

• **Antonyms 1** Level 11

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

**1. REFINED**

- A. suave
- B. indolent
- C. cultured
- D. boorish
- E. bland

**2. GINGERLY**

- A. lackadaisically
- B. rashly
- C. stubbornly
- D. warily
- E. oafishly

**3. BUOYANT**

- A. mirthful
- B. nautical
- C. levelheaded
- D. profound
- E. morose

**4. ARTIFICE**

- A. innuendo
- B. decadence
- C. injustice
- D. forthrightness
- E. stratagem

**5. USUAL**

- A. atypical
- B. nocturnal
- C. commonplace
- D. occult
- E. mystical

**6. MINUSCULE**

- A. gargantuan
- B. nondescript
- C. navigable
- D. microscopic
- E. formidable

**7. PROTECT**

- A. perpetrate
- B. champion
- C. jeopardize
- D. arrest
- E. harbor

**8. INVIGORATE**

- A. extrude
- B. gall
- C. fatigue
- D. activate
- E. galvanize

**9. URBAN**

- A. ethnic
- B. rustic
- C. municipal
- D. cosmopolitan
- E. unassuming

**10. VOLATILE**

- A. combustible
- B. mercurial
- C. evolving
- D. sedentary
- E. stable

## Answers and Explanations

1) **D**

The word *refined* means well-mannered or free of vulgarity or coarseness. A person who is refined might also be called well-bred and would behave in a polite manner. The opposite of refined is coarse, vulgar, or lacking in manners. Because *boorish* means rude or unmannered, choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *suave* means polite or smoothly agreeable. This is practically synonymous with *refined*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *indolent* means lazy. This is not the opposite of *refined*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *cultured* means enlightened or well-mannered. This is synonymous with *refined*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *bland* means soothing or mild. This is not the opposite of *refined*.

2) **B**

The word *gingerly* means very carefully. A cat burglar would move gingerly so as to avoid making a sound or being detected. The opposite of gingerly is carelessly. Because *rashly* means impetuously or done without consideration or thought, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *lackadaisically* means listlessly or lethargically. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *stubbornly* means resolutely or obstinately. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *warily* means very carefully. This is synonymous with *gingerly*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *oafishly* means stupidly. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

3) **E**

The word *buoyant* means cheerful and optimistic. Someone who is buoyant is usually in good spirits. The opposite of buoyant is unhappy or pessimistic. Because *morose* means ill-humored or melancholy, choice **(E)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *mirthful* means merry or full of laughter. This is synonymous with *buoyant*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *nautical* means pertaining to ships or navigation. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *levelheaded* means sensible. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *profound* means of deep meaning. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

4) **D**

The word *artifice* means deception or trickery. One of the most famous examples of artifice is the Trojan horse, a supposed gift that actually tricked the Trojans into opening their gates to the invading Greek army. The opposite of artifice is honesty or a lack of deception. Because *forthrightness* is straightforwardness or directness, choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because an *innuendo* is a hint or insinuation. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *decadence* is decay. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

**(C)** is incorrect because an *injustice* is a violation of one's rights. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

**(E)** is incorrect because a *stratagem* is a deceptive trick. This is synonymous with *artifice*, not the opposite of it.

5) **A**

The word *usual* means normal, routine, or customary. A usual occurrence is something that happens every day. The opposite of usual is unusual or not normal. Because *atypical* means irregular or not normal, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *nocturnal* means done at night. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *commonplace* means ordinary or uninteresting. This is practically synonymous with *usual*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *occult* means pertaining to magic or supernatural powers. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *mystical* means pertaining to magic or spiritual powers. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

6) **A**

The word *minuscule* means very small. For example, a single speck of dust is minuscule in size. The opposite of minuscule is huge. Because *gargantuan* means huge or enormous, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *nondescript* means ordinary or not distinctive. This is not the opposite of *minuscule*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *navigable* means wide and deep enough for a ship to pass through. Though this does imply size, it is not the direct opposite of *minuscule*, since the meaning of navigable is limited specifically to size in water.

**(D)** is incorrect because *microscopic* means very small or tiny. This is synonymous with *minuscule*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *formidable* means difficult or fear-inspiring. This is not the opposite of *minuscule*.

7) **C**

The word *protect* means to defend or guard. For example, a goalie in hockey protects the goal from opposing players' shots. The opposite of protect is to endanger. Because *jeopardize* means to endanger or put at risk, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *perpetrate* means to commit an offense. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *champion* means to support militantly. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *arrest* means to stop or slow down. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *harbor* means to give shelter to. This is practically synonymous with *protect*, not the opposite of it.

8) **C**

The word *invigorate* means to energize or stimulate. For example, the caffeine in coffee invigorates a coffee drinker. The opposite of invigorate is to weaken in energy or tire out. Because *fatigue* means to exhaust, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *extrude* means to force or push out. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *gall* means to annoy. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *activate* means to cause to function. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *galvanize* means to stimulate by shock or revitalize. This is practically synonymous with *invigorate*, not the opposite of it.

9) **B**

The word *urban* means pertaining to a city. For example, a large city such as Chicago would be called an urban area. The opposite of urban is rural. Because *rustic* means pertaining to rural areas or people, choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *ethnic* means relating to races. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *municipal* means pertaining to a city or its government. This is practically synonymous with *urban*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *cosmopolitan* means worldly. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *unassuming* means modest. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

10) **E**

The word *volatile* means changeable or explosive. A situation is volatile if it is unstable or could change any second. The opposite of volatile is nonvolatile or unchanging. Because *stable* means steady or resistant to sudden change, choice **(E)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *combustible* means easily burned. This is not the opposite of *volatile*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *mercurial* means changing. This is synonymous with *volatile*, not the opposite of it.

**(C)** is incorrect because *evolving* means developing into being over time. This is not the opposite of *volatile*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *sedentary* means motionless or requiring sitting. This is not the opposite of *volatile*, since being in motion and being changeable are not synonymous.