

UNIT 4 Vocabulary Packet

1. **Affiliated** (adj., part.) associated, connected.
(a **FILL** i at ed) Being _____ with a well-known law firm is often the first step on the way to a successful political career.
Synonyms: attached, related, joined
Antonyms: dissociated, unconnected
2. **Ascertain** (v.) to find out
(as cer**TAIN**) We need to _____ what it will cost to remodel our kitchen.
Synonyms: discover, determine, establish
3. **Attainment** (n.) an accomplishment, the act of achieving
(a **TAIN** ment) In addition to his abilities as a leader, Abraham Lincoln was a man of high literary _____.
Synonyms: achievement, fulfillment
Antonyms: failure, defeat, frustration
4. **Bequeath** (v.) to give or pass on as an inheritance
(be **KWEETH**) Few people will make enough money in their lifetimes to be in a position to _____ a fortune to their heirs.
Synonyms: transmit, bestow, hand down
5. **Cogent** (adj.) forceful, convincing; relevant, to the point
(co **JUNT**) A group of legal scholars held a press conference to present a _____ plea for reform of the state's prison system.
Synonyms: persuasive, compelling
Antonyms: weak, unconvincing, ineffective, irrelevant
6. **Converge** (v.) to move toward one point, approach nearer together.
(con **VERGE**) The television coverage resumed as soon as the delegates _____ on the hall to hear the keynote speaker's address.
Synonyms: meet, unite, intersect, merge
Antonyms: diverge, separate
7. **Disperse** (v.) to scatter, spread far and wide
(di **SPURSE**) When a scuffle broke out, the commissioner ordered the police to _____ the crowd.
Synonyms: break up, dispel
Antonyms: collect, congregate, assemble, muster
8. **Esteem** (v.) to regard highly; (n.) a highly favorable opinion or judgment
(es **TEEM**) In traditional Native American cultures, young people are taught to _____ their ancestors.
The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court should be someone whom all parties hold in high _____.
Synonyms: (v.) respect, admire, honor, revere
Antonyms: (v.) disdain, scorn; (n.) contempt
9. **Expunge** (v.) to erase, obliterate, destroy
(ex**PUNGE**) The judge ordered the remarks _____ from the court record.
Synonyms: delete, efface, annihilate
Antonyms: insert, mark, imprint, impress

10. **Finite** (adj.) having limits; lasting for a limited time.
(FIE nite) There are only a _____ number of possible answers to a multiple-choice question.
Synonyms: bounded, measurable
Antonyms: unlimited, immeasurable, everlasting, eternal
11. **Invulnerable** (adj.) not able to be wounded or hurt; shielded against attack
(in VUL ner a ble) Medieval lords did everything possible to make their castles _____ fortresses.
Synonyms: impregnable, impervious, immune
Antonyms: exposed, unprotected, defenseless
12. **Malevolent** (adj.) spiteful, showing ill will
(ma LEV o lent) While pretending to be a loyal friend, Iago told Othello _____ lies.
Synonyms: malicious, wicked, sinister, malignant
Antonyms: kind, benevolent, compassionate
13. **Nonchalant** (adj.) cool and confident; unconcerned
(NON cha lant) The elegantly dressed couple strolled down the boulevard with a _____ air.
Non cha LANT
Synonyms: composed, unruffled, indifferent, blasé
Antonyms: perturbed, agitated, disconcerted, abashed
14. **Omniscient** (adj.) knowing everything; having unlimited awareness or understanding
(om NISH ient) Scientists today have so much specialized knowledge that they sometimes seem _____.
Synonyms: wise, all-knowing
Antonyms: ignorant, unknowing
15. **Panacea** (n.) a remedy for all ills; cure-all; an answer to all problems
(pan a SEE uh) You are mistaken if you think that getting more money will be a _____ for all your troubles.
Synonyms: universal cure, easy solution
16. **Scrupulous** (adj.) exact, careful, attending thoroughly to details; having high moral standards, principled
(SCREW pu lous) Scientists are trained to record their observations with _____ accuracy.
Synonyms: painstaking, meticulous, conscientious
Antonyms: careless, negligent, remiss, dishonest
17. **Skulk** (v.) to move about stealthily; to lie in hiding
(skulk) The burglar _____ in the alley looking for a way to get into the jewelry store without attracting the attention of anyone who might be nearby.
Synonyms: lurk, slink, prowl

18. **Supercilious** (adj.) proud and contemptuous; showing scorn because of a feeling of superiority.
(su per CIL ious)
Their _____ attitude toward their servants was extremely offensive.
Synonyms: snobbish, patronizing, overbearing
Antonyms: humble, meek, deferential, servile.

19. **Uncanny** (adj.) strange, mysterious, weird, beyond explanation
(un CANN y)
It is highly unusual for a beginner to display such an _____ skill at playing bridge.
Synonyms: eerie, inexplicable, spooky

20. **Venial** (adj.) easily excused; pardonable
(VEE ni al)
Someone whose offense is deemed by the judge to be _____ may be ordered to perform.
Synonyms: excusable, forgivable
Antonyms: inexcusable, unforgivable, unpardonable

Completing the Sentence

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

1. Though I wanted to "let bygones be bygones," I found that I could not wholly _____ the bitter memory of their behavior from my mind.
2. If only parents could _____ their hard-won practical wisdom and experience to their children!
3. Our representative offered one simple but _____ argument against the proposal: it would raise the cost of living.
4. In the opening scene of the horror film, a shadowy figure dressed in black _____ though the graveyard in the moonlight.
5. Your ability to guess what I am thinking about at any given time is nothing short of _____.
6. As we stood on the railway tracks looking off into the distance, the rails seemed to _____ and meet at some far-off point.
7. Before making our final plans, we should _____ exactly how much money we will have for expenses.
8. When the candidate admitted openly that he had been mistaken in some of his earlier policies, we _____ him more highly than ever.
9. Because our natural resources are _____ and by no means inexhaustible, we must learn to conserve them.
10. When I saw the pain he caused others and the pleasure he took in doing so, I realized he was a truly _____ person.
11. So long as we remained indoors, we were _____ to the arctic blasts that swept down on our snowbound cabin.
12. In a situation that would have left me all but helpless with embarrassment, he remained cool and _____.
13. Isn't it remarkable how quickly a throng of sunbathers will pick up their belongings and _____ when a few drops of rain fall.
14. The screening committee investigated not only the candidates themselves but also the organizations with which they were _____.
15. Is there anyone in the world as _____ as a senior who attends a mere sophomore class dance?
16. The more knowledge and wisdom people acquire, the more keenly they become aware that no one is _____.
17. Only by paying _____ attention to innumerable details were the investigators able to piece together the cause of the accident.

18. Antibiotics were once considered wonder drugs, but we now know that they are not _____ for all our physical ailments.
19. I knew the dean would accept my apology when she characterized my behavior as thoughtless but _____.
20. Her election to congress was the _____ of a lifelong ambition.

Synonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is **the same** or **most nearly the same** in the meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. no remedy for the problems of aging | _____ |
| 2. an eerie tale of the supernatural | _____ |
| 3. must determine who is responsible | _____ |
| 4. lurked in the shadows of the old warehouse | _____ |
| 5. handed down their knowledge to their apprentices | _____ |
| 6. the fulfillment of a cherished dream | _____ |
| 7. a measureable amount of rainfall | _____ |
| 8. an indifferent shrug of the shoulders | _____ |
| 9. impervious to normal wear and tear | _____ |
| 10. a painstaking restoration of the original | _____ |
| 11. the excusable flaws in a youthful work | _____ |
| 12. does not claim to be all-knowing | _____ |
| 13. a cold front that dispelled the heat and humidity | _____ |
| 14. needed to delete out-of-date files | _____ |
| 15. made a compelling case for government aid | _____ |

Antonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 16. shows contempt for the achievements of others | _____ |
| 17. opinions that diverge along party lines | _____ |
| 18. a statement that revealed their kind intentions | _____ |
| 19. behaves in a deferential manner | _____ |
| 20. unconnected with a national organization | _____ |

Choosing the Right Word

Circle the **boldfaced** word that more satisfactorily completes each of the following sentences.

1. When I found myself flushed with anger, I realized I was not so (**scrupulous, invulnerable**) to their bitter sarcasm as I had thought I was!
2. Lincoln said, "If you once forfeit the confidence of your fellow citizens, you can never regain their respect and (**esteem, attainment**)."
3. Vast wealth, elegant clothes, and a (**finite, supercilious**) manner may make a snob, but they do not of themselves make a person a true gentleman or lady.
4. I found your criticism of my conduct unpleasant, but I had to admit that your remarks were (**venial, cogent**).
5. She is the kind of person who has many (**panaceas, attainments**) but seems unable to put them to any practical use.
6. Her bright, optimistic manner did much to (**ascertain, disperse**) the atmosphere of gloom that had settled over the meeting.
7. Nothing he may (**expunge, bequeath**) to the next generation can be more precious than the memory of his long life of honorable public service.
8. Though the couple has spent years studying African history, they do not claim to be (**omniscient, cogent**) in that field.
9. Scientists have concluded that a sudden catastrophe (**expunged, converged**) dinosaurs from the face of earth.
10. Instead of blaming a (**malevolent, invulnerable**) fate for your failures, why not look for the causes within yourself?
11. The newspaper revealed that the city's chief building inspector was (**omniscient, affiliated**) with a large construction company.
12. Is it true that some dogs have a(n) (**uncanny, nonchalant**) sense of the approach of death?
13. As a member of the grand jury, it is your duty to be (**supercilious, scrupulous**) in weighing every bit of evidence.
14. The critics recognized the book's faults but dismissed them as (**venial, uncanny**) in view of the author's overall achievement.
15. At first, the two candidates were in disagreement of every issue; but as the campaign went on, their opinions seemed to (**disperse, converge**).
16. When I splattered paint on my art teacher, I tried to appear (**nonchalant, malevolent**) but succeeded only in looking horrified.
17. The reform candidate vowed to root out the corruption that (**bequeathed, skulked**) through the corridors of City Hall.
18. Instead of making an informed guess, why not (**ascertain, esteem**) exactly how many students are going on the trip to Washington?
19. Though the journey seemed interminable, I knew that it was (**cogent, finite**) and that I would soon be home.
20. There are so many different factors involved in an energy crisis that no single measure can be expected to serve as a(n) (**panacea, attainment**).