

Definitions

Note carefully the spelling, pronunciation, and definition of each of the following words. Then write the word in the blank space in the illustrative phrase following.

- adversary** ('ad vər ser ē)
(n.) an enemy, opponent
a worthy _____ on the court
- alienate** ('ā lē ə nāt)
(v.) to turn away; to make indifferent or hostile; to transfer, convey
bad habits that _____ friends
- artifice** ('ār tē fīs)
(n.) a skillful or ingenious device; a clever trick; clever skill; trickery
deceived by his _____
- coerce** (kō 'ers)
(v.) to compel, force
_____ into obedience by a threat of _____
- craven** ('krā vən)
(adj.) cowardly; (n.) a coward
criticized by his opponent for his _____ policies
- culinary** ('kyū lē ner ē)
(adj.) of or related to cooking or to the kitchen
a fine example of French _____ art
- delete** (dī 'lēt)
(v.) to erase, wipe out, cut out
shortened the report by _____ two paragraphs
- demise** (dī 'mīz)
(n.) a death, especially of a person in a lofty position
tolling bells that indicated the _____ of the king
- exhilarate** (eg 'zil ə rāt)
(v.) to enliven, cheer, give spirit or liveliness to
_____ by the good news
- fallow** ('fal ō)
(adj.) plowed but not seeded; inactive; reddish-yellow;
(n.) land left unseeded; (v.) to plow but not seed
garden plots left _____ for a year
- harass** (hə 'ras)
(v.) to disturb, worry; to trouble by repeated attacks
_____ the witness with difficult questions
- inclement** (in 'klem ənt)
(adj.) stormy, harsh; severe in attitude or action
unaccustomed to the _____ New England winter
- muse** (myüz)
(v.) to think about in a dreamy way, ponder
_____ on the meaning of life

- negligible** ('neg lə jə bel)
(adj.) so unimportant that it can be disregarded
a _____ loss that we need not worry about
- perpetuate** (per 'pech ü āt)
(v.) to make permanent or long lasting
_____ the customs of our ancestors
- precedent** ('pres ə dent)
(n.) an example that may serve as a basis for imitation or later action
set a _____ for others to follow
- punitive** ('pyü nə tiv)
(adj.) inflicting or aiming at punishment
led a _____ expedition against the rebels
- redress** (rē 'dres)
(v.) to set right, remedy; (n.) relief from wrong or injury
seek _____ through the courts
- sojourn** ('sō jəm)
(n.) a temporary stay; (v.) to stay for a time
a week's _____ in Paris
- urbane** (ər 'bān)
(adj.) refined in manner or style, suave
an _____ host

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.

- Coach Groh took me off the starting team as a(n) _____ measure for missing two days of practice.
- The deserted buildings and the fields lying _____ hinted at the troubles the farmers in the area were undergoing.
- When the snowstorm lasted into a second day, we listened attentively to the radio to find out if our school was among those closed because of the _____ weather.
- David's charmingly _____ manner and keen wit made him a much sought-after guest at social gatherings.
- The _____ of an administration in the United States is never a crisis because a newly elected administration is waiting to take over.
- The full extent of my _____ skill is preparing scrambled eggs on toast.
- When planning our trip to the Southwest, we made sure to set aside two days for a(n) _____ at the Grand Canyon.
- Since both cars had virtually come to a halt by the time their bumpers met, the damage was _____.

9. Their _____ behavior at the first sign of danger was a disgrace to the uniform they wore.
10. When citizens feel that something is wrong, they have a right under the First Amendment to ask their government for a(n) _____ of grievances.
11. I advise you to _____ from your statement all the words that people are likely to find personally offensive.
12. In 1858, Abraham Lincoln held a series of debates with Stephen Douglas, his _____ in the contest for U.S. Senator from Illinois.
13. The coach emphasized that the way to stop our opponent's passing game was to _____ their receivers and "blitz" their quarterback.
14. When Grandfather stubbornly refused to eat his vegetables, he set a(n) _____ that was immediately followed by the children.
15. His bad manners and insufferable conceit _____ even those who were most inclined to judge him favorably.
16. If we continue to elect unworthy people to public office, we will simply _____ the evils that we have tried so hard to correct.
17. Magicians rely on sleight of hand and other forms of _____ to deceive their unsuspecting audiences.
18. There are far more subtle ways of _____ a person into doing what you want than twisting his or her arm.
19. As he lay under the old apple tree, he began to _____ on the strange twists of fate that had led to the present situation.
20. At first we watched the game with relatively little emotion, but we became so _____ by our team's strong comeback that we began to cheer loudly.

Synonyms

*From the words for this unit, choose the one that is most nearly **the same** in meaning as each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line provided at the right.*

1. to stimulate, excite, gladden
2. blustery, tempestuous, implacable
3. fearful, fainthearted, pusillanimous
4. suave, elegant
5. an antagonist, rival, foe
6. to annoy, pester, bedevil, beleaguer, worry

7. to rectify, correct, mitigate
8. trivial, inconsequential, insignificant
9. to remove, cancel, expunge
10. penalizing, retaliatory
11. to meditate, contemplate, daydream
12. to separate, drive apart, estrange
13. a visit, stopover, brief stay
14. unproductive, inert, dormant
15. to continue, preserve, prolong indefinitely
16. a death, decease, passing away
17. to pressure, bully, intimidate, constrain
18. a guide, tradition, model
19. a ruse, stratagem, contrivance
20. related to cooking

Antonyms

*From the words for this unit, choose the one that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line provided at the right.*

1. crude, uncouth, boorish
2. brave, courageous, valiant
3. significant, crucial, momentous
4. discourage, dispirit, dishearten, inhibit
5. mild, gentle, balmy, tranquil
6. a friend, ally, supporter, confederate
7. to discontinue, abolish, abandon
8. to befriend, attract, captivate; to reconcile
9. productive, fertile, prolific
10. to insert, add, retain, include
11. a birth, beginning, commencement
12. that which follows or comes afterward
13. to persuade, cajole

Choosing the Right Word

*Encircle the **boldface** word that more satisfactorily completes each of the following sentences.*

1. After a long (**urbane, fallow**) period during which she scarcely touched her brushes, the painter suddenly produced a series of major canvases.
2. May I remind you that the (**punitive, urbane**) action we are authorized to take does not include physical force of any kind.
3. We must reject the (**craven, fallow**) advice of those who feel we can solve social problems by abandoning our democratic freedoms.
4. It is all very well to (**muse, perpetuate**) on what might have happened, but far better to take action to make good things happen.
5. The critics unanimously praised the actor for the (**urbane, negligible**) charm with which he played the well-bred English gentleman.
6. When Washington refused to serve a third term as President, he set a(n) (**precedent, artifice**) that was to last for 150 years.
7. We need a foreman who can maintain good discipline in the shop without (**harassing, exhilarating**) the workers.
8. Because of the severe sentences he often handed down, he gained the reputation of being an extremely (**inclement, negligible**) judge.
9. I want to know by whose authority my name was (**deleted, coerced**) from the list of students eligible to take the scholarship examinations.
10. When he blocked my jump shot, took the rebound, drove down the court, and scored, I realized that I was facing a worthy (**artifice, adversary**).
11. If we do not take steps now to clear his name, we will be (**perpetuating, redressing**) an injustice that has already lasted far too long.
12. Our city government needs basic reforms; clever little (**precedents, artifices**) will not solve our problems.
13. I admit that we did some foolish things after the game, but you must remember how (**mused, exhilarated**) we were by the victory.
14. Do you really expect me to believe that your friends (**coerced, alienated**) you into cutting class to go to the movies?
15. Only when the attempt to get the British government to (**redress, harass**) injustices proved unsuccessful did the American colonists resort to arms.
16. Our history shows how the (**demise, artifice**) of one political party provides an opportunity for the formation of a new one.
17. The highlight of my trip to Europe came when I (**sojourned, redressed**) in the birthplace of my ancestors.
18. And now I want you all to try my (**inclement, culinary**) masterpiece—a salami soufflé, garnished with sour cream.
19. Since we are making (**negligible, craven**) progress in our fight against pollution, the time has come for us to adopt completely new methods.
20. Coach Gates ran the risk of (**exhilarating, alienating**) influential graduates of the school when he suspended a star player who had broken training.