

Unit 8

Words in Action

Exercise A >>> Match the words on the left with their definitions on the right.

- PART A:**
- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 abate | ☐ make worse and more serious |
| 2 adroit | ☐ subside; become less in intensity |
| 3 accost | ☐ haughtiness |
| 4 aggravate | ☐ skillful; clever |
| 5 arrogance | ☐ meet and speak to sb in a way that seems rude |
- PART B:**
- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1 brim | ☐ become an apostate |
| 2 chaste | ☐ the upper edge, as of a glass |
| 3 defect | ☐ begin; start |
| 4 demolish | ☐ morally pure |
| 5 commence | ☐ tear down |

Exercise B >>> Fill in the blanks with the correct word, a, b, c or d.

- I bumped into John in Athens and he _____ me before I had time to speak first.
a accosted b ajar c brawled d jolted
- He's very whimsical; he does things on the _____ of the moment.
a brim b spur c clap d push
- He slipped and fell and _____ his wrist.
a aroused b flushed c sprained d chaste
- The doctor warned him that if he continued to pick the sore he would _____ it.
a demolish b designate c exasperate d aggravate
- The board president designated a _____ team to tear down the dilapidated building which jeopardised the passers-by.
a demolition b castigating c contaminating d drenching
- The corrupt politician was bribed to _____ to the opposing party.
a perfect b defect c infect d reflect
- I detest that _____ know-it-all expression on his face.
a bewildered b arduous c arrogant d complexity
- The Secretary of State handled the matter _____ and prevented a war.
a adroitly b intensely c abjectly d slightly
- As soon as the storm _____, the ships will be allowed to set sail.
a abets b abates c forbids d incites
- Let's hurry to the theater. The play is to _____ at eight o'clock sharp.
a commend b recommend c commence d comment

Task One >>> Complete the sentences using the words defined below.

- A thrive - prosper** ⇔ **strive - try hard**
The stray cat she adopted will _____ now that it has enough food.
- B sustain- keep up; maintain; support** ⇔ **retain - keep or continue to have something**
The city _____ minor damage during the earthquake.
- C yoke- servitude or slavery** ⇔ **yolk - the yellow part of an egg**
The egg _____ is very nutritious.
- D document- any written or printed matter that provides evidence** ⇔ **documentary - cinema or T.V. film showing aspects of human or animal life and social activities**
They watched a _____ on the Amazon rain forest.
- E constrain - make sb do sth by using force or persuasion** ⇔ **restrain - keep under control**
That dog is a hazard and should be _____.
- F soothe - calm** ⇔ **seethe - be agitated; extremely angry**
Try this cream; it will _____ your sunburn.
- G subside - sink to a lower level** ⇔ **subsidize - help financially**
It took a long time for his grief to _____ after his grandmother died..

Task Two >>> Rewrite each of the sentences below by replacing the words in **bold** with an appropriate phrase using the verb in **CAPITALS**. Make whatever other changes are necessary.

Example: We must **end** all this vandalism and destruction caused by hooligans. (**PUT**)

Answer: We must put an end to all this vandalism and destruction caused by hooligans.

- 1 Most of my friends **prefer** baseball. (HAVE)
- 2 It is high time we **acted** positively. (TAKE)
- 3 Huge crowds **gathered** for the procession. (TURN)
- 4 He didn't **appear** until much later. (PUT)
- 5 The war **ended** in 1945. (COME)
- 6 They **considered** his previous sales experience before taking him on the staff. (TAKE)
- 7 An architect **surveyed** the house before it was bought. (MAKE)
- 8 The firm has **fitted** safety belts in all its vehicles. (EQUIP)
- 9 How can he **manage** on his poor salary? (GET)
- 10 He decided to stop **attending** the college and get a job. (DROP)

Task Three >>> Underline the one word in the parenthesis that best completes each sentence.

- 1 I knew from the (onslaught - onset) that the plan would turn out to be a flop.
- 2 Now, what's the (snag - snug)?
- 3 A clumsy driver may even collide with a (stationary - stationery) vehicle.
- 4 No reverse could (deter - defer) him from proceeding.
- 5 This is the fifth (successive - successful) game they've won this month.
- 6 What an (inventive - eventful) day it has been.
- 7 Austere measures mean practising (frigid - rigid) economics.
- 8 He was in a (trivial - jovial) mood that day.
- 9 Malaria is a (contiguous - contagious) disease.
- 10 Do you know how to (steer - stir) the boat?
- 11 He suffered many (reserves - reverses) throughout his life.
- 12 They live in a (choosy - cosy) little house.

Task Four >>> Replace the words in heavy type with a single word from the box with the same meaning.

stabilisers	drought	imminent	identification	scope	unpredictable
prospering	nepotism	espionage	entail	precarious	

- 1 I judged from the state of the sky that a thunderstorm was **coming on**. _____
- 2 Most modern ships are fitted with **devices intended to keep them on an even keel**. _____
- 3 People who are found guilty of **the practice of spying** _____ are put in jail.
- 4 Tom's character was **such that no one could tell what he would do next**. _____
- 5 Throughout history, many politicians have been guilty of **handing out high offices to their relations**. _____
- 6 Hilary's business is **doing exceptionally well**. _____
- 7 Astrophysics is a subject beyond the **range of action and ability** of my mind. _____
- 8 Last year's crop failed due to **dry weather and lack of rainfall**. _____
- 9 Cheating in the exam may **have as a result** _____ your disqualification.
- 10 The company's position is **far from safe**. _____
- 11 The police officer stopped the suspicious looking man in the State Department, and asked for **papers that could prove who he was**. _____

Vocabulary Practice

A. Read the text below and choose the correct word A, B C or D to fit the gaps.

Despite the continued (11)..... of those early town perks, it wasn't until the Depression that modern Hershey started to take shape. Perhaps the only town in the country actually to (12)..... during the 1930s, it thrived because Hershey vowed his Utopia would never see a breadline. Instead he (13)..... a massive building boom that gave rise to the most visited buildings in today's Hershey and delivered wages to more than 600 workers. He admitted that his (14)..... were partly selfish: "If I don't provide work for them, I'll have to feed them. And since building materials are now at their lowest cost levels, I'm going to build and give them jobs." He seems to have (15)..... no expense; most of the new buildings were strikingly (16)..... The first to be finished was the three-million-dollar limestone Community Center, home to the 1,904-seat Venetian-style Hershey Community Theater, which has played (17)..... since 1933 to touring Broadway shows and to music, dance, and opera performances. It offers just as much to look at when the lights are on and the curtains closed. The floors in the (18)..... named Grand Lobby are polished Italian lava rock, surrounded by marble walls and capped with a bas-relief ceiling showing sheaves of wheat, beehives, swans, and scenes from Roman mythology. With the (19)..... inner foyer, Hershey thumbed his nose even harder at the ravages of the Depression: The arched ceiling is tiled in gold, the fire curtain bears a painting of Venice, and the ceiling is (20)..... with 88 tiny lightbulbs to re-create a star-lit night.

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|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 11. A. flexibility | B. rigidity | C. elasticity | D. resilience |
| 12. A. prosper | B. decline | C. get on | D. flower |
| 13. A. trusted | B. funded | C. accounted | D. stocked |
| 14. A. pretensions | B. objections | C. preoccupation | D. intentions |
| 15. A. spared | B. spent | C. allowed | D. justified |
| 16. A. impoverished | B. unattractive | C. poor | D. opulent |
| 17. A. hosting | B. housing | C. host | D. homogeneously |
| 18. A. aptly | B. inappropriately | C. seemingly | D. frightfully |
| 19. A. dizzying | B. gaudy | C. dazzling | D. bland |
| 20. A. holed | B. studded | C. supported | D. magnified |

B. Fill the gaps in the following sentences with the correct answer A, B C or D.

- 21 Employees who have a _____ are encouraged to discuss it with the management.
a hindrance b grievance c disturbance d precaution
- 22 Decrepitude seriously _____ vision and hearing.
a impairs b enhances c withers d shrinks
- 23 They _____ his proposal before accepting it.
a rejected b ignored c overlooked d scrutinised
- 24 A few political extremists _____ the crowd to attack the police.
a incited b animated c stirred d agitated
- 25 He spent his entire life _____ round the world, never settling down.
a scattering b roaming c exploring d transporting
- 26 The examiner's cold stare _____ Mary.
a amazed b dumbfounded c imperiled d disconcerted
- 27 It's high time we _____ the procedure.
a tortured b occurred c commenced d soothed
- 28 The judge decided to _____ the trial till the following week.
a admire b admit c adjust d adjourn
- 29 I wouldn't like to _____ my good name and reputation.
a enrich b jeopardise c constrain d prolong
- 30 If I was to do that, it would _____ my employer's displeasure.
a occur b incur c recur d concur