Name _____ Date _____

(Answer ID # 0767145)

Context Clues

1. Brad made a cursory effort to finish his homework. This was unlike him; usually he worked hard to finish before dinner.

   Using the contrast clue, the word **cursory** in this sentence means

   (A) actual (C) insincere
   (B) genuine (D) valid

2. Mr. Pope's decision to make our lunches shorter will incense, or anger, a lot of people in our department.

   Using the synonym clue, the word **incense** in this sentence means

   (A) anger (C) survive
   (B) excite (D) loyal

3. In court, Carl defended himself against spurious accusations that he had robbed the local bank. The truth was revealed when the real crook was arrested.

   Using the antonym clue, the word **spurious** in this sentence means

   (A) true (C) correct
   (B) false (D) genuine

4. Debilitating illnesses include Lou Gehrig's disease, Parkinson's disease, and multiple sclerosis.

   Using the example clue, the word **debilitating** in this sentence means

   (A) energizing (C) improving
   (B) weakening (D) strengthening

5. Amanda is such an avid reader that she is enthusiastic about any new book that is written.

   Using the comparison clue, the word **avid** in this sentence means

   (A) mad (C) enthusiastic
   (B) pounce (D) essay

6. An edifice, such as the Empire State Building, can take years to build.

   Using the example clue, the word **edifice** in this sentence means

   (A) large building (C) steel
   (B) concrete wall (D) coal mine

Name _____ Date _____

(Answer ID # 0541105)

Context Clues

7. Ian's favorite avocation was to play the violin. It was his first source of amusement whenever he had some free time.

   Using the comparison clue, the word **avocation** in this sentence means

   (A) trade (C) career
   (B) hobby (D) job

8. When we received the sad news, we cried for a long time. The catharsis was a good release for our sorrow.

   Using the explanation clue, the word **catharsis** in this sentence means

   (A) addition (C) surcharge
   (B) extra (D) purging

9. The new speaker from the health clinic was so inarticulate that all of us left the auditorium wondering what the message was.

   Using the antonym clue, the word **inarticulate** in this sentence means

   (A) conflicted (C) cowardly
   (B) unclearly spoken (D) full of anger

10. If we don't collaborate on the plan, it will never work because too many of us won't work together.

    Using the comparison clue, the word **collaborate** in this sentence means

    (A) work together (C) harm
    (B) friendly (D) socialize

11. Katie appeared infallible in math class because she had never gotten a problem wrong.

    Using the explanation clue, the word **infallible** in this sentence means

    (A) mistaken (C) never wrong
    (B) incorrect (D) wrong

12. An unknown benefactor donated thousands of dollars to the homeless shelter.

    Using the synonym clue, the word **benefactor** in this sentence means

    (A) person (C) receiver
    (B) donor (D) recipient