

Lesson 16

Definitions

9th Grade



1.	abate	uh BAYT	to reduce in intensity or amount
	Synonyms >>	decrease, diminish, dwindle, ebb, lessen, reduce, wane	
	The flood waters abated after forty days of rain.		
	Derivatives >>	abatable, abater, abatement, abated, abating	
2.	antecedent	an tuh SEE dunt	preceding a cause
	Synonyms >>		
	The argument between the two men was antecedent to the fight which followed.		
	Derivatives >>	antecedence, antecedency, antecede, antecedently	
3.	arid	AIR id	very dry
	Synonyms >>		
	The desert is an arid place.		
	Derivatives >>	aridity, aridness, aridly	
4.	bane, baneful	BANE ful	a source of harm or destruction; harmful, destructive
	Synonyms >>	deleterious, detrimental, noxious, pernicious	
	Overeating was the bane of her existence. The baneful herbs made the woman extremely ill.		
	Derivatives >>	baneful, banefully, banefulness	
5.	beleaguer	buh LEEG er	to harass
	Synonyms >>		
	The scandal caused the President to be beleaguered by the press.		
	Derivatives >>	beleaguered, beleaguerer	
6.	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	
7.	respite	RES pit	a rest, a delay, a period of relief
	Synonyms >>		
	I enjoy a quiet lunch that serves a respite from my tense job of being an air traffic controller.		
	Derivatives >>	respiteless	
8.	sordid	SOR did	filthy, foul
	Synonyms >>	abject, ignoble, mean	
	The sordid details of the brutal ax murder sickened the jurors.		
	Derivatives >>	sordidness, sordidly	
9.	surfeited	SUR feh ted	fed or supplied to excess
	Synonyms >>	cloyed, glutted, gorged, palled, sated, satiated	
	I was surfeited after having eaten so much food at the banquet.		
	Derivatives >>	surfeit, surfeiter	
10.	trifling	TRY fling	not significant, frivolous
	Synonyms >>		
	Some think that watching MTV is a trifling experience.		
	Derivatives >>	trifle, trifled, trifling, trifles	

Matching Test

Lesson 16

9th 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. abate | a. filthy, foul |
| _____ 2. antecedent | b. fed or supplied to excess |
| _____ 3. arid | c. to reduce in intensity or amount |
| _____ 4. bane, baneful | d. a source of harm or destruction; harmful, destructive |
| _____ 5. beleaguer | e. preceding a cause |
| _____ 6. profane | f. very dry |
| _____ 7. spite | g. to harass |
| _____ 8. sordid | h. showing contempt toward sacred things |
| _____ 9. surfeited | i. a rest, a delay, a period of relief |
| _____ 10. trifling | j. not significant, frivolous |

Exercise B

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. desultory | a. wasteful spending, squandering |
| _____ 2. dissipation | b. unsophisticated; inexperienced |
| _____ 3. edifying | c. to attempt to lie, to mislead, or to hide the truth |
| _____ 4. equivocate | d. full of life, very animated |
| _____ 5. espousing | e. one who seeks pleasure as the sole aim in life |
| _____ 6. hedonist | f. jumping around, aimless, random |
| _____ 7. naive | g. humorous or ridiculous imitation |
| _____ 8. parody | h. instructing and improving spiritually or morally |
| _____ 9. vivacious | i. marrying, giving one's loyalty; adopting a cause |
| _____ 10. voluptuous | j. pleasurable to the senses, sensuous |

Sentence Completion Test

Lesson 16

9th Grade



abate	antecedent	arid	baneful	beleaguered
profane	respite	sordid	surfeited	trifling

1. A quiet walk in the woods would be a nice _____ from the drudgery of city life; we all need a relaxing break once in awhile.
2. The deadly spread of AIDS is a _____ epidemic plaguing the entire world.
3. The starving boys were finally able to eat until they were _____.
4. Filth and gossip filled the newspaper that focused on printing the _____ details of people's lives.
5. Some teachers regard watching videos a _____ waste of time; they think I should avoid such frivolous pastimes and do more studying.
6. The decisions made _____ to the Supreme Court's ruling were independent of each other; however, those made afterward were all related.
7. The young men were raised to believe that anyone who dared to _____ the sacred words would pay for his contempt with his life.
8. Homesteaders in the Old West were cheerful during events like weddings; there were too few happy events in lives _____ by rampaging Indians and harassed by continual drought.
9. The intensity of the storm began to _____; apparently the worst part was over.
10. Because it is so hot and dry, Death Valley is known as the most _____ region of the United States.

Sentence Completion Test

Lesson 16

9th Grade



avarice	collaborate	espousing	interminable	parody
portent	prodigious	protract	soporific	vigilant

11. Although the reading assignment was only ten pages, it seemed _____ to the bored students.
12. My teacher gave us a huge amount of homework, a _____ task by anyone's standards.
13. Always alert, the _____ guard stood in front of the mayor's residence.
14. The comedian's skit was a _____ of the recent inaugural address; although it was intended to be funny, not many people laughed.
15. I fell asleep in her class because her lectures were so _____.
16. The class was told to _____ on the assignment so that no one would have to do all the work totally alone.
17. The woman is _____ the MADD program because she lost her son in a DWI-related accident; otherwise, she would not adopt the cause so seriously.
18. The large raindrops were a _____ of the thunderous storm about to occur.
19. The numerous stoplights in the city are likely to _____ my journey by many hours; it may take longer traveling this route.
20. The greedy woman's heart was full of _____. All she wanted was to have more and more possessions.