

### **Vocabulary List #3**

**1. Abridge** (v) to make shorter

Travel by air \_\_\_\_\_ the time needed to reach far-distant places

SYNONYMS: shorten, condense, abbreviate

ANTONYMS: expand, enlarge, augment

**2. Adherent** (n) a follower, supporter; (adj.) attached, sticking to

The senator's loyal \_\_\_\_\_ campaigned long and hard for her reelection.

Before we could repaint the walls of our living room, we had to remove an \_\_\_\_\_ layer of wallpaper.

SYNONYMS: (n) disciple

ANTONYMS: (n) opponent, adversary, critic, detractor

**3. Altercation** (n) an angry argument

A noisy \_\_\_\_\_ in the next apartment kept me awake for hours.

SYNONYMS: quarrel, dispute, squabble

ANTONYMS: agreement, accord

**4. Cherubic** (adj) resembling an angel portrayed as a little child with a beautiful, round or chubby face; sweet and innocent

How well those photographs of the month-old twins capture the \_\_\_\_\_ expressions on their faces!

SYNONYMS: angelic, seraphic, beatific

ANTONYMS: impish, devilish, diabolic, fiendish

**5. Condone** (v) to pardon or overlook

Our parents have always made it crystal clear to us that they do not \_\_\_\_\_ rude behavior.

SYNONYMS: ignore, wink at, turn a blind eye to

ANTONYMS: censure, condemn, disapprove, deprecate

**6. Dissent** (v) to disagree; (n) disagreement

Justices have an option to \_\_\_\_\_ from a ruling issued by a majority of the Supreme Court.

Some people give voice to their \_\_\_\_\_ on issues of public policy by writing letters to newspapers.

SYNONYMS: (v) differ, dispute

ANTONYMS: (v) agree, concur; (n) unanimity, harmony

**7. Eminent** (adj) famous, outstanding, distinguished; projecting

A group of \_\_\_\_\_ scientists meet to discuss long-term changes in Earth's climate.

SYNONYMS: illustrious, renowned

ANTONYMS: obscure, nameless, unsung, lowly, humble

**8. Exorcise** (v) to drive out by magic or faith; to dispose of something troublesome, menacing, or oppressive.

We must do all we can to \_\_\_\_\_ the evils of hatred and prejudice from our society.

SYNONYMS: expel, dispel

**9. Fabricate** (v) to make, manufacture; to make up, invent

Threads from the cocoons of caterpillars called silkworms are used to \_\_\_\_\_ silk.

SYNONYMS: put together, devise, contrive, concoct

ANTONYMS: take apart, undo, destroy, demolish

**10. Irate** (adj) angry

Long delays caused by bad weather are likely to make even the most unflappable travelers \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: incensed, infuriated, enraged, livid

ANTONYMS: calm, composed, cool unruffled

**11. Marauder** (n) raider, plunderer

Edgar Allan Poe's story "The Gold-Bug" concerns treasure buried by the \_\_\_\_\_ Captain Kidd.

SYNONYMS: looter, pirate, freebooter

**12. Obesity** (n) excessive fatness

Sooner or later, \_\_\_\_\_ leads to all sorts of serious health problems.

SYNONYMS: serious overweight, extreme corpulence

ANTONYMS: emaciation, gauntness, scrawniness

**13. Pauper** (n) an extremely poor person

During the Great Depression, many people were reduced to leading the desperate lives of \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: destitute person

ANTONYMS: millionaire, tycoon

**14. Pilfer** (v) to steal in small quantities

An employee who \_\_\_\_\_ from the petty cash box will get caught sooner or later

SYNONYMS: filch, rob, swipe, purloin

**15. Rift** (n) a split, break, breach

Failure to repay a loan can be the cause of an angry \_\_\_\_\_ between longtime friends.

SYNONYMS: crack, fissure, gap, cleft

ANTONYM: reconciliation

**16. Semblance** (n) a likeness; an outward appearance; an apparition

Despite a bad case of stage fright, I tried to maintain a \_\_\_\_\_ of calm as I sang my solo.

SYNONYMS: appearance, air, aura, veneer, façade

ANTONYMS: dissimilarity, contrast, total lack

**17. Surmount** (v) to overcome, rise above

Wilma Rudolph \_\_\_\_\_ childhood illnesses and physical disabilities to win three Olympic gold medals.

SYNONYMS: conquer, triumph over

ANTONYMS: be vanquished, be defeated, succumb to

**18. Terminate** (v) to bring to an end

If you fail to perform your job satisfactorily, your boss may \_\_\_\_\_ your employment.

SYNONYMS: conclude, finish, discontinue

ANTONYMS: begin, commence, initiate

**19. Trite** (adj) commonplace; overused, stale

When you write an essay or a story, be especially careful to avoid using \_\_\_\_\_ expressions.

SYNONYMS: banal, hackneyed, corny

ANTONYMS: original, novel, fresh, innovative

**20. Usurp** (v) to seize and hold a position by force or without right

The general who led the coup \_\_\_\_\_ the office of the duly elected president.

SYNONYMS: seize illegally, commandeer, supplant