

Lesson 4

Definitions



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

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

Lesson 4

Matching Test



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

Exercise A

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

Exercise B

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

Lesson 4

Sentence Completion



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

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

Lesson 4



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

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