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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 charlatan • My grandmother once bought a "magnetic box" from a charlatan who assured (shâr'lə-tən) her that it would cure her arthritis. Of course, the box was worthless. -noun • In the days of the Wild West, charlatans sold "snake oil" as a remedy for everything from baldness to insanity. Charlatan means a. an investor. b. an expert. c. a con artist. 2 corroborate · You claim you were at a soccer game when the crime was committed. Can (kə-rŏb'ə-rāt') anyone corroborate your story? -verb · Sid says he saw a flying saucer in the park, but no one else in the area has come forward to corroborate his account. Corroborate means a. to question. b. to confirm. c. to understand. 3 disseminate · Campaign workers went all over the city to disseminate pamphlets and flyers (dĭs-sĕm'ə-nāt') about their candidate. -verb • What would be the best way to disseminate information about the next school board meeting? It's important for all parents to attend. Disseminate means a. to spread. b. to conceal. c. to improve. 4 diverge • The brothers' paths diverged greatly. One became a famous lawyer, and the (dī-vûrj') other ended up in jail for armed robbery. -verb • In a well-known poem, Robert Frost uses a branching path as a symbol of life's decisions: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-I took the one less traveled by." Diverge means a. to go in different directions. b. to come together. c. to disappear. 5 dormant · Many insects lay eggs that remain dormant all winter and do not hatch until (dôr mənt) spring, in the warmer weather.
 - -adjective
 - · A visit to Puerto Rico reawakened Anita's dormant interest in Spanish, the language of her childhood.

c. growing.

b. irreversible.

· Let's go over to the construction site and watch the crane hoist the beams into 6 hoist place for the new skyscraper. (hoist) -verb

a. not active.

- · So far, attempts to hoist the wreckage of the jetliner from the ocean floor have been unsuccessful.
- Hoist means a. to follow. b. to display. c. to raise.
- 24

Dormant means

a

7 illicit (ĭl-lĭs'ĭt) -adjective	 Gene was introduced to illicit activities at a young age, when he was hired as a lookout by a drug dealer. 		
		licit: he drives an unlicens e used only by city buses.	ed passenger van along a route
Illicit means	a. fake.	b. unlawful.	c. unprofitable.
8 irrevocable (ĭr-rĕv'ə-kə-bəl) -adjective	 Patty would like to promise to marry hi 		to Steven, but she feels that her
	 Giving a child up for adoption has become a subject of debate. Should the mother be allowed to change her mind, or should her decision be irrevocable? 		
Irrevocable means	a. not reversible.	b. mistaken.	c. not certain.
9 precipitate (prē-sĭp'ə-tāt') -verb	 Mark's search for a with four children. 	larger house was precipitat	ted by his marriage to a woman
	 The discovery that Elliot had been setting fires precipitated his parents' decision to consult a child psychologist. 		
Precipitate means	a. to bring on.	b. to prevent.	c. to permit.
10 proliferation (prō-lǐf'ər-ā'shən) -noun	• Hana's doctors hope that chemotherapy will halt the proliferation of cancer cells in her body.		
	• The proliferation of dandelions in my yard is too much for me to handle. They're growing faster than I can destroy them.		
Proliferation means	a. damage.	b. a shortage.	c. a rapid increase.

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	Inactive; alive but not actively growing, as if asleep
2	To spread or scatter widely; distribute
3	Not able to be canceled or undone; irreversible
4	A rapid spread or increase
5	To support; strengthen with further evidence; provide proof of
6	To cause to happen quickly, suddenly, or sooner than expected
7	To lift, especially with some mechanical means, like a cable
8	A fake; a person who falsely claims to have some special skill or knowledge
9	To branch off in different directions from the same starting point; to become different
10	Illegal

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.