

• **Antonyms 3** Level 12

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

1. ENFRANCHISE

- A. quell
- B. suppress
- C. subjugate
- D. liberate
- E. resuscitate

2. TORPOR

- A. alacrity
- B. sloth
- C. dormancy
- D. chagrin
- E. anguish

3. EFFERVESCENT

- A. cadent
- B. nuptial
- C. phlegmatic
- D. mettlesome
- E. zippy

4. ACRID

- A. poignant
- B. astringent
- C. emollient
- D. saccharine
- E. placid

5. CHEERFUL

- A. winsome
- B. exultant
- C. morbid
- D. doctrinaire
- E. livid

6. ODIOUS

- A. abhorrent
- B. palatable
- C. infamous
- D. munificent
- E. nefarious

7. DOLE

- A. amass
- B. dispute
- C. mete
- D. canvass
- E. inundate

8. TRACTABLE

- A. hale
- B. tenacious
- C. rickety
- D. obedient
- E. coquettish

9. AFFABLE

- A. cordial
- B. conceited
- C. sordid
- D. pompous
- E. surly

10. OBLITERATE

- A. exculpate
- B. lacerate
- C. bemuse
- D. forge
- E. extirpate

Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

The word *enfranchise* means to set free or grant citizenship. For example, the Thirteenth Amendment enfranchised former slaves. The opposite of enfranchise is to enslave or make not free. Because *subjugate* means to conquer or enslave, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *quell* means to subdue or crush. This is not the opposite of *enfranchise*.

(B) is incorrect because *suppress* means to end, inhibit, or subdue. This is not the opposite of *enfranchise*.

(D) is incorrect because *liberate* means to free or emancipate. This is synonymous with *enfranchise*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *resuscitate* means to bring back to life or revive. This is not the opposite of *enfranchise*.

2) **A**

The word *torpor* means lethargic indifference or apathy. When one procrastinates or works slowly and carelessly, he or she is demonstrating torpor. The opposite of torpor is showing excitement and eagerness. Because *alacrity* is a cheerful willingness, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *sloth* is laziness. This is practically synonymous with *torpor*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *dormancy* is inactivity. This is practically synonymous with *torpor*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *chagrin* is a feeling of vexation. This is not the opposite of *torpor*.

(E) is incorrect because *anguish* is excruciating pain. This is not the opposite of *torpor*.

3) **C**

The word *effervescent* means lively. An effervescent song would be jaunty and up-tempo. The opposite of effervescent is slow or not spirited. Because *phlegmatic* means sluggish, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *cadent* means having a rhythmic beat. This is not the opposite of *effervescent*.

(B) is incorrect because *nuptial* means relating to marriage. This is not the opposite of *effervescent*.

(D) is incorrect because *mettlesome* means courageous. This is not the opposite of *effervescent*.

(E) is incorrect because *zippy* means lively. This is synonymous with *effervescent*, not the opposite of it.

4) **D**

The word *acid* means harsh or bitter. Dark, leafy vegetables such as kale are acid in taste, while a hurtful and blunt comment could be acid in tone. The opposite of acid is sweet. Because *saccharine* means very sweet, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *poignant* means emotionally moving. This is not the opposite of *acid*.

(B) is incorrect because *astringent* means harsh or severe. This is practically synonymous with *acid*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *emollient* means having soothing qualities. This is not the opposite of *acid*.

(E) is incorrect because *placid* means calm or still. This is not the opposite of *acid*.

5) **E**

The word *cheerful* means happy. A cheerful person is in good spirits. The opposite of cheerful is upset. Because *livid* means extremely angry, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *winsome* means charming. This is not the opposite of *cheerful*.

(B) is incorrect because *exultant* means extremely happy. This is practically synonymous with *cheerful*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *mordant* means sarcastic. This is not the opposite of *cheerful*.

(D) is incorrect because *doctrinaire* means rigidly devoted to theories. This is not the opposite of *cheerful*.

6) **B**

The word *odious* means repugnant or deserving hate. For example, most people would agree that child abuse is an odious crime. The opposite of odious is undeserving of hate. Because *palatable* means acceptable or agreeable, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *abhorrent* means detestable. This is synonymous with *odious*, not the opposite of it

(C) is incorrect because *infamous* means having a bad reputation. This is not the opposite of *odious*.

(D) is incorrect because *munificent* means generous. This is not the opposite of *odious*, since generosity is not the opposite of repugnance.

(E) is incorrect because *nefarious* means evil. This is not the opposite of *odious*.

7) **A**

The word *dole* means to distribute or give out. When one makes a donation to charity, he or she doles out money to that charity. The opposite of dole is to take or accrue. Because *amass* means to acquire for oneself, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *dispute* means to debate or quarrel. This is not the opposite of *dole*.

(C) is incorrect because *mete* means to distribute. This is synonymous with *dole*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *canvass* means to examine thoroughly. This is not the opposite of *dole*.

(E) is incorrect because *inundate* means to overwhelm. This is not the opposite of *dole*.

8) **B**

The word *tractable* means obedient or yielding. A tractable dog, for instance, would be one that follows all of its owner's commands. The opposite of tractable is intractable or unyielding. Because *tenacious* means stubborn or unyielding, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *hale* means robust or vigorous. This is not the opposite of *tractable*.

(C) is incorrect because *rickety* means shaky or likely to fall. This is not the opposite of *tractable*.

(D) is incorrect because *obedient* means yielding or complaisant. This is synonymous with *tractable*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *coquettish* means flirtatious. This is not the opposite of *tractable*.

9) **E**

The word *affable* means friendly. An affable person is someone who is kind and easy to approach. The opposite of affable is unfriendly or mean. Because *surlly* means unfriendly or rude, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *cordial* means courteous. This is practically synonymous with *affable*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *conceited* means arrogant or impressed with oneself. This is not the opposite of *affable*.

(C) is incorrect because *sordid* means filthy. This is not the opposite of *affable*.

(D) is incorrect because *pompous* means self-important. This is not the opposite of *affable*.

10) **D**

The word *obliterate* means to destroy completely. For example, dynamite is used to obliterate structures or rocks. The opposite of obliterate is to create. Because *forge* means to form or make, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *exculpate* means to clear of blame. This is not the opposite of *obliterate*.

(B) is incorrect because *lacerate* means to cut or wound. This is not the opposite of *obliterate*.

(C) is incorrect because *bemuse* means to confuse. This is not the opposite of *obliterate*.

(E) is incorrect because *extirpate* means to remove or destroy totally. This is synonymous with *obliterate*, not the opposite of it.