

# Lesson 2

## Definitions



1.	<b>antithesis</b>	an TI thuh sis	a direct opposite, a contrast
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> duplicate; same
	Good is the antithesis of evil.		
	Derivatives >>	antithetic, antithetical, antithetically	
2.	<b>ascend</b>	uh SEND	to move upward, to rise from a lower station
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to descend; to go down
	The climbers ascended the mountain.		
	Derivatives >>	ascendancy, ascendancy, ascendant, ascension, ascending, ascended	
3.	<b>austere</b>	aw STEER	strict, stern; unadorned, ascetic
	Synonyms >>	severe	Antonym >> indulgent
	Pioneers usually led an austere existence.		
	Derivatives >>	austereness, austereity, austerity	
4.	<b>autonomous</b>	aw TON uh muhs	independent, self-contained
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> dependent
	One who is autonomous needs no help from others.		
	Derivatives >>	autonomic, autonomously, autonomy, autonomist	
5.	<b>banal</b>	BANE ul, buh NAL	common, ordinary, lacking freshness, hackneyed
	Synonyms >>	inane, insipid, jejune, vapid	Antonym >> fresh, unique, extraordinary
	Because of his use of overused trite remarks, his speeches are banal.		
	Derivatives >>	banality, banally	
6.	<b>benign</b>	buh NINE	not causing harm, of gentle disposition, beneficial
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> malignant, harmful
	The minister was loved because of his benign attitude toward all types of people.		
	Derivatives >>	benignly, benignant, benignancy, benignantly, benignity	
7.	<b>capricious</b>	kuh PRISH us	changing suddenly, fickle
	Synonyms >>	inconstant, mercurial, unstable	Antonym >> stable
	Her capricious moods are difficult to anticipate.		
	Derivatives >>	caprice, capriciously, capriciousness	
8.	<b>dawdle</b>	DOD ul	to waste time, to spend time idly, to move in a lackadaisical manner
	Synonyms >>	dally, loiter, procrastinate	Antonym >> to rush
	Since we have a deadline, do not dawdle over your work.		
	Derivatives >>	dawdled, dawdling	
9.	<b>defamation</b>	def uh MAY shun	act of harming or ruining another's reputation
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> adulation
	The defamation of another's character is a horrible thing.		
	Derivatives >>	defamatory, defame, defamed, defamer, defamingly	
10.	<b>esoteric</b>	es uh TER ik	understood only by a small group or a select few
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> obvious
	The English teachers were having an esoteric discussion about the correct usage of some obscure word.		
	Derivatives >>	esoterical, esoterically, esotericism, esotericist, esoterism, esotery	
11.	<b>exacerbate</b>	ig ZAS ur bate	to aggravate, to irritate, to vex
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >> to ameliorate; to soothe
	You will only exacerbate the situation if you try to call her.		
	Derivatives >>	exacerbatingly, exacerbation	

12.	<b>extol</b>	ik STOLE	to praise, to glorify	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> to defame
	The teacher would always extol students who tried to do their best.			
	Derivatives >>	extolled, extolling, extollingly, extollment, extoller		
13.	<b>fastidious</b>	fa STID ee us	reflecting a meticulous or demanding attitude, critical to an extreme	
	Synonyms >>	finicky		Antonym >> not meticulous
	He considered her fastidious because she was offended by insignificant mistakes or errors.			
	Derivatives >>	fastidiously, fastidiousness, fastidium		
14.	<b>furtive</b>	FUR tiv	secret in an underhanded way, stealthy	
	Synonyms >>	clandestine, covert, stealthy, surreptitious, underhanded		Antonym >> bold
	During the test, he made some furtive glances at other classmates' papers.			
	Derivatives >>	furtively, furtiveness		
15.	<b>gregarious</b>	greh GAR ee us	sociable and outgoing	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> shy; reserved
	He became much more gregarious after he developed an interest in girls.			
	Derivatives >>	gregariously, gregariousness		
16.	<b>hypocrite</b>	HIP uh krit	one who is insincere or deceitful	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> sincere person
	Saying one thing and then doing the other is the mark of a hypocrite.			
	Derivatives >>	hypocrites, hypocritical, hypocritically, hypocritical, hypocrisy		
17.	<b>innate</b>	eh NATE	existing from birth, inborn	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> learned
	He has innate athletic talents that cannot be taught.			
	Derivatives >>	innated, innately, innateness, innatism, innative		
18.	<b>lethargic</b>	luh THAR jik	sluggish, languid	
	Synonyms >>	stuporous, torpid		Antonym >> energetic
	Having had too much to drink, he was very lethargic the morning after the party.			
	Derivatives >>	lethargically, lethargize, lethargy		
19.	<b>melancholy</b>	MEL un kol ee	depression of spirits	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> happiness
	After Dad lost his job, he fell into a state of melancholy.			
	Derivatives >>	melancholia, melancholic, melancholiac, melancholically, melancholily, melancholiness, melancholious		
20.	<b>opaque</b>	oh PAKE	not allowing the passage of light, not transparent; hard to understand	
	Synonyms >>	dark		Antonym >> transparent
	I am going to place something opaque in the window so that no one will be able to see into this room.			
	Derivatives >>	opaquely, opaqueness, opaquer		
21.	<b>prolific</b>	pro LIF ik	abundantly fruitful, marked by great productivity	
	Synonyms >>	fecund, fertile		Antonym >> barren; unfruitful
	Since he has written a great number of books in a short period, Stephen King is known as a prolific writer.			
	Derivatives >>	proliferation, proliferate, proliferative, proliferous, proliferously		
22.	<b>reprove</b>	reh PROOV	to scold or to rebuke for a misdeed usually with kindly intent	
	Synonyms >>	admonish, castigate, chastise, chide, rebuke, reproach		Antonym >> to approve; to applaud
	A teacher sometimes needs to reprove a student for talking during class.			
	Derivatives >>	reprovable, reprovingly, reproving, reprovved, reproves, reproof		
23.	<b>symmetry</b>	SIM eh tree	balanced proportions	
	Synonyms >>			Antonym >> lack of balance
	The symmetry of the gardens of Versailles creates a beautiful and balanced atmosphere.			
	Derivatives >>	symmetrical, symmetric, symmetrically, symmetricalness, symmetrization, symmetrize		
24.	<b>tranquil</b>	TRANG kwul	peaceful, calm	
	Synonyms >>	placid, serene		Antonym >> agitated
	Weather in Texas can quickly change from tranquil to turbulent.			
	Derivatives >>	tranquilization, tranquilize, tranquility, tranquillness, tranquilizer		
25.	<b>venerate</b>	VEN uh rate	to honor, to revere	
	Synonyms >>	adore, worship		Antonym >>
	Although I did not always agree with President Kennedy, I venerate his memory.			
	Derivatives >>	veneration, venerational, venerator, venerable, venerability		

## Lesson 2

### Matching Test



Directions: Choose the definition that best matches the meaning of the vocabulary word. Place the answer of your choice in the space provided.

### Exercise A

- |       |     |            |    |                                   |
|-------|-----|------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| _____ | 1.  | antithesis | a. | direct opposite; contrast         |
| _____ | 2.  | ascend     | b. | changeable; erratic; fickle       |
| _____ | 3.  | austere    | c. | to go up; to rise                 |
| _____ | 4.  | autonomous | d. | ruining of another's reputation   |
| _____ | 5.  | banal      | e. | stern; unyielding; ascetic        |
| _____ | 6.  | benign     | f. | to praise; to glorify             |
| _____ | 7.  | capricious | g. | insipid; dull; trite; ordinary    |
| _____ | 8.  | dawdle     | h. | to embitter; to aggravate         |
| _____ | 9.  | defamation | i. | to waste time; to spend time idly |
| _____ | 10. | esoteric   | j. | independent; self-contained       |
| _____ | 11. | exacerbate | k. | beneficial; kind; gentle          |
| _____ | 12. | extol      | l. | understood only by a select few   |

### Exercise B

- |       |     |            |    |                                    |
|-------|-----|------------|----|------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1.  | fastidious | a. | slow; tired; sluggish; listless    |
| _____ | 2.  | furtive    | b. | not transparent; dull; dark        |
| _____ | 3.  | gregarious | c. | peaceful; calm                     |
| _____ | 4.  | hypocrite  | d. | existing from birth; inborn        |
| _____ | 5.  | innate     | e. | one who is insincere               |
| _____ | 6.  | lethargic  | f. | liking to gather in groups; social |
| _____ | 7.  | melancholy | g. | surreptitious; secret; sneaky      |
| _____ | 8.  | opaque     | h. | particular; hard to please         |
| _____ | 9.  | prolific   | i. | to honor; to revere                |
| _____ | 10. | reprove    | j. | balanced proportions               |
| _____ | 11. | symmetry   | k. | depression of spirits              |
| _____ | 12. | tranquil   | l. | to scold or to rebuke              |
| _____ | 13. | venerate   | m. | fruitful; producing many young     |

## Lesson 2

### Sentence Completion



antithesis	ascend	austere	autonomous
banal	benign	capricious	dawdle
defamation	esoteric	exacerbate	extolled

1. The woman is suing the magazine for \_\_\_\_\_ of character because she thinks that their comments have ruined her reputation.
2. After her superb performance, the critics \_\_\_\_\_ her wonderful work; among the many things they praised was her sensitivity.
3. The woman was happy to learn that the tumor was \_\_\_\_\_ and would not cause her harm.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ life of a monk does not provide for luxury items.
5. It was difficult to get the \_\_\_\_\_ girl to settle down and stay on one topic; her subjects of conversation changed as rapidly as her moods.
6. The skillful mountain climbers were not afraid to \_\_\_\_\_ the towering cliff which hovered above them.
7. The essay was marred by \_\_\_\_\_ comments that had already been made by thousands of uncreative students.
8. Only those who go through initiation ceremonies of the cult understand the meaning of their \_\_\_\_\_ vows.
9. You will only \_\_\_\_\_ the situation if you call her again; she has been aggravated enough.
10. The boss of the company does not allow his employees to \_\_\_\_\_; he expects them to work quickly and efficiently.
11. It was extremely unusual to see identical twins so vastly different; one seemed to be the very \_\_\_\_\_ of the other in every regard except appearance.
12. The citizens of the small village longed to be \_\_\_\_\_, fully independent and self-contained.

## Lesson 2



fastidious	furtive	gregarious	hypocrite	innate
lethargic	melancholy	opaque	prolific	reprove
symmetry	tranquil	venerate		

13. My younger sister has always been insincere; therefore, I feel justified in calling her a \_\_\_\_\_.
14. We feared that our peaceful, \_\_\_\_\_ valley would soon be ravaged by war.
15. Despite the overpowering sound of the bell, there was an \_\_\_\_\_ and natural tranquility about the church.
16. The woman sang a \_\_\_\_\_ song at the funeral.
17. There was a curious kind of \_\_\_\_\_ in the painting; each side seemed to be the mirror image of the other.
18. The woman's \_\_\_\_\_ housekeeping caused her family much discomfort; if they left anything out of place she became unreasonable.
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ child could hardly keep his eyes open during the class; he was obviously lacking in energy.
20. The student was not able to hide his \_\_\_\_\_ glances at another child's paper; consequently, he received a zero on the test.
21. The boys tried to peek through the \_\_\_\_\_ window, but they could see nothing.
22. The man was hailed as one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ writers of his time; he produced six complete novels in one year.
23. The \_\_\_\_\_ boy was always the life of the party; he enjoyed being around large groups of people and would visit with everyone, even people he did not know.
24. His laziness led to a reduction in productivity, and eventually his boss had to \_\_\_\_\_ him for being so lazy.
25. Because I \_\_\_\_\_ the memory of my father, I would never say bad things about him; I still honor him, even after his death.