

# Lesson 3

## Definitions



1.	<b>abstruse</b>	ab STRUSE	difficult to understand, recondite, concealed
	Synonyms >>	complex, complicated, intricate, knotty	Antonym >> readily understood; clear
	Some concepts of Einstein were so abstruse that many physicists could not understand them.		
	Derivatives >>	abstrusely, abstruseness	
2.	<b>affable</b>	AF uh bul	friendly, courteous, amiable
	Synonyms >>	cordial, genial, gracious, sociable	Antonym >> surly; aloof; unfriendly
	He had a very affable nature, always saying "Hello" to everyone.		
	Derivatives >>	affability, affableness, affably	
3.	<b>audacity</b>	aw DAS uh tee	excessive boldness, rashness, daring
	Synonyms >>	cheek, chutzpah, effrontery, gall, hardihood, temerity	Antonym >> meekness
	I was surprised that he had the audacity to approach the Queen.		
	Derivatives >>	audacious, audaciousness, audaciously	
4.	<b>contrite</b>	kun TRITE	extremely apologetic, remorseful, repentant
	Synonyms >>	penitent	Antonym >> unrepentant
	Her contrite tears were not enough to convince her father not to spank her for her disobedience.		
	Derivatives >>	contritely, contriteness, contrition	
5.	<b>credulous</b>	KREJ uh lus	believing on slight evidence, gullible
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> suspicious
	Because the lady's horoscope said that she should stay inside, the credulous woman did not go to work.		
	Derivatives >>	credulously, credulousness, credulity	
6.	<b>depravity</b>	deh PRAV eh tee	moral corruption, a wicked or perverse act
	Synonyms >>	abasement, corruption, debasement, debauchery,	Antonym >> noble behavior
	The depravity of his behavior shocked everyone.		
	Derivatives >>	deprave, depraver, depravement, depraved	
7.	<b>deprecate</b>	DEP ruh kate	to disapprove regretfully, to belittle, to express mild disapproval
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to endorse
	Do not deprecate her act unless you fully understand her situation.		
	Derivatives >>	deprecating, deprecatingly, deprecative, deprecatively, deprecatory, deprecated, deprecating	
8.	<b>didactic</b>	die DAK tik	instructive, designed to teach
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> uninstructional
	Because of the coach's didactic approach, his players learned many blocking techniques.		
	Derivatives >>	didactical, didacticism, didactive, didactically	
9.	<b>dormant</b>	DOR munt	inactive, sleeping
	Synonyms >>	abeyant, latent, quiescent	Antonym >> active
	Most flowers remain dormant in the winter and bloom in the spring.		
	Derivatives >>	dormancy	
10.	<b>enigmatic</b>	en ig MAT ik	mysterious, inexplicable, puzzling
	Synonyms >>	abstruse, ambiguous, cryptic, equivocal, obscure,	Antonym >> clear
	The disappearance of Amelia Earhart is an enigma to this day.		
	Derivatives >>	enigma, enigmatical, enigmatically, enigmatize	
11.	<b>erudite</b>	ER yoo dite	scholarly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> ignorant
	The erudite physics professor had spent many years studying the theory of relativity.		
	Derivatives >>	eruditely, erudition	

12.	<b>exotic</b>	ig ZOT ik	foreign, unfamiliar		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	native
	The circus features exotic animals from Africa.				
	Derivatives >>	exotical, exoticalness, exotically, exotica, exoticism, exoticist			
13.	<b>fuse</b>	FYOOZ	to mix or to join (usually by melting)		
	Synonyms >>	amalgamate, blend, coalesce, commingle, merge, mingle		Antonym >>	to divide
	Zinc and copper can be fused into hard, bright brass.				
	Derivatives >>	fused, fusing, fuses, fusibility, fusible			
14.	<b>immutable</b>	eh MYOO tuh bul	unchanging		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	fickle
	Her love for her husband was immutable.				
	Derivatives >>	immutability, immutableness, immutably			
15.	<b>incorrigible</b>	in KOR eh juh bul	incapable of being reformed or improved		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	amenable to improvement
	He was expelled from school because of his incorrigible conduct.				
	Derivatives >>	incorrigibility, incorrigibleness, incorrigibly			
16.	<b>loathe</b>	LOETH	to detest		
	Synonyms >>	abhor, abominate		Antonym >>	to adore
	The fact that I loathe your brother does not mean that we cannot be friends.				
	Derivatives >>	loathful, loathing, loathingly, loathness, loathsome			
17.	<b>mitigate</b>	MIT uh gate	to cause to become less harsh or hostile; to make less severe		
	Synonyms >>	alloy, alleviate, assuage, lighten		Antonym >>	to intensify; to aggravate
	He apologized in order to mitigate her dislike for him.				
	Derivatives >>	mitigation, mitigatedly, mitigative, mitigator, mitigatory			
18.	<b>nullify</b>	NUL eh fie	to cause not to be in effect, to negate		
	Synonyms >>	abrogate, annul, invalidate		Antonym >>	to make effective
	I am seeking to nullify the contract because he has not complied with it.				
	Derivatives >>	nullified, nullifying, nullification, nullificationist, nullificator, nullifier			
19.	<b>pacifistic</b>	pas uh FIS tik	opposed to war or use of force		
	Synonyms >>	appeased, conciliated, mollified, placated, propitiated		Antonym >>	martial
	The man refused to fight because of his pacifistic beliefs.				
	Derivatives >>	pacifist, pacifier, pacifism, pacifistically, pacify			
20.	<b>pretentious</b>	preh TEN shus	making an extravagant outward show, self-important		
	Synonyms >>	ostentatious, pompous		Antonym >>	meek; humble; shy
	Isn't it a little pretentious to spend two million dollars on a wedding?				
	Derivatives >>	pretension, pretention, pretensionless, pretensive, pretentiously, pretentiousness			
21.	<b>prologue</b>	PRO log	introductory remarks in a speech, play or literary work, introductory action		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The play had a prologue that set the scene for the opening act.				
	Derivatives >>	prologist, prologize			
22.	<b>recant</b>	reh KANT	to withdraw or to repudiate a statement or belief, revoke		
	Synonyms >>	abjure, forswear, renounce, retract		Antonym >>	to avow; to reaffirm belief
	The prosecutor's case was greatly weakened when his main witness recanted his testimony.				
	Derivatives >>	recantation, recanter			
23.	<b>servile</b>	SUR vil, SUR vile	overly submissive		
	Synonyms >>	obsequious, slavish, subservient		Antonym >>	authoritative
	Having complete devotion and submissiveness for the sheik, the women of the harem were very servile.				
	Derivatives >>	servilely, servilism, servility, servitude			
24.	<b>trepidation</b>	trep eh DAY shun	fear, trembling, agitation		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	fearlessness
	Since I did not have time to study, I have a lot of trepidation about this examination.				
	Derivatives >>	trepidate, trepidant, trepid, trepidly, trepidity			
25.	<b>vilify</b>	VIL eh fie	to malign, to defame, to utter abusive statements against		
	Synonyms >>	aspere, calumniate, denigrate, traduce		Antonym >>	to praise; to acclaim
	It is not right to vilify someone just because he disagrees with you.				
	Derivatives >>	vilification, vilifier, vilifying, vilifyingly			

## Lesson 3

### Matching Test



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

### Exercise A

- |       |     |           |    |                                     |
|-------|-----|-----------|----|-------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1.  | abstruse  | a. | to mix or to join by melting        |
| _____ | 2.  | affable   | b. | instructive; intended to teach      |
| _____ | 3.  | audacity  | c. | friendly; amiable; courteous        |
| _____ | 4.  | contrite  | d. | believing on slight proof           |
| _____ | 5.  | credulous | e. | to belittle; to express disapproval |
| _____ | 6.  | depravity | f. | deeply apologetic; repentant        |
| _____ | 7.  | deprecate | g. | scholarly; learned                  |
| _____ | 8.  | didactic  | h. | corrupt nature; wickedness          |
| _____ | 9.  | dormant   | i. | difficult to understand             |
| _____ | 10. | erudite   | j. | foreign; unfamiliar                 |
| _____ | 11. | exotic    | k. | inactive; sleeping                  |
| _____ | 12. | fuse      | l. | boldness; daring spirit; effrontery |

### Exercise B

- |       |     |              |    |                                |
|-------|-----|--------------|----|--------------------------------|
| _____ | 1.  | enigmatic    | a. | obscure; mysterious            |
| _____ | 2.  | immutable    | b. | to make less severe            |
| _____ | 3.  | incorrigible | c. | to revoke; to disavow          |
| _____ | 4.  | loathe       | d. | unchanging; permanent          |
| _____ | 5.  | mitigate     | e. | to void, negate, or invalidate |
| _____ | 6.  | nullify      | f. | overly submissive; slavish     |
| _____ | 7.  | pacifistic   | g. | to detest; to abhor; to hate   |
| _____ | 8.  | pretentious  | h. | anxiety; nervous anticipation  |
| _____ | 9.  | prologue     | i. | incapable of being reformed    |
| _____ | 10. | recant       | j. | opposed to war or use of force |
| _____ | 11. | servile      | k. | introductory action            |
| _____ | 12. | trepidation  | l. | to defame; to slander          |
| _____ | 13. | vilify       | m. | pompous; ostentatious; showy   |

## Lesson 3

### Sentence Completion



abstruse	affable	audacity	contrite
credulous	depravity	deprecates	didactic
dormant	erudite	exotic	fuse

1. My younger brother was always bold and daring; many times he had the \_\_\_\_\_ to talk back to my parents.
2. Because the student had been voted the most scholarly in his class, the \_\_\_\_\_ language in his speech was not a surprise.
3. The girl's father approves of her desire to sing, but he \_\_\_\_\_ her willingness to sing in nightclubs.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ look on the woman's face betrayed her gullibility; she had a tendency to believe everything she heard.
5. The girl's \_\_\_\_\_ personality resulted in her being voted friendliest in her class.
6. The man has lost so many of his morals that he has fallen into a state of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The woman's \_\_\_\_\_ expression convinced her husband that she was sorry for her harsh words.
8. Most flowers remain \_\_\_\_\_ in the winter and bloom in the spring.
9. With his skilled hands, the silversmith began to \_\_\_\_\_ the two pieces of metal into one beautiful shape.
10. The book was so \_\_\_\_\_ that after he had finished the first difficult chapter, he understood less than when he had begun.
11. The furniture salesman bragged that only \_\_\_\_\_ woods from foreign lands were used in making the fine item that he was selling.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ poems are especially interesting in that they often teach a moral as well as entertain.

## Lesson 3



enigmatic	immutable	incorrigible	loathe	mitigate
nullify	pacifistic	pretentious	prologue	recant
servile	trepidation	vilify		

13. While younger men are often belligerent, older and wiser men may set aside these war-like attitudes for a more \_\_\_\_\_ outlook.
14. The first fight in the valley was but a \_\_\_\_\_ to one hundred years of war.
15. Just because I \_\_\_\_\_ spinach does not mean I hate all vegetables.
16. Because he was incapable of being reformed, the boy's \_\_\_\_\_ conduct could not be tolerated any longer.
17. His driving an extravagant and showy car does not mean that he is a \_\_\_\_\_ person.
18. I am seeking to \_\_\_\_\_ the contract since he has not adhered to the terms upon which we agreed.
19. The submissiveness of the woman was easy to detect in her \_\_\_\_\_ manner.
20. When the publisher discovered his error, he was anxious to \_\_\_\_\_ his previous statement.
21. The man's \_\_\_\_\_ faith in God could not be shaken; he was firm in his convictions.
22. Because the woman was so angry at what the man had said, she directed her anger at him and immediately began to \_\_\_\_\_ him in all her circles of friends.
23. I experienced great \_\_\_\_\_ because we were isolated in a cabin during the snowstorm, and we had only a small portion of food; I was afraid we would starve before being rescued.
24. The lawyer was hoping the court would \_\_\_\_\_ the original sentence, but the judge seemed totally uninterested in lessening the prison term he had set.
25. The \_\_\_\_\_ oaths in the ceremony were a mystery to everyone outside the brotherhood.