

Lesson 44

Definitions



1.	abrasive	uh BRAY siv	harsh, causing irritation, rough
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> kind; soothing
	His mother was disturbed by his rude and abrasive behavior.		
	Derivatives >>	abrasion	
2.	appease	uh PEES	to pacify, to be conciliatory in a manner that sacrifices principles
	Synonyms >>	conciliate, mollify, placate, propitiate	Antonym >> to incense
	The woman tried to appease her husband when he became so angry.		
	Derivatives >>	appeased, appeasing, appeasement, appeasable, appeaser	
3.	bewail	buh WALE	to deplore, to express deep sorrow
	Synonyms >>	bemoan, lament	Antonym >> to rejoice in
	He bewailed the passing of his grandfather whom he loved and admired.		
	Derivatives >>	bewailed, bewailing	
4.	cleft	CLEFT	a space or opening made by cleavage, a split
	Synonyms >>	fissure, crevice, crack, rift, cranny, chasm, crevasse	Antonym >>
	The cleft in the mountain side was so great that it could not be crossed.		
	Derivatives >>		
5.	countermand	koun ter MAND	to revoke, to cancel, or to reverse
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to approve; to validate
	When the President awoke from surgery, he countermanded some orders issued by the Vice President.		
	Derivatives >>	countermandable, countermanded, countermanding	
6.	defraud	deh FRAWD	to deal with deceptively
	Synonyms >>	cozen, swindle	Antonym >> to deal with honestly
	Some defense contractors have defrauded the government out of millions of dollars.		
	Derivatives >>	defrauded, defrauding, defraudation, defraudment	
7.	disavowal	dis uh VOW ul	denial
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> acknowledgment
	His disavowal of the charges against him made the jury wonder if he was really guilty.		
	Derivatives >>	disavow	
8.	eclipse	eh KLIPS	to cast a shadow upon; to darken; to make dim or obscure by comparison
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to make prominent or obvious
	President Bush's successes in foreign policy were eclipsed by domestic failures in the public eye.		
	Derivatives >>	eclipsed, eclipsing, ecliptic, ecliptically, ecliptical	
9.	ellipsis	eh LIP sis	omission of words necessary for complete construction
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	If (it is) possible, (you) come early.		
	Derivatives >>	ellipses	
10.	fussbudget	FUS buj it	one who fusses
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> a serene person; a pacifist
	My sister is earning a reputation as a fussbudget because she constantly complains.		
	Derivatives >>	fussbudgety	
11.	idolatry	eye DOLL uh tree	worship of idols, excessive devotion
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> irreverence; indifference
	The idolatry of rock stars by some teenagers can be dangerous.		
	Derivatives >>	idolatrous, idolatry, idolatrously, idolatrousness, idolater	

12.	malicious	muh LISH us	motivated by hate or deliberate intent to harm
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> kind
	The malicious boy burned down the school.		
	Derivatives >>	maliciousness, malice, maliciously, malicious	
13.	mote	MOTE	a particle or speck of dust
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	A single mote with radioactive properties can have a cancerous effect on humans.		
	Derivatives >>		
14.	optimum	OP tuh mum	most favorable, best or greatest degree attainable
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> least favorable
	The operation must be performed under optimum conditions.		
	Derivatives >>	optima, optimums, optimize, optimization, optimity	
15.	personification	pur son uh fuh KAY	attribution of personal qualities
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Through the personification in the poem the trees seem to be human.		
	Derivatives >>	personify, personificative, personificator, personifier	
16.	pertinacity	pur tuh NAS eh tee	stubborn persistence or act of refusing to yield on an opinion or belief
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> vacillation
	Because of his pertinacity, the fighter was able to go the entire twelve rounds and win the fight.		
	Derivatives >>	pertinacious, pertinaciously, pertinaciousness	
17.	prate	PRATE	to talk idly or foolishly at great length
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to speak about serious matters
	We want a speaker who will talk of important issues, not one who will prate about himself.		
	Derivatives >>	prater, prated, prating	
18.	precept	PREE sept	a rule guiding conduct or imposing a standard
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	A favorite precept by which many people live is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."		
	Derivatives >>	preceptist, preceptive	
19.	repulse	reh PULSE	to repel or to rebuff (usually with rudeness)
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to impress
	His offensive language repulsed the girl; it did not impress her.		
	Derivatives >>	repulsive, repulsion, repulsively, repulsiveness	
20.	scribe	SKRIBE	a journalist, a public secretary or clerk
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Sportswriters are often referred to as scribes.		
	Derivatives >>	scribal	
21.	sophistry	SOF eh stree	practice of intentionally misleading arguments that seem to be plausible
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Arguing that the Bible supports segregation is sophistry.		
	Derivatives >>	sophists, sophistical, sophist, sophister, sophistic, sophistically, sophisticalness	
22.	supplication	sup luh KAY shun	begging, humbly asking for a favor
	Synonyms >>	adjuration, beseechment, entreaty, imploration, importunity	Antonym >>
	I am going to see the Governor to make a supplication for a pardon for my brother.		
	Derivatives >>	supplicate, supplicatingly, supplicator, supplicatory	
23.	traducer	truh DOOS ur	one who slanders or speaks falsely about someone
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> one who praises or extols
	After hearing the gossip, the woman confronted the traducer face to face to stop the vicious slander.		
	Derivatives >>	traduce, traducement, traduction	
24.	venturesome	VEN chur sum	being bold and taking risks
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> cautious
	Columbus was venturesome in seeking to find India by sailing west.		
	Derivatives >>	venturesomely, venturesomeness, venture	
25.	waylay	WAY lay	to ambush or to attack unexpectedly
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The police tried to waylay the criminal.		
	Derivatives >>	waylaid, waylaying, waylays	

Lesson 44

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. abrasive | a. a space; a split |
| _____ | 2. appease | b. one who fusses |
| _____ | 3. bewail | c. to deceive |
| _____ | 4. cleft | d. omission of words |
| _____ | 5. countermand | e. harsh; causing irritation |
| _____ | 6. defraud | f. motivated by hate |
| _____ | 7. disavowal | g. to deplore; to express deep sorrow |
| _____ | 8. eclipse | h. excessive devotion |
| _____ | 9. ellipsis | i. to pacify |
| _____ | 10. fustigate | j. to revoke, cancel, or reverse |
| _____ | 11. idolatry | k. denial |
| _____ | 12. malicious | l. to cast a shadow; to darken |

Exercise B

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------|--|
| _____ | 1. mote | a. to talk idly or foolishly at length |
| _____ | 2. optimum | b. to ambush or attack unexpectedly |
| _____ | 3. personification | c. a particle or speck of dust |
| _____ | 4. pertinacity | d. the use of misleading arguments |
| _____ | 5. prate | e. to repel or rebuff |
| _____ | 6. precept | f. most favorable condition |
| _____ | 7. repulse | g. entreaty; asking for a favor |
| _____ | 8. scribe | h. being bold and taking risks |
| _____ | 9. sophistry | i. one who slanders |
| _____ | 10. supplication | j. attribution of personal qualities |
| _____ | 11. traducer | k. persistence; determination |
| _____ | 12. venturesome | l. journalist; public secretary |
| _____ | 13. waylay | m. a rule for guiding conduct |

Lesson 44

Sentence Completion



abrasive	appease	bewailed	cleft
countermand	defrauded	disavowal	eclipse
ellipsis	fussbudget	idolatry	mote

1. The suspect's incessant _____ of the theft charge made him seem even more guilty, but he continued to deny his connection to the crime.
2. Nothing could _____ the woman since she had been _____ by the company; she had been cheated out of her savings and could now face destitution and homelessness.
3. The man was cold and _____ in his treatment of the woman; consequently, she avoided his harsh words and irritation manner.
4. The sentence actually sounded more sophisticated with the _____, but for some readers it was hard to understand with some of the words missing.
5. Her eye began to water profusely when a _____ flew into it; it is interesting how a mere speck of dust can cause such irritation to a sensitive part of our bodies.
6. The lack of a leader brought the countrymen much distress; they had become almost totally dependent on their general, whose death they _____.
7. The primitive tribe had a simple kind of _____ in which they worshipped various statues of gods.
8. Janice is such a _____ that she will complain about anything and everything.
9. As soon as the leader was freed from the rebels, he began to _____ several of the orders of his enemy; he canceled them as quickly as possible.
10. The most difficult part of the climb was trying to cross a _____ in the mountain; the fissure was so wide that we had to build a bridge.
11. The man's foul language and rude behavior could _____ all the nice things he has done for others; people are likely to let the bad things cast a shadow upon the good ones.

Lesson 44



malicious	optimum	personification	pertinacity	prate
precept	repulse	scribe	sophistry	supplication
traded	venturesome	waylay		

12. The man was cruel and _____, seeming not to care at all whom he hurt; certainly his malevolence would one day return to him.
13. The _____ of the trees in the poem was not original; they were brought to life, whispering and speaking as in many other previous poems.
14. The _____ of this course, its guiding rule, is that you must learn your vocabulary words.
15. The small community lifted their humble voices in _____ to beg God to send rain for their crops.
16. Boldly taking risks, Indiana Jones is a most _____ character.
17. In order for this experiment to work, we must have an _____ environment; if we do not have the most favorable conditions, we cannot assure its success.
18. Belching at dinner is sure to _____ your new girlfriend; hopefully she won't be so repelled that she refuses to come to your house again.
19. The robbers set up an ambush to _____ unsuspecting travelers.
20. We found out that the politician had _____ his opponent by making false accusations against him.
21. We were deceived by the _____ of the con man; his approach seemed so plausible that we never considered that he was actually trying to mislead us.
22. The testimony in court was recorded by a public secretary; a _____ is a necessary part of the staff because written court records are very important.
23. As soon as the woman reached the lectern, she began to _____, and I knew we were in for an hour-long session of insignificant chatter.
24. I was surprised at his _____; he stubbornly refused to yield his position on the issue.

