



Note carefully the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the word in the blank space(s) in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms given at the end of each entry.

- 1. affinity**
(ə fin' ə te)
(*n.*) a natural attraction to a person, thing, or activity; a relationship, connection
The mysterious _____ between the two leaders could not be explained.
SYNONYMS: inclination, penchant
ANTONYMS: distaste, aversion
- 2. bilious**
(bil' yəs)
(*adj.*) peevish or irritable; sickeningly unpleasant
The room was painted a _____ shade of green.
SYNONYMS: choleric, irascible, peevish, splenetic
ANTONYMS: sweet-tempered, genial, pleasant, delightful
- 3. cognate**
(kog' nāt)
(*adj.*) closely related in origin, essential nature, or function;
(*n.*) such a person or thing
_____ languages, such as Spanish, Italian, and French, share a common root.
When I studied Latin, I learned that the words *pater* and *father* are _____.
SYNONYMS: (*adj.*) allied, affiliated; (*n.*) relative
ANTONYMS: (*adj.*) dissimilar, unrelated
- 4. corollary**
(kôr' ə ler ē)
(*n.*) a proposition that follows from one already proven; a natural consequence or result; (*adj.*) resultant or consequent
Learning the axiom and its _____ was no simple matter.
The _____ effects of today's findings remain to be seen.
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) deduction, conclusion
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) axiom, postulate, premise
- 5. cul-de-sac**
(kəl' də sak)
(*n.*) a blind alley or dead-end street; any situation in which further progress is impossible; an impasse
Much to their dismay, the once-optimistic negotiators found themselves in a hopeless _____
- 6. derring-do**
(der' inj dü)
(*n.*) valor or heroism; daring deeds or exploits (often used to poke fun at false heroics)
Breathtaking feats of _____ are all in a day's work for a Hollywood stuntperson.

SYNONYMS: audacity, bravado, pyrotechnics
ANTONYMS: cowardice, timidity, poltroonery

- 7. divination**
(div ə nā' shən) (n.) the art or act of predicting the future or discovering hidden knowledge
Claiming skill in _____, the fortune teller took my money and then told me what my future held.
SYNONYMS: prophecy, augury
- 8. elixir**
(i lik' sər) (n.) a potion once thought capable of curing all ills and maintaining life indefinitely; a panacea; a sweet liquid used as a vehicle in medicines
Allegedly, the explorer Ponce de León spent years searching for the _____ of eternal life.
SYNONYMS: cure-all, nostrum, tonic
- 9. folderol**
(fol' də rol) (n.) foolish talk, ideas, or procedures; nonsense; a trifle
Right from the outset, the sergeant informed her troops that she would not tolerate any _____.
SYNONYMS: hoopla, gibberish
ANTONYMS: sense, significance
- 10. gamut**
(gam' ət) (n.) an entire range or series
The reviews of the newest Broadway musical extravaganza ran the _____ from praise to scorn.
SYNONYMS: scope, compass, sweep
- 11. hoi polloi**
(hoi pə loi') (n.) the common people, the masses
By catering to the _____, the studio was able to make one very successful movie after another.
SYNONYM: rank and file
ANTONYMS: aristocracy, elite, upper class
- 12. ineffable**
(in ef' ə bəl) (adj.) not expressible in words; too great or too sacred to be uttered
The _____ joy of parenthood is the subject of a psychologist's new bestseller.
SYNONYMS: inexpressible, indescribable
- 13. lucubration**
(lü kyú brā' shən) (n.) laborious study or thought, especially at night; the result of such work
The scientist's _____ took place after midnight, secretly, in the quiet of the laboratory.
SYNONYMS: burning the midnight oil, deep thought

- 14. mnemonic**
(ni mon' ik)
(*adj.*) relating to or designed to assist the memory; (*n.*) a device to aid the memory
PPMDAS is a _____ device used to remember the order of mathematical operations.
The _____ HOMES can help people to recall the names of the Great Lakes.
SYNONYMS: (*n.*) reminder, cue
- 15. obloquy**
(ob' lə kwē)
(*n.*) public abuse indicating strong disapproval or censure; the disgrace resulting from such treatment
The press heaped _____ on the head of the offending official.
SYNONYMS: discredit, opprobrium, ignominy, dishonor
ANTONYMS: praise, acclaim, approbation
- 16. parameter**
(pə ram' ə tər)
(*n.*) a determining or characteristic element; a factor that shapes the total outcome; a limit, boundary
The committee analyzed the _____ of the nation's military potential.
- 17. pundit**
(pən' dit)
(*n.*) a learned person; one who gives authoritative opinions
A renowned _____ of the theater the critic had the power to affect a show's success.
SYNONYMS: expert, authority, savant
ANTONYMS: layman, amateur, dilettante
- 18. risible**
(riz' ə bəl)
(*adj.*) pertaining to laughter; able or inclined to laugh; laughable
All in the crowd, not just the children, were delighted by the _____ antics of the clowns.
SYNONYMS: droll, ludicrous
ANTONYMS: depressing, poignant, heartrending
- 19. symptomatic**
(simp tə mat' ik)
(*adj.*) typical or characteristic; being or concerned with a symptom of a disease
According to certain sociologists, vulgarity and indulgence are _____ of a nation's decline.
SYNONYM: indicative
- 20. volte-face**
(volt fās'
(*n.*) an about-face; a complete reversal
The prosecution's witness's testimony amounted to a completely unexpected _____.
SYNONYM: turnabout