


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.

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(Line)

1. assurance
(ə shūr' əns)

(n.) a pledge; freedom from doubt, self-confidence

The airport was built with the _____
that all the people displaced by its construction would be
fairly compensated.

SYNONYMS: promise, sureness, poise, self-possession
ANTONYMS: uncertainty, doubt, insecurity

(5)

2. asylum
(ə sī' ləm)

(n.) an institution for the care of children, elderly people, etc.; a place of safety

Some refugees are political fugitives who have fled their
homeland to seek _____ in
another country.

SYNONYMS: sanatorium, sanctuary, refuge

(10)

3. console
(v., kən sōl';
n., kən' sōl)

(v.) to comfort; (n.) the keyboard of an organ; a control panel for an electrical or mechanical device

A neighbor tried to _____ the
sobbing child whose cat had wandered away.

The _____ of the large church
organ had an assortment of keys, knobs, and pedals.

SYNONYMS: (v.) soothe, solace, alleviate
ANTONYMS: (v.) distress, aggravate, bother, vex, torment

(15)

(20)

4. dilate
(dī' lāt)

(v.) to make or become larger or wider; to expand upon

The ophthalmologist said she would _____
the pupil before examining the injured eye.

SYNONYMS: enlarge, expand, swell, prolong
ANTONYMS: contract, compress, constrict

(25)

5. dross
(drôs)

(n.) refuse, waste products

The _____ from the manufacturing
process turned out to be highly toxic.

SYNONYMS: rubbish, trash, detritus, dregs, scum

(30)

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6. dwindle
(dwin' dəl)

(v.) to lessen, diminish

During the coldest weeks of winter, the pile of firewood
slowly _____ until there were no
logs left.

SYNONYMS: decrease, shrink, fade, peter out
ANTONYMS: increase, enlarge, swell, proliferate

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- 7. flippant**
(flip' ənt)
(*adj.*) lacking in seriousness; disrespectful, saucy
Parents and other adults are often upset by a teenager's _____ responses.
SYNONYMS: frivolous, impudent, impertinent, insolent
ANTONYMS: serious, respectful, deferential, obsequious
- 8. immunity**
(i myü' nə tē)
(*n.*) resistance to disease; freedom from some charge or obligation
Most babies are vaccinated so that they develop an _____ to measles.
SYNONYMS: exemption, impunity
ANTONYMS: vulnerability, susceptibility, exposure
- 9. institute**
(in' stə tü)
(*v.*) to establish, set up; (*n.*) an organization for the promotion of learning
Congress has been reluctant to _____ new guidelines for campaign spending.
After graduating from high school, I plan to attend an accredited _____ of technology.
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) found, bring about; (*n.*) academy
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) terminate, discontinue, demolish, raze
- 10. liability**
(lī ə bil' ə tē)
(*n.*) a debt; something disadvantageous
A limited attention span is his biggest _____ as a student.
SYNONYMS: handicap, difficulty, impediment, drawback
ANTONYMS: advantage, asset
- 11. preposterous**
(prē päs' tər əs)
(*adj.*) ridiculous, senseless
The theory that Stonehenge was constructed by alien life-forms is utterly _____.
SYNONYMS: nonsensical, absurd, incredible
ANTONYMS: sensible, reasonable, realistic, plausible
- 12. pugnacious**
(pəg nā' shəs)
(*adj.*) quarrelsome, fond of fighting
The fox terrier is a particularly _____ breed of dog known for its aggressive behavior.
SYNONYMS: argumentative, combative, belligerent
ANTONYMS: peace-loving, friendly, amicable, congenial
- 13. rabid**
(rab' id)
(*adj.*) furious, violently intense, unreasonably extreme; mad; infected with rabies
Police arrived in force to quell the riot set off by _____ soccer fans.
SYNONYMS: fanatical, zealous, raving, infuriated, berserk
ANTONYMS: moderate, restrained, blasé, indifferent
- 14. realm**
(relm)
(*n.*) a kingdom; a region or field of study
While astronomy falls within the _____ of science, astrology does not.
SYNONYMS: domain, duchy, bailiwick, jurisdiction
- 15. rejuvenate**
(ri jü' və nāt)
(*v.*) to make young again; to make like new
A few minutes of conversation with my best friend helped to _____ my flagging spirits.
SYNONYMS: revitalize, renew
ANTONYMS: wear out, exhaust, enervate, debilitate
- 16. remunerate**
(ri myü' nə rāt)
(*v.*) to reward, pay, reimburse
The couple promised to _____ the artist handsomely for a portrait of their child.
SYNONYMS: compensate, satisfy, profit, benefit
- 17. sparse**
(spärs)
(*adj.*) meager, scant; scattered
Unlike its neighboring metropolis, the area has quite a _____ population.
SYNONYMS: thin, scanty, few and far between
ANTONYMS: plentiful, abundant, profuse, teeming
- 18. sterling**
(stär' lin)
(*adj.*) genuine, excellent; made of silver of standard fineness
The reviewer noted the young actor's _____ performance in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.
SYNONYMS: first-rate, outstanding, worthy, pure
ANTONYMS: mediocre, shoddy, second-rate, sham
- 19. venture**
(ven' chər)
(*n.*) a risky or daring undertaking; (*v.*) to expose to danger; to dare
An overseas voyage was a daunting _____ during the age of exploration.
It takes courage to _____ out into unknown territory.
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) gamble; (*v.*) try, chance, undertake
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) withdraw, retire, shrink from, shy away
- 20. warp**
(wōrp)
(*v.*) to twist out of shape; (*n.*) an abnormality
The carpenter explained that humidity caused the kitchen door to _____.
Criminal behavior often shows a striking lack of judgment or a _____ in thinking.
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) bend, distort, misshape; (*n.*) irregularity
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) straighten, unbend, rectify