

EVANESCENT #1. (ADJ.)

Context: The evanescent mist disappears each day after the sun rises above the city.

Defined: short-lived, fleeting, momentary, vanishing, ephemeral, fading

2 Synonyms: BR ___ ___ ___
TEMP ___ ___ ___ ___

Write a sentence using the word evanescent.

NEGLIGIBLE #2. (ADJ.)

Context: Such a negligible flaw in the diamond would never be noticed except by a professional.

Defined: of little importance, hardly noticeable, tiny, insignificant, small, trivial

2 Synonyms: PA ___ T ___ Y or ME ___ S ___ Y

1 Antonym: S ___ ___ N ___ ___ IC ___ NT

CAPITULATE #3. (V.)

Context: After enduring a brutal siege, the rebels were forced to capitulate.

Defined: to give up, to surrender, submit, yield, concede defeat, throw in the towel, lay down one's arms

2 Antonyms: R_ S__ T
HO__ OU_

ENIGMA #4 (N.)

Context: Baffled by the enigma of the missing socks, Angel decided to call in the experts.

Defined: a person or thing that is mysterious, puzzling, or difficult to understand; mystery, puzzle, riddle, conundrum, paradox

Write a sentence about something that is enigmatic to you.

ZENITH #5. (N.)

Context: At the zenith of her career, she had over five lucrative endorsement deals and was considered a lock for MVP.

Defined: peak, highest point, pinnacle, top, acme, crest

2 Synonyms: SUM__ __
A__ X

FORTUITOUS #6. (ADJ.)

Context: On his way to the gym, Andrew made a fortuitous discovery: a hundred dollar bill lying on the sidewalk.

Defined: accidental, by chance, lucky, serendipitous, opportune, timely

Write 2-3 sentences about something fortuitous that has happened to you or that you would like to have happen to you.

SPORADIC #7. (ADJ.)

Context: Beth's sporadic attendance infuriated Coach Maver, who accused her of not truly caring about hockey or her team.

Defined: inconsistent, infrequent, occasional, irregular, periodic, scattered, patchy, isolated, erratic

2 Antonyms: FR__ _ENT
_RE__C_AB__

POMPOUS #8. (ADJ.)

Context: Ernesto, the most pompous senior in school, struts around like he's royalty.

Defined: self-important, pretentious, puffed up, arrogant, haughty, proud, conceited, supercilious, condescending, snooty, uppity

2 Synonyms: V _ _ N
 E _ O _ _ ST _ C

1 Antonym: M _ D _ _ T

CLANDESTINE #9. (ADJ.)

Context: The government agent trained for years before he began his clandestine activities overseas.

Defined: secret, covert, furtive, surreptitious, stealthy, cloak-and-dagger, hush-hush

Write a sentence about someone who needs to be clandestine in order to not be discovered.

SYCOPHANT #10. (N.) |'sɪkɒfənt; -fənt|

Context: Bill is such a sycophant. As student council president, all he does is kiss up to the principal and praise all his decisions.

Defined: one who flatters in order to gain advantage, yes-man, brown-noser, toady, lickspittle, flunky, lackey, suck-up

2 Synonyms: S _ OO _ E

DO_R_AT

EFFACE #11. (V.)

Context: The chalk drawings were effaced by the rain.

Defined: erase, eradicate, expunge, erode, rub out, remove, eliminate, cancel

2 Synonyms: O_LI__R_T__
D_L__E

Write a sentence in which you efface (erase) something.

SPURIOUS #12. (ADJ.)

Context: Abe tried to defend himself against spurious accusations that he had rigged the election.

Defined: bogus, fake, false, counterfeit, forged, fraudulent, sham, deceptive, misleading, phony

1 Antonym: G_N__N__

ACQUIESCE #13. (V.)

Context: After enduring hours of nagging and whining, Mrs. Nixon acquiesced to her son's pleas and gave him a later curfew.

Defined: accept, consent to, agree to, allow, concede,

concur with, comply with, cooperate with, give in to, yield to

Origin: Latin acquiescere 'to rest'

TACITURN #14. (ADJ.)

Context: Our taciturn daughter has suddenly become a little chatty.

Defined: silent, introverted, quiet, uncommunicative

I Synonym: R _ S _ _ V _ _
I Antonym: T _ _ K _ T _ V _

RHETORIC #15. (N.)

Context: Claudia is a master of rhetoric. After listening to her for a few minutes, you'll believe whatever she is telling you.

Defined: the art of effective or persuasive speaking or writing; oratory, eloquence, command of language, way with words, propaganda

*Empty rhetoric—bombast, grandiloquence, **pomposity**, extravagant language, wordiness, verbosity, **hot air**

IRREFUTABLE #16. (ADJ.)

Context: The evidence was irrefutable, and the jury

convicted her after only an hour of deliberation.

Defined: impossible to deny or disprove, having no argument against

[Refute (v.) = prove to be false or wrong]

List 5 irrefutable facts.

DISSEMINATE #17. (V.)

Context: The dissemination of information always happened right after school, when groups of friends got together about the day's news.

Defined: spread, circulate, distribute, disperse, publicize, communicate, pass on, make known

Origin: Latin disseminat- 'scattered'

ALOOF #18. (ADJ.)

Context: Unlike the eager and friendly dog, who barked with excitement whenever she saw her owner, the cat was aloof and disliked human company.

Defined: cool and distant, detached, unfriendly, antisocial, withdrawn, reserved, standoffish

2 Antonyms: F _ M _ LI _ _

F__EN__L__

UTOPIA #19. (N.)

Context: After a harsh winter in North Dakota, Miami seemed like a utopia.

Defined: paradise; an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect

Origin: The word was first used in the book Utopia (1516) by Sir Thomas More

Greek 'topos' = place

INNATE #20. (ADJ.)

Context: Owen's sledding prowess is a combination of innate ability and dedicated training.

Defined: inborn, inherent, natural, intrinsic, instinctive, intuitive, deep-rooted, hard-wire

2 Antonyms: LEA__N__
REH__R__

PLACATE #21. (V.)

Context: In an attempt to placate his furious students, Mr. Mallory agreed to rethink his grading policy.

Defined: make less angry or hostile; pacify, calm, appease, soothe, win over, make peace with

1 Antonym: PR__ OK__

FALLACY #22. (N.)

Context: A lot of people believe that going outside with wet hair will give you a cold, but that's a total fallacy.

Defined: false idea, misconception, misbelief, delusion, error, mistake

2 Synonyms: U_T_UT_
M_TH

DULCET #23. (ADJ.)

Context: The Blue Grosbeak, bejeweled with glistening blue feathers, has a silvery bill and sings a dulcet song in tall grasses.

Defined: sweet and soothing, mellow, honeyed, pleasant, melodic, lyrical, golden

2 Antonyms: H_R__
C_C_PH_N__

EXPEDITE #24. (V.)

Context: In order to expedite the check-in process, please

have your ID out.

Defined: speed up, accelerate, hurry, hasten, step up, quicken, make easier, aid, boost, stimulate, spur on, catalyze

1 Antonym: D _ _ A _

AUGMENT #25. (V.)

Context: Ali, determined to augment her Barbie collection, spent every free afternoon searching for new dolls.

Defined: add to, build up, enlarge, expand, raise, multiply, grow, boost

2 Synonyms: IN _ _ _ A _ E
SU _ _ LE _ E _ _

WINSOME #26. (ADJ.)

Context: Her winsome smile lit up her face and made her attractive to those who were around her.

Defined: charming, appealing, attractive in appearance or character

Underline the synonyms of winsome:

endearing revolting obnoxious engaging
amiable charismatic compelling

PALTRY #27. (ADJ.)

Context: For three years, the castaway survived on paltry amounts of fish, bamboo, and coconut.

Defined: meager, measly, of a small amount, scarce

2 Synonyms: N _ G _ _ _ _ BL _
 IN _ _ GN _ _ I _ AN _

OMNIVOROUS #28. (ADJ.)

Context: I used to be a vegetarian, but I started having intense turkey cravings, so now I'm omnivorous.

Defined: having a diet of both plants and animals; eating anything

List three omnivorous animals.

PERFUNCTORY #29. (ADJ.)

Context: After giving her relatives a perfunctory nod, Alexis hurried out of the room to hang out with her friends.

Defined: an action or gesture carried out with minimum effort or reflection; cursory, hasty, superficial, careless, halfhearted

2 Antonyms: C _ R _ _ _ U _
 TH _ _ OU _ _

QUIXOTIC #30. (ADJ.)

Context: When she turned eighteen, Lily set out on a quixotic pursuit of rollerskating fame.

Defined: dreamy, idealistic, romantic, Utopian, extravagant, starry-eyed, unrealistic, impractical, impossible

Origin: late 18th cent.: from **Don Quixote** + **-ic**

LATENT #31. (ADJ.)

Context: After just a few sessions with the psychiatrist, Andy's latent fears started to come to the surface.

Defined: dormant, undiscovered, hidden, concealed, underlying, invisible, unseen, unrealized

What are 3 things that can be latent?

CHARLATAN #32. (N.)

Context: Late-night TV is full of charlatans selling weight loss products and kitchen gadgets.

Defined: a fraud, an impostor, a person falsely claiming to have a special knowledge or skill; quack, sham, fake, cheat, deceiver, double-dealer, flimflammer

2 Synonyms: _____ C__ _ AR__ _ S_

S_IND__R

TANGIBLE #33. (ADJ.)

Context: I'd prefer a reward more tangible than praise—say, cash?!

Defined: touchable, physical, real, substantial, concrete; visible, actual, clear, evident, perceptible

1 Antonym: A_ST_A__

STAGNANT #34. (ADJ.)

Context: The stagnant pond attracts mosquitoes.

Defined: having no current or flow and often having an unpleasant smell; still, motionless, standing; foul, stale, putrid

2 Antonyms: F_O_IN_
F_ES_

[stagnant water or stagnant economy]

BURGEON #35. (V.)

Context: After the kerfuffle was over, Mikey had a swollen lip and a burgeoning black eye.

Defined: to grow or increase rapidly, flourish, thrive, prosper, escalate, swell, grow, bloom, snowball, rocket

List 3 things that burgeon.

DEPRECATE #36. (V.)

Context: Sylvia deprecated her opponent in the strongest terms, calling her a cheat, a liar, and an incompetent buffoon.

Defined: deplore, abhor, disapprove of, frown on, detest, despise; criticize

2 Antonyms: P _ A _ S _
OV _ _ RA _ _

MOROSE #37. (ADJ.)

Context: Edward, looking morose, stared out at the rain and felt sorry for himself.

Defined: gloomy, down in the dumps, depressed, sullen, sulky, sour, glum, moody, melancholy, downcast, unhappy, grumpy, irritable, cantankerous, crotchety, testy

1 Antonym: C _ E _ R _ U _

ARDUOUS #38. (ADJ.)

Context: Nellie was assigned the arduous task of cleaning

the floor with a toothbrush.

Defined: hard, difficult, onerous, burdensome, strenuous, back-breaking; tough, challenging, formidable, exhausting,

2 Synonyms: GRU _ _ I _ _
L _ B _ _ IO _ _

1 Antonym: _ A _ _

SPECTER #39. (N.)

Context 1: The specters in the crypt moaned in the moonlight.

Defined: ghost, phantom, apparition, spirit, spook

Context 2: The looming specter of war made us worry.

Defined: threat, menace, danger, peril, fear, dread

NULLIFY #40. (V.)

Context: The impressive test results were nullified when it was discovered that the entire class had cheated.

Defined: to cancel, to undo, annul, render null and void, invalidate; repeal, disallow, terminate

2 Synonyms: NE _ A _ _
AB _ _ IS _

ZEALOT #41. (N.)

Context: The crazed zealot paraded through the street waving a sign that read “The end is near.”

Defined: a person who is fanatical and uncompromising in pursuit of their religious, political, or other ideals; fanatic, extremist, radical, diehard

Informal: fiend, maniac, ultra nut

HYPERBOLE #42. (N.)

Context: Polly, who is often guilty of hyperbole, claimed she'd caught a fish the size of a Buick.

Defined: exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally, overstatement, embellishment, excess, overkill, rhetoric, puffery

I Antonym: UN__R__TA__M__N__

INTREPID #43. (ADJ.)

Context: The intrepid astronauts braved the unexplored planet.

Defined: fearless, unafraid, undaunted, unflinching, bold, daring, gallant, adventurous, indomitable; brave, courageous, plucky, gutsy

I Antonym: T _ M _ _

List 3 professions where you need to be intrepid:

OSTENSIBLE #44. (ADJ.)

Context: Pete's ostensible reason for joining SADD was to combat drunk driving, but he really joined to impress college admissions officials.

Defined: stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so; apparent, superficial, supposed, alleged

I Antonym: G _ _ UI _ _

ENDEMIC #45. (ADJ.)

Context: Although celebrities are endemic to Los Angeles, Lee didn't see any when he visited.

Defined: common to a certain region or area; regularly found among certain people [native plants, diseases, animals]

List 5 things endemic to Minnesota.

Usage of epidemic, endemic, pandemic:

A disease that quickly and severely affects a large number of people and then subsides is an **epidemic**:: throughout the Middle Ages, successive epidemics of the plague killed millions. **Epidemic** is also used as an adjective: | she studied the causes of epidemic cholera.

A disease that is continually present in an area and affects a relatively small number of people is **endemic**: | malaria is **endemic in** (or | **to**) | hot, moist climates.

A **pandemic** is a widespread epidemic that may affect entire continents or even the world: | the pandemic of 1918 ushered in a period of frequent epidemics of gradually diminishing severity. Thus, from an epidemiologist's point of view, the Black Death in Europe and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa are pandemics rather than epidemics.

ANOMALY #46. (N.)

Context: Bindu was an anomaly because she started attending Harvard at fifteen. Most kids her age are in ninth grade.

Defined: something that deviates from what is standard, normal, or expected; oddity, peculiarity, abnormality

2 Synonyms: IR ___ U ___ I ___
R _ R ___

ERSATZ #47. (ADJ.)

Context: When I traveled to Swaziland, I drank ersatz coffee made from chicory instead of coffee beans.

Defined: artificial, substitute, imitation, synthetic, fake, faux, mock, bogus, spurious, counterfeit, manufactured, man-made, phony

2 Synonyms: WA__A_E
 P_E_DO

1 Antonym: G__UI_E

HACKNEYED #48. (ADJ.)

Context: Max always used that hackneyed old line, “Is your father a thief? Because someone stole the stars and put them in your eyes.”

Defined: overused, trite, worn out, vapid, stale, hack, clichéd, ordinary, uninspired, cheesy, corny

1 Antonym: O_I___AL

VOLUMINOUS #49. (ADJ.)

Context: Bernardo’s voluminous writing included everything from love poetry to journal entries to news articles.

Defined: occupying or containing much space; large in volume,

- (of clothing: loose and baggy)
- (of writing: very lengthy and full);

roomy, spacious, ample, bulky, extensive, sizable

2 Synonyms: I _
 L _ R _ _

LOPE #50! (V.)

Context: Collins loped toward the soccer field. He was carrying his bag, talking to his teammate, and kicking the ball.

Defined: to run or move with a steady gait, jog, gallop

UNDULATE #51. (V.)

Context: Maggie watched the undulating waves of the Pacific Ocean from her campsite on the coast.

Defined: move in a wave-like motion, rise and fall, surge, swell, billow, oscillate, fluctuate

2 Syns: R _ _ _
 R _ P _ L _

IMMINENT #52. (ADJ.)

Context: To prepare for the imminent storm, Brian purchased snow boots, gloves, and a shovel.

Defined: about to happen, impending, near, forthcoming, on the way, coming down the pike, anticipated, brewing, looming

2 Synonyms: ON THE H_R__ON
 JUST AROUND THE C_R__

SUPERCILIOUS #53. (ADJ.)

Context: With a supercilious sniff, Marie kicked the peasants out of the way and swept into her carriage.

Defined: behaving or looking as though one thinks one is superior to others, arrogant, haughty, conceited, condescending, snobbish, smug

2 Synonyms: H_I_Y-T_I_Y
 P__O__

Write 1 antonym:

ANACHRONISM #54. (N.)

Context: The author included an interesting anachronism in his novel: hanging above the fireplace in the knight's castle was a flat screen TV.

Defined: something incorrectly present in a time period

List 5 things that would be anachronisms in a novel or movie about ancient Egypt.

MUNIFICENT #55. (ADJ.)

Context: The munificent woman donated hundreds of nonperishable food items to Second Harvest Heartland.

Defined: generous, bountiful, charitable, big-hearted, beneficent, bounteous

2 Synonyms: P _ I _ ANT _ _ _ PI _
M _ _ NA _ _ _ _ U _

VINDICATE #56. (V.)

Context: After the secret files were made public, the informant was completely vindicated by the jury.

Defined: acquit, clear, absolve, exonerate; discharge, liberate, free

Informal: let off the hook

MEANDER #57. (V.)

Context: The young couple meandered through Valley Fair, stopping at whatever rides looked appealing.

Defined: follow a winding course (like a river or road), curve, bend, snake; stroll, saunter, amble, wander, mosey, tootle

2 Synonyms: RA ___ _ E
Z ___ _ A _

MAVERICK #58. (N.)

Context: The maverick cop often caught criminals, but his refusal to listen to his superiors meant that he was never promoted.

Defined: a person who refuses to conform to a particular party or group; individualist, free spirit, unorthodox person, original, rebel

1 Antonym: C _ _ F _ _ _ IS _

Origin: Samuel A. **Maverick** (1803–70), a Texas engineer and rancher who did not brand his cattle

VESTIGE #59. (N.)

Context: Amy held on to a few vestiges of her relationship with Tom, including a dried rose and a faded Polaroid.

Defined: a trace of something that is disappearing or no longer exists: remnant, legacy, reminder; of a small amount: bit, scrap, speck, shred, jot, iota, glimmer

2 Synonyms: R_L__
 S_I_T__A

STOIC #60. (ADJ.)

Context: The stoic prisoner of war was given paltry amounts of food and water, yet his spirit remained indomitable awaiting his rescue.

Defined: long-suffering, patient, accepting, tolerant, resigned, philosophical

2 Antonyms: C_M___NI_G
 IN__L__AN__

RESCIND #61. (V.)

Context: The citizens persuaded the city council to rescind the ban on chewing gum in public.

Defined: revoke, cancel, or repeal (a law, or an order); reverse, overturn, annul, void, invalidate, quash

2 Synonyms: N _ _ _ I _ Y
 A _ O _ _ S _

CIRCUMLOCUTION #62. (N.)

Context: When you've finished your circumlocution, maybe you could just get to the point.

Defined: the use of many words where fewer would do, esp. in a deliberate attempt to be vague or evasive

Origin: Latin circum 'around' + loqui 'speak'

DEMAGOGUE #63. (N.)

Context: Adolf Hitler was a well-known demagogue who gave emotional speeches at rallies, and the masses cheered wildly.

Defined: a political leader who seeks support by appealing to popular desires and prejudices rather than by using rational argument

2 Synonyms: R _ _ _ L _ -R _ _ S _ _
 A _ _ T _ T _ _

DOUR #64. (ADJ.)

Context: The children feared their dour neighbor because the old curmudgeon would take their toys if they were

being too loud.

Defined: stern, joyless, gloomy in manner or appearance, unsmiling, severe, gruff, surly, grim, sullen

2 Antonyms: C _ _ _ _ _ UL
_ R _ _ N _ L _

PATHOS #65. (N.)

Context: Martha filled with pathos upon discovering the scrawny, shivering kitten at her door.

Defined: an emotion of sympathy, pity, or sadness

LUMINOUS #66. (ADJ.)

Context: The flight attendant captivated passengers with her dulcet voice and luminous smile.

Defined: full of or shedding light; glowing with health or vigor; bright or shining; brilliant, radiant, glowing, gleaming

2 Synonyms: S _ _ _ T _ L _ A _ _ _ _
D _ _ _ LING

ACCOLADE #67. (N.)

Context: President Obama just won the prestigious accolade, The Nobel Peace Prize, for his extraordinary

efforts to strengthen cooperation between peoples.

Defined: a special honor or an acknowledgment of merit, award, praise, privilege, title, prize

List 3 accolades you would like to earn or win: _____

BUMPTIOUS #68. (ADJ.)

Context: “I really hate to shop at Toy World during the holidays,” Amy remarked. “Bumptious customers always try to get ahead of me in line.”

Defined: pushy, rudely assertive, self-important, conceited, arrogant, overbearing, cocky, proud, egotistical; snooty, uppity

2 Synonyms: H _ _ _ H _ _
 _ O _ _ O _ S

PULCHRITUDE #69. (N.) [PUL krit ood]

Context: Needing beauty in the midst of such horror, the soldiers in the trench were overwhelmed by the pulchritude of the sunset.

Defined: beauty, splendor, magnificence, grandeur, gorgeousness, beauteousness

I Antonym: _ _ L _ _ E _ S

DELECTABLE #70. (ADJ.)

Context: The juicy mango slices were delectable on the scorching hot July afternoon.

Defined: delicious, pleasing to the tastebuds, tasty, mouthwatering, appetizing, flavorful, succulent, luscious

Informal: scrumptious, delish, yummy, finger-licking, lip-smacking, melt-in-your-mouth

FATHOM #71. (V.)

Context: I cannot fathom why you like that crabby and dour neighbor of ours.

Defined: understand, comprehend, decipher, make sense of, grasp

Write a sentence using fathom.

MAELSTROM #72. (N.)

I Context: Little did the explorers know that as they turned the next bend of the calm river a vicious maelstrom would catch their boat.

Defined: a destructive whirlpool that rapidly sucks in objects, vortex, eddy

2 the maelstrom of war: turbulence, tumult, turmoil, chaos, upheaval, pandemonium, bedlam

BELIE #73. (V.) (be LIE)

Context: Belying Tom's statement that he "always traveled light" was the behemoth suitcase he was trying to cram into the trunk of his car.

Defined: contradict, be at odds with, call into question, show to be false, disprove, debunk, discredit, negate, confute

Antonym: R _ _ E _ L

KUDOS #74. (N.)

Context: The brave fireman sought no kudos for his heroic deeds.

Defined: praise and honor received for an achievement, status, distinction, fame, celebrity; admiration, respect, esteem, acclaim, prestige

2 Synonyms: P _ _ PS
G _ _ _ Y

DOGGED #75. (ADJ.)

Context: What some people lack in natural talent others make up for in dogged spirit.

Defined: tenacious, determined, resolute, persistent, persevering, tireless; strong-willed, steadfast

I Antonym: H _ _ F _ _ _ R _ _ _ D

TEEM #76. (V.)

Context: New York City's Time Square was teeming with people waiting to see the ball drop on New Year's Eve.

Defined: to be full of or swarming with, be alive with, be brimming with, abound in, be packed with, be crawling with, be overrun by, be jam-packed with, be chock-full of

Complete the following:

- the garden was teeming with...
- the stream teemed with...
- the hallways were teeming with...
- the rotten meat was teeming with...

TORPOR #77. (N.) [tore pur]

Context: In the spring, the snake began to recover from its winter torpor and went in search of a delectable breakfast.

Defined: a state of physical or mental inactivity, lethargy, sluggishness, dormancy, lifelessness, laziness, sloth, passivity, weariness

2 Synonyms: I _ _ ENES _
S _ _ E _ I _ _ S _

ARCANE #78. (ADJ.)

Context: The professor is an expert in arcane Lithuanian literature.

Defined: obscure, secret, understood by a few, mysterious

2 Synonyms: C _ _ P _ _ C
EN _ _ _ A _ I _

BRUSQUE #79. (ADJ.)

Context: The captain's brusque manner offended the passengers.

Defined: short, abrupt, dismissive, curt, blunt, sharp, gruff; impolite

2 Synonyms: T _ _ S _

S _ A _ _ Y

CONSTRUE #80. (V.)

Context: From what the detective could construe, jealousy caused the crime.

Defined: interpret (a word or action) in a particular way, make sense of, understand, infer

Misconstrue: to interpret (a person's words or actions) **wrongly**, **mistake**, get the **wrong** idea

EXACERBATE #81. (V.)

Context: If you want to exacerbate your upset stomach, try the spicy chili.

Defined: to irritate, to make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse, aggravate, inflame, intensify, magnify

I Antonym: R _ _ UC _

I Synonym: A _ _ M _ NT

CACHE #82. (N.)

Context: Without access to their cache of weapons, the terrorists were forced to surrender.

Defined: a collection of items of the same type stored in a hidden or inaccessible place, hiding place, hoard, store, stockpile, supply, reserve; arsenal, stash

SEQUESTER #83. (V.)

Context: With no verdict in sight, the judge issued the order to sequester the jury for the night.

Defined: 1— isolate oneself, hide away, seclude oneself, segregate oneself, withdraw; 2— confiscate, seize, take, impound

SUMPTUOUS #84. (ADJ.)

Context: The campaign opened with a sumptuous dinner where high society could be seen rubbing shoulders with aspiring politicians.

Defined: splendid and expensive-looking, lavish, costly, luxurious, opulent, gorgeous, grand, rich; plush, ritzy

I Antonym: P_A_ _

VIABLE #85. (ADJ.)

Context: The stranded mountain climbers looked for viable living arrangements until help arrived.

Defined: capable of working successfully, feasible, workable, practical, realistic, achievable, attainable, doable

2 Synonyms: P _ S _ _ B _ E
US _ _ _ E

ZANY #86. (ADJ.)

Context: In hindsight, Karen admitted her zany antics had no place in the classroom.

Defined: eccentric, peculiar, odd, unconventional, strange, bizarre, weird; madcap, oddball, off the wall

2 Synonyms: F _ _ _ Y
Q _ I _ _ Y

WHET #87. (V.)

Context: I was warned that telling Marge one secret would only whet her appetite for more.

Defined: to sharpen, make stronger, stimulate, excite, kindle, spark, quicken, inspire, waken, fuel, fire, tempt

2 Antonyms: D _ _ _ _
S _ O _ _

PROLIFIC #88. (ADJ.)

Contexts: Rabbits are notoriously prolific. **OR** Irving Berlin was a prolific songwriter. **OR** Hank Aaron was a prolific homerun hitter.

Defined: of a plant, animal, or person producing much fruit, foliage, or many offspring; of an artist, author, or composer producing many works; of a sports player who is high-scoring; abundant, rich, fruitful, productive, inventive

2 Synonyms: P__ N_IF__
B__ N_IF__

UNSCATHED #89. (ADJ.)

Context: He had a couple of close calls, but he ended up making it out of the battle unscathed.

Defined: without suffering any injury, damage, or harm, unhurt, intact, safe (and sound), unmarked, untouched, without a scratch

2 Antonyms: _A__ED
I__U__ED

DELUGE #90. (N.)

Context: Toyota is dealing with a deluge of complaints because some of its vehicles have sticking gas pedals.

Defined: **1**—barrage, volley; flood, torrent, avalanche, stream, rush, outpouring; **2**—downpour, torrential rain; rainstorm

Write 2 sentences (1 & 2 meanings) using deluge.

AGILE #91. (ADJ.)

Context: The dogs were too slow to catch the agile rabbit.

Defined: able to move quickly and easily; nimble, lithe, acrobatic, light-footed; shrewd, astute, perceptive, quick-witted

2 Antonyms: S _ _ _ _
 C _ _ M _ Y

VOCIFEROUS #92. (ADJ.)

Context: Parents at soccer games are known to make vociferous protests when they think the referee has made a bad call.

Defined: clamorous, vehement; noisy, loud, and unrestrained shouting

LABYRINTH #93. (N.)

Context: Once inside the cave, the searchers were confronted with a labyrinth that kept them from finding the wounded explorer.

Defined: a maze; a complicated, perplexing arrangement or course of affairs, morass, jungle, confusion

2 Synonyms: W _ _
E _ T _ _ _ LE _ ENT

BONA FIDE #94. (ADJ.)

Context: Greg made a bona fide promise to the people of Korphe that he would return and build a school.

Defined: authentic, genuine, real, true, actual; legal, lawful, legit, real McCoy

1 Antonym: B _ _ _ S

In Latin: “in good faith”

PLETHORA #95. (N.)

Context: Jason was so overwhelmed by the plethora of items at the salad bar that he couldn't decide what to get.

Defined: an excess of something, overabundance, surplus, superfluity, profusion, too much, too many

What is something you have a plethora of?

INCONSEQUENTIAL #96. (ADJ.)

Context: The designer pays attention to every detail, even seemingly inconsequential ones like the width of buttonholes.

Defined: of little or no importance, insignificant, neither here nor there, nonessential, irrelevant; slight, minor, trivial, petty, measly

2 Synonyms: P__ T__
N__ L__ I__ E

BULWARK #97. (N.)

Context: The gate proved to be an insufficient bulwark against the rampaging crowds.

Defined: a defensive wall, rampart, fortification, stockade, palisade, barricade, embankment, buttress, defender, bastion, stronghold

Draw a bulwark.

BEGUILE #98. (V.)

Context: The thief beguiled his partners into surrendering all of their money to him.

Defined: to trick, deceive, charm, attract, enchant, win over, captivate, spellbind, dazzle, hypnotize, mesmerize

2 Synonyms: _O_
BE _ I__H

1 Antonym: R__E_

BANE #99. (N.)

Context: Scurvy was the bane of seafarers as they sailed for months across oceans.

Defined: a cause of great distress or annoyance; plague, curse, blight, pest, nuisance, headache, nightmare, trial, hardship, trouble, misery, pain

2 Synonyms: B _ _ DE _
 _ O _

SIMPATICO #100! (ADJ.)

Context: Louise and Susan are truly simpatico; they both love Italian cooking, playing soccer, and listening to The Beatles.

Defined: (of a person) likable and easy to get along with; having shared attributes or interests; compatible, agreeable, being on the same wavelength, congenial

Write about a friend with whom you are simpatico and list your common interests.

REPUGNANT #101. (ADJ.)

Context: The idea of cannibalism is repugnant.

Defined: extremely distasteful; unacceptable, abhorrent,

repulsive, disgusting, offensive, vile, foul, nasty, loathsome, sickening, nauseating, hateful, detestable, monstrous, appalling

2 Antonyms: P _ E _ S _ N _
A _ _ R _ _ T I _ E

CURTAIL #102. (V.)

Context: Since losing his job, he had to curtail his spending.

Defined: to reduce in quantity; to restrict, cut, decrease, lessen, trim, limit, curb, rein in, slash

1 Antonym: I _ C _ _ _ S _

WRITHE #103. (V.)

Context: She writhed about in pain.

Defined: squirm, thrash, toss and turn, twist, struggle; make continual twisting, squirming movements or contortions of the body

2 Synonyms: W _ _ G _ LE
F _ _ I L

OBSCURE #104. (V.)

Context: Kino moved cautiously so that the water would not be obscured with mud or sand.

Defined: hide, conceal, cover, veil, shroud, screen, mask, cloak, cast a shadow over, block (out), obliterate, eclipse, darken

1 Antonym: R _ V E _ L

TACTFUL #105. (ADJ.)

Context: They were too tactful to say anything when the food she prepared tasted like vomit.

Defined: considerate, being discreet, sensitive, understanding, thoughtful, delicate, perceptive, subtle; courteous

2 Synonyms: R _ S P E _ _ F _ L
P _ L I T _

INCANDESCENCE #106. (N.)

Context: The lake captured the light, refined it, and gave it back in silver incandescence.

Defined: light emitted as a result of being heated, of outstanding and exciting quality; brilliant

1 Synonym: G _ _ _ I _ _

ESTUARY #107. (N.)

Context: We paddled down the estuary, observing herons and ospreys.

Defined: the tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream, delta

Origin: Latin *aestuarium* 'tidal part of a shore' from *aestus* 'tide'

AVARICE #108. (N.)

Context: All her avarice was awakened at the mention of hidden gold, and she didn't care whom she hurt to secure what would make her wealthy for life.

Defined: excessive or insatiable desire for wealth or gain, covetousness; greediness, materialism, money-grubbing

I Antonym: G _ _ E _ _ S _ _ _

DEFT #109. (ADJ.)

Context: Having worked in a bakery for many years, Marcus was a deft bread maker.

Defined: skillful, agile, handy; able, capable, proficient, accomplished, expert, polished, professional, clever, shrewd, sharp

I Antonym: C _ U _ S _

SUBJUGATE #110. (V.)

Context: Cortez and the Spanish Conquistadors subjugated the native people of Mexico, stole their gold, and forced them to work in mines.

Defined: to bring under domination or control, esp. by conquest; conquer, vanquish, defeat, crush, quash, bring someone to his knees, enslave, subdue, suppress

1 Antonym: L _ B _ R _ _ _ E

TRIUMPHANT #111. (ADJ.)

Context: The triumphant winner rose from his seat as he quickly realized he had just won a thrilling game of Scattegories.

Defined: having won a battle or contest; victorious, winning, unbeaten

2 Antonyms: U _ _ UC _ _ _ S _ U _
_ EF _ _ T _ D

WOEBEGONE #112. (ADJ.)

Context: We found Thom in a woebegone condition after his grandmother died suddenly.

Defined: sad, unhappy, miserable, dejected, glum, heavy-

hearted, despondent, melancholy, sorrowful, mournful,
depressed, blue

2 Synonyms: G _ _ O _ _
 F _ _ L _ _ _

1 Antonym: C _ _ E _ _ U _

SCAMPER #113. (V.)

Context: The fish lay on the bottom in the eel-grass beds,
and the bright-colored swimming crabs scampered over
them.

Defined: run with quick light steps, esp. through fear or
excitement; dart, run, dash, sprint, hurry, scoot

2 Synonyms: S _ _ R R _
 _ R _ L _ _

SEMBLANCE #114. (N.)

Context: For there were not many [pearl] buyers really—
there was only one, and he kept these agents in separate
offices to give a semblance of competition.

Defined: the outward appearance or apparent form of
something, esp. when the reality is different; a show, facade,
front, veneer, guise, pretense

SOLEMNLY #115. (ADV.)

Context: On February 2, 2009 President Obama said, “I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

Defined: deeply earnest, seriously, somberly, gravely, impressively, performed with full ceremony

GROVEL #116. (V.)

Context: I refuse to grovel. On second thought, can I please, please, please borrow your car?

Defined: to plead, lie, kneel, bow and scrape to, toady to, abase oneself to, humble oneself to; play up to, suck up to, lick someone's boots

2 Synonyms: E
 F _ TT _R

LEGERDEMAIN #117. (N.) [leh jer di main]

Context: Smuggling the French plants through customs by claiming that they were fake was a remarkable bit of legerdemain.

Defined: skillful use of one's hands when performing conjuring tricks; magic, wizardry, trickery, cunning, artfulness, craftiness, deceit, deception

Origin: from French *léger de main* 'dexterous,' literally 'light of hand'

CONTEMPTUOUS #118. (ADJ.)

Context: The contemptuous look on your face says it all. I can tell you don't respect my opinion.

Defined: scornful, disdainful, disrespectful, insulting, insolent, mocking, sneering, scathing, snide; proud, superior

I Antonym: R _ _ _ E _ _ _ U _

FORESTALL #119 (V.)

Context: Vitamins may forestall many diseases of aging.

Defined: prevent or obstruct (an anticipated event or action) by taking action ahead of time; anticipate, ward off, fend off, avert, prevent

I Synonym: T _ _ A _ T

GIBBER #120. (V.)

Context: The couple shrieked and gibbered as flames surrounded them.

Defined: speak rapidly and unintelligibly, typically through fear or shock

1 Synonym: B _ B _ _ E

MONOTONOUS #121 (ADJ.)

Context: The professor's monotonous lecture went on for two hours and bored me to tears.

Defined: dull, tedious, and repetitious; lacking in variety and interest; unexciting, wearisome, tiresome

1 Antonym: I _ _ E _ _ _ _ I _ G

ADULATION #122. (N.)

Context: The fan's adulation for Derek Jeter was so great that he changed his own name to Derek.

Defined: extreme admiration or praise; worship, idolization, adoration, devotion, glorification

2 Synonyms: F _ A _ _ E _ Y
A _ _

PETULANT #123. (ADJ.)

Context: The petulant baby was weary and cried softly longing for his mother.

Defined: crabby, ill-tempered, irritable, snappish, crotchety, testy, grumpy

I Synonym: C _ _ N _ Y
I Antonym: G _ _ D- _ _ M _ _ E _

SURMISE #124 (V.)

Context: After speaking to only one of the students, the teacher was able to surmise what had caused the fight.

Defined: to infer with little evidence; guess, suspect, conclude, assume, understand, sense, think

2 Synonyms: G _ T _ _ R
S _ E _ U _ _ T _

RAPPORT #125. (N.)

Context: The teacher was able to establish a good rapport with the children.

Defined: mutual understanding and harmony; close relationship, empathy, sympathy, accord

I Synonym: B _ N _

ABDICATE #126 (V.)

Context: When he realized that the revolutionaries would

surely win, the king abdicated his throne.

Defined: to give up a position, usually one of leadership; resign, retire, stand down, bow out

I Antonym: BE C _ O _ N _ _

I Synonym: C _ _ I _ _ L _ _ E

WRATH #127. (N.)

Context: He made sure to be early for his curfew, for fear of receiving his father's wrath.

Defined: vengeful anger, punishment; rage, fury, outrage, crossness, displeasure, annoyance, irritation

I Antonym: _ A _ _ I _ _ _ S

INDIGENT #128. (ADJ.)

Context: Once a wealthy and formidable boxer, Rocco is an indigent and forlorn man.

Defined: poverty-stricken, poor, penniless, destitute, needy, down and out, broke

I Synonym: I _ _ O _ ER _ S _ _ _

I Antonym: _ I _ _

WAIVE #129. (V.)

Context: No citizen should waive his or her right to free speech.

Defined: To dispense with, to postpone, surrender, reject, spurn, forgo

2 Synonyms: B I E
 R F

INAUDIBLE #130. (ADJ.)

Context: The inaudible voices of the students supported those whose silence needed to be heard to end injustice.

Defined: soundless, noiseless, unheard, muted, soft, low, whispered

1 Synonym: I L

PIQUE #131. (V.)

Context: To pique her students' curiosity, Ms. Garson told them she had a surprise in store for them before the day was over.

Defined: to excite, stimulate, rouse, provoke, kindle, stir

1 Synonym: A A N

MITIGATE #132. (V.)

Context: The doctor assured Mrs. Schiller that the medicine would mitigate her pain in a short time.

Defined: to become milder or less severe, to moderate; alleviate, reduce, diminish, lessen, weaken, ease.

I Synonym: R _ L _ _ _ E

I Antonym: A G _ _ A _ A _ E

PRECIPICE #133. (N.)

Context: The mountain climber hung from a precipice before finding a handhold and pulling himself up.

Defined: the face of a cliff, a steep or overhanging place, steep, rock face, sheer drop, height, crag, bluff

SACCHARINE #134. (ADJ.)

Context: Tom's saccharine manner, although intended to make him popular, actually repelled his classmates.

Defined: sickeningly sweet

Origin: Latin *saccharum* 'sugar'

RUSE #135. (N.)

Context: Oliver concocted an elaborate ruse for sneaking out of the house to meet his friend while simultaneously giving his mother the impression that he was asleep in bed.

Defined: a trick, an action intended to deceive someone, stratagem, tactic, scheme, gambit, cunning plan,

2 Synonyms: S _ _ T _ _ _ UG _
 P _ _ Y

ADROIT #136. (ADJ.)

Context: The adroit thief could pick someone's pocket without attracting notice.

Defined: skillful, dexterous, clever in using the hands or mind, adept, deft, nimble, masterful, master, practiced, handy, polished, slick, sharp, cunning, wily, astute, shrewd

2 Antonyms: _ N _ _ T
 C _ _ _ S Y

COSMOPOLITAN #137. (ADJ.)

Context: Lloyd's education and upbringing were cosmopolitan, so he felt right at home among the powerful and learned.

Defined: suave, urbane, jet-setting, sophisticated, familiar with and at ease in many different countries and cultures,

having an exciting and glamorous character associated with travel and a mixture of cultures

I Synonym: W _ _ _ D _ _

IMPETUOUS #138. (ADJ.)

Context: Hilda's hasty slaying of the king was an impetuous, thoughtless action.

Defined: rash, hastily done, acting or done quickly and without thought or care, moving forcefully or rapidly, impulsive, reckless, foolhardy, spontaneous, impromptu, spur-of-the-moment

I Antonym: C _ _ T _ _ _ S

I Synonym: C _ _ E _ _ S _

VERDANT #139. (ADJ.)

Context: The verdant leaves on the trees made the world look emerald.

Defined: green, (of countryside) green with grass or other rich vegetation, of the bright green color of lush grass

2 Synonyms: L _ _ _ Y
G _ A _ S _

SACROSANCT #140. (ADJ.)

Context: In the United States, the Constitution is often thought of as a sacrosanct document.

Defined: holy, something that should not be criticized, regarded as too important or valuable to be interfered with, respected, untouchable, protected, defended

2 Synonyms: S _ _ R _ _
 H _ _ L _ W _ _

FETID #141. (ADJ.)

Context: I can tell from the fetid smell in your refrigerator that your milk has spoiled.

Defined: having a foul odor, stinking, smelly, malodorous, reeking, pungent, acrid, rank, noxious, funky

1 Antonym: FR _ _ _ A _ _

BALK #142. (V.)

Context: Edna's boss balked at her request for another raise.

Defined: to stop, block abruptly, hesitate over; eschew, resist, take exception to; flinch from, impede, obstruct, hinder

2 Synonyms: F _ _ E _ _ A _ L

T _ _ AR _

FERAL #143. (ADJ.)

Context: That beast looks so feral that I would fear being alone with it.

Defined: wild, savage, untamed, undomesticated, untrained, ferocious, vicious, predatory, bloodthirsty

2 Synonyms: M _ _ A _ I N G
F _ _ R C _

GOAD #144. (V.)

Context: Scout may think she's not going to fight Francis, but Francis will goad Scout on with insults until she throws a punch.

Defined: to urge, spur, incite to action, provoke, prod, egg on, hound, badger, rouse

2 Synonyms: P _ _ M _ _
I _ D _ _ E

FLORID #145. (ADJ.)

Context: The writer's florid prose belongs on a sentimental Hallmark card.

Defined: flowery, ornate, flamboyant, high-flown, grandiloquent, fancy, bombastic, elaborate, turgid, highfalutin

1 Antonym: P _ _ I _

EFFRONTERY #146. (N.)

Context: When I told my aunt that she was boring, my mother scolded me for my effrontery.

Defined: impudence, nerve, insolence, cockiness, audacity, temerity, nerve, gall, shamelessness, impoliteness, disrespect, bad manners, sauce

2 Synonyms: C _ _ T _ P _ H
S _ _ S

DIVULGE #147. (V.)

Context: Pressured by the press, the government finally divulged the previously unknown information.

Defined: to reveal something secret, make known, disclose, tell, communicate, pass on, broadcast, expose, uncover, make public, spill the beans about, let the cat out of the bag about

1 Antonym: CO _ _ E _ L

DOCILE #148. (ADJ.)

Context: She successfully taught the docile puppy several tricks.

Defined: ready to accept control or instruction, compliant, obedient, pliant, dutiful, submissive, unassertive, cooperative, accommodating

WORD SPECTRUM:

docile	docile / difficult
compliant	uninvolved
submissive	disinterested
dutiful	standoffish
obedient	unaccommodating
yielding	unhelpful
meek	uncooperative
lamblike	demanding
tame	hard to please
persuadable	finicky
cooperative	fussy
unselfish	obstinate
generous	intractable
eager to please	stubborn
considerate	exasperating
helpful	obstreperous
neighborly	fractious
friendly	contrarious
agreeable	insubordinate
pleasant	disobedient
polite	unruly
decent	unmanageable
civil	troublesome
	difficult

Word Spectrums show shades of meaning between two polar opposites.

DISAVOW #148. (V.)

Context: Not wanting others to criticize her, she disavowed any involvement in the company's hiring scandal.

Defined: to deny knowledge of or responsibility for, deny, disclaim, disown, wash one's hands of, reject, renounce

COPIOUS #149. (ADJ.)

Context: Copious amounts of Snapple were imbibed in the cafeteria.

Defined: profuse, abundant plentiful, ample, extensive, generous, lavish, overflowing, numerous;

I Antonym: S _ _ R _ E

From the context, what does imbibed mean?

CONVULTED #150. (ADJ.)

Context: George's story was so convoluted that I couldn't follow it.

Defined: intricate, complicated, complex, involved, elaborate, serpentine, labyrinthine, tangled, confusing, bewildering

I Antonym: S _ _ A _ G _ _ _ OR _ ARD

BESEECH #151. (V.)

Context: The servant beseeched the king for food to feed his starving family.

Defined: ask (someone) urgently and fervently to do something, to beg, plead, implore, pray to, request, call on

ASPIRE #152. (V.)

Context: The young poet aspires to publish a book of verse someday.

Defined: direct one's hopes or ambitions toward achieving something, to long for, aim toward, desire, hope for, dream of, set one's heart on, seek, pursue, set one's sights on

ASSAIL #153. (V.)

Context: At dawn, the warplanes assailed the boats in the harbor.

Defined: to attack, assault, pounce on, fall on, charge, rush, storm; torment, bedevil, vex

ARBOREAL #154. (ADJ.)

Context: Leaves, roots, and bark are a few arboreal traits.

Defined: of or relating to trees, (chiefly of animals) living in trees

List three arboreal animals.

PANACEA #155. (N.)

Context: Doctors wish there was a single panacea for every disease, but sadly there is not.

Defined: a remedy for all ills or difficulties, universal cure, cure-all, universal remedy, elixir, wonder drug; magic bullet

In Greek mythology, *Panacea* (Greek *Πανάκεια*, *Panakeia*) was the goddess of healing.