

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.

1. **affiliated**
(ə 'fil i ət əd)
_____ with a well-known law firm
2. **ascertain**
(ə sər 'tān)
_____ what the cost will be
3. **attainment**
(ə 'tān mənt)
a man of high literary _____
4. **bequeath**
(bi 'kwēθ)
has _____ a fortune to his widow
5. **cogent**
('kō jɪnt)
(*adj.*) forceful, convincing; relevant, to the point
6. **converge**
(kən 'verj)
a _____ plea for prison reform
7. **disperse**
(di 'spɜrs)
as the delegates _____ on the hall
8. **esteem**
(es 'tēn)
(*v.*) to scatter, spread far and wide
9. **expunge**
(ɪk 'spɒŋj)
order the police to _____ the crowd
10. **finite**
('fi nɪt)
(*v.*) to regard highly; (*n.*) a highly favorable opinion or judgment
11. **invulnerable**
(ɪn 'vɛl nə ə bəl)
someone we all hold in high _____
12. **malevolent**
(mə 'lev ə lənt)
(*v.*) to erase, obliterate, destroy
13. **nonchalant**
(nən šə 'lɑnt)
ordered the offending remarks _____ from the court record
14. **omniscient**
(əm 'nɪʃ ə nt)
(*adj.*) having limits; lasting for a limited time
15. **spiteful**
(sɪt 'fʊl)
a _____ number of possibilities
16. **unconcerned**
(ʌn kən'sɜnd)
an _____ fortress
17. **walked down the street**
(wɔk dʌn ðə strit)
(*adj.*) spiteful, showing ill will
18. **walked down the street**
(wɔk dʌn ðə strit)
told a _____ lie
19. **understanding**
(ʌndər'stændɪŋ)
(*adj.*) cool and confident, unconcerned
20. **understanding**
(ʌndər'stændɪŋ)
walked down the street with a _____ air
21. **understanding**
(ʌndər'stændɪŋ)
(*adj.*) knowing everything; having unlimited awareness or understanding
22. **understanding**
(ʌndər'stændɪŋ)
a professor who seemed to be _____

- 15. panacea**
(pan ə 'sē ə)
(n.) a remedy for all ills, cure-all; an answer to all problems
a _____ for all our problems
- 16. scrupulous**
('skrū pyə ləs)
(adj.) exact, careful, attending thoroughly to details; having high moral standards, principled
describe with _____ accuracy
- 17. skulk**
(skɜlk)
(v.) to move about stealthily; to lie in hiding
a burglar _____ in an alley
- 18. supercilious**
(sü pər 'sil ē əs)
(adj.) proud and contemptuous; showing scorn because of a feeling of superiority
took a _____ attitude toward the servants
- 19. uncanny**
(ən 'kan ē)
(adj.) strange, mysterious, weird, beyond explanation
an _____ skill at playing bridge
- 20. venial**
('vē nē əl)
(adj.) easily excused; pardonable
a _____ offense

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.

- Her ability to guess what I am thinking about at any given time is nothing short of _____.
- So long as we remained indoors, we were _____ to the Arctic blasts that swept down on our snowbound cabin.
- The more knowledge and wisdom people acquire, the more keenly they become aware that no one is _____.
- Because our natural resources are _____ and by no means inexhaustible, we must learn to conserve them.
- We refer to antibiotics as "wonder drugs," but we must realize that they are not _____ for all the physical ailments of mankind.
- Our representative offered one simple but _____ argument against the proposal—it would raise the cost of living.
- Isn't it remarkable how quickly a throng of sunbathers will pick up their belongings and _____ when a few drops of rain fall?
- Is there anyone in the world as _____ as a senior who attends a mere sophomore class dance?
- Her election to Congress was the _____ of a lifelong ambition.

- As we stood on the railway tracks looking off into the distance, the rails seemed to _____ and meet at some far-off point.
- Only by paying _____ attention to innumerable details were we able to piece together the cause of the accident.
- The screening committee investigated not only the candidate himself but also the organizations with which he was _____.
- Before making our final plans, we should _____ exactly how much money we will have for expenses.
- Though I wanted to "let bygones be bygones," I found that I could not wholly _____ the bitter memory of their behavior from my mind.
- When I saw the pain he caused others and the pleasure he took in doing so, I realized he was a truly _____ person.
- If only parents could _____ their hard-won practical wisdom and experience to their children!
- In a situation that would have left me all but helpless with embarrassment, he remained cool and _____.
- I knew the dean would accept my apology when she characterized my behavior as thoughtless but _____.
- When the candidate admitted openly that he had been mistaken in some of his earlier policies, we _____ him more highly than ever.
- In the opening scene of the horror film a shadowy figure dressed in black _____ through the graveyard in the moonlight.

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.

- snobbish, patronizing, overbearing _____
- painstaking, meticulous, conscientious _____
- composed, unruffled, indifferent, blasé _____
- to lurk, slink, prowl _____
- to hand down, transmit, bestow _____
- to respect, admire, honor, revere _____
- malicious, wicked, sinister, malignant _____

8. impregnable, impervious, immune
9. eerie, inexplicable, spooky
10. attached, related, joined to
11. to meet, unite, intersect, merge
12. a universal cure; an easy solution
13. to delete, efface, annihilate
14. persuasive, compelling
15. wise, all-knowing
16. excusable, forgivable
17. to discover, determine, establish, find out
18. limited, bounded, measurable
19. an achievement, fulfillment
20. to break up, scatter, dispel

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. ignorant, unknowing
2. careless, negligent, remiss; dishonest
3. disdain, scorn, contempt
4. kind, benevolent, compassionate
5. a failure, defeat; frustration
6. to collect, congregate, assemble, muster
7. exposed, unprotected, defenseless
8. unlimited, immeasurable; everlasting, eternal
9. humble, meek, deferential, servile
10. perturbed, agitated, disconcerted, abashed
11. unconvincing, weak, ineffective; irrelevant
12. unpardonable, unforgivable, inexcusable
13. unconnected, dissociated
14. to diverge, separate, go separate ways
15. to insert; to mark, imprint, impress

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

1. At first, the two candidates were in disagreement on every issue, but as the campaign went on, their opinions seemed to (**disperse**, **converge**).
2. Is it true that some dogs have a(n) (**uncanny**, **malevolent**) sense of the approach of death?
3. When I found myself flushed with anger, I realized that I was not so (**scrupulous**, **invulnerable**) to his bitter sarcasm as I had thought I was!
4. Though Mr. Darden has spent years studying African history, he does not claim to be (**omniscient**, **cogent**) in that field.
5. The critic recognized the book's faults but dismissed them as (**venial**, **uncanny**) in view of the author's overall achievement.
6. As a member of the grand jury, it is your duty to be (**supercilious**, **scrupulous**) in weighing every detail of evidence.
7. The reform candidate vowed to root out the corruption that (**bequeathed**, **skulked**) through the corridors of City Hall.
8. The newspaper revealed that the city's chief building inspector was (**converged**, **affiliated**) with a large construction company.
9. Her elegant clothes and (**finite**, **supercilious**) manner did not conceal the fact that she was our old friend, Beulah Blitz, a former waitress.
10. Instead of making an "informed guess," why not (**ascertain**, **esteem**) exactly how many students are going on the trip to Washington?
11. Lincoln said, "If you once forfeit the confidence of your fellow citizens, you can never regain their respect and (**esteem**, **attainment**)."
12. We found her criticism of our conduct unpleasant, but we had to admit that her remarks were (**venial**, **cogent**).
13. Instead of blaming a (**malevolent**, **invulnerable**) fate for your failures, why not look for the causes within yourself?
14. 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**).
15. He is the kind of person who has many (**convergences**, **attainments**) but seems unable to put them to any practical use.
16. Nothing he may (**disperse**, **bequeath**) to the next generation can be more precious than the memory of his long life of honorable public service.
17. Though the journey seemed interminable, I knew that it was (**cogent**, **finite**) and that I would soon be home.
18. Her bright, optimistic manner did much to (**converge**, **disperse**) the atmosphere of gloom that had settled over the meeting.
19. When I splattered paint on my art teacher, I tried to appear (**nonchalant**, **malevolent**) but succeeded only in looking horrified.
20. Scientists still debate whether it was a sudden catastrophe or a natural process that (**expunged**, **converged**) dinosaurs from the face of the earth.