

Unit 9

- 1. apt** (əpt) (*adj.*) suitable, fitting, likely; quick to learn
The appropriate greeting card for a particular occasion is one that expresses _____ sentiments.
SYNONYMS: appropriate, fit, proper, liable
ANTONYMS: inappropriate, unlikely, slow
- 2. awry** (ə ri') (*adj., adv.*) in a turned or twisted position or direction; wrong, out of the right or hoped-for course
After running to catch the bus, I realized that my clothing was all _____.
When something goes _____ during a countdown, NASA officials will cancel a shuttle launch.
SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) crooked, askew, amiss
ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) straight, symmetrical
- 3. bludgeon** (blʒəʒən) (*n.*) a short club used as a weapon; (*v.*) to strike with a heavy club; to use force or strong arguments to gain some point
Early humans fashioned _____ from the thick limbs of trees.
Heavy-handed writers tend to _____ readers with explanations of their characters' motives.
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) cudgel; (*v.*) clobber, clout
- 4. capitulate** (kə pɪtʃ' ə lət) (*v.*) to end resistance, give up, surrender, throw in the towel
When I saw that I had been outmaneuvered by my opponent, I had no choice but to _____.
ANTONYMS: hold out, persist
- 5. chafe** (tʃəf) (*v.*) to warm by rubbing; to wear sore by rubbing; to feel annoyance or dissatisfaction, annoy, irk; to strain or press against; (*n.*) a sore or injury caused by rubbing
The American colonists _____ under the many unjust laws imposed on them by King George II.
To keep that raw _____ from becoming infected, you should put a clean bandage on it.
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) irritate, scrape, abrade
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) soothe, mollify, please, elate
- 6. defile** (di fil') (*v., trans.*) to make unclean or dirty, destroy the purity of; (*v., intrans.*) to march in a single line or in columns; (*n.*) a narrow passage; gorge, canyon
Those who _____ a house of worship will be punished to the full extent of the law.
The victorious troops _____ past the reviewing stand.
The weary hikers paused to rest before proceeding through the steep and rocky _____.
SYNONYMS: (*v., trans.*) pollute, contaminate, desecrate
ANTONYMS: (*v., trans.*) cleanse, purify
- 7. dire** (di r) (*adj.*) dreadful, causing fear or suffering; warning of trouble to come; demanding immediate action to avoid disaster
Environmentalists warn of the _____ consequences of the destruction of the world's rain forests.
SYNONYMS: disastrous, ominous, sinister, urgent
ANTONYMS: favorable, auspicious, beneficial
- 8. disarming** (dis ɑ:rm' ɪŋ) (*adj.*) charming, tending to get rid of unfriendliness or suspicion
My best friend has a most _____ smile.
SYNONYMS: endearing, winning
ANTONYMS: alarming, troubling, disquieting
- 9. disgruntled** (dis grənt' əld) (*adj., part*) in bad humor, discontented, annoyed
When flights are delayed because of bad weather, airline passengers may become extremely _____.
SYNONYMS: displeased, grumpy, surly
ANTONYMS: pleased, satisfied, content
- 10. encroach** (en krəʃ) (*v.*) to advance beyond the usual or proper limits, trespass
Where suburbs _____ on unspoiled forests or wetlands, delicate ecosystems may be disrupted.
SYNONYMS: intrude, infringe
- 11. endow** (en daʊ) (*v.*) to furnish, equip, provide with funds or some other desirable thing or quality
Wealthy individuals often make provisions in their wills to _____ their favorite charities.
SYNONYMS: grant, bestow, present, bequeath
ANTONYMS: take away, deprive
- 12. fend** (fend) (*v.*) to ward off, resist; to get along, manage
A novel's heroine may have to _____ off the proposals of unappealing suitors.
SYNONYMS: stave off, cope
- 13. impunity** (ɪm pi yū' nə tē) (*n.*) freedom from punishment
Bullies must be made to realize that they cannot push other people around with _____.
SYNONYMS: exemption from penalty, immunity
- 14. mien** (mi:n) (*n.*) air, manner; appearance; expression
A person may adopt a cheerful _____ in an attempt to conceal sorrow or anger.
SYNONYMS: look, bearing, demeanor
- 15. penal** (pē' nəl) (*adj.*) having to do with punishment
Devil's Island, off the coast of French Guiana, was once the site of an infamous _____ colony.
SYNONYMS: correctional, disciplinary
- 16. pertinent** (pə' tənənt) (*adj.*) related to the matter at hand, to the point
The joke you told was very amusing, but I fail to see how it was _____ to the conversation.
SYNONYMS: relevant, germane, apropos
ANTONYMS: unrelated, irrelevant, immaterial
- 17. predominant** (pri dəm' ə nənt) (*adj.*) the greatest in strength or power; most common
Cy Young, for whom the coveted pitching award is named, was once the _____ pitcher in baseball.
SYNONYMS: chief, major, paramount, prevalent
ANTONYMS: secondary, minor, subsidiary, rare
- 18. prodigy** (prə'dʒɪ) (*n.*) something wonderful or marvelous; something monstrous or abnormal; an unusual feat; a child or young person with extraordinary ability or talent
The careers of some musical _____ have turned out to be short-lived.
SYNONYMS: marvel, wonder, freak, genius
ANTONYMS: dumbbell, dunce, dullard
- 19. recluse** (re' klūs) (*n.*) a person who leads a life shut up or withdrawn from the world
An individual who has suffered a great emotional loss may become something of a _____.
SYNONYMS: loner, hermit
- 20. renown** (ri naʊn') (*n.*) fame, glory
Some writers earn acclaim during their lifetime, but others win _____ only after their death.
SYNONYMS: reputation, celebrity, prestige
ANTONYMS: obscurity, infamy, notoriety