depravity

ubiquitous—seemingly present everywhere, widespread
unctuous—oily; suave
undulating—moving with a wavelike motion
unequivocal—plain; obvious
untrammelled—unconfined, not shackled

vacuity—emptiness
vainglorious—boastful
vanguard—forerunner; advance forces
vehemently—violently, intensely
venal—capable of being bribed
venial—forgivable; trivial
veracious—truthful
verbose—wordy
verdant—green; lush in vegetation
verisimilitude—appearance of truth
veritable—actual; being truly so
vicissitude—change of fortune
vignette—a picture with no definite border, shading off gradually at its edges
viscid—having a cohesive and sticky fluid
vista—view, outlook
vitiating—spoiling, tending to make weak or faulty
vitriolic—corrosive; sarcastic
vituperative—abusive; scolding
vociferous—clamorous; noisy
vouchsafe—to bestow condescendingly; to guarantee

waggish—mischievous; humorous; tricky
wanton—uncalled for; without regard for what is right; unrestrained
winnow—to sift; to separate good parts from bad
winsome—agreeable; gracious
wizen—to wither; to shrivel

xenophobia—fear or hatred of foreigners

zealous—fervent; enthusiastic

zephyr—gentle breeze; west wind