

UNIT 8.1 – CLOSET – OPPOSITE MEANING

I. Indicate the word(s) CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following sentences.

1. The number of people on unemployment benefits has dropped over the last two months.
A. having benefits of being unemployed
B. receiving unemployment compensation
C. making use of being unemployed
D. sending money to the government to support the unemployed
2. My mother has put money aside for her old age since she started to work in the factory.
A. laid aside B. taken aside C. spent all D. lent me all
3. Our new boss is trying to ensure the well-being of his employees.
A. earnings
B. compensation (money paid by the government to those who are unemployed)
C. savings
D. welfare (general health, happiness and safety)
4. In view of the global financial crisis, Tom and his brother has been laid off, so they are on the dole.
A. selling goods on pavements B. receiving a lot of attention
C. living on their parents' support D. living on unemployment benefits
5. Two employees have been sacked and 120 others face dismissal for joining earlier protests.
A. recruitment B. redundancy C. employment D. application
6. Frank, 41, applied for the post when the parish council advertised two vacancies.
A. occupied positions B. job opportunities
C. unavailable positions D. accommodated room
7. Members tried their hands at the techniques to gain hands-on experience.
A. relevant B. prior C. practical D. considerable
8. Sara brought in a lot of business last month; she would ask for a pay rise while she's still on a roll.
A. unsuccessful B. on the up and up C. inefficient D. unqualified
9. The Wilsons have found it terribly hard to make ends meet ever since they both lost their jobs.
A. barely have enough to live on B. give up gatherings
C. able to manage D. buying and selling goods
10. There were some very strong candidates for the job but none of them met my expectations.
A. surpassed B. overcame C. fulfilled D. underestimated
11. She got the job in the teeth of considerable competition.
A. regardless of B. as regards C. in respect to D. owing to
12. She clearly joined the firm with a view to improving herself professionally.
A. with no regard to B. irrespective of C. in spite of D. with the intention of

13. She has two degrees but she has only found a part-time, temporary job.

- A. permanent B. long-run C. stable D. short-term

II. Indicate the word(s) OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

1. My partner was made redundant last November and hasn't secured further employment as yet.

- A. fired B. sacked C. laid off D. appointed

2. With unemployment at a record level, retraining programmes would pay off in the long run.

- A. lastingly B. temporarily C. stably D. durably

3. Sheila had butterflies in her stomach before the interview.

- A. seemed to be easy in her mind B. in a tizzy
C. on pins and needles D. under pressure

4. They sacked the head of marketing because he was extremely inefficient.

- A. competent B. unqualified C. disorganized D. unskilled

5. I find myself at odds with most of my colleagues on what is the best way forward.

- A. in conflict with B. in disagreement with C. on the outs with D. on good terms with

6. Most people would grab at the chance of working for that company.

- A. jump at B. seize C. neglect D. take

7. I believe Mr. Brown is the most suitable candidate for the job as he has all the necessary qualifications.

- A. acceptable B. inappropriate C. tailor-made D. proper

8. The daughter of a blue-collar factory worker, Anne grew up on a council estate in Bracknell.

- A. physical B. manual C. laboring D. mental

9. Previously financial matters were dealt with by qualified accountants, financial advisers.

- A. professional B. experienced C. incompetent D. skilled

10. This scholarship is being established in her name as a permanent reminder of her work.

- A. long-run B. ever-lasting C. stable D. temporary