



Hear the words for this Unit pronounced, defined, and used in sentences at www.vocabularyworkshop.com.

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. acquit
(ə kwit')

(v.) to declare not guilty, free from blame, discharge completely; to conduct or behave oneself

Now that we have proof of their innocence, we can _____ **acquit** _____ them of all charges.

SYNONYMS: exonerate, dismiss
ANTONYMS: convict, declare guilty

2. deem
(dēm)

(v.) to think, believe; to consider, have an opinion

Most people _____ **deem** _____ it a wise plan to set aside savings for the future.

SYNONYMS: judge, regard

3. devastate
(dev' ə stāt)

(v.) to destroy, lay waste, leave in ruins

Failure or harsh criticism can _____ **devastate** _____ a person who has shaky self-esteem.

SYNONYMS: wreck, desolate
ANTONYMS: develop, improve

4. discredit
(dis kred' it)

(v.) to throw doubt upon, cause to be distrusted; to damage in reputation; (n.) a loss or lack of belief, confidence, or reputation

We have gathered a considerable amount of evidence to _____ **discredit** _____ her story.

Both parents and students felt strongly that the cheating scandal was a _____ **discredit** _____ to the school.

SYNONYM: (v.) disparage
ANTONYMS: (v.) confirm, corroborate, bolster

5. elusive
(ē lü' siv)

(adj.) difficult to catch or to hold; hard to explain or understand

According to legend, Zorro, the heroic Mexican character, was too _____ **elusive** _____ for local police to capture.

SYNONYMS: slippery, wily, fleeting, puzzling, baffling

6. generate
(jen' ə rāt)

(v.) to bring into existence; to be the cause of

Solar power uses the energy of the sun to _____ **generate** _____ electricity.

SYNONYMS: create, produce, beget, cause
ANTONYMS: end, terminate, extinguish, stifle



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7. idolize

(ī' dəl īz)

(*v.*) to worship as an idol, make an idol of; to love very much

Teens who _____ **idolize** _____ a movie star may repeatedly see the same movie featuring that actor or actress.

SYNONYMS: adore, revere

ANTONYMS: despise, scorn, disdain, detest

8. ingratitude

(in grat' ə tūd)

(*n.*) a lack of thankfulness

Hosts who make every effort to please their guests are apt to be hurt by _____ **ingratitude** _____.

SYNONYMS: thanklessness, ungratefulness

ANTONYMS: thankfulness, gratefulness, recognition

9. keepsake

(kēp' sāk)

(*n.*) something kept in memory of the giver; a souvenir

Before my grandmother died, she made me a special quilt as a _____ **keepsake** _____ of her love.

SYNONYMS: reminder, memento

10. mortal

(môr' təl)

(*n.*) a being that must eventually die; (*adj.*) of or relating to such a being; causing death, fatal; possible, conceivable

In the mythology of many cultures, a heavenly god can come down to Earth and act as a _____ **mortal** _____.

The soldier was the only one in her battalion to suffer a _____ **mortal** _____ injury.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) human; (*adj.*) fleeting, extreme

ANTONYMS: (*n.*) a god; (*adj.*) undying, everlasting, eternal, divine

11. ovation

(ō vā' shən)

(*n.*) an enthusiastic public welcome, an outburst of applause

The audience gave the dancer a standing _____ **ovation** _____ after his impressive performance.

SYNONYMS: cheers, bravos, hurrahs

ANTONYMS: boos, jeers

12. petty

(pet' ē)

(*adj.*) unimportant, trivial; narrow-minded; secondary in rank, minor

You say my complaint is _____ **petty** _____, but to me it is an issue of great importance.

SYNONYMS: insignificant, piddling

ANTONYMS: important, major, significant, weighty

13. plight

(plīt)

(*n.*) a sorry condition or state; (*v.*) to pledge, promise solemnly

The _____ **plight** _____ of the homeless upsets many concerned citizens.

Wedding guests watched the bride and groom _____ **plight** _____ their undying love.



- 14. repent**
(ri pent')
- (v.) to feel sorry for what one has done or has failed to do
As people grow older and gain more maturity, some of them come to repent their youthful mistakes.
SYNONYMS: regret
ANTONYMS: rejoice over
- 15. reverie**
(rev' ə rē)
- (n.) a daydream; the condition of being lost in thought
My boss interrupted my deep and pleasant reverie by reminding me about our deadline.
SYNONYMS: fantasy, meditation
- 16. revocation**
(rev ə kā' shən)
- (n.) an act or instance of calling back, an annulment, cancellation
His failure to complete the job according to schedule led to a revocation of his contract.
SYNONYMS: repeal, withdrawal
ANTONYMS: ratification, confirmation
- 17. scan**
(skan)
- (v.) to examine closely; to look over quickly but thoroughly; to analyze the rhythm of a poem; (n.) an examination
Let's scan the list to see the finishing times of each marathon runner.
The doctor did a bone scan to discover the location of each fracture.
SYNONYMS: (v.) study, glance at, skim; (v., n.) survey
- 18. strand**
(strand)
- (n.) a beach or shore; a string of wire, hair, etc.; (v.) to drive or run aground; to leave in a hopeless position
We asked the waiter to take back the soup when we discovered a strand of hair in it.
I don't want to be the third out in the inning and strand the two base runners.
SYNONYMS: (n.) fiber, thread; (v.) abandon, maroon
ANTONYMS: (v.) rescue, save
- 19. strife**
(strīf)
- (n.) bitter disagreement; fighting, struggle
The experienced senator from South Carolina was a veteran of political strife.
SYNONYMS: conflict, discord, turmoil
ANTONYMS: peace, calm, harmony, agreement
- 20. topple**
(təp' əl)
- (v.) to fall forward; to overturn, bring about the downfall of
The trains that rumble past our apartment often cause books to topple from the shelves.
SYNONYMS: unseat, upset, tumble
ANTONYMS: remain upright, establish, set up