

• **Antonyms 2** Level 11

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

1. DEARTH

- A. countenance
- B. modicum
- C. excess
- D. quorum
- E. pitfall

2. LAGGARD

- A. frantic
- B. dilatory
- C. presumptuous
- D. restive
- E. expeditious

3. RAPT

- A. gamely
- B. impartial
- C. obsequious
- D. blasé
- E. enthralled

4. TENUOUS

- A. dubious
- B. rigid
- C. supple
- D. tentative
- E. substantial

5. IMPERCEPTIBLE

- A. manifest
- B. minute
- C. ephemeral
- D. faint
- E. iridescent

6. THRIVE

- A. burgeon
- B. flop
- C. entrance
- D. excoriate
- E. fabricate

7. BELLICOSE

- A. pacifistic
- B. irreconcilable
- C. petty
- D. ruthless
- E. belligerent

8. CULPABLE

- A. ineffable
- B. incriminated
- C. innocent
- D. indignant
- E. inordinate

9. BOON

- A. hallucination
- B. prodigy
- C. advantage
- D. hindrance
- E. annihilation

10. STINGY

- A. parsimonious
- B. magnanimous
- C. indigent
- D. impoverished
- E. pristine

Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

The word *dearth* means scarcity. For example, during a drought there is a dearth of water. The opposite of dearth is abundance. Because *excess* is overabundance or having more than what is needed, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a *countenance* is a face. This is not the opposite of *dearth*.

(B) is incorrect because a *modicum* is a limited quantity. This is nearly synonymous with *dearth*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because a *quorum* is the number of members necessary to start a meeting. This is not the opposite of *dearth*.

(E) is incorrect because a *pitfall* is a hidden danger. This is not the opposite of *dearth*.

2) **E**

The word *laggard* means slow or sluggish. For example, a snail would be described as laggard. The opposite of laggard is quick-moving. Because *expeditious* means quick or prompt, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *frantic* means desperate or wild with excitement. This is not the opposite of *laggard*, since it does not necessarily reference speed.

(B) is incorrect because *dilatory* means delaying. This is practically synonymous with *laggard*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *presumptuous* means overconfident. This is not the opposite of *laggard*.

(D) is incorrect because *restive* means restlessly impatient. This is not the opposite of *laggard*.

3) **D**

The word *rapt* means absorbed or enchanted. For example, an audience is described as rapt if the audience is extremely attentive and enthralled by the performance or speaker. The opposite of rapt is bored. Because *blasé* means unmoved or bored, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *gamely* means with spirit. This is not the opposite of *rapt*.

(B) is incorrect because *impartial* means not biased. This is not the opposite of *rapt*.

(C) is incorrect because *obsequious* means slavishly attentive. This is practically synonymous with *rapt*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *enthralled* means captivated. This is practically synonymous with *rapt*, not the opposite of it.

4) **E**

The word *tenuous* means thin or slim. A tenuous claim is one that is not well supported. The opposite of tenuous is well supported or thick. Because *substantial* means strong or of ample or considerable size, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *dubious* means questionable or flimsy. This is nearly synonymous with *tenuous*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *rigid* means strict or unyielding. This is not the opposite of *tenuous*.

(C) is incorrect because *supple* means flexible. This is not the opposite of *tenuous*.

(D) is incorrect because *tentative* means hesitant. This is not the opposite of *tenuous*.

5) **A**

The word *imperceptible* means unnoticeable or undetectable. Camouflage is used to attempt to make something imperceptible. The opposite of imperceptible is apparent or visible. Because *manifest* means evident, visible, or obvious, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *minute* means small in stature. This is not the opposite of *imperceptible*.

(C) is incorrect because *ephemeral* means short-lived or fleeting. This is not the opposite of *imperceptible*.

(D) is incorrect because *faint* means lacking clearness or visibility. This is practically synonymous with *imperceptible*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *iridescent* means exhibiting rainbow-like colors. Even though this implies visibility, this is not the opposite of *imperceptible*, since its meaning is too specific and limited.

6) **B**

The word *thrive* means to prosper or flourish. A successful business would be one that thrives. The opposite of thrive is to fail or not succeed. Because *flop* means to fail completely, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *burgeon* means to grow forth. This is practically synonymous with *thrive*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *entrance* means to put under a spell. This is not the opposite of *thrive*.

(D) is incorrect because *excoriate* means to harshly scold. This is not the opposite of *thrive*.

(E) is incorrect because *fabricate* means to build or to tell a lie. This is not the opposite of *thrive*.

7) **A**

The word *bellicose* means warlike or inclined to fight. For example, pit bulls and other dogs with a reputation for violence might be described as bellicose. The opposite of bellicose is peaceful. Because *pacifistic* means opposed to war or fighting, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *irreconcilable* means not able to be resolved. This is not the opposite of *bellicose*.

(C) is incorrect because *petty* means trivial or unimportant. This is not the opposite of *bellicose*.

(D) is incorrect because *ruthless* means cruel. This is not the opposite of *bellicose*.

(E) is incorrect because *belligerent* means quarrelsome. This is synonymous with *bellicose*, not the opposite of it.

8) **C**

The word *culpable* means deserving of blame. A thief is culpable for the crime of robbery or theft. The opposite of culpable is blameless or not deserving of blame. Because *innocent* means guiltless or not deserving of blame, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *ineffable* means unutterable or inexpressible. This is not the opposite of *culpable*.

(B) is incorrect because *incriminated* means accused. This is not the opposite of *culpable*.

(D) is incorrect because *indignant* means angry at a perceived injustice. This is not the opposite of *culpable*.

(E) is incorrect because *inordinate* means excessive. This is not the opposite of *culpable*.

9) **D**

The word *boon* means a blessing or benefit. Something is a boon if it makes completing a task easier. The opposite of a boon is a burden. Because a *hindrance* is a block or obstacle, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a *hallucination* is a delusion. This is not the opposite of *boon*.

(B) is incorrect because a *prodigy* is a marvel or a highly gifted child. This is not the opposite of *boon*.

(C) is incorrect because an *advantage* is a benefit or gain. This is synonymous with *boon*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *annihilation* is extinction or destruction. This is not the opposite of *boon*, since it is too extreme in meaning.

10) **B**

The word *stingy* means not willing to give or spend money. A stingy person would not be willing to share with others. The opposite of stingy is generous. Because *magnanimous* means generous, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *parsimonious* means frugal or not generous. This is synonymous with *stingy*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *indigent* means needy or poor. This is not the opposite of *stingy*.

(D) is incorrect because *impoverished* means poor. This is not the opposite of *stingy*.

(E) is incorrect because *pristine* means unspoiled. This is not the opposite of *stingy*.