



Definitions

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. adulterate**
(ə dəl' tə rāt)

(v.) to corrupt, make worse by the addition of something of lesser value

Hospitals take strict precautions to assure that nothing _____ **adulterates** _____ the blood supply.

SYNONYMS: contaminate, pollute, sully
ANTONYMS: purify, purge, expurgate
- 2. ambidextrous**
(am bi dek' strəs)

(adj.) able to use both hands equally well; very skillful; deceitful, hypocritical

Occasionally a teacher will come across a child who displays _____ **ambidextrous** _____ abilities when taught to write.

SYNONYMS: versatile, facile
ANTONYMS: clumsy, all thumbs, maladroit
- 3. augment**
(ôg ment')

(v.) to make larger, increase

Many couples have to _____ **augment** _____ their income in order to pay the mortgage on a new home.

SYNONYMS: enlarge, supplement, amplify
ANTONYMS: decrease, diminish
- 4. bereft**
(bi reft')

(adj., part.) deprived of; made unhappy through a loss

Individuals who live to be very old may eventually find themselves completely _____ **bereft** _____ of friends and family.

SYNONYM: bereaved
ANTONYMS: replete, well provided
- 5. deploy**
(di ploi')

(v.) to position or arrange; to utilize; to form up

A bugle call is a signal used to _____ **deploy** _____ troops for inspection, parade, or battle.

SYNONYMS: station, organize
- 6. dour**
(daür)

(adj.) stern, unyielding, gloomy, ill-humored

Dickens's Mr. Gradgrind in the novel *Hard Times* is an example of a character with a _____ **dour** _____ and sullen disposition.

SYNONYMS: harsh, bleak, forbidding, saturnine
ANTONYMS: cheery, inviting, genial



- 7. fortitude**
(fôr' ti tüd)
(*n.*) courage in facing difficulties
The residents of the Mississippi delta showed remarkable fortitude during and after the flood that destroyed their homes and businesses.
SYNONYMS: resolve, steadfastness, mettle
ANTONYMS: fearfulness, timidity, faintheartedness
- 8. gape**
(gāp)
(*v.*) to stare with open mouth; to open the mouth wide; to open wide
First-time visitors to Niagara Falls can be expected to gape at the spectacular sights nature has provided for them.
SYNONYMS: gawk, ogle
- 9. gibe**
(jīb)
(*v.*) to utter taunting words; (*n.*) an expression of scorn
The recruits rushed into battle so that no one could gibe at them for cowardice.
Voters may reject a candidate who resorts to personal gibes instead of discussing the issues.
SYNONYMS: (*v.*) ridicule, mock, deride, jeer
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) compliment, praise
- 10. guise**
(gīz)
(*n.*) an external appearance, cover, mask
The thieves gained entry to the home by presenting themselves in the guise of police officers.
SYNONYMS: costume, semblance, pretense
- 11. insidious**
(in sid' ē əs)
(*adj.*) intended to deceive or entrap; sly, treacherous
The investigators uncovered an insidious scheme to rob people of their life savings.
SYNONYMS: cunning, underhanded, perfidious
ANTONYMS: frank, ingenuous, aboveboard
- 12. intimation**
(in tə mā' shən)
(*n.*) a hint, indirect suggestion
They were too proud to give any intimation(s) of their financial difficulties.
SYNONYMS: clue, indication, inkling
- 13. opulent**
(öp' yə lənt)
(*adj.*) wealthy, luxurious; ample; grandiose
The tour guide showed us the opulent living quarters of the royal family.
SYNONYMS: rich, lavish, plentiful, abundant
ANTONYMS: poverty-stricken, wretched, destitute



- 14. pliable**
(plī' ə bəl)
(*adj.*) easily bent, flexible; easily influenced
Spools of _____ **pliable** _____ copper wire are standard equipment for many kinds of maintenance workers, including electricians.
SYNONYMS: supple, adaptable, resilient
ANTONYMS: rigid, inflexible, recalcitrant
- 15. reiterate**
(rē it' ə rāt)
(*v.*) to say again, repeat
Effective speakers often _____ **reiterate** _____ an important statement for emphasis.
SYNONYMS: restate, rehash, recapitulate
- 16. stolid**
(stäl' id)
(*adj.*) not easily moved mentally or emotionally; dull, unresponsive
_____ **Stolid** _____ people can generally be expected to take most things in stride.
SYNONYMS: impassive, phlegmatic
ANTONYMS: emotional, oversensitive, high-strung
- 17. tentative**
(ten' tə tiv)
(*adj.*) experimental in nature; uncertain, hesitant
Negotiators have come up with a _____ **tentative** _____ agreement that will keep both sides at the bargaining table past the strike deadline.
SYNONYMS: provisional, inconclusive
ANTONYMS: definite, conclusive, confirmed
- 18. unkempt**
(ən kempt')
(*adj.*) not combed; untidy; not properly maintained; unpolished, rude
According to my parents, the latest fashions make me and my friends look _____ **unkempt** _____.
SYNONYMS: sloppy, disheveled, disordered, rough
ANTONYMS: well-groomed, tidy, neat, natty
- 19. verbatim**
(vər bā' təm)
(*adj., adv.*) word for word; exactly as written or spoken
Newspapers often publish the _____ **verbatim** _____ text of an important political speech.
At the swearing-in ceremony, the Chief Justice reads each line of the Oath of Office, and the new President repeats it _____ **verbatim** _____.
SYNONYM: (*adj.*) exact; (*adv.*) precisely
ANTONYM: (*adj.*) paraphrased
- 20. warily**
(wâr' ə lē)
(*adv.*) cautiously, with great care
The hikers made their way _____ **warily** _____ up the steep and rocky trail.
SYNONYMS: carefully, prudently, gingerly
ANTONYMS: recklessly, heedlessly, incautiously