

Lesson 52

Definitions



1.	asperity	uh SPARE uh tee	sharpness (as in temper); harshness
	Synonyms >>	severity, raucousness	Antonym >>
	These remarks spoken with asperity stung the boys to whom they were directed.		
	Derivatives >>	asperities	
2.	buffeted	BUFF et id	struck repeatedly, battered
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> assuaged; soothed
	The winds buffeted the seamen all last night.		
	Derivatives >>	buffet, buffeting, buffeter, buffets	
3.	compunction	kum PUNGK shun	remorse, distress or anxiety over an anticipated action
	Synonyms >>	contrition, penitence	Antonym >>
	If you do not stop taking drugs, I will have no compunction about kicking you out of the house.		
	Derivatives >>	compunctionless, compunctious, compunctiously	
4.	cutlery	KUT luh ree	cutting instruments
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The salesman gave the woman a set of cutlery just for listening to his sales pitch.		
	Derivatives >>	cutler, cutleries	
5.	distant	DIS tunt	chilly in manner
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> cordial
	Her distant behavior made it difficult to talk to the woman; her chilly manner bordered on being rude.		
	Derivatives >>	distantly, distantness	
6.	dowager	DOW uh jur	a widow who holds a title from her husband, an elderly woman of society
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	That little resort town is a favorite place of many wealthy dowagers.		
	Derivatives >>	dowagers	
7.	entrench	en TRENCH	to fix firmly; to encroach
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to disestablish
	These formulas should be firmly entrenched in your mind before the test.		
	Derivatives >>	entrenched, entrenchment	
8.	glacial	GLAY shul	extremely cold or frigid
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> hot
	The men were nearly frozen by the glacial wind blowing so relentlessly on them.		
	Derivatives >>	glacially, glaciare, glaciation	
9.	improvidence	im PROV eh dunz	not providing for the future, not thrifty
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> foresight
	The improvidence of immediately spending one's paycheck could be costly in an emergency.		
	Derivatives >>	improvident, improvidently, improvidentially	
10.	intransigent	in TRAN seh junt	refusing to compromise
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> compromising; agreeable
	Since both labor and management are intransigent on the issue of profit-sharing, there will be a strike.		
	Derivatives >>	intransigence, intransigency, intransigentism, intransigently	
11.	leaven	LEV un	to introduce something that spreads throughout and modifies or enlivens
	Synonyms >>	infuse	Antonym >>
	The professor leavened his lecture with humorous anecdotes.		
	Derivatives >>	leavenless, leavening, leavened	

12.	matriculate	muh TRIK yuh late	to enroll or to admit to membership by enrolling, esp. in a college
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	Though it took hours for the enrollment process, this young man has finally been matriculated.		
	Derivatives >>	matriculated, matriculating, matriculation, matriculator	
13.	methodical	muh THOD eh kul	proceeding in a regular or systematic order
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> haphazard
	The surgeon was very methodical in delivering the baby.		
	Derivatives >>	methodically, methodicalness	
14.	narcissistic	nar seh SIS tik	excessively loving oneself
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	"Stuck on herself" is a colloquial term meaning narcissistic. The narcissistic boy cared for no one but himself.		
	Derivatives >>	narcissism, narciss, narcissist, narcissistically	
15.	panache	puh NASH	a grand or flamboyant manner; verve; style; flare
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> drabness
	The actor who plays that role must have panache.		
	Derivatives >>		
16.	picayune	pik ee YOON	something of very small value, petty
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> significant
	The judge grew tired of the lawyer's picayune objections.		
	Derivatives >>	picayunish	
17.	prescient	PREE she unt	knowledge of events before they happen, foresight
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> unaware
	He was led to his success in his experiment by some extraordinary prescient.		
	Derivatives >>	prescience, presciently	
18.	rail at	RAIL at	to condemn or to attack with abusive language
	Synonyms >>	berate, revile, upbraid, vituperation	Antonym >> to compliment
	Texas Congressmen will rail at any attempt to pass a bill that would be detrimental to the oil industry.		
	Derivatives >>	railed, railing	
19.	retrospection	re truh SPEK shun	a looking back or contemplation of the past
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	A retrospection of his life will reveal that he always worked hard and tried to live by the Golden Rule.		
	Derivatives >>	retrospect, retrospect, retrospectively	
20.	reverie	REV uh ree	daydreaming
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> attentiveness
	Spring seems to lend itself to reverie.		
	Derivatives >>	reveries, reverist	
21.	seethe	SEETH	to boil , to be agitated
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to be at peace
	The nation seethed with anger when the terrorists took the men as hostages.		
	Derivatives >>	seething, seethingly	
22.	stately	STATE lee	dignified, majestic
	Synonyms >>	grand, grandiose, imposing, magnificent	Antonym >> humble
	The general's funeral procession was stately as it wound through the streets of the city.		
	Derivatives >>	stateliness, statlier, statelily	
23.	unctuous	UN GK choo us	characterized by excessive piousness or moralistic fervor
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The unctuous young man was determined to become a monk.		
	Derivatives >>	unctuosity, unctuousness, unctuously	
24.	vim	VIM	great vitality and energy
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> lethargy
	Although he is ninety years old, he still has much vim and vigor.		
	Derivatives >>	vims	
25.	wooden	WOOD un	stiff, clumsy
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> graceful
	The dancer's wooden movements quickly eliminated her from the troupe.		
	Derivatives >>		

Lesson 52

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

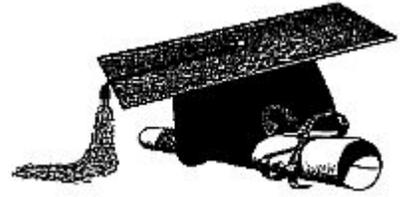
- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|--------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | asperity | a. | refusing to compromise |
| _____ | 2. | buffeted | b. | chilly in manner |
| _____ | 3. | compunction | c. | cutting instruments |
| _____ | 4. | cutlery | d. | sharpness in temper; harshness |
| _____ | 5. | distant | e. | failure to provide for the future |
| _____ | 6. | dowager | f. | to infuse; to introduce something |
| _____ | 7. | entrench | g. | struck repeatedly; battered |
| _____ | 8. | glacial | h. | to fix firmly; to encroach |
| _____ | 9. | improvidence | i. | extremely cold or frigid |
| _____ | 10. | intransigent | j. | anxiety over anticipated action |
| _____ | 11. | leaven | k. | elderly woman of society |
| _____ | 12. | matriculate | l. | to enroll or admit for membership |

Exercise B

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|-------|-----|---------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. | methodical | a. | proceeding in a systematic order |
| _____ | 2. | narcissistic | b. | something of very small value |
| _____ | 3. | panache | c. | to boil; to be agitated |
| _____ | 4. | picayune | d. | great vitality and energy |
| _____ | 5. | prescient | e. | daydreaming |
| _____ | 6. | rail at | f. | egocentric; obsessed with self-love |
| _____ | 7. | retrospection | g. | characterized by moralistic fervor |
| _____ | 8. | reverie | h. | grand, flamboyant manner |
| _____ | 9. | seethe | i. | a looking back at the past |
| _____ | 10. | stately | j. | stiff; clumsy |
| _____ | 11. | unctuous | k. | having foresight or prior knowledge |
| _____ | 12. | vim | l. | dignified; majestic |
| _____ | 13. | wooden | m. | to attack with abusive language |

Lesson 52

Sentence Completion



asperity	buffeted	compunction	cutlery
distant	dowager	entrench	glacial
improvidence	intransigent	leavened	rail at

1. Had I been more farsighted, I would have set aside some money to provide for the future; instead, I am constantly reminded of my _____ as I struggle to survive.
2. The _____ members of the committee have effectively stopped all progress simply because of their refusal to compromise.
3. The man was so occupied with his work that he seemed to be _____ to the rest of the workers; he was not trying to be chilly toward them but was simply preoccupied.
4. The elderly woman continued to _____ her daughter with a stream of abusive language, showing just how little the _____ understood the younger generation.
5. The wind that _____ the ship was like a punching bag was but a foreboding of the hurricane yet to come.
6. The chef had his own set of cutting instruments since he liked his _____ to be razor sharp.
7. The professor tried to _____ the concepts in the students' minds; he felt that it was necessary to fix the ideas firmly so that they would not be forgotten.
8. The seriousness of the situation was _____ with a few jokes; the humor spread throughout the group and enlivened the men a little.
9. The teacher seemed to have no _____ about giving the student a zero for cheating on the test; the instructor felt perfectly justified and was not distressed over the issue.
10. His sharply critical remarks revealed the _____ of his temper.
11. The _____ winds which blew from the north nearly froze us to death.

Lesson 52



matriculated	methodically	narcissistic	panache	picayune
prescient	retrospection	reverie	seethe	stately
unctuous	vim	wooden		

12. When my temper reaches the boiling point, I _____ with anger.
13. I set about the task of personal _____, looking back over my past, but soon I fell into a _____ of daydreams about my old friends.
14. The boy's stiff, _____ movements on the dance floor prevented his being nominated as the best dancer; indeed, he looked rather awkward.
15. Alex is full of _____ and vigor; I have never seen anyone with so much energy and vitality.
16. The aging actress was still so _____ that she spent hours a day admiring herself in front of the dressing room mirror.
17. The student approached his science research very _____, proceeding in a systematic, orderly fashion.
18. The judge grew tired of the lawyer's _____ objections over such petty details.
19. The woman was known for her _____; no one else had such flamboyant style.
20. The _____ remarks of the fortune teller were uncanny and somewhat frightening; it's strange to hear about things in the future spoken of as facts that have already happened.
21. The room was filled with the _____ music of the orchestra; such majestic sounds were fit for a king.
22. The monk was characterized by his _____ behavior as he was excessively pious and moral.
23. After enduring hour-long lines in the gymnasium, I have finally _____ in my freshmen year at the university.