

Lesson 27

Definitions



1.	abyss	uh BISS	bottomless hole, a vast expanse or depth
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The man had fallen into the abyss of depravity.		
	Derivatives >>	abysm, abysmal, abysmally, abyssal	
2.	acrid	AK rid	caustic, bitter, harsh (relates sometimes to taste and smell)
	Synonyms >>	caustic, mordant, scathing	Antonym >> agreeable
	The acrid odor in the restaurant caused me to leave.		
	Derivatives >>	acridity, acridness, acridly	
3.	acuity	uh KEW uh tee	sharpness of perception
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> denseness
	His acuity in determining the facts made him a good judge.		
	Derivatives >>	acuties, acute, acuteness	
4.	baleful	BALE ful	destructive, deadly
	Synonyms >>	malign, sinister	Antonym >> benign
	War is a baleful experience for many.		
	Derivatives >>	bale, balefully, balefulness	
5.	cataclysm	KAT uh kliz um	an event or situation that causes a momentous change or upheaval
	Synonyms >>	calamity, catastrophe	Antonym >>
	The San Francisco earthquake was a cataclysmic event.		
	Derivatives >>	cataclysmic, cataclysmal	
6.	catharsis	kuh THAR sis	a purification or purging of emotions that brings about spiritual renewal
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> repression
	The child had so many repressed emotions that a catharsis was needed to restore his normal state of mind.		
	Derivatives >>	catharses, cathartic, cathartically	
7.	dogma	DOG muh	a system of beliefs or principles
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The foreigner was anxious to learn the dogma of the church since he had never been exposed to it.		
	Derivatives >>	dogmatic	
8.	edifice	ED uh fis	a very large building
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> shack; small building
	This particular edifice has the title of being the tallest building in the world.		
	Derivatives >>		
9.	enumerate	eh NOO muh rate	to count one by one
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to group
	In his summation, my lawyer enumerated all of the reasons why I should receive a verdict of "not guilty."		
	Derivatives >>	enumeration, enumerative, enumerator	
10.	grate	GRATE	to cause irritation
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to soothe
	Her acrimonious comments grate on my nerves.		
	Derivatives >>	grated, grating, grater	
11.	inertia	in UR shuh	resistance to motion or action
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> disposition to action
	In order to move, a force must first overcome a body's initial inertia.		
	Derivatives >>	inert, inertial, inertia, inertness, inertly	

12.	inordinate	in OR duh nit	exceeding reasonable limits, excessive
	Synonyms >>	exorbitant, extravagant, extreme, immoderate	Antonym >> small
	It is a sign of trouble when a student has an inordinate number of absences.		
	Derivatives >>	inordinately, inordinateness, inordination	
13.	luminous	LOO muh nus	shining, full of light
	Synonyms >>	bright, brilliant, lustrous	Antonym >> dark; dull
	The most luminous thing visible from Earth is the sun.		
	Derivatives >>	luminosity, luminously, luminousness	
14.	maudlin	MOD lin	overly sentimental
	Synonyms >>	mawkish	Antonym >>
	The maudlin clown cried excessively over a simple popped balloon.		
	Derivatives >>	maudlinism, maudlinly, maudlinness	
15.	novice	NOV is	a beginner
	Synonyms >>	apprentice, probationer, neophyte, tyro	Antonym >> a veteran; a professional
	A novice in swimming should stay in the shallow end of the pool until he is more skilled.		
	Derivatives >>	novicehood, novicelike, novitiate	
16.	pique	PEEK	resentment, irritation
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> acceptance
	After finding that he had been seeing other women, she showed her pique by not speaking to him.		
	Derivatives >>	piqued, piquing	
17.	propensity	pruh PEN seh tee	preference, natural inclination
	Synonyms >>	leaning, penchant, proclivity	Antonym >> aversion
	I have a propensity for rising early.		
	Derivatives >>	propension, propense, propend	
18.	purse	PURS	to pucker or to tighten one's lips
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The angrier he got, the more he pursed his lips.		
	Derivatives >>	pursed, pursing	
19.	refute	reh FYOOT	to disprove, to show as erroneous
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to prove; to avow
	The lawyer presented evidence that refuted the testimony of the witness.		
	Derivatives >>	refutable, refutability, refutably, refutal, refutation, refutative, refutatory, refuter	
20.	remuneration	reh myoo nuh RAY	the act of paying for a service, loss, or expense
	Synonyms >>	compensation, reimbursement	Antonym >>
	The man sought remuneration for his expenses from his boss.		
	Derivatives >>	remunerate, remunerative, remunerator, remuneratively, remunerativeness	
21.	soothsayer	SOOTH say ur	a person who is able to predict the future, seer
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	After John Kennedy was shot, many self-proclaimed soothsayers claimed to have predicted the assassination.		
	Derivatives >>	soothsay, soothsaying	
22.	supple	SUP ul	easily bent, elastic, pliable
	Synonyms >>	resilient	Antonym >> rigid
	Her supple bones allowed her to perform strange feats in gymnastics.		
	Derivatives >>	suppler, supplest	
23.	travail	truh VALE	difficult labor
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> relaxing diversion
	It took years of travail to build this business.		
	Derivatives >>	travails	
24.	understate	UN dur state	to show restraint or lack of emphasis
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to embroider
	I believe that you are understating the danger of nuclear energy.		
	Derivatives >>	understated, understatement	
25.	vibrant	VIE brunt	full of life
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> lifeless
	She was a vibrant young woman before she went into a coma.		
	Derivatives >>	vibrance, vibrancy, vibrantly	

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Matching Test



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

Exercise A

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|-------|-----|------------|----|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | abyss | a. | sharpness of perception |
| _____ | 2. | acid | b. | bottomless hole |
| _____ | 3. | acuity | c. | system of beliefs, principles |
| _____ | 4. | baleful | d. | to count one by one |
| _____ | 5. | cataclysm | e. | resistance to motion or action |
| _____ | 6. | catharsis | f. | caustic; bitter; harsh |
| _____ | 7. | dogma | g. | destructive; deadly |
| _____ | 8. | edifice | h. | exceeding reasonable limits |
| _____ | 9. | enumerate | i. | a purification of emotions |
| _____ | 10. | grate | j. | a very large building |
| _____ | 11. | inertia | k. | to cause irritation |
| _____ | 12. | inordinate | l. | event that causes great change |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|--------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | luminous | a. | natural inclination |
| _____ | 2. | maudlin | b. | payment for a service |
| _____ | 3. | novice | c. | show lack of emphasis |
| _____ | 4. | pique | d. | easily bent; elastic; pliable |
| _____ | 5. | propensity | e. | overly sentimental |
| _____ | 6. | purse | f. | difficult labor |
| _____ | 7. | refute | g. | shining; full of light |
| _____ | 8. | remuneration | h. | to disprove |
| _____ | 9. | soothsayer | i. | a beginner |
| _____ | 10. | supple | j. | resentment; irritation |
| _____ | 11. | travail | k. | to pucker one's lips |
| _____ | 12. | understate | l. | full of life |
| _____ | 13. | vibrant | m. | a person able to predict the future |

Lesson 27

Sentence Completion



abyss	acrid	acuity	baleful
cataclysmic	catharsis	dogma	edifice
enumerate	grate	inertia	inordinate

1. The doctor said that my _____ consumption of food was much greater than was good for my health.
2. The irritating sounds of the child's screaming began to _____ on my nerves and drove me to distraction.
3. Most Californians would prefer the minor damage associated with many mild earthquakes to the _____ destruction associated with one major upheaval.
4. The crowd gathered in front of the building to protest, but the _____ was completely surrounded by guards.
5. The teacher asked the student to _____ all the ways he had been helped; as the student counted the ways, another child recorded them.
6. In order to move this object, you must first apply a force strong enough to overcome its _____, the property that makes it resistant to motion.
7. The chemical became bitter and _____ when the additional substance was added to it.
8. The wise man saw the situation with _____; his sharp perception always added to his wisdom.
9. The religious _____ was upheld by members of the congregation; their beliefs were fundamental and very important to them all.
10. His tears acted as a _____, cleansing the emotions of the lonely man.
11. The _____ winds took yet another life as the tornado struck another row of houses.
12. The mountain climber was cautious in order to prevent falling into the _____ below him; the hole, which seemed bottomless, was quite terrifying.

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luminous	maudlin	novice	pique	propensity
purse	refute	remuneration	soothsayer	supple
travail	understate	vibrant		

13. The girl has a _____ for helping others in need; her natural inclinations for serving others would be of benefit in the field of nursing.
14. The _____ sky helped us to find our way in the night; it was not difficult when the evening sky was so full of light.
15. The _____ clown made fun of emotional people by acting overly sentimental.
16. The girl was a _____ in the class, but even a beginner should know more than what she did.
17. Bill collectors who seek _____ from people who are reluctant to pay must be prepared to be verbally abused by their clients.
18. Eating the sour pickle caused him to _____ his lips into a tight pucker.
19. The plastic rod was just _____ enough to bend the needed amount without breaking. We were fortunate to have found something so pliable.
20. After Mary heard the horrid things that Alex had said about her, she showed her _____ by not speaking to him; her irritation and resentment were obvious to everyone.
21. Paul has a tendency to _____ the seriousness of the problem; he often fails to give emphasis to the importance of things.
22. The professor began to _____ the theory; he disproved it by using simple math.
23. All the characters in this novel are _____ and full of life.
24. The woman was having a difficult labor, but it was nothing compared to the _____ of another woman in the adjoining room.
25. The king should have listened to the _____; although the prophet foretold his future, the warning was not heeded.