

Completing the Sentence

From the words for this unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

1. What a tragedy that in the twilight of her life the unfortunate woman should be _____ of all her loved ones!
2. We learned that beneath his _____ exterior there was a sensitive, highly subtle, and perceptive mind.
3. Having learned to respect the power in his opponent's fists, the boxer moved _____ around the center of the ring.
4. Her unchanging facial features and controlled voice as she received the news gave no _____ of her true feelings.
5. An experienced baseball manager _____ his outfielders according to the strengths and weaknesses of the opposing batters.
6. At the risk of being boring, let me _____ my warning against careless driving.
7. To this day, historians are still debating whether or not Aaron Burr was guilty of a(n) _____ plot to break up the United States.
8. Since I need the speaker's exact words for my report, I have asked the stenographer to take down the speech _____.
9. The _____ expressions on the jurors' faces as they grimly filed back into the courtroom did not bode well for the defendant.
10. Many ballplayers can bat from either side of the plate, but they cannot throw well with each hand unless they are _____.
11. Why would someone who is usually so neat and tidy appear in public in such a(n) _____ state?
12. As the magician's assistant seemed to vanish into thin air, the entire audience _____ in amazement.
13. Perhaps I would be bored with the _____ lifestyle of a millionaire, but I'm willing to try it.
14. How can you tell whether the chopped-meat patty you ate for lunch had been _____ with artificial coloring and other foreign substances?
15. America's earliest settlers faced the hardships of life on the frontier with faith and _____.
16. The company commander called his troops together and asked for more volunteers to _____ the strength of the raiding party.
17. The twigs that were to be woven into the basket were soaked in water to make them more _____.

Read the following passage, in which some of the words you have studied in this unit appear in **boldface** type. Then complete each statement given below the passage by circling the letter of the item that is **the same** or **almost the same** in meaning as the highlighted word.

Circuses

(Line)

Circuses have been entertaining people for thousands of years. At the public games in ancient Rome, for example, riders stood on the bare backs of horses and raced around circular tracks while the assembled crowds **gaped** in wonder and astonishment. In fact, the word *circus* comes from the Latin word for “circle” or “oval.”

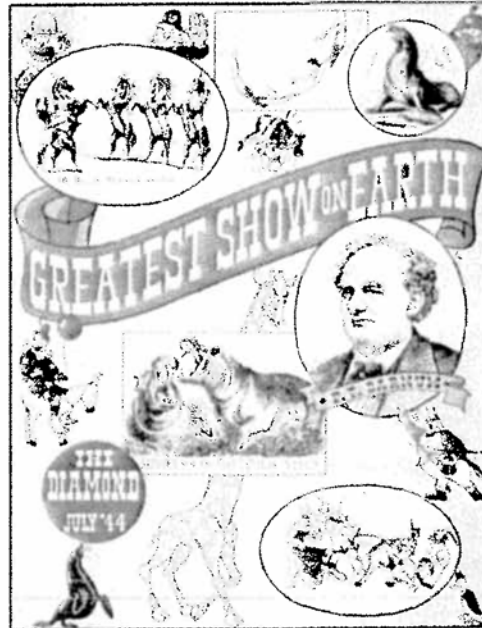
(5) Jugglers, those **ambidextrous** performers who throw many objects into the air and keep them in constant motion, have an even more ancient history. Egyptian wall

(10) paintings and early Greek sculptures show jugglers, many of them women, balancing balls and clubs in the air. In the Americas, pictures of jugglers tossing torches have been found in ancient ruins.

In the Middle Ages, performers called *jesters* entertained royalty and commoners alike with jokes and physical comedy. Shakespeare features court jesters in some of his plays, where they often function as more than mere clowns. In *King Lear*, for example, the Fool speaks a great deal of sense but cloaks it in the **guise** of foolishness.

The modern circus began in England in 1768, when a man named Philip Astley presented fancy horseback riding, acrobatic acts, and clowns, accompanied by live music. Astley's circus was quickly imitated in America. A century later, showmen such as P. T. Barnum **augmented** these spectacles with a great variety of acts, including trapeze artists, tightrope walkers, trained animals, and dancers.

(30) The clowns, however, are at the heart of any circus. Awkward and **unkempt**, the clowns strut and stumble in outlandish clothes and makeup, delighting one and all with their antics. Who can keep from laughing when a dozen clowns climb out of a tiny car?



Circus poster, 1944

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| <p>1. The meaning of gaped (line 3) is</p> <p>a. gasped c. cheered
b. gawked d. protested</p> | <p>4. The meaning of augmented (line 27) is</p> <p>a. beautified c. enlarged
b. spoiled d. tamed</p> |
| <p>2. Ambidextrous (line 5) most nearly means</p> <p>a. skillful c. amazing
b. ungainly d. ancient</p> | <p>5. Unkempt (line 29) most nearly means</p> <p>a. disheveled c. lovable
b. silly d. ugly</p> |
| <p>3. Guise (line 20) is best defined as</p> <p>a. business c. tradition
b. name d. semblance</p> | |

18. In Shakespeare's famous tragedy *Othello*, Iago comes to Othello in the _____ of a friend but proves to be a deadly enemy.
19. Why should I be the object of all those _____ just because I'm wearing a three-piece suit on campus?
20. Since his acceptance of the invitation was only _____, the hostess may be one man short at the dinner party.

Synonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is **the same or most nearly the same** in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

1. **deprived** of the companionship of a beloved pet _____
2. the **stern** faces of the ancestral portraits _____
3. **stared** at the huge jaws of the crocodile _____
4. gave no **indication** of being nervous _____
5. **rehash** the same old theories _____
6. **station** the remaining guards at the exits _____
7. appeared in the **costume** of a cowboy _____
8. **polluted** the water with toxic chemicals _____
9. need to **increase** the computer's memory _____
10. an **underhanded** attack on my good name _____
11. the **supple** limbs of a dancer _____
12. **jeer** at the mistakes of the rookies _____
13. proceeded **carefully** in unknown waters _____
14. a group of tired and **untidy** travelers _____
15. attended a **lavish** holiday banquet _____

Antonyms

Choose the word from this unit that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

16. a person with a **high-strung** temperament _____
17. displayed **timidity** under fire _____
18. a **paraphrased** version of the announcement _____
19. surprisingly **maladroit** handling of the ball _____
20. a **definite** date for the party _____