



collaborate
despondent
instigate
resilient
retrospect

rudimentary
scoff
squelch
venerate
zealot

Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

1 **collaborate**
(kə-lāb'ə-rāt)
-verb

___ *Collaborate* means

- When Sarah and I were asked to **collaborate** on an article for the school newspaper, we found it difficult to work together.
 - Several writers and editors have **collaborated** in preparing this vocabulary text, sharing their knowledge and skills.
- a. to compete. b. to stop work. c. to team up.

2 **despondent**
(dī-spōn'dənt)
-adjective

___ *Despondent* means

- Devon becomes **despondent** too easily. If he gets even one bad grade, he loses all hope of succeeding in school.
 - For months after his wife died, Mr. Craig was **despondent**. He even considered suicide.
- a. ill. b. depressed. c. angry.

3 **instigate**
(ɪn'stə-gāt')
-verb

___ *Instigate* means

- The rock group's violent performance **instigated** a riot in the audience.
 - An English captain named Robert Jenkins **instigated** a war in 1738 by displaying his pickled ear, which he said had been cut off by a Spanish patrol. The horrified British declared war on Spain—the "War of Jenkins's Ear."
- a. to prevent. b. to predict. c. to cause.

4 **resilient**
(rī-zil'yənt)
-adjective

___ *Resilient* means

- Children can be amazingly **resilient**. Having faced sad and frightening experiences, they often bounce back to their normal cheerful selves.
 - Plant life is **resilient**. For example, within a few weeks after the Mount St. Helens volcano erupted, flowers were growing in the ashes.
- a. widespread. b. slow to recover. c. quick to recover.

5 **retrospect**
(rē'trə-spēkt')
-noun

___ *In retrospect* means

- After hobbling around on her broken foot for a week before seeing a doctor, Mae then needed surgery. In **retrospect**, it's clear she should have gotten help sooner.
 - When I took Professor Klein's writing course, I thought she was too demanding. In **retrospect**, though, I realize that she taught me more than anyone else.
- a. looking back. b. looking for excuses. c. looking ahead.

6 **rudimentary**
(rūō'də-mēn'tər-ē)
-adjective

___ *Rudimentary* means

- A grammar book usually starts with **rudimentary** skills, such as identifying nouns and verbs.
 - I'm so used to adding and subtracting on a calculator that I've probably forgotten how to do those **rudimentary** mathematical calculations on my own.
- a. basic. b. intermediate. c. advanced.

- 7 **scoff**
(skōf)
-verb
- Bystanders **scoffed** at the street musician playing a tune on a row of tin cans, but he seemed unaware that people were making fun of him.
 - Tony **scoffed** at reports that a hurricane was coming until he saw the winds knocking down trees and overturning cars.
- ___ *Scoff at* means
- a. to ridicule. b. to watch. c. to take seriously.
- 8 **squelch**
(skwēch)
-verb
- My history instructor shot me a dirty look during his lecture when I couldn't quite manage to **squelch** a burp.
 - Decades of communism in Eastern Europe didn't **squelch** the desire for freedom. As soon as they could, the people in these countries began to form democracies.
- ___ *Squelch* means
- a. to encourage. b. to hold back. c. to release.
- 9 **venerate**
(vēn'ər-āt')
-verb
- The Tlingit Indians **venerate** the wolf and the raven, and their totem poles illustrate stories in praise of these animals.
 - The guests at our dean's retirement banquet made it clear that they **venerated** her; when she entered the room, everyone rose.
- ___ *Venerate* means
- a. to pity. b. to honor. c. to remember.
- 10 **zealot**
(zēl'ət)
-noun
- Annie, a **zealot** about health, runs a hundred miles a week and never lets a grain of sugar touch her lips.
 - The Crusaders were Christian **zealots** during the Middle Ages who left their homes and families and went off to try to capture the Holy Land.
- ___ *Zealot* means
- a. an extremist. b. an observer. c. a doubter.

Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. _____ To bring about by moving others to action; stir up
2. _____ Fundamental; necessary to learn first
3. _____ Able to recover quickly from harm, illness, or misfortune
4. _____ To work together on a project; cooperate in an effort
5. _____ A person totally devoted to a purpose or cause
6. _____ To silence or suppress; crush
7. _____ To respect deeply; revere
8. _____ Downhearted; hopeless; overwhelmed with sadness
9. _____ Reviewing the past; considering past events
10. _____ To make fun of; mock; refuse to take seriously

CAUTION: Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.

Using the answer line provided, complete each item below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.

a. collaborate	b. despondent	c. instigate	d. resilient	e. retrospect
f. rudimentary	g. scoff	h. squelch	i. venerate	j. zealot

- _____ 1. My ability to speak Spanish is ____, but I can at least manage to ask directions or order a meal.
- _____ 2. Jaime was ____ over the death of his dog, his companion for fourteen years.
- _____ 3. The gang leader wasn't present at the robbery himself, but he was the one who had ____ (e)d it.
- _____ 4. Dawn is a ____ about banning nuclear weapons. She has walked for miles in protest marches and stood in the rain for hours during demonstrations.
- _____ 5. Mother Teresa, who devoted her life to helping the poor, is ____ (e)d by some people as a twentieth-century saint.
- _____ 6. The Cord, in the 1920s, was the first car with front-wheel drive, but in those days most people considered the idea ridiculous and ____ (e)d at it.
- _____ 7. Marie and Pierre Curie ____ (e)d on important scientific experiments involving radioactivity.
- _____ 8. Kim's parents nagged her so hard about practicing the piano that they finally ____ (e)d any interest she might have had in music.
- _____ 9. Since I'd like to be a photographer, I can see, in ____, that I would have gained valuable experience if I'd taken pictures for the college newspaper.
- _____ 10. Athletes need to be _____. After a defeat, an individual or a team must be able to come back and fight for victory the next time.

Name _____

Vocabulary _____

Directions: Select 4 words from this week's vocabulary lesson. In the space below, write one of your selected words at the top of the box, draw a picture that represents the word in the box, and write an original sentence that uses the word at the bottom of the box.

_____ (Vocab. word)
Sentence: _____
_____ (Vocab. word)
Sentence: _____
_____ (Vocab. word)
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