

Lesson 3

Definitions

12th Grade



| | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 1. | ponderous | PON dur us | very heavy, unwieldy from weight |
| | Synonyms >> | cumbersome, cumbrous | |
| | The ponderous furniture was hard to move, and thus became a burden. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | ponderosity, ponderously, ponderousness | |
| 2. | portent | PORE tent | a sign or forewarning |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | The stock market crash was a portent of the coming of a depression. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | portentive, portentous, portentously, portentousness | |
| 3. | potent | POTE unt | powerful, having a strong effect |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | They gave me a potent pain killer to stop the throbbing sensation in my leg. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | potence, potency | |
| 4. | prate | PRATE | to talk idly or foolishly at great length |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | We want a speaker who will talk of important issues, not one who will prate about himself. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | prater, prated, prating | |
| 5. | precept | PREE sept | a rule guiding conduct or imposing a standard |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | A favorite precept by which many people live is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." | | |
| | Derivatives >> | preceptist, preceptive | |
| 6. | prodigal | PROD uh gul | wasteful, a person given to extravagance |
| | Synonyms >> | lavish, lush, luxuriant, profuse | |
| | The prodigal son squandered his inheritance. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | prodigality, prodigally, prodigalize | |
| 7. | profane | pruh FANE | showing contempt toward sacred things |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | Profane language will not be tolerated on the tennis court. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | profanation, profanatory, profanely, profaneness, profaner, profanity | |
| 8. | prologue | PRO log | introductory remarks in a speech, play or literary work, introductory |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | The play had a prologue that set the scene for the opening act. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | prologist, prologize | |
| 9. | promontory | PROM un tore ee | land or rock projecting into a body of water |
| | Synonyms >> | | |
| | A promontory is an ideal place to build a lighthouse. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | promontories, promontoried | |
| 10. | quaint | KWAYNT | unusual in character or appearance |
| | Synonyms >> | eccentric, peculiar, queer, unique | |
| | When we go to New England, we like to stay in a quaint old inn that gives us the flavor of the area. | | |
| | Derivatives >> | quaintish, quaintly, quaintness | |

Matching Test Lesson 3

12th grade



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. | ponderous | a. | showing contempt toward sacred things |
| _____ | 2. | portent | b. | powerful, having a strong effect |
| _____ | 3. | potent | c. | very heavy, unwieldy from weight |
| _____ | 4. | prate | d. | unusual in character or appearance |
| _____ | 5. | precept | e. | wasteful, a person given to extravagance |
| _____ | 6. | prodigal | f. | to talk idly or foolishly at great length |
| _____ | 7. | profane | g. | a sign or forewarning |
| _____ | 8. | prologue | h. | a rule guiding conduct or imposing a standard |
| _____ | 9. | promontory | i. | introductory remarks in a speech or play |
| _____ | 10. | quaint | j. | land or rock projecting into a body of water |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|------------|----|---|
| _____ | 1. | rhapsodize | a. | high-pitched or piercing (sound) |
| _____ | 2. | sanctify | b. | susceptible to injury or attack |
| _____ | 3. | searing | c. | something offensive to good taste and refinement |
| _____ | 4. | sentinel | d. | to express in an overly enthusiastic manner |
| _____ | 5. | shrill | e. | to decrease in size, degree, or power |
| _____ | 6. | summon | f. | to grant in a condescending or gracious manner |
| _____ | 7. | vouchsafe | g. | to set apart for sacred use, to make holy, to purify |
| _____ | 8. | vulgarity | h. | to call together, to send for or to request to appear |
| _____ | 9. | vulnerable | i. | causing to wither or to dry up or to become scorched |
| _____ | 10. | wane | j. | one who keeps guard as a sentry |

Sentence Completion Test

Lesson 3

12th Grade



| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|------------|---------|
| ponderous | portent | potent | prate | precept |
| prodigal | profane | prologue | promontory | quaint |

1. The _____ of this course, its guiding rule, is that you must learn your vocabulary words.
2. The large raindrops were a _____ of the thunderous storm about to occur.
3. The first fight in the valley was but a _____ to one hundred years of war.
4. The lighthouse sat on the _____ overlooking the sea, casting its beams of light on the dark waters far below.
5. The doctor gave Sally the most _____ medicine available, a very powerful antibiotic.
6. The young men were raised to believe that anyone who dared to _____ the sacred words would pay for his contempt with his life.
7. 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.
8. We stayed in a _____ inn that was unique and unusual because of its old-world charm.
9. The criminal was angered by having to drag the long, heavy, _____ chain that was fastened to his leg.
10. The _____ man never saved any money because of his attitude; he has never been able to hold on to a dollar when it could be spent on something frivolous.

Sentence Completion Test

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| | | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|----------|--------|
| apostrophe | rhapsodize | searing | sentinel | shrill |
| spurn | tempestuous | turbulence | usurp | valid |

11. The _____ temperature of 110 degrees soon had all of the workers in a state of near heat exhaustion.
12. Our dog began to bark as soon as the _____, high-pitched sound of the sirens began.
13. In order to protect the witness and seclude him during the trial, a police _____ was hired to guard him.
14. The poem made use of an _____ when the author addressed his deceased wife as though she were alive.
15. Always somewhat overly enthusiastic, she could _____ for an hour over the slightest thing.
16. Sam's childish behavior has caused his girlfriend to _____ him; she refuses to answer any of his calls.
17. The wicked queen sought to _____ the king's power and steal the throne from him.
18. The _____ tempers of the men caused them both to storm out of the room in anger at the slightest word.
19. His statement about that theory is not _____; the facts that we have gathered point to a contrary conclusion and prove his words are not justifiable.
20. The woman was hesitant to summon her husband to the meeting because she knew that his hostile attitude was likely to cause much _____ in the family.