

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. **adequate**
(ad e kwet) _____ (adj.) sufficient, enough
_____ time for the task
2. **ajar**
(e 'jɑr) _____ (adj., adv.) partly open
left the gate _____
3. **dialogue**
(di ə 'lɔg) _____ (n.) a conversation between two or more people; an interchange of opinions and ideas, free discussion
the _____ in a play
4. **emblem**
(em bləm) _____ (n.) a symbol, sign, token
our school _____
5. **gigantic**
(ji 'gæn tik) _____ (adj.) huge, giant, immense
a _____ hole in the ground
6. **havoc**
(həv ək) _____ (n.) very great destruction, ruin; great confusion and disorder
create _____ in the office
7. **hearth**
(hɑ:θ) _____ (n.) the floor of a fireplace; the fireside as a symbol of the home and family
sitting by the _____
8. **implore**
(im 'plɔr) _____ (v.) to beg earnestly for
_____ the judge to show mercy
9. **infamous**
(in fe məs) _____ (adj.) very wicked; disgraceful, shameful
_____ deeds
10. **innumerable**
(i 'nʌm ə re bəl) _____ (adj.) too many to count, without number
_____ complaints
11. **lax**
(ləks) _____ (adj.) not strict, careless; lacking discipline; not tense, relaxed
a _____ attitude
12. **mar**
(mɑr) _____ (v.) to spoil, damage, injure
_____ the surface of the table
13. **misdemeanor**
(mis di 'mè nar) _____ (n.) a crime or offense that is less serious than a felony; any minor misbehavior or misconduct
fined for a _____
14. **mull**
(mel) _____ (v.) to think about, ponder; to grind or mix; to heat and flavor with spices
_____ over the situation

15. **narrative**
(nə r ə tiv) _____ (n.) a story, detailed report; (adj.) having the quality or the nature of a story
a _____ of her life
16. **overture**
(ə vər tʃur) _____ (n.) an opening move toward negotiation or action; a proposal or offer; an introductory section or part
the _____ to an opera
17. **pact**
(pækt) _____ (n.) an agreement, treaty
a mutual defense _____
18. **stalemate**
(stəl mət) _____ (n.) a situation in which further action by either of two opponents is impossible; (v.) to bring to a standstill
ended in _____
19. **vindictive**
(vin 'dik tiv) _____ (adj.) bearing a grudge; feeling or showing a strong tendency toward revenge
a _____ person
20. **wilt**
(wilt) _____ (v.) to become limp and drooping (as a flower); wither; to lose strength and vigor
when the flowers _____

Completing the Sentence

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

1. Since I have never done him any harm, I don't understand why he should take such a(n) _____ attitude toward me.
2. Let me have some time to _____ over your proposal before I give you a definite answer.
3. Who has not gazed with awe at the _____ stars that fill the sky on a clear summer night!
4. Before you leave, be absolutely sure that your supplies of food and water are _____ for an eight-day journey across the desert.
5. Can any punishment be too severe for someone who has been guilty of such a(n) _____ crime?
6. You cannot discipline a group of teenagers by making a capital offense of every _____.
7. "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes is a(n) _____ poem that tells the story of a woman who sacrifices her life for her sweetheart.
8. Though my sister started out looking as fresh as a daisy, she began to _____ noticeably after only five minutes in that heat.

9. Because the front door was _____, the cat walked calmly into the living room.
10. No one questions the honesty and good intentions of the mayor, but he has been criticized for being _____ in carrying out his duties.
11. The dove is often used as a(n) _____ of peace.
12. The U.S. entry into World War I broke the _____ on the Western Front and tipped the balance in favor of an Allied victory.
13. The smoke from the logs burning on the _____ curled slowly upward into the chimney.
14. On our trip to California, we felt very small and unimportant as we stood beside the _____ redwood tree.
15. In most operettas, the musical numbers are connected to one another by spoken _____.
16. Though some of Verdi's operas begin with short preludes, for others he composed full-length _____ an otherwise perfect record.
17. One careless mistake can seriously _____ an otherwise perfect record.
18. Though Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia were bitter enemies, the two countries signed a nonaggression _____ in 1939.
19. She _____ the doctor to tell her frankly how badly her son had been hurt.
20. The flood had wrought such _____ that the governor of the state declared the stricken region a disaster area.

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. vengeful, spiteful, malicious _____
2. a fireplace; a chimney corner _____
3. to injure, scar, disfigure, deface _____
4. to sag, droop, wither, shrivel up _____
5. to beg, entreat, beseech _____
6. a deadlock, standoff, draw _____
7. a badge, insignia; a symbol, token, sign _____
8. enormous, immense, colossal, giant _____

9. a prelude, an overture, introductory _____
10. a treaty, compact, alliance; a deal _____
11. a conversation, discussion, exchange of ideas _____
12. slack, careless, negligent, remiss _____
13. sufficient, enough, satisfactory _____
14. a misdeed, petty offense or transgression _____
15. countless, beyond reckoning _____
16. a tale, story, chronicle _____
17. partly open _____
18. scandalous, villainous, flagrant, heinous _____
19. devastation, destruction, ruin, harm _____
20. to consider, reflect on, ponder _____

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. tiny, infinitesimal, diminutive _____
2. strict, vigilant, conscientious, scrupulous _____
3. insufficient, not enough, too little _____
4. closed tight, shut; open wide _____
5. countable; few in number _____
6. forgiving, relenting _____
7. a monologue, soliloquy _____
8. to beautify, embellish; to repair _____
9. glorious, splendid, illustrious; praiseworthy _____
10. to demand forcefully; clamor for _____
11. a felony, serious crime _____
12. peace and quiet, calm, order _____
13. to flourish, bloom, sprout; to perk up, revive _____
14. a finale; a postlude _____
15. a victory; a defeat _____
16. not to give something a second thought _____

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

1. Contract talks have been stalled for weeks, and nothing either side has suggested can seem to break the **(stalemate, dialogue)**.
2. Since I am willing to contribute to any worthy cause, there is no need to **(wilt, implore)** me for aid in such an emotional way.
3. After World War II the United States was not **(vindictive, lax)** toward its former enemies but tried to help them recover and rebuild.
4. As I look over your record, I get the impression that your background in math and science is not **(adequate, ajar)** for an engineering course.
5. For many years Benedict Arnold served his country faithfully, but then he disgraced his name for all time by an **(ajar, infamous)** act of treason.
6. Instead of continuing to **(mull, implore)** over the injustices that people have done to you, forget about the past and concentrate on the future.
7. Our high hopes for an easy victory **(wilted, mulled)** away to nothing as we watched our opponents steadily increase their lead over us.
8. The wonders of nature are as **(innumerable, adequate)** as the grains of sand on a seashore or the leaves on the trees in a forest.
9. Though jaywalking may be considered a(n) **(misdemeanor, overture)**, murder is definitely not!
10. As long as the door to compromise is even slightly **(ajar, vindictive)**, there is a chance that we will be able to reach an understanding.
11. In spite of all the criticism, our flag still stands throughout the world as a(n) **(pact, emblem)** of justice and freedom.
12. British enlistment posters in World War I assured young men that they would be fighting for "King and country, **(hearth, havoc)** and home."
13. Some parents are quite strict with their children; others are somewhat **(lax, adequate)** and permissive.
14. Instead of resorting at once to armed force, the two nations entered into a diplomatic **(dialogue, havoc)** that eventually resolved the conflict.
15. I was a little miffed when my polite **(stalemates, overtures)** of friendship were so rudely and nastily rejected.
16. The facts of history cannot always be arranged in the form of a smooth and logical **(pact, narrative)**.
17. I will not allow our long friendship to be **(marred, implored)** by this unfortunate misunderstanding.
18. The blustery winds on that cold November day played **(havoc, pact)** with my hair all during our sight-seeing tour.
19. The man has such a **(vindictive, gigantic)** ego that absolutely nothing ever seems to fluster, faze, or deflate him.
20. His grim insistence on his "just due" by the terms of our agreement made me think that I'd signed a **(pact, hearth)** with the devil himself!