

Unit 10



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. **bellow** ('bel ɒ)
(v.) to make a sound similar to that of a bull; roar;
(n.) a loud, angry roar

2. **beneficiary** (ben ə 'fɪʃ ə ri ə)
(n.) one who benefits from something; a person who is left money or other property in a will or the like

3. **botch** (bɒtʃ)
(v.) to repair or patch poorly; make a mess of; (n.) a hopelessly bungled job

4. **clutter** ('klʌt ə r)
(v.) to fill or cover in a disorderly way; (n.) state of disorder, mess

5. **dilapidated** (dɪ 'læp ə dətəd)
(adj.) falling apart or ruined, run-down
a _____ house

6. **dismantle** (dɪs 'mæn tə l)
(v.) to take apart; to strip of something
_____ a ship

7. **farce** (fɑːs)
(n.) a play filled with ridiculous or absurd happenings; broad or far-fetched humor; a ridiculous sham
made a _____ of the election

8. **futile** ('fjuːl ə l)
(adj.) not successful, failing to have any result; useless; unimportant, frivolous
a _____ effort to save the child

9. **grueling** ('gruːl ɪ ŋ)
(adj.) very tiring, calling for an extreme effort
a _____ race

10. **hospitable** (hɒs 'pɪt ə bəl)
(adj.) offering friendly or generous treatment to guests; open to anything new or strange
_____ surroundings

11. **lair** (laɪ r)
(n.) the home or den of a wild animal; any hideout
trap the smugglers in their _____

12. **lavish** ('læv ɪʃ ə)
(adj.) overly generous, extravagant; abundant; (v.) to spend or give freely or without limit
_____ wedding gifts

13. **morbid**
(adj.)

14. **notorious**
(nō 'lōr ē as) (adj.) widely known because of bad conduct
a _____ bank robber
15. **pamper**
('pam pər) (v.) to allow too many privileges, be too generous and easygoing toward
_____ one's children
16. **parasite**
('par ə sīt) (n.) an organism that lives in or on another organism; one who lives off another person
lice and other _____
17. **shirk**
(ʃɜrk) (v.) to avoid or get out of doing work, neglect a duty; to sneak, slink
to _____ a responsibility
18. **surplus**
('sɜr pləs) (n.) an amount beyond what is required, excess; (adj.) more than what is needed or expected
_____ cash
19. **timidity**
(tī 'mīd ə tē) (n.) the state of being easily frightened
a shy child's natural _____
20. **veto**
('ve tō) (n.) the power to forbid or prevent; (v.) to prohibit, reject
_____ a bill

Completing the Sentence
Choose the word for this unit that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

1. I know what it is that I have to do, and you may be certain that I will not _____ my duty.
2. Though the cabin was a little _____ when we bought it, we were able to spruce it up without going to a great deal of expense.
3. He is such a(n) _____ liar that no one takes anything he says seriously anymore.
4. Mr. and Mrs. Guarneri are such _____ people that we are always completely at ease whenever we visit them.
5. Since the defendant was never given a chance to prove his innocence, his so-called "trial" was nothing more than a(n) _____.
6. The President can _____ a measure passed by a majority of Congress, but his _____ may be overridden.
7. It is hard to believe that a teenager so courageous and able on a camping trip can show _____ when invited to a dance.
8. The inexperienced typist _____ the letter he was trying to type and had to do it all over again.

9. The practice session was so _____ that we scarcely had the strength to get to the dressing room and take our showers.
10. Many people both here and abroad seem to have a(n) _____ fascination with the tragic fate of the Russian royal family.
11. As a child she was so _____ by her parents that she still seems to think that her wishes should be instantly granted.
12. The animals in the zoo are kept in quarters that are designed to imitate their _____ in the wild state.
13. Ever since the new tax laws went into effect, there has been speculation as to who the real _____ of the changes will be.
14. It is a curious fact of nature that most _____ are unable to survive when they are separated from the organisms they feed on.
15. When he realized that he had been tricked by his opponent, he let out a(n) _____ of rage that could be heard all over the gym.
16. The _____ food produced each year in the United States is desperately needed to feed hungry people all over the world.
17. When I accepted the invitation to the "strike party" after the play closed, I didn't realize that I had agreed to help _____ the sets.
18. They gave me so _____ a helping of dinner that for the first time in my life I was unable to polish off my plate.
19. Unfortunately, the brave fireguard's valiant attempts to rescue the drowning swimmer proved _____.
20. Why must you _____ up your mind with so many trivial and useless scraps of information?

Synonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is most nearly the same in meaning as each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line given.

1. run-down, in disrepair, gone to seed _____
2. very generous, extravagant, excessive _____
3. to try to avoid, duck, sidestep _____
4. fruitless, vain, ineffectual _____
5. fearfulness, faintheartedness _____
6. to take apart, disassemble, strip _____
7. to reject, turn down, nix, forbid _____
8. to mess up, foul up, bungle, mangle _____

9. to coddle, cater to, indulge
10. gracious, friendly, cordial, courteous
11. an excess, glut, surfeit, overage
12. litter; disorder, confusion
13. a low comedy, buffoonery; a sham
14. firing, exhausting, punishing, taxing
15. disgraceful, infamous, disreputable
16. a den, nest, hideout
17. a recipient, heir
18. gloomy, depressed; unhealthy, unwholesome
19. a sponger, freeloader, leech
20. to roar, yell, bawl, howl, holler

Antonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line given.

1. to put together, assemble, construct
2. to approve, endorse, ratify, confirm
3. wholesome, healthy; cheerful, blithe
4. easy, effortless, not taxing
5. order, tidiness, neatness
6. to whisper, murmur, speak softly
7. a tragedy; a melodrama, tearjerker
8. successful, effective
9. unfriendly, cold, icy, chilly
10. fearlessness, boldness, intrepidity
11. shipshape, trim, in good repair
12. stingy, meager; to begrudge, stint, deny
13. to abuse, maltreat, mistreat; to discipline
14. a shortage, lack, dearth, paucity
15. unknown, obscure; respectable
16. to fulfill, perform, shoulder, take on

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

Right Word

1. Since I was led to believe that she would approve my proposal, I was very much taken aback when it was (**lavished**, **vetoed**) out of hand.
2. The courts of many Renaissance princes were jammed with (**parasites**, **lair**s), loadies, and other idle hangers-on.
3. She was indeed fortunate to find herself working under a person who was (**notorious**, **hospitable**) to her revolutionary new ideas.
4. My experience has been that a person who cuts corners on small matters will also (**shirk**, **botch**) important responsibilities.
5. The modern TV sitcom developed out of the type of broad (**surplus**, **farce**) that slapstick comedians served up in the 1920's and 1930's.
6. Beneath the (**dismantled**, **dilapidated**) body of the getaway car, there was a powerful, finely tuned motor, capable of reaching high speeds.
7. I sometimes think that he enjoys being sick and having everyone wait on him, sympathize with him, and (**shirk**, **pamper**) him.
8. The best way to avoid those (**grueling**, **bellowing**) cram sessions just before the exams is to do your work steadily all term long.
9. When I think back to my days of basic training, I can almost hear the drill sergeant (**pampering**, **bellowing**) commands across the field.
10. After buying all the supplies for the club party, we were delighted to find that we had a grand (**surplus**, **veto**) of 65 cents.
11. When he said he would "beard the lion in his (**lair**, **clutter**)," he merely meant that he was going to have it out with the boss.
12. It would be impossible to (**pamper**, **dismantle**) our system of governmental checks and balances without destroying American democracy.
13. He amazed us by reaching into the pile of (**clutter**, **lair**) on his desk and pulling out exactly the piece of paper he wanted.
14. Their record is 100% consistent—they have managed to (**botch**, **clutter**) every job they have undertaken.
15. Even the toughest critics have been (**lavish**, **dilapidated**) in their praise of the new movie.
16. Ever since I was bitten by a stray mutt, I have had a (**morbid**, **lavish**) fear of dogs.
17. The campaign to eliminate pollution will prove (**futile**, **grueling**) unless it has the understanding and full cooperation of the public.
18. We who live in America today are the chief (**beneficiaries**, **parasites**) of the rich heritage of freedom left us by the Founding Fathers.
19. What a difference between the (**timidity**, **farce**) of the typical freshman and the know-it-all confidence of a senior!
20. He is (**hospitable**, **notorious**) for his habit of taking small loans from his friends and then conveniently forgetting about them.