

• **Antonyms 2** Level 10

**Directions:** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters.

**1. DISHARMONY**

- A. condition
- B. consensus
- C. dispute
- D. discussion
- E. compromise

**2. SANE**

- A. grotesque
- B. demented
- C. arrogant
- D. rational
- E. cryptic

**3. GLOOMY**

- A. festive
- B. dreary
- C. generic
- D. haphazard
- E. defiant

**4. CONCLUSION**

- A. summary
- B. outcome
- C. incidence
- D. incursion
- E. inception

**5. CORROBORATE**

- A. refute
- B. refrain
- C. research
- D. affirm
- E. substantiate

**6. MOCK**

- A. imitate
- B. praise
- C. condemn
- D. taunt
- E. penalize

**7. POTENT**

- A. efficient
- B. inordinate
- C. powerful
- D. ineffectual
- E. informative

**8. CALAMITY**

- A. fluke
- B. catastrophe
- C. omen
- D. coincidence
- E. disease

**9. ANTIQUATED**

- A. fanciful
- B. bygone
- C. habitual
- D. showy
- E. contemporary

**10. RESPECTFUL**

- A. obedient
- B. courteous
- C. offensive
- D. civil
- E. devious

## Answers and Explanations

1) **B**

The word *disharmony* means discord or disagreement. If two people do not see eye to eye on something, they are in disharmony with each other. The opposite of disharmony is harmony or agreement. Because *consensus* is harmony or general agreement, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because a *condition* is a state, mode, or particular position. This word is not the opposite of *disharmony*.

**(C)** is incorrect because a *dispute* is a difference of opinion. This is synonymous with *disharmony*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because a *discussion* is an informal debate or conversation about an issue. It is something done when there is *disharmony*, but it is not the opposite of disharmony.

**(E)** is incorrect because *compromise* is the settlement of disputes by making concessions. It is something done when there is *disharmony*, but it is not the opposite of disharmony.

2) **B**

The word *sane* means having a sound mind. One is sane if he or she is free of mental illness. The opposite of sane is insane, or lacking a sound mind. Because *demented* means insane, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *grotesque* means comically hideous. This is not the opposite of *sane*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *arrogant* means proud or haughty. This is not the opposite of *sane*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *rational* means reasonable. This is practically synonymous with *sane*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *cryptic* means mysterious. This is not the opposite of *sane*.

3) **A**

The word *gloomy* means dismal or depressing. For example, the atmosphere of a funeral would be gloomy. The opposite of gloomy is lively or uplifting. Because *festive* means joyous or celebratory, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *dreary* means causing sadness or despair. This is synonymous with *gloomy*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *generic* means characteristic of an entire classification or group. This is not the opposite of *gloomy*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *haphazard* means random or aimless. This is not the opposite of *gloomy*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *defiant* means refusing to yield or showing resistance. This is not the opposite of *gloomy*.

4) **E**

The word *conclusion* means ending. For example, the conclusion of a story is how the conflict is resolved and how the story ends. The opposite of a conclusion is a beginning. Because an *inception* is a start or beginning, choice **(E)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because a *summary* is a brief but comprehensive restatement of facts previously stated. This is not the opposite of *conclusion*.

**(B)** is incorrect because an *outcome* is the final result. This is synonymous with *conclusion*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *incidence* is the rate of occurrence. This is not the opposite of *conclusion*.

**(D)** is incorrect because an *incursion* is a temporary invasion. This is not the opposite of *conclusion*.

5) **A**

The word *corroborate* means support a point or idea. When one corroborates something, he or she is confirming or proving that thing. The opposite of affirm is disagree or argue against. Because *refute* means disprove, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *refrain* means abstain from or resist. This is not the opposite of *corroborate*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *research* means investigate or study. This is not the opposite of *corroborate*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *affirm* means confirm or support. This is synonymous with *corroborate*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *substantiate* means establish by evidence or verify by support. This is not the opposite of *corroborate*, as both words imply that someone is agreeing with a point.

6) **B**

The word *mock* means attack with ridicule, often by mimicry. To mock someone is to make fun of someone. The opposite of mock is to express approval. Because *praise* means commend or express approval, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *imitate* means to mimic or impersonate. This is not the opposite of *mock*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *condemn* means express disapproval. This is practically synonymous with *mock*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *taunt* means treat with ridicule in a sarcastic manner. This is practically synonymous with *mock*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *penalize* means punish. This is not the opposite of *mock*.

7) **D**

The word *potent* means powerful or greatly effective. For example, a potent medicine would quickly improve one's health. The opposite of potent is weak or not effective. Because *ineffectual* means not effective, choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *efficient* means producing an effect in the best possible or least wasteful manner. This is practically synonymous with *potent*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *inordinate* means excessive. This is not the opposite of *potent*, as it would instead be used to describe something unnecessarily strong.

**(C)** is incorrect because *powerful* means strong. This is synonymous with *potent*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *informative* means instructive. This is not the opposite of *potent*.

8) **A**

The word *calamity* is a great misfortune or disaster. A tornado that destroys an entire town would be a calamity. The opposite of calamity would be good luck or a blessing. Because a *fluke* is a stroke of good luck, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because a *catastrophe* is a sudden and widespread disaster. This is synonymous with *calamity*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because an *omen* is a sign indicating a future event. This is not necessarily the opposite of *calamity*, because an omen can refer to both good and bad fates.

**(D)** is incorrect because *coincidence* is a chance occurrence. This is not the opposite of *calamity*, since it does not necessarily refer to good luck only. A coincidence could be either good or bad.

**(E)** is incorrect because *disease* is illness. This is not the opposite of *calamity*, though catching a disease could be an example of calamity.

9) **E**

The word *antiquated* means old-fashioned. For example, a rotary dial phone is an antiquated piece of technology. The opposite of antiquated is new or modern. Because *contemporary* means of the same time or of the present time, choice **(E)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *fanciful* means whimsical or not realistic. This is not the opposite of *antiquated*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *bygone* means past or earlier. This is practically synonymous with *antiquated*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *habitual* means done by routine, usually involuntarily. This is not the opposite of *antiquated*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *showy* means making an elaborate or imposing display. This is not the opposite of *antiquated*.

10) **C**

The word *respectful* means showing politeness or acting nicely toward others. For example, a respectful person would say "please" or "thank you." The opposite of respectful is disrespectful or showing a lack of politeness. Because *offensive* means unpleasant, insulting, or disagreeable, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *obedient* means complying with or submissive to authority. This is not the opposite of *respectful*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *courteous* means polite. This is synonymous with *respectful*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *civil* means polite. This is synonymous with *respectful*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *devious* means indirect or circuitous. This is not the opposite of *respectful*.