

Lesson 51

Definitions



1.	advocacy	AD vuh kuh see	support of an idea or cause		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	opposition
	The nominee's advocacy of higher taxes may have cost him the election.				
	Derivatives >>	advocate, advocator, advocatory, advocated, advocating			
2.	artful	ART ful	skillful, clever, tricky		
	Synonyms >>	crafty, cunning, foxy, sly		Antonym >>	guileless
	The President was artful in negotiating the arms deal.				
	Derivatives >>	artfully, artfulness			
3.	askew	uh SKEW	out of line, slanted		
	Synonyms >>	crooked		Antonym >>	straight
	Please straighten any pictures that are hanging askew.				
	Derivatives >>				
4.	bucolic	byoo KOL ik	rustic, rural, unsophisticated; pastoral		
	Synonyms >>	georgic		Antonym >>	urban; sophisticated
	He yearned for a simple, bucolic life.				
	Derivatives >>	bucolical, bucolically			
5.	chaste	CHASTE	morally pure		
	Synonyms >>	pure, modest, decent		Antonym >>	immoral, tainted
	The king insisted that the woman who would become his wife be chaste.				
	Derivatives >>	chastely, chasteness, chastity			
6.	compost	KOM post	a composition of largely decaying matter used as fertilizer		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	A compost plant produces fertilizer from garbage.				
	Derivatives >>	composts			
7.	curmudgeon	kur MUJ un	a surly, ill-mannered person; a grumpy person -- usually an old man		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	placid person
	Grandpa, being dissatisfied with everything, has become a curmudgeon.				
	Derivatives >>	curmudgeonly			
8.	disrepute	dis reh PYOOT	disgrace, loss of reputation		
	Synonyms >>	ignominy, infamy		Antonym >>	esteem; dignity
	If he does not win the perjury case, he will be held in disrepute.				
	Derivatives >>	disreputability, disreputable, disreputably			
9.	foliated	FOE lee ay tid	split into thin layers		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	Graphite has a foliated structure.				
	Derivatives >>	foliate, foliation			
10.	hydrophobia	high druh FOE bee uh	fear of water		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	
	He never learned to swim because of his hydrophobia.				
	Derivatives >>	hydrophobic, hydrophobicity, hydrophobous			
11.	junta	HOON tuh	a group of people who join in running a government (after a revolution)		
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>	patriots
	In the early 1980s, Argentina was governed by a military junta composed of generals.				
	Derivatives >>	juntas, junto			

12.	latitude	LAT eh tood	freedom of action or opinion
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> lack of freedom
	College students are given much latitude in the selection of their courses.		
	Derivatives >>	latitudinal, latitudinally, latitudinarian	
13.	malediction	mal eh DIK shun	curse
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> blessing
	He uttered maledictions at his torturers.		
	Derivatives >>	maledictive, maledictory	
14.	nadir	NA dur	the lowest point
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> highest point
	The rejection of our proposal was the nadir of our hopes.		
	Derivatives >>	nadiral	
15.	palpable	PAL puh bul	tangible, perceptible, easily noticeable
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	I do not see how I overlooked such a palpable miscalculation.		
	Derivatives >>	palpability, palpably, palpableness	
16.	phoenix	FEE niks	person of unmatched beauty; something rising from apparent destruction
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Like a phoenix, he was able to recover from bankruptcy and become a millionaire again.		
	Derivatives >>	phoenixity	
17.	pillage	PILL ij	to rob or to take by force, to plunder (especially in a war situation)
	Synonyms >>	despoil, devastate, ravage, sack, waste	Antonym >>
	In World War II, the Germans pillaged the Russians, and then the Russians pillaged the Germans.		
	Derivatives >>	pillager, pillaged, pillaging	
18.	prepossessing	pree puh ZES ing	pleasing or creating a favorable impression
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Shirley Temple was a popular child actress because of her prepossessing personality.		
	Derivatives >>	prepossess, prepossessingly, prepossession, prepossessionary	
19.	rabid	RAB id	raging, furious, fanatical
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> calm
	Philadelphia is known for its rabid sports fans.		
	Derivatives >>	rabid, rabidity, rabidly, rabidness, rabies, rabiform, rabious	
20.	sedulously	SEJ uh lus lee	very diligent, accomplishing with painstaking care
	Synonyms >>	assiduous, industrious	Antonym >> haphazardly
	It is very heartwarming when I can get a student to sedulously complete an assignment.		
	Derivatives >>	sedulous, sedulity, sedulousness	
21.	stark	STARK	harsh, grim, or desolate; extremely simple or severe
	Synonyms >>	dreary	Antonym >> luxuriant
	The stark landscape gave an ominous feeling.		
	Derivatives >>	starkly, starkness	
22.	tangible	TAN juh bul	capable of being touched; real or actual rather than imaginary
	Synonyms >>	palpable, corporeal; certain, genuine	Antonym >> imaginary; not able to be touched
	The man had no tangible assets such as a home or a car, but he had much to offer in terms of personality.		
	Derivatives >>	tangibility, tangibleness, tangibly	
23.	unassailable	un uh SALE uh bul	undisputable, not able to be attacked with success
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> disputable
	The arguments of the lawyer were unassailable; consequently, he won the case.		
	Derivatives >>	unassailably, unassailableness, unassailed	
24.	vile	VILE	wretchedly bad; highly offensive, unpleasant or objectionable
	Synonyms >>	repellent, mean, vicious, evil, iniquitous	Antonym >> good, elevated
	The politician fell victim to vile slander from his opponent.		
	Derivatives >>	viler, vilest, vilely, vileness	
25.	witticism	WIT eh siz um	a clever and witty remark
	Synonyms >>	pun	Antonym >> platitude
	The speaker's witticism will be remembered long after he is gone.		
	Derivatives >>	witty	

Lesson 51

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. | advocacy | a. | composition of decaying matter |
| _____ | 2. | artful | b. | rustic; rural; unsophisticated |
| _____ | 3. | askew | c. | disgrace; loss of reputation |
| _____ | 4. | bucolic | d. | fear of water |
| _____ | 5. | chaste | e. | a grumpy and ill-mannered person |
| _____ | 6. | compost | f. | skillful; clever; tricky |
| _____ | 7. | curmudgeon | g. | split into thin layers |
| _____ | 8. | disrepute | h. | out of line; slanted |
| _____ | 9. | foliated | i. | morally pure |
| _____ | 10. | hydrophobia | j. | tangible; perceptible |
| _____ | 11. | junta | k. | support of an idea or cause |
| _____ | 12. | palpable | l. | people joined in running a government |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|---------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | latitude | a. | very diligently |
| _____ | 2. | malediction | b. | capable of being touched |
| _____ | 3. | nadir | c. | to rob or to take by force |
| _____ | 4. | phoenix | d. | a curse |
| _____ | 5. | pillage | e. | raging; furious; fanatical |
| _____ | 6. | prepossessing | f. | lowest point |
| _____ | 7. | rabid | g. | indisputable |
| _____ | 8. | sedulously | h. | person of unmatched beauty |
| _____ | 9. | stark | i. | wretchedly bad; offensive |
| _____ | 10. | tangible | j. | desolate; extremely severe |
| _____ | 11. | unassailable | k. | a clever and witty remark |
| _____ | 12. | vile | l. | freedom of action or opinion |
| _____ | 13. | witticism | m. | pleasing; creating a good impression |

Lesson 51

Sentence Completion



advocacy	artful	askew	chaste
compost	curmudgeon	disrepute	foliated
hydrophobia	junta	latitude	witticisms

1. We were afraid the demarcation lines were _____, but we realized that even if they were slanted, they would still mark a boundary between the two sections of land.
2. With his increasing power, the governor found a greater _____ and freedom to act.
3. The military _____ took over the rule of the small island soon after the revolution.
4. The reputation of a _____ person is unlikely to fall into _____; someone who remains morally pure does not generally lose his good name.
5. Decaying leaves and bark make excellent _____ for future gardening needs.
6. The old _____ was always grumpy and ill-mannered when he spoke to other people.
7. The _____ plant had so many leaves that only rarely did sunshine reach the earth beneath it.
8. Most cats have a natural _____ that makes them terrified of water.
9. The comedian's _____ were so skilled and _____ that even those people being ridiculed in his jokes laughed with him.
10. His _____ of the right of free speech is shown by his support of the First Amendment.

Lesson 51



bucolic	malediction	nadir	palpable	phoenix
pillaging	prepossessing	rabid	sedulously	stark
tangible	unassailable	vile		

11. When we went into the country, we were enchanted by the _____ setting; there were trees, rivers and pastures of green grass all around us.
12. The followers of the fanatical cult were _____ believers of the new teachings.
13. He was embarrassed by the _____ error in his calculations; it was so obvious and easily perceived by everyone else that it made him look pretty silly.
14. The witch uttered one last _____ at her accusers before they hanged her; the curse that she spoke did, in fact, come true in later years.
15. The king's claim that his fortress was _____ was proven false when the bands of cutthroats conquered it, robbing and _____ the place.
16. In mythology the legend of the _____ is a story of a beautiful bird resurrected from destruction; thus anything today of unmatched beauty, rising from destruction, I called by that name.
17. The man _____ set out to tend the garden and to bring back to life what had withered away. His diligence and painstaking care would eventually pay off.
18. It was a pleasure to meet someone so polite and courteous, someone who had such a _____ personality.
19. The man had reached the _____ of degradation; in such a few short months, he had fallen to the lowest point of depravity.
20. They were confronted with the _____ reality of poverty when the father left; the harsh winters ahead painted a grim picture of their future.
21. If I am going to loan you the money, I want something _____ as collateral, something I can touch in case you default.
22. We were not impressed by the man's _____ language; it was offensive, unpleasant and objectionable.