

# Lesson 47

## Definitions



1.	<b>acerbic</b>	uh SER bic	sour or bitter in mood or tone
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> kindly
	His cold sarcasm demonstrated his acerbic attitude.		
	Derivatives >>	acerbity	
2.	<b>arboreal</b>	are BORE ee ul	relating to a tree or the inhabiting of a tree
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The jungle is home for many arboreal animals other than monkeys.		
	Derivatives >>	arboreous, arborescent, arboretum, arborous	
3.	<b>articulate</b>	are TIK yuh late	to speak distinctly; expressing oneself clearly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to speak indistinctly; to mumble
	An announcer must be articulate. A good politician must be able to articulate his views.		
	Derivatives >>	articulated, articulating, articulation, articulateness, articulative, articulately, articulator	
4.	<b>befuddled</b>	buh FUD uld	confused
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> clearheaded
	He was befuddled by the difficult math problem.		
	Derivatives >>	befuddle, befuddling	
5.	<b>blunderbuss</b>	BLUN der bus	a clumsy and careless person; an obsolete firearm with a bell muzzle
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> a poised and sophisticated person
	The girl made so many embarrassing remarks that she felt like a blunderbuss.		
	Derivatives >>	blunder, blunderer, blundering, blunderbusses	
6.	<b>chortle</b>	CHORE tul	to chuckle or to laugh from extreme happiness
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to sneer
	The little child began to chortle when he saw the Disney characters on the screen.		
	Derivatives >>	chortler, chortled, chortling	
7.	<b>coddle</b>	KODD ul	to pamper, to treat with extreme care
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to abuse
	Mothers generally coddle their children when they are sick.		
	Derivatives >>	coddled, coddling	
8.	<b>credible</b>	KRED uh bul	reliable and believable
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> unbelievable
	It is important for a person's words to be credible.		
	Derivatives >>	credibility, credibleness, credibly	
9.	<b>encumber</b>	en CUM bur	to impede or to hinder; to hamper; to retard
	Synonyms >>	oppress, overload	Antonym >> to free
	Red tape encumbers all our attempts at action.		
	Derivatives >>	encumberingly, encumbrance, encumbrancer	
10.	<b>enthraling</b>	en THROL ing	captivating, spellbinding
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> boring
	Because the book was so enthraling, I stayed awake all night reading it.		
	Derivatives >>	enthral, enthralled, enthralingly, enthralment	
11.	<b>flaccid</b>	FLAK sid	lacking vigor or force; yielding to pressure for want of firmness and
	Synonyms >>	flabby	Antonym >> firm; stiff, not flabby
	The club was not very popular or effective because of its flaccid leadership.		
	Derivatives >>	flaccidly, flaccidity, flaccidness	

12.	<b>influx</b>	IN fluks	a flowing or coming in		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	outpouring
	Due to the humid weather, an influx of mosquitoes is expected.				
	Derivatives >>	influxion			
13.	<b>marshal</b>	MAR shul	to arrange in proper order; to usher or to lead		
	Synonyms >>	order, dispose; convoke		Antonym >>	to scatter
	Their host marshaled them into the room.				
	Derivatives >>	marshaled, marshaling, marshalcy, marshalship, marshaler			
14.	<b>perishable</b>	PER eh shuh bul	likely to decay or to spoil		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	unlikely to deteriorate
	We have to move the perishable items to a cooler place.				
	Derivatives >>	perishability, perishableness, perishably, perishing, perishless, perishment			
15.	<b>précis</b>	PRAY see, pray SEE	an abstract or summary		
	Synonyms >>	digest, condensation		Antonym >>	complete work
	We merely read a précis of the story instead of the complete work.				
	Derivatives >>				
16.	<b>pyromania</b>	pie ruh MAY nee uh	uncontrollable impulse to ignite fires		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The arson was due to pyromania rather than a deliberate attempt to collect insurance money.				
	Derivatives >>	pyromancy, pyromaniac, pyromaniacal			
17.	<b>query</b>	KWEER ee	an inquiry		
	Synonyms >>	question, ask		Antonym >>	
	It is common for an author to send a query to a magazine editor to see if he will accept a manuscript.				
	Derivatives >>	queries, queried, queryingly, queryist			
18.	<b>requite</b>	reh KWITE	to make repayment or to return		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	to withhold
	The girl suffered a broken heart from unrequited love.				
	Derivatives >>	requited, requiter, requital			
19.	<b>scythe</b>	SITHE	an instrument for cutting or mowing		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	We used a scythe to cut the exceedingly tall grasses.				
	Derivatives >>	scytheless, scythestone			
20.	<b>sphinx</b>	SFINGKS	a mysterious person or thing given to enigmatic questions or answers		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The man spoke in such riddles that he sounded like a sphinx.				
	Derivatives >>	sphingine, sphinxian, sphinx-like			
21.	<b>synchronize</b>	SING kruh nize	to make simultaneous; to operate at the same time		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	to operate at different times
	We need to synchronize our watches with the clocks in the school.				
	Derivatives >>	synchronization, synchronous, synchronizer, synchronistic, synchronistically, synchronistical			
22.	<b>travesty</b>	TRAV eh stee	any grotesque or debased likeness or imitation		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The outcome of that court ruling was a travesty of justice.				
	Derivatives >>	travesties, travestied, travestyng			
23.	<b>trek</b>	TREK	a journey (usually slow and difficult), to migrate		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The men took a short trek through the mountains.				
	Derivatives >>	trekker, trekking			
24.	<b>verve</b>	VERV	energy, enthusiasm		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	sluggishness
	The winning cheerleader squad received special commendations for expressing great verve.				
	Derivatives >>	verves			
25.	<b>winnow</b>	WIN oh	to separate or to distinguish (valuable from worthless parts)		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	The lawyer tried to winnow falsehood from truth.				
	Derivatives >>	winnowed, winnowing, winnower			

## Lesson 47

### 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.  | acerbic     | a. | sour or bitter in mood or tone        |
| _____ | 2.  | arboreal    | b. | to pamper; to treat with extreme care |
| _____ | 3.  | articulate  | c. | flabby; lacking vigor or force        |
| _____ | 4.  | befuddled   | d. | to speak distinctly                   |
| _____ | 5.  | blunderbuss | e. | reliable and believable               |
| _____ | 6.  | chortle     | f. | relating to a tree                    |
| _____ | 7.  | coddle      | g. | to impede; to hamper; to retard       |
| _____ | 8.  | credible    | h. | captivating; spell-binding            |
| _____ | 9.  | encumber    | i. | confused                              |
| _____ | 10. | enthralling | j. | a flowing or coming in                |
| _____ | 11. | flaccid     | k. | a clumsy and careless person          |
| _____ | 12. | influx      | l. | to chuckle from extreme happiness     |

### Exercise B

- |       |     |             |    |  |
|-------|-----|-------------|----|--|
| _____ | 1.  | marshal     | a. | any grotesque likeness                 |
| _____ | 2.  | perishable  | b. | instrument for cutting or mowing       |
| _____ | 3.  | précis      | c. | a journey; to mitigate                 |
| _____ | 4.  | pyromania   | d. | inquiry; question                      |
| _____ | 5.  | query       | e. | likely to decay or to spoil            |
| _____ | 6.  | requite     | f. | to make simultaneous                   |
| _____ | 7.  | scythe      | g. | to arrange in proper order             |
| _____ | 8.  | sphinx      | h. | energy; enthusiasm                     |
| _____ | 9.  | synchronize | i. | abstract; summary                      |
| _____ | 10. | travesty    | j. | to make repayment or to return         |
| _____ | 11. | trek        | k. | a mysterious, inscrutable person       |
| _____ | 12. | verve       | l. | to separate; to distinguish            |
| _____ | 13. | winnow      | m. | uncontrollable impulse to ignite fires |

# Lesson 47

## Sentence Completion



acerbic	arboreal	articulate	befuddled
blunderbuss	chortle	coddle	credible
encumber	enthraling	flaccid	influx

1. The woman began to \_\_\_\_\_ at the antics of the young man; he was trying to make her laugh by being silly.
2. The woman was such a \_\_\_\_\_ that she could not hold anything; she was always dropping things and making careless mistakes.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ animals are more likely to be found in trees where they live.
4. The police were \_\_\_\_\_ by the systematic murders, which had been deliberately planned to confuse the authorities.
5. After the king's funeral, the prince's mood became even more bitter and \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The speaker was very \_\_\_\_\_, believable for the accuracy of his word as well as for his \_\_\_\_\_ manner, which enabled him to express his opinions clearly.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of immigrants into the country was like a steady stream.
8. The skaters presented an \_\_\_\_\_ performance that held the audience spellbound captivating their attention for the duration of the show.
9. The young mother was so delighted to have a child that she had a tendency to \_\_\_\_\_ him, pampering him all the time.
10. It took only one week of paddling the canoe for her \_\_\_\_\_, flabby muscles to tone up.
11. The villain put the tree in the middle of the road in an attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ us; he wanted to impede our progress so that we couldn't catch him.

## Lesson 47



marshal	perishable	précis	pyromania	query
requite	scythe	sphinx	synchronize	travesty
trek	verve	winnow		

12. You can \_\_\_\_\_ me by your presence at the community ball; that would mean more to me than any other repayment you could offer.
13. When the electricity failed, the \_\_\_\_\_ items in the refrigerator were ruined; they soon spoiled from the exposure to the heat.
14. The two men prepared to \_\_\_\_\_ their watches so that their alarms would ring simultaneously, warning both men at the same time.
15. In the days before mechanical harvesters, a farmer used a \_\_\_\_\_ to cut his wheat by hand.
16. The mentally unstable man suffers from \_\_\_\_\_ and was captured while starting a fire in an abandoned house.
17. My \_\_\_\_\_ through the city was exceptionally slow because of all the traffic lights; they added at least an hour to my journey.
18. I can see your enthusiasm in the \_\_\_\_\_ that you exhibit in all your actions.
19. As the lawyer sought permission to \_\_\_\_\_ the witness in private, the jury began to wonder just what he intended to ask.
20. The kindergarten teacher began to \_\_\_\_\_ the young students into the classroom, leading them in single file and arranging them in alphabetical order.
21. The professor brought a \_\_\_\_\_ of the story to class for the students to read; he felt that a summary was sufficient, and they wouldn't need to read the complete work.
22. In the fairy tale, the man was confronted by a \_\_\_\_\_ who asked him all sorts of mysterious questions that he couldn't understand.
23. The man's attempt to pretend that he was in love was a \_\_\_\_\_; he did a very poor job of imitating those emotions.
24. The woman began to \_\_\_\_\_ the clothes she would give away, putting the usable ones in one pile and the outgrown ones in the other.