

Lesson 5

Definitions

12th Grade



1.	melancholy	MEL un kol ee	depression of spirits
	Synonyms >>		
	After Dad lost his job, he fell into a state of melancholy.		
	Derivatives >>	melancholia, melancholic, melancholiac, melancholically, melancholily, melancholiness, melancholious	
2.	mettle	MET ul	courage or spirit
	Synonyms >>	resolution, tenacity	
	A crisis like this would test anyone's mettle.		
	Derivatives >>	mettles, mettled, mettlesome	
3.	mirth	MURTH	gladness and merriment usually accompanied by laughter
	Synonyms >>	glee, hilarity, jollity	
	The party was a source of mirth and gaiety.		
	Derivatives >>	mirthful, mirthfully, mirthfulness, mirthless, mirthlessly, mirthlessness	
4.	musty	MUS tee	smelling of damp or decay, malodorous
	Synonyms >>		
	The old house was pervaded by an offensive, musty odor.		
	Derivatives >>	mustily, mustiness	
5.	mutinous	MYOOT un us	rebellious, unruly
	Synonyms >>		
	The crew grew mutinous because they thought they might sail right off the edge of the earth.		
	Derivatives >>	mutiny, mutinously, mutinousness, mutinize, mutinies	
6.	oblivion	uh BLIV ee un	state of being forgotten
	Synonyms >>		
	Until the singer's recent hit, his career had fallen into a state of oblivion.		
	Derivatives >>	oblivious, obliviously	
7.	obscure	ub SKYOOR	difficult to see, vague
	Synonyms >>	abstruse, ambiguous, cryptic, enigmatic, equivocal, recondite	
	Because the meaning of the play was obscure, I was unable to enjoy it.		
	Derivatives >>	obscuration, obscurative, obscuredly, obscurely, obscurement, obscureness, obscurity	
8.	obsequious	ub SEE kwee us	overly attentive, like a sycophant, servile
	Synonyms >>	slavish, subservient	
	I believe that his obsequious behavior toward his grandmother is to ensure being included in the will.		
	Derivatives >>	obsequence, obsequent, obsequience, obsequiously, obsequiousness, obsequity	
9.	ominous	OM uh nus	threatening
	Synonyms >>	fateful, portentous	
	The ominous clouds were harbingers of the tornado.		
	Derivatives >>	ominously, ominousness	
10.	ostentatious	os ten TAY shus	showy, pretentious
	Synonyms >>	pompous	
	The ostentatious socialite wore her mink fur coat even during the warmest days of August.		
	Derivatives >>	ostentation, ostentate, ostentatiously, ostentatiousness, ostentative	

Matching Test Lesson 5

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. | mettle | a. | rebellious, unruly |
| _____ | 2. | melancholy | b. | difficult to see, vague |
| _____ | 3. | obscure | c. | overly attentive, like a sycophant, servile |
| _____ | 4. | mirth | d. | smelling of damp or decay, malodorous |
| _____ | 5. | obsequious | e. | depression of spirits |
| _____ | 6. | mutinous | f. | threatening |
| _____ | 7. | ostentatious | g. | courage or spirit |
| _____ | 8. | musty | h. | showy, pretentious |
| _____ | 9. | oblivion | i. | state of being forgotten |
| _____ | 10. | ominous | j. | merriment usually accompanied by laughter |

Exercise B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|------------|----|---|
| _____ | 1. | plausible | a. | organized opposition to an authority |
| _____ | 2. | pithy | b. | very destructive or harmful, deadly |
| _____ | 3. | peruse | c. | showing contempt toward sacred things |
| _____ | 4. | pernicious | d. | powerful, having a strong effect |
| _____ | 5. | perdition | e. | concise and meaningful |
| _____ | 6. | potent | f. | eternal damnation, utter ruin |
| _____ | 7. | profane | g. | to give formal approval |
| _____ | 8. | prate | h. | to read or to examine |
| _____ | 9. | rebellion | i. | to talk idly or foolishly at great length |
| _____ | 10. | ratify | j. | seemingly acceptable, believable, or possible |

Sentence Completion Test

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melancholy	mettle	mirth	musty	mutinous
oblivion	obscure	obsequious	ominous	ostentatious

1. The playoffs will test the _____ of the young team; their courage and spirit will either grow and lead them to victory, or it will fail them and they will lose.
2. The woman sang a _____ song at the funeral.
3. Certain passages of the book were so _____ that it was difficult to get a clear understanding of exactly what the author had intended to say.
4. The king called in his jester, proclaiming, "What is needed in this court is _____. I want merriment and laughter."
5. The waiter's _____ manner ruined our meal; he would not leave us alone even for a minute because of his attentiveness.
6. The captain was not able to pacify the _____ crew before they attacked him and took over the ship.
7. A few hints of sophistication began to appear in the woman's _____ apparel; she soon dropped the gaudy accessories and became a conservative dresser.
8. Because the flow of air into the basement was cut off when we closed the vent, the room soon became permeated with that _____, pungent smell of things slightly damp.
9. The man was so senile that most of the time he existed in a state of _____, not knowing anything.
10. A rising tide and increasing winds are both _____ signs of an approaching hurricane.

Sentence Completion Test

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aphorism	paragon	peevish	perdition	pithy
plausible	prate	profane	quaint	sanctified

11. Cousin Billy, whom we once considered a _____ of virtue, was just convicted of tax evasion; he obviously was not the shining example who we thought he was.
12. Your comments about the book are quite _____; you say things in a very concise and direct manner.
13. Many world religions do not believe in a place of _____; thus, they do not accept the idea of “burning in Hell.”
14. The obstinate child was _____ and fretful.
15. We could not offer a _____ excuse for our behavior, so our parents were unwilling to believe us.
16. The young men were raised to believe that anyone who dared to _____ the sacred words would pay for his contempt with his life.
17. 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.
18. We stayed in a _____ inn that was unique and unusual because of its old-world charm.
19. After the vision of the Virgin Mary appeared in front of the building, the priests _____ the location of the appearance with a blessing, making it a sacred place.
20. The author expressed the moral principle in a terse _____.