

Lesson 54

Definitions



1.	attenuate	uh TEN you ate	to make thin or to lessen the force or magnitude
	Synonyms >>	lessen, weaken, rarefy	Antonym >> to enlarge, to dilate
	The poor acoustics in the auditorium attenuated the force of his performance.		
	Derivatives >>	attenuated, attenuant, attenuating, attenuation, attenuator, attenuated	
2.	calcified	KAL suh fide	inflexible, hardened
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> flexible; pliable
	His views have become calcified, and trying to talk to him about it is foolish.		
	Derivatives >>	calcify, calcifying, calcification, calciferous	
3.	concomitant	kon KOM uh tunt	something that accompanies or exists concurrently with something else
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> unassociated
	The Miss America Pageant and its concomitant events provide the beauties with many new experiences.		
	Derivatives >>	concomitance, concomitancy, concomitantly	
4.	divination	div uh NAY shun	foretelling the future by means of magic
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The prophet was known for his accuracy in divination.		
	Derivatives >>	divinator, divinatory, divine, divination, divined	
5.	epithet	EP uh thet	a term or phrase describing or characterizing
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	The "sultan of swat" is an epithet describing Babe Ruth.		
	Derivatives >>	epithetic, epithetical, epithetize	
6.	foremost	FORE most	first in rank, time, place, or position
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> lowest in rank
	Learning these vocabulary words is foremost in importance.		
	Derivatives >>	foremostly	
7.	goad	GODE	to urge on in a negative sense
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to dissuade
	He was goaded by his friends to take drugs.		
	Derivatives >>	goaded, goading	
8.	impute	im PYOOT	to blame or to charge
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>
	His bizarre actions have been imputed to mental derangement.		
	Derivatives >>	imputability, imputable, imputableness, imputably, imputation, imputational, imputatively, imputativeness	
9.	influence	IN floo uns	authority, prestige
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> powerlessness
	Because he has much influence with the President, his friendship should be sought.		
	Derivatives >>	influenceability, influenceable, influences, influenced, influencing	
10.	inveterate	in VET ur it	firmly established, habitual, deep-rooted
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> readily changeable
	Because he had been an inveterate workaholic, he had trouble adjusting his lifestyle when he retired.		
	Derivatives >>	inveterately, inveterateness	
11.	mellifluous	muh LIF loo us	sweetly or smoothly flowing; sweet-sounding
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> harsh sounding
	The singer has a mellifluous voice.		
	Derivatives >>	mellifluousness, mellifluously, mellifluent, millifluence, mellifluently	

12.	monastic	muh NAS tik	seclusion or simplicity of life	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>
	The hermit led a very monastic life.			
	Derivatives >>	monk, monastical, monastically, monasticism, monastery, monasterial		
13.	necromancy	NEK ruh man see	communicating with spirits, black magic	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>
	The members of the tribe believed that the witch doctor could perform feats of necromancy.			
	Derivatives >>	necromancing, necromancer, necromant, necromantically, necromantical, necromantic		
14.	onus	OH nus	something distasteful to bear that involves considerable difficulty	
	Synonyms >>	burden; blame; stigma		Antonym >> easy and pleasant task
	The job of caring for the elderly will become the onus of the younger generation.			
	Derivatives >>	onus, onus probandi (burden of proof)		
15.	parasite	PAIR uh site	an organism that lives on another organism but contributes nothing	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> self-sufficient individual
	A tapeworm is a commonly known parasite that lives in humans.			
	Derivatives >>	parasital, parasitic, parasitary, parasitical, parasitically		
16.	potentate	POTE un tate	a monarch, very powerful ruler, sovereign	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >>
	There are many countries in the Middle East that are ruled by a potentate.			
	Derivatives >>	potentates		
17.	primeval	pry MEE vul	ancient, relating to the earliest ages	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> recently developed
	The archeologist discovered a primeval urn that dated to 600 B.C.			
	Derivatives >>	primevally		
18.	ravenous	RAV uh nus	urgently eager for food; craving satisfaction or gratification	
	Synonyms >>	voracious, gluttonous, rapacious		Antonym >> sated; satisfied; full
	The boy had a ravenous appetite and ate everything on the table.			
	Derivatives >>	ravenously, ravenousness		
19.	ribald	RIB uld	vulgarily humorous, profane	
	Synonyms >>	coarse, gross, obscene, vulgar		Antonym >> high-minded
	It is uncharacteristic of a priest to tell a ribald joke.			
	Derivatives >>	ribaldly, ribaldrous, ribaldry		
20.	sententious	sen TEN shus	given to excessive moralizing	
	Synonyms >>	expressive, pithy, epigrammatic		Antonym >>
	The sententious expression "contentment breeds happiness" is not readily accepted by everyone.			
	Derivatives >>	sententiously, sententiousness		
21.	stint	STINT	to limit to a certain amount; to be frugal	
	Synonyms >>	confine, restrain		Antonym >> to be wasteful
	Don't stint on the food when you prepare for the party.			
	Derivatives >>	stinted, stinting, stintedly, stintedness, stinter, stintingly, stintless		
22.	theatrical	the AT ruh kul	overly dramatic, exaggerated in behavior	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> unaffected
	You do not need to be so theatrical to make your point.			
	Derivatives >>	theater, theatrics, theatricalism, theatricality, theatricalization		
23.	unnerve	un NURV	to cause to lose composure	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> to strengthen
	I became unnerved when he started talking badly about my mother.			
	Derivatives >>	unnerving, unnerves		
24.	visionary	VIZH uh ner ee	a dreamer; one who is impractical	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> a practical person
	Only a visionary would believe that a perfect society is possible.			
	Derivatives >>	visionariness		
25.	zenith	ZEE nith	the highest point overhead, peak	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> lowest point
	With that award-winning film, she reached the zenith of her career.			
	Derivatives >>	zeniths, zenithal		

Lesson 54

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. | attenuated | a. | to urge on in a negative sense |
| _____ | 2. | calcified | b. | first in rank, time, position, or place |
| _____ | 3. | concomitant | c. | secluded; simple in life |
| _____ | 4. | divination | d. | sweet-sounding |
| _____ | 5. | epithet | e. | made thin; lessened; weakened |
| _____ | 6. | foremost | f. | to blame or to charge |
| _____ | 7. | goad | g. | accompanying; concurrent; associated |
| _____ | 8. | impute | h. | communication with spirits |
| _____ | 9. | influence | i. | foretelling the future by magic |
| _____ | 10. | mellifluous | j. | inflexible; hardened |
| _____ | 11. | monastic | k. | authority; prestige |
| _____ | 12. | necromancy | l. | a describing or characterizing term |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-------------|----|--|
| _____ | 1. | inveterate | a. | vulgar in humor; profane |
| _____ | 2. | onus | b. | firmly established; habitual |
| _____ | 3. | parasite | c. | given to excessive moralizing |
| _____ | 4. | potentate | d. | overly dramatic |
| _____ | 5. | primeval | e. | very powerful ruler; monarch |
| _____ | 6. | ravenous | f. | urgently eager for food; voracious |
| _____ | 7. | ribald | g. | a dreamer; one who is impractical |
| _____ | 8. | sententious | h. | to cause one to lose composure |
| _____ | 9. | stint | i. | something difficult to bear; stigma |
| _____ | 10. | theatrical | j. | the highest point; peak |
| _____ | 11. | unnerve | k. | organism that lives off another one |
| _____ | 12. | visionary | l. | to be frugal |
| _____ | 13. | zenith | m. | ancient; relating to the earliest ages |

Lesson 54

Sentence Completion



attenuated	calcify	concomitant	divinations
epithets	foremost	goaded	imputed
influence	inveterate	mellifluous	monastic

1. To shift the blame from himself, he _____ others, saying that they were responsible for the mistake.
2. Several distinguishing _____ were suggested to describe the traits of the famous characters.
3. During the days of the early settlers, many people believed that innocent girls could forecast the future; these _____ they believed to be extremely accurate.
4. Firmly entrenched in his falsehoods, the _____ liar was soon incapable of telling the truth.
5. Rebellion is usually _____ with a change in government; this association is seen in both the French and American revolutions.
6. He was known as the _____ authority on the subject; with this reputation as the best in his field, he was able to exert _____ on many groups, using his prestige in a positive way.
7. We foolishly _____ the bull by yelling at it, unaware that the gate separating the angry animal from us was rusty and could break easily.
8. As people become older, their bones begin to _____, becoming harder and more brittle, but more susceptible to breaking since they lose all of their pliancy.
9. The _____ rule called for the man to live in seclusion and simplicity.
10. When the boy received a sudden inheritance, it _____ his desire to win scholarships; the fact that he no longer needed the money seemed to lessen the force of his desire to win the competitions.
11. We were soothed by the sweet-sounding music; the _____ melody was perhaps the only thing that could have calmed us.

Lesson 54



necromancy	onus	parasite	potentate	primeval
ravenous	ribald	sententious	stint	theatrical
unnerved	visionary	zenith		

12. Her performance in that film is the best she has ever done; it marks the _____ of her career.
13. The wizard was not alarmed at the danger he faced by trying to contact evil spirits during his practice of _____.
14. Mistletoe, though associated with both kissing and Christmas, is really a _____ that kills the trees on which it grows.
15. In Shakespeare's day, patrons at _____ productions such as the play *Twelfth Night* expected an occasional _____, profane joke from the actors, and they were not offended by it.
16. The ancient king, a very powerful _____, surrounded himself with strong supporters.
17. Ancient civilizations, such as that of Egypt, are _____.
18. The man was a _____, dreaming about impractical solutions to difficult problems.
19. Because the sight of blood had always caused her to lose her composure, the lady was _____ by the accident.
20. Students often consider homework to be a real _____, a burden that limits their time.
21. Tim's _____ appetite always kept him on the lookout for "All You Can Eat" restaurants.
22. The _____ statements of the political candidate were condemned as overly moralistic by the news media.
23. She had enough money that she didn't have to _____ on food or decorations for the party; she was not limited at all to what she could spend.