

## UNIT 15

Read the following passage, taking note of the **boldface** words and their contexts. These words are among those you will be studying in Unit 15. As you complete the exercises in this Unit, it may help to refer to the way the words are used below.

as there ever been a more precious commodity than gold? One of the rarest metals in the world, gold has been treasured, **hoarded**, sought after, and **feuded** over. It was highly prized long before the concept of exchanging money began. A ruler's wealth and power **coincided** with how much gold he had: More gold equaled more power. Even now, some view owning gold as the ultimate in financial security.

Recent scientific research suggests that gold and other metals were transported to the earth's surface by meteors billions of years ago (though there is not yet **authoritative** evidence to confirm this

theory). Gold is found in the form of dust, grains, flakes, or nuggets. Surprisingly, gold is also found in seawater. Extracting it from water is expensive. Entrepreneurs attempting to recover gold from the sea would likely go **bankrupt**.

The mining of gold began many thousands of years ago. Some of the oldest gold artifacts have been unearthed in the Varna Necropolis. This ancient burial site is near Varna, Bulgaria. It contained an astounding cache of treasures. Skilled goldsmiths of that era hammered gold into exquisite pieces, including solid-gold masks, goblets, and jewelry.

Prospectors rest by a sluice box in California during the gold rush.





Solid gold Thracian king's mask from the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE

The world's oldest-known geological map, the Turin papyrus map (created circa 1150 BCE or Before the Common Era), indicates where the early Egyptians excavated their gold mines. Egyptians were so enamored of gold that they believed it to be a physical manifestation of the sun and the "flesh of the gods." Their pharaohs' coffins were made out of solid gold. Because of its beauty and indestructible nature, it was valued by numerous other early civilizations, from the ancient Mediterranean civilizations of the Minoans and Etruscans to the ancient American Aztecs and Incas. Gold was also used in religious **rites**. The **legacy** of age-old folk and fairy tales from around the world is full of wishes and dreams for gold.

But how did gold change from an object of beauty and worship to a **legitimate**, official form of currency? Early on, people used the barter system to get most goods and services they needed. When **haggling** proved less than **harmonious**, people moved on to primitive forms of payment such as shells, stones, beads, and fur. This system evolved over time, and many societies switched to using pieces of gold. The pieces were marked with weight and then turned into coins. The first gold coins were minted around 640 BCE in the ancient Roman province of Lydia. The Greeks also used gold coins. Goldsmith Ephraim Brasher created the first United States gold coin in 1784.

Man's greed for gold inspired European explorations and violent conquests in Central and South America. **Despots** and tyrants on all sides had "gold fever," **clamoring** loudly for more and more riches. Fortunes were quickly made, and even more quickly lost.

The discovery of gold around the world led to gold rushes, including the famous California gold rush of the 1840s. The wild outpost of Sutter's Mill attracted more than 40,000 **hardy** prospectors. Few found the mother lode. Those who did were **indisposed** to share it. Many failed prospectors returned home **cynical**, sadder, and wiser, no doubt appreciating the saying, "Better an ounce of happiness than a pound of gold."

Audio

For Words and audio passages, snap the code, or go to [www.ck12.com/workshop.com](http://www.ck12.com/workshop.com).



## Definitions

Note the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the appropriate form of the word in the blank spaces in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms.

- 1. authoritative**  
(ə thär' ə tā tiv)

(*adj.*) official, coming from a source that calls for obedience or belief; dictatorial

A dictionary is an \_\_\_\_\_ source for the spelling, pronunciation, and definition of words in a language.

SYNONYMS: reliable, authoritarian; ANTONYMS: unofficial, unreliable
- 2. bankrupt**  
(bank' rəpt)

(*adj.*) in a state of financial ruin; (*v.*) to ruin financially; (*n.*) one who has been ruined financially

The \_\_\_\_\_ company was closing its doors for the last time.

Another bad sales year will \_\_\_\_\_ the failing firm.

A \_\_\_\_\_ will have trouble getting credit.

SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) flat broke, insolvent  
ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) financially sound, solvent
- 3. clamor**  
(klam' ə)

(*n.*) a public outcry; any loud and continued noise; (*v.*) to call for by loud, continued outcries

The coal miners began to \_\_\_\_\_ for better working conditions in the mine.

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the trumpets was piercing.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) uproar, din, racket; (*v.*) cry out for
- 4. coincide**  
(kō in sīd')

(*v.*) to be in full agreement; to be the same in nature, character, or function; to happen at the same time

Our political beliefs would \_\_\_\_\_ with theirs on the issues of term limits and tax reform.

SYNONYMS: concur, match
- 5. cynical**  
(sin' ə kəl)

(*adj.*) inclined to believe the worst of people; bitterly mocking or sneering

The radio personality's \_\_\_\_\_ attitude made it difficult for the station manager to find advertisers.

SYNONYMS: skeptical, sarcastic, contemptuous  
ANTONYMS: hopeful, optimistic
- 6. despot**  
(des' pət)

(*n.*) a ruler who oppresses his or her subjects, a tyrant

That film director is known for acting like a \_\_\_\_\_ on the movie set.

SYNONYMS: dictator, autocrat, strongman

- 7. feud**  
(fyüd)  
(*n.*) a bitter, long-term quarrel; (*v.*) to fight or quarrel with  
A senseless \_\_\_\_\_ caused the division between the two clans.  
What originally caused the clans to \_\_\_\_\_ has long been forgotten.  
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) grudge, vendetta  
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) pact, agreement, harmony, concord
- 8. haggle**  
(hag' əl)  
(*v.*) to argue in a petty way, especially about a price  
Let's not \_\_\_\_\_ over the price of admission until we finish writing the play!  
SYNONYMS: bargain with, wrangle
- 9. hardy**  
(här' dē)  
(*adj.*) able to bear up under difficult conditions or harsh treatment; brave and tough  
The saguaro is a \_\_\_\_\_ variety of the cactus family.  
SYNONYMS: rugged, sturdy, resolute, stalwart  
ANTONYMS: feeble, weak
- 10. harmonious**  
(här mō' nē əs)  
(*adj.*) able to get along together well; combining different elements that blend pleasingly; melodious  
The two companies' negotiations were \_\_\_\_\_ and resulted in a merger.  
SYNONYMS: agreeable, compatible, tuneful  
ANTONYMS: harsh, grating, discordant
- 11. hoard**  
(hôrd)  
(*v.*) to store up, save; (*n.*) a hidden store or supply  
Where did the miser keep his \_\_\_\_\_ of money?  
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) amass, reserve, cache  
ANTONYMS: (*v.*) waste, throw away, squander
- 12. indisposed**  
(in dis pōzd')  
(*adj., part.*) slightly ill; disinclined to do something  
My sister was \_\_\_\_\_ with a bad head cold.  
SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) unwell, reluctant  
ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) healthy, willing, eager
- 13. legacy**  
(leg' ə sē)  
(*n.*) an inheritance; something handed down from an ancestor or from the past  
The \_\_\_\_\_ from her grandmother made her a wealthy woman.  
SYNONYMS: bequest, heritage

- 14. legitimate**  
(lə jit' ə mət)
- (*adj.*) lawful, rightful; reasonable, justifiable  
There is a new committee that rules on whether complaints are \_\_\_\_\_.
- SYNONYMS: legal, right, proper, genuine  
ANTONYMS: unlawful, illegal, improper, unauthorized
- 15. mirth**  
(mərth)
- (*n.*) merry fun, gaiety; laughter  
The children were filled with \_\_\_\_\_ as they exited the Fun House.
- SYNONYMS: merriment, glee  
ANTONYMS: gloom, sorrow
- 16. officiate**  
(ə fish' ē āt)
- (*v.*) to perform the duties of an office; to conduct a religious ceremony; to referee  
Will a judge \_\_\_\_\_ at the ceremony?
- SYNONYMS: chair, emcee, moderate
- 17. partial**  
(pär' shəl)
- (*adj.*) not complete; favoring one side over another; showing a strong liking for someone or something  
To say that she is \_\_\_\_\_ to sweets would be an understatement.
- SYNONYMS: biased, prejudiced, fond of  
ANTONYMS: complete, fair, just, unbiased
- 18. patronize**  
(pa' trə nīz)
- (*v.*) to give one's business to regularly as a customer; to support, provide financial help; to treat someone as an inferior while making a show of being kind or gracious  
We like to \_\_\_\_\_ the family-owned stores in the neighborhood.
- SYNONYMS: do business with, deal with, trade with  
ANTONYMS: boycott, refuse to deal with
- 19. rite**  
(rīt)
- (*n.*) a ceremony; the customary form of a ceremony; any formal custom or practice  
A minister will perform the marriage \_\_\_\_\_.
- SYNONYMS: observance, liturgy
- 20. sagacious**  
(sə gā' shəs)
- (*adj.*) shrewd; wise in a keen, practical way  
History has shown that \_\_\_\_\_ leaders exercise tolerance and fairness, along with good judgment.
- SYNONYMS: smart, astute  
ANTONYMS: silly, ill-advised, dopey

## Choosing the Right Word

Select the **boldface** word that better completes each sentence. You might refer to the passage on pages 184–185 to see how most of these words are used in context.

1. The city is hosting a conference to celebrate Mark Twain's (**legacy, feud**) and discuss his landmark novels and witty essays.
2. In the period ahead, there may be shortages of some foodstuffs, but we will only make things worse if we resort to (**patronizing, hoarding**).
3. Life cannot be all happiness; we must expect tears as well as (**legacies, mirth**).
4. The (**clamor, feud**) that the two sides of the family have been waging for years is about whether chili should be made with beans.
5. Learning to drive, graduating from high school, and entering college or the job market are all part of a teenager's (**rites, hoards**) of passage.
6. We cannot accept the idea that capital and labor must constantly (**feud, coincide**) with each other.
7. One reason the coach is so popular is that he is firm and even tough with his players but never acts like a (**bankrupt, despot**).
8. I was (**hardy, indisposed**) to accept the halfhearted invitation that reached me only a day before the party.
9. During the winter, there are always a few (**hardy, partial**) souls who take a dip in the icy waters off Atlantic Beach.
10. No matter how efficient the new chairperson may be, the meeting will not proceed (**authoritatively, harmoniously**) unless the members cooperate.
11. The jury was impressed by the fact that the testimony of two witnesses who were complete strangers (**coincided, clamored**) in every detail.
12. Although Aunt Helen serves delicious pumpkin pie on Thanksgiving, I must say that I am (**partial, harmonious**) to apple pie.
13. A party that cannot offer new ideas to deal with the pressing problems of the day must be considered politically (**legitimate, bankrupt**).
14. Why (**haggle, officiate**) over minor details when we are in agreement overall?
15. If you're looking for a witty, charming personality to (**officiate, coincide**) at the awards dinner, need I say that I'm available?



Mark Twain's most famous creations are the characters Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn.

16. Your healthy body is a (**legacy, rite**) you have received from your parents, and you should strive to protect it from harmful influences.
17. Did you know that our play-off game (**officials, coincides**) with spring break, and the players on the roster can't be changed?
18. We will give careful attention to (**cynical, legitimate**) complaints, but we will not be influenced by silly faultfinding.
19. The (**harmonious, authoritative**) tone in which she gave the order left no doubt in anyone's mind that she expected full obedience.
20. Isn't it (**cynical, feuding**) of you to ask other people to support a candidate in whom you yourself have no confidence?
21. A good sports official pays no attention to the (**clamor, mirth**) of the crowd when a decision goes against the home team.
22. Each answer will be considered either right or wrong; no (**sagacious, partial**) credit will be given.
23. I am annoyed by the (**haggling, patronizing**) way in which they keep reminding me "how a well-bred person behaves."
24. She may give the impression of being simple and uncomplicated, but we have found her to be unusually (**sagacious, indisposed**) in judging people.
25. In the winter, Alice grows kale, as it is such a (**hardy, sagacious**) vegetable.

## Synonyms

*Choose the word from this Unit that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.*

1. broadcast **incomplete** details of the tragedy \_\_\_\_\_
2. will undergo a **ritual** of initiation \_\_\_\_\_
3. was behaving in a highly **bossy** manner \_\_\_\_\_
4. would **quibble** over a penny \_\_\_\_\_
5. asked a substitute to **preside** \_\_\_\_\_
6. was **ailing** with a headache \_\_\_\_\_
7. proved to be a **clever** ruler \_\_\_\_\_
8. was filled with joy and **cheerfulness** \_\_\_\_\_
9. would **shop at** the local businesses \_\_\_\_\_
10. had taken sides in the bitter **dispute** \_\_\_\_\_

## Antonyms

Choose the word from this Unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. someone who is **respectful** \_\_\_\_\_
2. would **follow along** during the religious services \_\_\_\_\_
3. was **foolish** in the choices she made \_\_\_\_\_
4. a situation that is one of **sadness** \_\_\_\_\_
5. submitted the **entire** report \_\_\_\_\_

## Completing the Sentence

From the words in this Unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the correct word form in the space provided.

1. When you say that "everyone is out to take advantage of everyone else," I think you're being much too \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The students were urged to \_\_\_\_\_ the local merchants who advertised in the school paper.
3. About five minutes before feeding time, all the babies in the nursery start to \_\_\_\_\_ for their bottles.
4. The referee who \_\_\_\_\_ at a hockey game needs the stamina to keep up with the players and the patience to put up with them.
5. I think your price for the tennis racket is too high, but as I'm in no mood to \_\_\_\_\_ with you, I'll take it.
6. Where can I get a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ estimate of how the population of the United States is likely to change in the years ahead?
7. We must be prepared to defend the \_\_\_\_\_ of freedom that we have inherited from earlier generations of Americans.
8. My aunt called to say that she would not be able to visit us today because she was \_\_\_\_\_ with an asthma attack.
9. Historians are still examining the deadly \_\_\_\_\_ that arose between the Hatfield and McCoy families more than 100 years ago.
10. Nothing will be accomplished unless the members of the committee work together in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ fashion.



11. Is it true that squirrels \_\_\_\_\_ nuts and other foods that they can use during the winter?
12. Although she had no previous experience as a treasurer, she showed herself to be highly \_\_\_\_\_ in the way she handled money.
13. The pioneers who settled the West were \_\_\_\_\_ people who could cope with difficulties and dangers of all kinds.
14. Our supervisor became extremely unpopular with us because he acted like a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ toward everyone in the department.
15. True, business has been poor, but we are covering our expenses and can assure you that there's no danger of our going \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Your program for cleaning up the neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_ with ours, so why don't we work together?
17. The fact that the baseball season is opening today is certainly not a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ excuse for being absent from school.
18. I am making only a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ payment at the present time and will pay off the balance in installments.
19. I like a good laugh as much as anyone, but I realized that such a solemn ceremony was not the time for \_\_\_\_\_.
20. The pagan religions of ancient times revolved around the performance of various \_\_\_\_\_ designed to ensure the fertility of the land.

### Writing Words in Action

1. Look back at "A Brief History of Gold" (pages 184–185). Suppose that people used gold instead of paper money as currency today. People's wealth would actually be measured by their "weight in gold." Do you think people would be more conscientious about spending and saving if this were the case? Write a persuasive essay in which you support your opinion, using at least two details from the passage and three Unit words.

2. "*All that glitters is not gold.*"—William Shakespeare

Shakespeare's famous quotation from *The Merchant of Venice* suggests that some things we desire may not actually be valuable. In a brief essay, state whether you agree with Shakespeare on this point. Support your ideas with specific examples, observations, your studies, personal experiences, or the reading (refer to pages 184–185). Write at least three paragraphs, and use three or more words from this Unit.

# Vocabulary in Context

## Literary Text

The following excerpts are from *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Some of the words you have studied in this Unit appear in **boldface** type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. Some, too, have baffled his analytical skill, and would be, as narratives, beginnings without an ending, while others have been but **partially** cleared up, and have their explanations founded rather upon conjecture and surmise than on that absolute logical proof which was so dear to him. ("The Five Orange Pips")

If something is **partially** resolved, it is done

- a. openly                      c. rationally  
b. incompletely          d. cautiously
2. He rushes to some secret **hoard**, where he has accumulated the fruits of his beggary, and he stuffs all the coins upon which he can lay his hands into the pockets to make sure of the coat's sinking. ("The Man with the Twisted Lip")

A **hoard** is a

- a. friend                      c. stockpile  
b. cellar                      d. dwelling
3. His plans were suddenly brought to a head by his knowledge that Sir Charles was about to leave the Hall on the advice of Dr. Mortimer, with whose opinion he himself pretended to **coincide**.

(*The Hound of the Baskervilles*)

To **coincide** with others is to

- a. challenge them          c. be fond of them  
b. avoid them              d. agree with them
4. "I hope," said Dr. Mortimer, "that you do not look with suspicious eyes upon everyone who received a **legacy** from Sir Charles, for I also had a thousand pounds left to me." (*The Hound of the Baskervilles*)

A **legacy** is a(n)

- a. misgiving                c. invitation  
b. inheritance             d. souvenir
5. "I have cross-examined these men . . . who all tell the same story of this dreadful apparition . . . I assure you that there is a reign of terror in the district, and that it is a **hardy** man who will cross the moor at night." (*The Hound of the Baskervilles*)

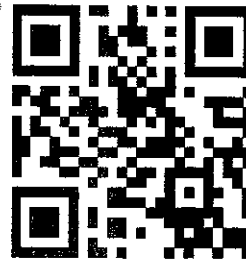
Someone who is **hardy** is definitely NOT

- a. frail                        c. courageous  
b. pleasant                d. stubborn



In the 1959 film adaptation of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, Peter Cushing plays Sherlock Holmes.

Interactive  
Quiz



Snap the code, or go to  
[vocabularyworkshop.com](http://vocabularyworkshop.com)

## Vocabulary for Comprehension

Read the following passage in which some of the words you have studied in Units 13-15 appear in **boldface** type. Then answer the questions on page 195.

*This passage discusses Jim Thorpe (1888-1953), one of America's greatest and most versatile athletes.*

(Line)

Voted the greatest male athlete of the first half of the twentieth century by the Associated Press in 1950, Jim Thorpe received **massive** praise and criticism in his lifetime. Thorpe was born in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) in 1888. In 1904, Thorpe was sent to the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania, where his astounding athletic ability was first discovered by Glenn S. "Pop" Warner, the legendary coach of the school. When the coach spotted Thorpe high-jumping six feet, he offered him a place on the track team, where he instantly became a star. He also became a football hero. In fact, in one of his best games, he helped the Carlisle football team **vanquish** its rival Harvard by booting four field goals. For his efforts on the football field, he was named to the All-American team.

Jim Thorpe left Carlisle in 1909 to play baseball for two seasons in the East Carolina minor league, a decision that would affect his whole life. His greatest achievement would come, however, in the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden. There, he would win two gold medals—in the pentathlon and the

decaathlon. "Sir, you are the greatest athlete in the world," said King Gustav V of Sweden, who was **officiating** at the games. Yet as events would show, Thorpe's triumph would be only a **partial** victory.

Shortly after the Olympic games were held, a sportswriter who had seen Thorpe play baseball in the minor leagues exposed him as a professional athlete, making him ineligible for Olympic competition. The Amateur Athletic Union stripped Thorpe of his Olympic records and medals in 1913, casting a **pall** over his achievements.

Thorpe joined the baseball New York Giants in that same year. The versatile Thorpe played professionally in both baseball and football. He was named the first commissioner of the new National Football League in 1920.

For his achievements in football, he was inducted into the College and Pro Football Halls of Fame. In 1982, nearly 30 years after his death, the International Olympic Committee restored Thorpe's medals, thereby preserving his status as one of the world's greatest athletes.

1. Which of the following would make the best title for this passage?
  - a. "Famous Native Americans"
  - b. "Pop Warner and Jim Thorpe"
  - c. "The Olympic Games of 1912"
  - d. "The Athletic Career of Jim Thorpe"
  - e. "Great Male Athletes of the Twentieth Century"
2. The meaning of **massive** (line 4) is
  - a. great
  - b. reliable
  - c. enthusiastic
  - d. widespread
  - e. unjustified
3. **Vanquish** (line 20) most nearly means
  - a. challenge
  - b. conquer
  - c. welcome
  - d. persecute
  - e. succumb to
4. The criticism of Thorpe mentioned in line 5 had to do with
  - a. his personal life
  - b. his conduct as a football commissioner
  - c. his professional behavior as a baseball player
  - d. his professional behavior as a football player
  - e. his professional career before the 1912 Olympic Games
5. **Officiating** (line 36) is best defined as
  - a. observing
  - b. competing
  - c. announcing
  - d. presiding
  - e. voting
6. **Partial** (line 38) most nearly means
  - a. small
  - b. instant
  - c. elusive
  - d. fond of
  - e. incomplete
7. Thorpe's athletic ability was first recognized when he was
  - a. a professional football player
  - b. a minor league baseball player
  - c. a child at the Carlisle Indian School
  - d. a player for the New York Giants
  - e. a gold medal winner
8. From lines 39–48, you can infer that
  - a. Olympic competitors had to be amateur athletes
  - b. Olympic competitors had to be professional athletes
  - c. Thorpe had a spectacular career in the minor leagues
  - d. Thorpe did not know about the Olympic committee's rules
  - e. sportswriters were biased against Thorpe
9. **Pall** (line 47) is best defined as
  - a. bore
  - b. light
  - c. shadow
  - d. scandal
  - e. fascination
10. Thorpe was all of these EXCEPT
  - a. a member of the Football Hall of Fame
  - b. the most valuable player in the 1912 World Series
  - c. the winner of the decathlon in the 1912 Olympics
  - d. the winner of the pentathlon in the 1912 Olympics
  - e. a commissioner of the National Football League
11. The author organized the information
  - a. in chronological order
  - b. in spatial order
  - c. using cause-effect
  - d. in order of importance
  - e. using comparison-contrast
12. The author's tone is best described as
  - a. critical
  - b. respectful
  - c. indifferent
  - d. skeptical
  - e. enthusiastic

Two-Word Completions

Select the pair of words that best completes the meaning of each of the following sentences.

1. "I hate to \_\_\_\_\_ over minor details," the fussy little prince remarked to the court magician. "But I'm hungry, and bouquets of fake flowers aren't particularly \_\_\_\_\_. Do you have any carrot sticks?"
 

a. haggle . . . nutritious	c. grovel . . . pedestrian
b. meditate . . . massive	d. clamor . . . gaudy
  
2. "If we are to win this important election," the senator said, "we must put aside our private \_\_\_\_\_ and present a united front. Those who \_\_\_\_\_ this advice will be helping our cause."
 

a. afflictions . . . diminish	c. handicrafts . . . countenance
b. legacies . . . revere	d. feuds . . . heed
  
3. Betty's grandfather was a \_\_\_\_\_ young man who traveled alone on a ship from Ireland to the United States. Although he worked years for \_\_\_\_\_ wages, he eventually saved up enough money to buy a farm and start a family.
 

a. cynical . . . stodgy	c. hardy . . . meager
b. hilarious . . . bankrupt	d. wan . . . inflated
  
4. The tragic news of our friend's death in an automobile accident cast a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of gloom over our little gathering that evening and turned our \_\_\_\_\_ to tears.
 

a. affliction . . . rite	c. saga . . . countenance
b. clamor . . . agitation	d. pall . . . mirth
  
5. "I'm happy to shop at any establishment that is owned by a \_\_\_\_\_ businessperson," Mom declared. "But I absolutely refuse to \_\_\_\_\_ a store that is run by people who are out to cheat me."
 

a. despotic . . . bankrupt	c. cosmopolitan . . . foster
b. reputable . . . patronize	d. legitimate . . . transmit
  
6. The referees who \_\_\_\_\_ at hockey games are like judges presiding over trials. For that reason, they and their assistants must be as \_\_\_\_\_ as possible. If they show any favoritism in their calls, they'll hear about it from the fans.
 

a. officiate . . . impartial	c. clamor . . . cosmopolitan
b. agitate . . . authoritative	d. haggle . . . partial
  
7. "You certainly don't have to \_\_\_\_\_ your money the way a miser would," I observed, "but if you continue to throw it around quite so freely, you'll soon be \_\_\_\_\_."
 

a. transmit . . . stodgy	c. revere . . . pedestrian
b. hoard . . . bankrupt	d. foster . . . indisposed

# Idioms

In the passage "Celebrating the Death of a Killer" (see pages 174–175), the writer states that the World Health Organization's goal to eradicate smallpox was considered by many to be "beyond the pale."

"Beyond the pale" is an idiom that means the idea was so extreme, it was unacceptable to many people. An **idiom** is an expression that does not make sense if you define it literally. Idioms work their way into our daily language. The best way to learn idioms is to understand the context in which they are used.

## Choosing the Right Idiom

Read each sentence. Use context clues to figure out the meaning of each idiom in **boldface** print. Then write the letter of the definition for the idiom in the sentence.

1. If Mark thinks I will lend him money, he's **barking up the wrong tree**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. promptly or immediately
2. John will do anything for Brenda **at the drop of a hat**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. possession that cost too much but has little value
3. With the flu going around, students at our school are **dropping like flies**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. spend less money than usual
4. With increased gas and food prices, we must **tighten our belts** around here. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. playing rowdily or acting silly
5. "Quit **horsing around** before you knock over the display!" Maya said. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. a secret plan or scheme
6. When Dana takes over Jessica's job, she will have some pretty **big shoes to fill**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. huge expectations in taking the place of another
7. Your stationary bike is a **white elephant** that sits in the garage collecting dust. \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. announced a run for office
8. I'm not sure why Steve called this meeting, but I think he has **something up his sleeve**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - h. looking for something in the wrong place
9. Whenever Carlos is out of town, Sheila acts as if she is **top dog**. \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. the person who is in charge
10. Did you hear that Jack **threw his hat into the ring** and decided to run for class president? \_\_\_\_\_
  - j. becoming ill or dying in large numbers

# WORD STUDY

## Writing with Idioms

Find the meaning of each idiom. (Use a dictionary if necessary.) Then write a sentence for each idiom.

1. take a catnap

---

2. lose one's shirt

---

3. wag the dog

---

4. buckle down

---

5. roll up your sleeves

---

---

6. the lion's share

---

---

7. a night owl

---

---

8. on a shoestring

---

9. the shoe's on the other foot

---

10. a fat cat

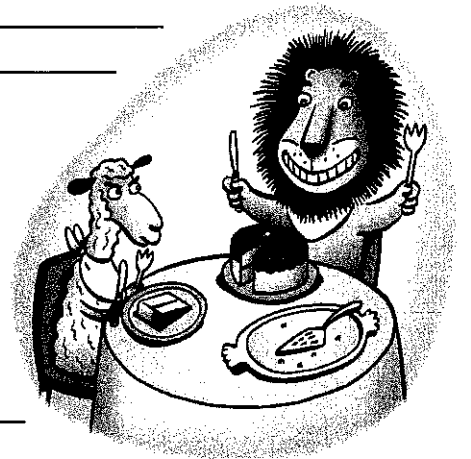
---

11. ride on someone's coattails

---

12. bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

---



# Denotation and Connotation

The dictionary meaning of a word is its **denotation**. This meaning is literal and has a neutral tone.

Words also have emotional associations, or **connotations**. These associations can be positive or negative.

Consider these synonyms for the neutral word *worldly*.

*urbane*    *cosmopolitan*    *cultured*    *slick*

*Urbane*, *cosmopolitan*, and *cultured* are words with a positive connotation, but *slick* has a negative connotation.

**Think:** It is a compliment to be considered urbane, cosmopolitan, or cultured because those words imply maturity and sophistication. It is an insult to be considered slick, as that word suggests a surface glossiness and superficiality.

Look at these examples of words that are similar in denotation but have different connotations.

NEUTRAL	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
store	save	hoard
noise	excitement	clamor
maternal	caring	overprotective

It is important for readers and writers to know the connotations of words, since a single word can alter the emotional tone of a sentence. For example, if a character in a story *closes* a door, the action seems neutral, and there is no reason to question the character's motivations. But if a character *secures* a door, readers might infer that the character is frightened, and they might wonder what danger is looming.

## Shades of Meaning

Write a plus sign (+) in the box if the word has a positive connotation.

Write a minus sign (-) if the word has a negative connotation. Put a zero (0) if the word is neutral.

- |                  |                          |               |                          |                |                          |             |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. chronological | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. hilarious  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. wan         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. coincide | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. grovel        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. pedestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. handicraft  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. hoax     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. gratitude     | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. stodgy    | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. ignite     | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. gala    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. despot       | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. rite      | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. nutritious | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. feud    | <input type="checkbox"/> |



## WORD STUDY

### Expressing the Connotation

Read each sentence. Select the word in parentheses that better expresses the connotation (positive, negative, or neutral) given at the beginning of the sentence.

- negative    1. A (**strong, massive**) snowstorm caused hundreds of airline delays.
- neutral    2. Rather than get married by a city official, some people go to Las Vegas and have an Elvis impersonator (**officiate, perform**) the ceremony.
- positive    3. In some markets, customers are encouraged to (**negotiate, haggle**) for the best price.
- negative    4. You know things must be bad when Joyce, the optimist, views the news in a (**cynical, doubtful**) light.
- neutral    5. Lou's interest in the new girl began to (**lessen, pall**) when he realized she was a snob.
- negative    6. "We will (**vanquish, tame**) this corrupt regime!" the protestors cried from the tower.
- positive    7. I love to watch the awards shows on television and see the (**gaudy, colorful**) outfits the actors wear.
- positive    8. The announcement that the school was in lock-down caused (**concern, agitation**) among the students.

### Challenge: Using Connotation

Choose vocabulary words from Units 13–15 to replace the highlighted words in the sentences below. Then explain how the connotation of the replacement word changes the tone of the sentence.

impostor  
cosmopolitan

oppressed  
despot

blurted  
indisposed

1. The announcement read: "Madame Laurent sends her regrets. She will not be able to attend this evening's gala, as she is presently **nauseated** \_\_\_\_\_."
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
2. Everyone at dinner was stunned when my sister **said** \_\_\_\_\_ that she was quitting her job to join a rock band.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
3. I'm reading a novel about a medieval **monarch** \_\_\_\_\_ who forcibly gained control of the throne and imprisoned those who did not accept his rule.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Classical Roots

**rupt**—to break

This Latin root appears in **bankrupt** (page 186). Literally, the word means “bank broken”—that is, “unable to pay one’s debts.” It also means “one who is unable to pay his or her debts” or “to ruin financially and thus make unable to pay debts.” Some other words based on the same root are listed below.

**abrupt**

**corrupt**

**disruptive**

**erupt**

**incorruptible**

**interrupt**

**irruption**

**rupture**

From the list of words above, choose the one that corresponds to each of the brief definitions below. Write the word in the blank space in the illustrative sentence below the definition. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. not open to immoral behavior, honest; unbribeable

He remained a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ public official despite the many attempts of the crime boss to bribe him.

2. a breaking or bursting in; a violent invasion

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Goths into Roman territory led to the collapse of the Roman Empire.

3. sudden, short, blunt; very steep

The car made a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ stop at the crosswalk to avoid hitting the pedestrian.

4. causing disorder or turmoil (“to break apart”)

His late arrival had a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ influence on the meeting.

5. to break in upon; to stop, halt

All day long she has to \_\_\_\_\_ her work in order to answer telephone calls from clients.

6. rotten, wicked, dishonest; to make evil; to bribe

The \_\_\_\_\_ dictatorship was replaced by a democratic republic.

7. to burst forth (“to break out”)

Boiling streams of lava \_\_\_\_\_ from the exploding volcano, causing the population to flee.

8. a breaking; to break

The engineers worked frantically to repair the \_\_\_\_\_ in the wall of the dam.

# FINAL MASTERY TEST

## Synonyms

Select the two words or expressions that are most nearly the same in meaning.

- |                 |               |               |                  |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. a. erode     | b. renovate   | c. indulge    | d. pamper        |
| 2. a. nurture   | b. disrupt    | c. foster     | d. haggle        |
| 3. a. pact      | b. alliance   | c. wrath      | d. potential     |
| 4. a. turmoil   | b. dynasty    | c. regime     | d. despot        |
| 5. a. spirited  | b. available  | c. animated   | d. reputable     |
| 6. a. remnant   | b. cache      | c. void       | d. hoard         |
| 7. a. docile    | b. fickle     | c. vital      | d. indispensable |
| 8. a. decrease  | b. diminish   | c. capsize    | d. lubricate     |
| 9. a. fruitless | b. harmonious | c. mellow     | d. futile        |
| 10. a. verify   | b. implore    | c. entreat    | d. goad          |
| 11. a. preview  | b. overture   | c. foretaste  | d. magnitude     |
| 12. a. seethe   | b. quench     | c. bewilder   | d. stifle        |
| 13. a. ultimate | b. cynical    | c. inimitable | d. unique        |
| 14. a. brood    | b. meditate   | c. hinder     | d. mortify       |
| 15. a. orthodox | b. quaint     | c. customary  | d. notorious     |

## Antonyms

Select the two words that are most nearly opposite in meaning.

- |                    |               |                  |                  |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| 16. a. swerve      | b. veto       | c. maul          | d. ratify        |
| 17. a. entice      | b. accelerate | c. dissuade      | d. insinuate     |
| 18. a. peevish     | b. puny       | c. disputatious  | d. gigantic      |
| 19. a. hostile     | b. hardy      | c. hilarious     | d. heartrending  |
| 20. a. humdrum     | b. leisurely  | c. grueling      | d. miscellaneous |
| 21. a. hanker      | b. grovel     | c. hurtle        | d. patronize     |
| 22. a. graphic     | b. random     | c. chronological | d. pending       |
| 23. a. inflammable | b. meager     | c. nutritious    | d. lavish        |
| 24. a. flourish    | b. flounder   | c. singe         | d. wilt          |
| 25. a. enchant     | b. presume    | c. trickle       | d. pall          |

## Analogies

Select the item that best completes the comparison.

26. **barren** is to **produce** as  
a. inhumane is to abuse  
b. timid is to fear  
c. poised is to enjoy  
d. ignorant is to know
27. **résumé** is to **career** as  
a. truce is to war  
b. speaker is to oration  
c. synopsis is to plot  
d. paragraph is to sentence
28. **scurry** is to **walk** as  
a. dive is to swim  
b. chatter is to talk  
c. listen is to hear  
d. demonstrate is to show
29. **simultaneous** is to **time** as  
a. regal is to power  
b. contemporary is to period  
c. coincidental is to luck  
d. abnormal is to health
30. **hearth** is to **heat** as  
a. lamp is to light  
b. sink is to kitchen  
c. door is to lock  
d. bed is to blanket
31. **basket weaving** is to **handicraft** as  
a. profession is to medicine  
b. carpentry is to trade  
c. skill is to talent  
d. hobby is to stamp collecting
32. **laugh** is to **mirth** as  
a. yawn is to boredom  
b. frown is to delight  
c. tear is to suspense  
d. gasp is to disappointment
33. **caterer** is to **refreshments** as  
a. chef is to restaurant  
b. seamstress is to needle  
c. baker is to oven  
d. tailor is to clothing

## Two-Word Completions

To complete the sentences, select the best word pair from among the choices given.

34. The man was sure the watch was a valuable collectible, and was shocked to find out that he had been \_\_\_\_\_ as it was nothing but a \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. flustered ... farce  
b. duped ... counterfeit  
c. evicted ... firebrand  
d. heeded ... drone
35. Although the experienced \_\_\_\_\_ had a highly marketable idea, he \_\_\_\_\_ in the recession.
- a. entrepreneur ... went bankrupt  
b. bystander ... was sullen  
c. fugitive ... was vigilant  
d. beneficiary ... was controversial
36. The editor's comment about the novel's "\_\_\_\_\_" narrative \_\_\_\_\_ the writer.
- a. gruesome ... marred  
b. notable ... frustrated  
c. unscathed ... inflated  
d. stodgy ... disheartened
37. With her \_\_\_\_\_ complexion and \_\_\_\_\_ dress, the actress resembled the ghost of a vaudevillian entertainer.
- a. wayward ... trivial  
b. dynamic ... maternal  
c. lethargic ... grimy  
d. wan ... gaudy

# FINAL MASTERY TEST

## Supplying Words In Context

To complete each sentence, select the best word from among the choices given. Not all words in the word bank will be used. You may modify the word form as necessary.

**indignant**  
**dominate**  
**nomadic**  
**uncertainty**

**botch**  
**adjacent**  
**mull**  
**pervade**

**blurt**  
**fledgling**  
**malignant**  
**inflict**

**nub**  
**impostor**  
**flagrant**  
**interrogate**

38. When I was just a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ in my very first pro season, one of the veteran players took me under his wing.
39. Although I realize you have many interesting stories to tell, I do wish you wouldn't always \_\_\_\_\_ the conversation.
40. Even though he lives in a house \_\_\_\_\_ to the school, he is often late for his first class.
41. Inexperienced as we were, we knew we would \_\_\_\_\_ the preparation of the meal, so we decided to go out to eat.
42. Instead of giving me all those unimportant details, let's get right to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the matter.
43. I know I would have to \_\_\_\_\_ over the events of the evening before I could determine if I had acted inappropriately.

**downright**  
**insubordinate**  
**transmit**  
**utmost**

**interminable**  
**dilapidated**  
**iota**  
**snare**

**recompense**  
**malady**  
**morbid**  
**alight**

**affliction**  
**elongate**  
**incentive**  
**casual**

44. Luckily, the communications officer was able to \_\_\_\_\_ an SOS signal just before the ship's radio stopped working.
45. The smile of joy she gave me when she received the award was ample \_\_\_\_\_ for all the time and effort I had spent in helping her.
46. It was \_\_\_\_\_ rude of her to ignore my kind offer of help.
47. If you had a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of consideration for us, you would turn down the volume on the television set.
48. The trick was to \_\_\_\_\_ him in his own web of lies and deceit.
49. The deserted cabin was so \_\_\_\_\_ that it looked as though any strong breeze would cause it to collapse.

# Word Associations

Select the word or expression that best completes the meaning of the sentence or answers the question, with particular reference to the meaning of the word in **boldface** type.

50. Which of the following would be most likely to create **havoc**?  
a. a summer breeze  
b. a game of volleyball  
c. a school assembly  
d. a tornado
51. An example of a **grim** event is a  
a. graduation  
b. fatal accident  
c. family reunion  
d. holiday
52. If there is **mutual** admiration between two people,  
a. the admiration is not genuine  
b. they admire each other  
c. the admiration is one-sided  
d. the admiration will not last
53. Which of the following is likely to be **sodden**?  
a. a desert  
b. a high school musical  
c. a rain-soaked field  
d. a driver's test
54. A **stalemate** lacks  
a. a solution  
b. a sense of humor  
c. freshness  
d. opponents
55. Which of the following would *not* be likely to **canvass** an area?  
a. an interviewer  
b. a homebody  
c. a pollster  
d. a door-to-door salesperson
56. A **braggart** would be most likely to  
a. grin and bear it  
b. stick to his or her guns  
c. fly off the handle  
d. toot his or her own horn
57. Which of the following would *not* be found in **rural** areas?  
a. skyscrapers  
b. water  
c. cows  
d. people
58. You would be most likely to **browse**  
a. in a library  
b. on the tennis court  
c. when you are asleep  
d. during a test
59. A person facing the **hazards** of life is  
a. making money  
b. tackling perils  
c. winning victories  
d. playing golf
60. Which of the following is *not* **transparent**?  
a. a pane of glass  
b. a feeble excuse  
c. air  
d. a wooden door
61. A person who receives a **legacy** has gained something as a result of  
a. inheriting it  
b. hard work  
c. dishonesty  
d. gambling

## FINAL MASTERY TEST

### Choosing the Right Meaning

Read each sentence carefully. Then select the item that best completes the statement below the sentence.

62. The dogs scattered out of the house once they saw that the door had been left **ajar**.  
In line 1 the word **ajar** most nearly means  
a. alone                      b. partly open                      c. untouched                      d. sealed
63. The guidance counselor assured the student that she would develop a more **cosmopolitan** point of view by travelling abroad.  
In line 2 the word **cosmopolitan** most nearly means  
a. mechanical                      b. sophisticated                      c. false                      d. oppressed
64. In looking for work, the fisherman decided to move to a port town that was rumored to **abound** with fish.  
In line 2 **abound** most nearly means  
a. leap                      b. produce young                      c. are protected                      d. are plentiful
65. Realizing her brother was the defendant, she knew she would not be able to provide an **impartial** decision, and asked to be removed from the case.  
In line 2 **impartial** most nearly means  
a. unbiased                      b. incomplete                      c. unhurried                      d. effective
66. The longer two people carry on a **feud**, the harder it becomes for them to reconcile with one another.  
In line 1 **feud** most nearly means  
a. machine                      b. quarrel                      c. movement                      d. constituent
67. Thousands of **downtrodden** workers met in the square to talk about the possibility of creating a union.  
In line 1 **downtrodden** most nearly means  
a. well-paid                      b. happy                      c. skillful                      d. oppressed
68. Because the pledge had been left by an **anonymous** donor, the organization could not send out a letter of thanks.  
In line 1 **anonymous** most nearly means  
a. innocent                      b. eager                      c. unnamed                      d. angry
69. Because both children loved broccoli, their mother did not expect them to **detest** cauliflower.  
In line 1 **detest** most nearly means  
a. know                      b. hate                      c. welcome                      d. understand
70. As he had been found guilty of **perjury** in the past, his testimony could not be considered reliable, and he was dismissed from the case.  
In line 1 **perjury** most nearly means  
a. kidnapping                      b. stealing                      c. killing                      d. lying