

The refusal of labor and management to modify their demands
_____ the contract negotiations.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) standoff, stalemate, impasse
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) agreement, accord, breakthrough

8. debris
(də brē')

(*n.*) scattered fragments, wreckage

After the storm, the beach was littered with driftwood and
other _____.

SYNONYMS: rubble, detritus, flotsam and jetsam

9. diffuse
(v., dif yūz';
adj., dif yūs')

(*v.*) to spread or scatter freely or widely; (*adj.*) wordy, long-
winded, or unfocused; scattered or widely spread

The scent of lilacs slowly _____
through the open window.

The speech was so long and _____ that
most members of the audience were thoroughly confused by it.

SYNONYMS: (*v.*) disperse; (*adj.*) rambling, verbose, prolix
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) concentrate; (*adj.*) brief, concise, succinct

10. dilemma
(di lem' ə)

(*n.*) a difficult or perplexing situation or problem

During the crisis the President found himself caught in a
painful _____.

SYNONYMS: predicament, quandary, pickle, bind
ANTONYM: cinch

11. efface
(e fās')

(*v.*) to wipe out; to keep oneself from being noticed

Time had _____ almost all signs of
the struggle that took place on that famous battlefield.

SYNONYMS: blot out, erase, obliterate, expunge

12. muddle
(məd' əl)

(*v.*) to make a mess of; *muddle through*: to get by; (*n.*) a
hopeless mess

Too much stress and too little sleep will almost certainly
_____ a person's ability to concentrate.

The _____ was principally caused
by their failure to carry out the general's orders properly.

SYNONYMS: (*v.*) jumble, mess up; (*n.*) confusion, disorder
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) orderliness, tidiness, neatness

13. opinionated
(ə pin' yən āt id)

(*adj.*) stubborn and often unreasonable in holding to one's own
ideas, having a closed mind.

My boss is not too _____ to listen to
a reasonable proposal.

SYNONYMS: obstinate, pigheaded, inflexible
ANTONYMS: open-minded, reasonable

14. perennial
(pə ren' ē əl)

(*adj.*) lasting for a long time, persistent; (*n.*) a plant that lives for
many years

Pizza is a _____ favorite of young
and old alike in the United States.

A garden of _____ is relatively
easy to maintain.

SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) enduring, recurring
ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) brief, short-lived, fleeting, ephemeral

15. predispose
(prē dis pōz')

(*v.*) to incline to beforehand

My genetic makeup seems to _____
me to colds and sore throats.

SYNONYM: make susceptible to
ANTONYMS: immunize against, shield from

16. relinquish
(rē liŋ' kwish)

(*v.*) to let go, give up

Severe illness forced me to _____
my role in the school play.

SYNONYMS: surrender, abandon
ANTONYMS: hold on to, keep, retain, cling to

17. salvage
(sal' vij)

(*v.*) to save from fire or shipwreck; (*n.*) property thus saved

Fortunately, we were able to _____
a few things from the fire.

_____ from sunken ships can be
of great value to archaeologists and historians.

SYNONYMS: (*v.*) rescue, recover, retrieve, reclaim
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) abandon, scrap, junk

18. spasmodic
(spaz mäd' ik)

(*adj.*) sudden and violent but brief; fitful; intermittent

_____ flashes of lightning and
booming thunderclaps were accompanied by torrential rain.

SYNONYMS: irregular, occasional
ANTONYMS: steady, continuous, chronic

19. spurious
(spyū' rē əs)

(*adj.*) not genuine, not true, not valid

Manufacturers who make _____
claims for their products may face fines or lawsuits.

SYNONYMS: false, counterfeit, fraudulent, bogus
ANTONYMS: genuine, authentic, bona fide, valid

20. unbridled
(ən brīd' əld)

(*adj.*) uncontrolled, lacking in restraint

Sometimes the _____ enthusiasm
of sports fans can get a little out of hand.

SYNONYMS: unrestrained, unchecked
ANTONYMS: restrained, held in check, muted


Definitions

Note carefully the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the word in the blank space(s) in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms given at the end of each entry.

1. admonish
(ad män' ish)

(v.) to caution or advise against something; to scold mildly; to remind of a duty

The librarian had to _____ the noisy students several times before they settled down.

SYNONYMS: warn, call on the carpet

ANTONYMS: praise, pat on the back

2. breach
(brēch)

(n.) an opening, gap, rupture, rift; a violation or infraction; (v.) to create an opening, break through

Because of a serious _____ of the rules, two players were ejected from the game.

Our troops were unable to _____ the enemy's lines during the battle.

ANTONYMS: (v.) close, seal

3. brigand
(brig' ənd)

(n.) a bandit, robber, outlaw, highwayman

Ancient caravans passing through desolate areas were sometimes attacked by _____.

4. circumspect
(sər' kəm spekt)

(adj.) careful, cautious

It is important for a diplomat to behave in a manner that is both discreet and _____.

SYNONYMS: wary, prudent, guarded

ANTONYMS: incautious, rash, reckless, heedless

5. commandeer
(käm ən dēr')

(v.) to seize for military or official use

Under certain circumstances the U.S. government has the right to _____ private property.

SYNONYMS: take over, requisition, expropriate

6. cumbersome
(kəm' bər səm)

(adj.) clumsy, hard to handle; slow-moving

The bus was filled to capacity with holiday shoppers carrying large and _____ packages.

SYNONYMS: unwieldy, ponderous

ANTONYMS: manageable, easy to handle

7. deadlock
(ded' läk)

(n.) a standstill resulting from the opposition of two equal forces or factions; (v.) to bring to such a standstill

After fifteen innings, the score remained a frustrating 3-to-3 _____.