Antonyms 5 Level 5

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

1. SOOTHING
   A. impairing
   B. relaxing
   C. agitating
   D. emphasizing

2. APPARENT
   A. unnoticeable
   B. doubtful
   C. improbable
   D. questionable

3. IMMENSE
   A. vast
   B. unimportant
   C. magnified
   D. tiny

4. LUXURIOUS
   A. sparse
   B. rude
   C. posh
   D. grand

5. GLORIFY
   A. author
   B. celebrate
   C. denounce
   D. credit

6. NUMEROUS
   A. standard
   B. lacking
   C. infinite
   D. abundant

7. RETIRE
   A. enlist
   B. vanish
   C. deactivate
   D. undertake

8. INTENSE
   A. pleasurable
   B. bitter
   C. sharp
   D. moderate

9. HAZY
   A. vivid
   B. unclear
   C. confirmed
   D. faint

10. APPROXIMATE
    A. resolved
    B. fictitious
    C. estimated
    D. exact
Answers and Explanations

1) **C**
The word *soothing* means having a calming or relaxing effect. Many people like to get massages because massages are soothing. The opposite of soothing is having an irritating effect. Because *agitating* means making troubled, nervous, or irritated, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *impairing* means weakening or damaging. This is not the opposite of *soothing*, because soothing is not the same as strengthening.

(B) is incorrect because *relaxing* means having a calming effect. This is the same as *soothing*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *emphasizing* means giving special importance or stress to something. This is not the opposite of *soothing*, because stressing something for emphasis or effect is not the same as causing someone stress.

2) **A**
The word *apparent* means clearly visible or obvious. If something can be easily seen, it is apparent. The opposite of apparent is invisible or difficult to see. Because *unnoticeable* means not easily seen, observed, or noticed, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *doubtful* means unlikely. This is not the opposite of *apparent*, since apparent is not the same as likely.

(C) is incorrect because *improbable* means unlikely. This is not the opposite of *apparent*, since apparent is not the same as likely.

(D) is incorrect because *questionable* means doubtful or uncertain. This is not the opposite of *apparent*, since apparent is not the same as certain or defined.

3) **D**
The word *immense* means extremely large or great. For example, the Titanic was an immense ship. The opposite of immense is small. Because *tiny* means very small, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *vast* means of great size or quantity. This is the same as *immense*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *unimportant* means lacking in importance or significance. This is not the opposite of *immense*, because being large is not the same as being important.
(C) is incorrect because magnified means exaggerated in size or importance. This is not the opposite of immense.

4) A
The word luxurious means extremely or excessively comfortable or elegant. The home of a very wealthy person would likely be luxurious. The opposite of luxurious is simple or lacking in comfort or elegance. Because sparse means mostly bare or without excess, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because rude means impolite or not refined. This is not the opposite of luxurious, since luxurious is not the same as polite.

(C) is incorrect because posh means elegant or stylish. This is almost the same as luxurious, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because grand means magnificent in size, elegance, or style. This is almost the same as luxurious, not the opposite of it.

5) C
The word glorify means to praise or portray as admirable. For instance, American history books tend to glorify Abraham Lincoln by emphasizing the good things Lincoln did. The opposite of glorify is to criticize or represent someone or something as dishonorable. Because denounce means to publicly declare to be wrong or evil, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because author means to write. This is not the opposite of glorify.

(B) is incorrect because celebrate means to honor or publicly praise. This is almost the same as glorify, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because credit means to publicly bring honor to someone. This is almost the same as glorify, not the opposite of it.

6) B
The word numerous means large in number or abundant. If one lives with many cats, then he or she lives with numerous cats. The opposite of numerous is few in number. Because lacking means in short supply, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because standard means normal or average in number or size. This is not the opposite of numerous, since numerous is not the same as strange or unusual.

(C) is incorrect because infinite means unlimited in number. This is not the opposite of numerous, since both imply that there are many of something.
(D) is incorrect because abundant means existing in large quantities. This is almost the same as numerous, not the opposite of it.

7) D
The word retire means to leave one’s job and cease to work. Most people retire from their careers when they are in their sixties. The opposite of retire is to begin working. Because undertake means to commit oneself to and begin working on a particular task or job, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because enlist means to sign up for military service. This is not the opposite of retire, because it is too limited in meaning. One can retire from any job, not just jobs in the military.

(B) is incorrect because vanish means to disappear. This is not the opposite of retire.

(C) is incorrect because deactivate means to make inactive or unable to work. This is not the opposite of retire.

8) D
The word intense means of extreme force, degree, or strength. An intense flavor is one that very strong. The opposite of intense is weak in force, degree, or strength. Because moderate means not strong in intensity, degree, or strength, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because pleasurable means enjoyable or pleasing. This is not the opposite of intense, because intense is not the same as either pleasant or unpleasant.

(B) is incorrect because bitter means not sweet. This is not the opposite of intense.

(C) is incorrect because sharp means marked or great in degree or force. This is almost the same as intense, not the opposite of it.

9) A
The word hazy means vague, indistinct, or darkened. Something is hazy if it is hard to understand or see. The opposite of hazy is clear or easily seen. Because vivid means distinct or easily seen, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because unclear means vague or indistinct. This is the same as hazy, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because confirmed means proven or firmly established. This is not the opposite of hazy, because hazy is not the same as unproven or unstable.
(D) is incorrect because *faint* means barely perceptible. This is almost the same as *hazy*, not the opposite of it.

10) D
The word *approximate* means close to an actual amount but not completely accurate. For example, the approximate height of a person would be the height that someone estimates or guesses the person to be. The opposite of approximate is completely accurate. Because *exact* means precise, accurate, and not approximated in any way, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *resolved* means settled or solved. This is not the opposite of *approximate*, because approximate is not the same as unsettled or debatable.

(B) is incorrect because *fictitious* means completely made up or invented. This is not the opposite of *approximate*, because approximate is not the same as completely factual.

(C) is incorrect because *estimated* means roughly calculated. This is almost the same as *approximate*, not the opposite of it.