

Lesson 35

Definitions

12th Grade



1.	dissemble	deh SEM bul	to disguise, to pretend
	Synonyms >>		
	Although he tried to dissemble his motive for seeing me, I knew the real reason.		
	Derivatives >>	dissembled, dissembling, dissembler, dissemblingly	
2.	emulate	EM yuh late	to try to equal or to be like (usually through imitation)
	Synonyms >>		
	He has a lot of fine qualities that I try to emulate.		
	Derivatives >>	emulation, emulative, emulator, emulatively	
3.	fickle	FIK ul	likely to change, capricious
	Synonyms >>	inconstant, mercurial, unstable	
	Because of her fickle behavior, he had little trust that she would continue to love him.		
	Derivatives >>	fickler, ficklest, fickleness	
4.	gravity	GRAV eh tee	seriousness, importance
	Synonyms >>	earnestness, sedateness, sobriety, solemnity, staidness	
	The gravity of the situation was heightened by the death of the president .		
	Derivatives >>	grave, graver, gravely	
5.	homely	HOME lee	plain or unattractive in appearance
	Synonyms >>		
	The girl was rather homely, but she had a wit and an intellect that could not be matched.		
	Derivatives >>	homeliness, homlier, homliest	
6.	indigence	IN deh juns	poverty
	Synonyms >>	destitution, penury, want	
	His ragged clothes are a sign of his indigence.		
	Derivatives >>	indigency, indigent	
7.	jingoist	JING go ist	an extreme patriot, usually calls for a belligerent foreign policy
	Synonyms >>	chauvinist, nationalist	
	The jingoist was in the streets, loudly urging the public toward aggression against the foreign power.		
	Derivatives >>	jingoism, jingoish, jingoistic, jingoistically	
8.	migratory	MY gruh tor ee	moving from place to place, wandering, transient
	Synonyms >>		
	The migratory whooping cranes always return to Padre Island.		
	Derivatives >>	migrate, migratorial, migrator, migration, migrationist	
9.	obfuscating	ob FUS kay ting	confusing, making unclear
	Synonyms >>		
	His speech was obfuscating because it made people concentrate on irrelevant issues.		
	Derivatives >>	obfuscated, obfuscate, obfuscalbe, obfuscation, obfuscator, obfuscatory, obfuscated	
10.	proclivity	pro KLIV eh tee	inclination, tendency
	Synonyms >>	leaning, penchant, propensity	
	Most immigrants, because they are anxious to succeed, have a proclivity for hard work.		
	Derivatives >>	proclive, proclivities	

Matching Test

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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. | ambulatory | a. | able to walk or move around |
| _____ 2. | anarchy | b. | the width of something, comprehensive quality |
| _____ 3. | breadth | c. | plain or unattractive in appearance |
| _____ 4. | dissemble | d. | vivid |
| _____ 5. | emulate | e. | likely to change, capricious |
| _____ 6. | facilitate | f. | to make less difficult |
| _____ 7. | fickle | g. | to disguise, to pretend |
| _____ 8. | graphic | h. | seriousness, importance |
| _____ 9. | gravity | i. | the absence of government; a state of lawlessness |
| _____ 10. | homely | j. | to try to equal (usually through imitation) |

Exercise B

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----|---|
| _____ 1. | indigence | a. | a member of a sect that is a faction with extreme beliefs |
| _____ 2. | jingoist | b. | confusing, making unclear |
| _____ 3. | migratory | c. | having excellent morals; righteous |
| _____ 4. | obfuscating | d. | inclination, tendency |
| _____ 5. | obstinate | e. | moving from place to place, wandering, transient |
| _____ 6. | proclivity | f. | an extreme patriot |
| _____ 7. | prostration | g. | a stretching out due to lacking vitality |
| _____ 8. | resolute | h. | poverty |
| _____ 9. | sectarian | i. | unyielding regardless of reason or logic |
| _____ 10. | virtuous | j. | characterized by a decided purpose |

Sentence Completion Test

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dissemble	emulate	fickle	gravity	homely
indigence	jingoist	migratory	obfuscating	proclivity

1. The _____ labeled everyone who favored trade with the Soviets as a traitor; that was not an uncommon reaction for such an extreme patriot.
2. His reply was particularly _____; it seemed as though he was deliberately trying to confuse us.
3. The child has a _____ for getting into trouble; he seems to gravitate naturally toward bad company and bad situations.
4. Because of his _____ nature, people had little faith in his promises; he had made them too often and had always changed his mind.
5. _____ birds are predictable in their annual move across the country; at the first indication of cool weather, they begin their flight, looking for warmer climates.
6. The _____ girl was hurt when someone told her how plain and unattractive she was.
7. His _____ was clear from his ragged clothes and bare feet; anyone who dressed like that must have been poor.
8. The _____ of the situation was apparent in the serious countenance of the woman; we could all tell how important the condition was.
9. Although he tried to _____ his motive for seeing me, I knew the real reason; he could not hide that from me.
10. Jerry looked at his father as a perfect role model and tried to _____ the man's behavior, copying him in every aspect.

Sentence Completion Test

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ambulatory	breadth	cant	circumscribed	graphic
obstinate	prostration	resolute	sectarian	virtuous

11. The _____, a recent convert to the religious cult, was narrow-minded and was difficult to talk to.
12. The track star seemed to be suffering complete _____, but the doctor said the runner's vitality would return after a period of rest.
13. The patient hated being confined to his bed, and he was anxious to be _____ again so that he could move around.
14. The witness was _____ in his denial of guilt, firmly and decidedly denying any involvement in the crime.
15. The man loved the _____ woman for her purity, honesty and integrity.
16. The _____ of the wall makes it difficult to cross; if it were just a little narrower, it would be a simpler task.
17. The _____ of the brotherhood was never explained; their secret jargon prevented outsiders from understanding their slang.
18. The farmer built a fence that _____ the area he had set aside for his corn crop; the fence encircled the plot of land.
19. He was the most _____ and stubborn person I have ever met; he was unwilling to do anything that I asked of him.
20. The _____ visual effects contained in that film made me ill; I had never seen anything so vivid and realistic before.