

## **Vocabulary List #5**

### **1. Accomplice** (n) a person who takes part in a crime

The driver of the getaway car was arrested and tried as an \_\_\_\_\_ in the bank robbery.

SYNONYMS: partner in crime, confederate

### **2. Annihilate** (v) to destroy completely

Throughout history, nations that are bitter enemies have sought to \_\_\_\_\_ each other.

SYNONYMS: obliterate, decimate, demolish

ANTONYMS: foster, promote, encourage, nurture

### **3. Arbitrary** (adj) unreasonable; based on one's wishes or whims without regard for reason or fairness.

A judge may be criticized for rulings that appear to be \_\_\_\_\_ and without legal precedent.

SYNONYMS: capricious, high-handed, autocratic

ANTONYMS: reasoned, rational, objective, equitable

### **4. Brazen** (adj) made of brass; shameless, impudent

Behavior considered \_\_\_\_\_ in one era may be deemed perfectly acceptable in another.

SYNONYMS: saucy, bold

ANTONYMS: deferential, respectful, self-effacing

### **5. Catalyst** (n) a substance that causes or hastens a chemical reaction, any agent that causes change

Enzymes are \_\_\_\_\_ that aid in the digestion of food.

SYNONYMS: stimulus, spur, instigator

### **6. Exodus** (n) a large-scale departure or flight

The \_\_\_\_\_ of African Americans to the industrialized northern states is known as the Great Migration.

SYNONYMS: emigration, escape, hegira

ANTONYMS: immigration, influx, arrival, entrance

### **7. Facilitate** (v) to make easier; to assist

The Federal Reserve Board may lower interest rates in order to \_\_\_\_\_ economic growth.

SYNONYMS: ease, smooth the way, simplify

ANTONYMS: hamper, hinder, obstruct, impede

### **8. Incurable** (adj) not able to be corrected; beyond control

Criminals deemed \_\_\_\_\_ can expect to receive maximum sentences for their offences against society.

SYNONYMS: unruly, intractable, incurable, inveterate

ANTONYMS: tractable, docile, curable, reparable

**9. Latent** (adj) hidden, present but not realized

Don't you think it's sad that many people use only a small fraction of their \_\_\_\_ abilities?

SYNONYMS: dormant, inactive, undeveloped

ANTONYMS: exposed, manifest, evident

**10. Militant** (adj) given to fighting; active and aggressive in support of a cause; (n) an activist

In the struggle for civil rights, Martin Luther King, Jr., advocated peaceful rather than \_\_\_\_\_ protest.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was a \_\_\_\_\_ in the fight for woman suffrage.

SYNONYMS: (adj) truculent

ANTONYMS: (adj) unassertive, peaceable, passive

**11. Morose** (adj) having a gloomy or sullen manner; not friendly or sociable

Heathcliff is the \_\_\_\_\_ and vengeful protagonist in Emily Bronte's novel *Wuthering Heights*.

SYNONYMS: morbid, doleful

ANTONYMS: cheerful, blithe, jaunty, buoyant

**12. Opaque** (adj) not letting light through; not clear or lucid; dense, stupid

I have read that book twice, but I still find the author's meaning completely \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: hazy, cloudy, foggy, murky, dull, obtuse

ANTONYMS: transparent, clear, bright, perceptive

**13. Paramount** (adj) chief in importance, above all others,

Voters should insist that candidates for high office address the \_\_\_\_\_ issues facing our society.

SYNONYMS: supreme, foremost, primary, dominant

ANTONYMS: secondary, subordinate, ancillary

**14. Prattle** (v) to talk in an aimless, foolish, or simple way; to babble (n) baby talk; babble

Some people can \_\_\_\_\_ away on the phone for hours on end.

Over time, recognizable words become part of a toddler's cheerful \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: (v) chatter; (n) twaddle, gibberish, piffle

**15. Rebut** (v) to offer arguments or evidence that contradicts an assertion; to refute

It is a defense lawyer's job to \_\_\_\_\_ the charges made by the prosecutor.

SYNONYMS: disprove, confute, shoot holes in

ANTONYMS: confirm, corroborate, substantiate

**16. Reprimand** (v) to scold; find fault with; (n) a rebuke or a scolding

A judge may need to \_\_\_\_\_ a lawyer for repeatedly harassing a witness.

An employee who frequently violates a company's rules may receive a written \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: (v) reprove, reproach; (n) reproof

ANTONYMS: (v) praise, pat on the back

**17. Servitude** (n) slavery, forced labor

In *Les Misérables*, Jean Valjean is sentenced to many years of \_\_\_\_\_ for stealing a loaf of bread.

SYNONYMS: captivity, bondage, thralldom

ANTONYMS: freedom, liberty

**18. Slapdash** (adj) careless and hasty

Landlords who routinely make \_\_\_\_\_ repairs should be considered negligent.

SYNONYMS: cursory, perfunctory, sloppy, slipshod

ANTONYMS: painstaking, meticulous, thorough, in-depth

**19. Stagnant** (adj) not running or flowing; foul from standing still; inactive, sluggish, dull

It is dangerous for hikers to drink water from any source that appears to be \_\_\_\_\_.

SYNONYMS: still, motionless, inert, fetid

ANTONYMS: flowing, running, fresh, sweet

**20. Succumb** (v) to give way to superior force, yield

Most dieters occasionally \_\_\_\_\_ to the lure of a high-calorie dessert.

SYNONYMS: submit, die, expire

ANTONYMS: overcome, master, conquer