Unit 3

Words in Action

prevent	stop someone from doing something or something from being done
hinder	make more difficult for someone to do something or for something to happen *e.g. A snowstorm may prevent a train from running. (the train does not run at all)* or *A snowstorm may hinder the train from arriving on time.* (the train has actually run and arrived at its destination) You can equally *prevent the enemy from invading your country*, or *hinder the march of an enemy*, though you may not have enough force to oppose it.
obstruct	stop someone or something from moving forward by blocking their path *e.g. The road is obstructed by fallen trees.*
inhibit	make someone unable to express themselves freely *e.g. Her presence inhibited me from saying what I wanted to.*
stem	stop the flow or spread of something (usually liquid) *e.g. Pat pressure on the wound so as to stem the flow of blood.* *They believed they had a duty to stem the advance of the new sect.*
prohibit	forbid someone from doing something (usually by law or regulation) *e.g. Smoking is strictly prohibited.*
hamper	to make movement difficult *e.g. The long tight dress hampered her movements.*

Exercise A>>> Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate word from the list above. You may use the same word more than once.

1 The advance of the rescue team was seriously _____ by the snowstorm.
2 This country has a law _____ young people from marrying before they come of age.
3 The terrible head-on collision of the trucks _____ traffic on the motorway for several hours.
4 His lisp _____ him from speaking freely.
5 Her tight skirt _____ her free movement.
6 The chief of police stressed the importance of _____ the inflow of illegal drugs into the city.
7 Business expansion is often _____ by bureaucracy.
8 To _____ the course of justice by withholding information is a serious penal offense.
9 The doctor tried to _____ the hemorrhage.
10 His presence _____ me from saying what I wanted to.
11 Her long illness _____ her progress at school.

Exercise B>>> Complete the table below with the correct form of the words that are missing.

VERB	ADJECTIVE	NOUN
prevent		
hinder		
	obstructive	
	inhibiting	
	prohibitive	

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Vocabulary Development

Task One >>>

Tick the one word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word(s) in heavy type.

1 A **fatally** injured driver	☐ succumbs to his injuries	☐ pulls through
2 To **convey** an idea is	☐ to prohibit it	☐ to make it known
3 A **boulder** is a	☐ large rock	☐ small rock
4 The **infantry** is soldiers fighting	☐ on horseback	☐ on foot
5 A **penitentiary** is a	☐ mental institution	☐ prison
6 A **harsh** punishment is	☐ severe	☐ mild
7 When you **restrain** your anger,	☐ you keep it under control	☐ you increase it
8 What is **irksome** is	☐ annoying	☐ exciting
9 When somebody is taken **captive**, they are taken	☐ care of	☐ prisoner
10 When somebody **drifts** from one job to another, they	☐ stay put in the job	☐ often change jobs

Task Two >>>

In this exercise you have to combine each of the following pairs of sentences into one by omitting 'this'.
Each new sentence should include the noun derived from the word in heavy type.

Example: *I see you are* **unable** *to do the job. This can't be overlooked.*
Answer: *Your inability to do the job can't be overlooked.*

1 The lady was **obese**. This hampered her movements.

_____ .

2 They **scrutinised** the proposition. This led to their avoiding unnecessary expenditure.

_____ .

3 His lisp **impedes** his speech. This made it difficult for me to understand him.

_____ .

4 The judge is **impartial**. This is known to everybody.

_____ .

5 They **disclosed** their intentions. This made us shudder.

_____ .

6 His knowledge was **profound**. This astonished everyone present.

_____ .

7 He is **ingenious**. This can't be denied.

_____ .

8 He **departed** unexpectedly. This took me by surprise.

_____ .

9 He **committed** himself to helping us. This was a great relief.

_____ .

10 The people were utterly **destitute**. This aroused our sympathy.

_____ .

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

A **flavour (n) - distinctive taste; special quality or characteristic**
savour (v) - enjoy the taste or smell of sth
You couldn't possibly _____ your food when you eat so fast!

B **inhibit - make somebody unable or unwilling to express his/her feelings**
prohibit - forbid by law or regulation
His doctor _____ him from drinking alcohol.

C **implicit - suggested rather than plainly stated**
explicit - clearly and fully expressed
She didn't give _____ instructions, so she shouldn't be angry with you for doing it wrong.

D **superficial - not thorough or profound**
superfluous - more than needed or wanted
It is _____ to judge people by the clothes they wear.

E **pathetic - causing one to feel sympathy**
apathetic - showing a lack of interest in matters
Gregory has been _____ since he lost his job; he doesn't seem to want to do anything.

F **apprehend - (legal) arrest, seize**
comprehend - understand fully
I cannot _____ what caused her to act that way.

G **statute - written law**
stature - a person's body height
Although Jane is small in _____ she has a commanding personality.

H **induce - persuade or influence**
deduce - reach a conclusion by reasoning
Nothing could _____ him to move to the city.

Task Four >>> Each word in heavy type is **wrong** and requires **replacement**. Choose words from the box, and put them in the blanks.

popular	humane	illicit	prone	stationery
inferred	ingenious	accessory	urban	descent

1 I **implied** from what he said that he was in favor of my proposal. .....
2 It should be the duty of all of us to work for a more **human** and civilized society. .....
3 People with fair skin are **drone** to skin cancer. .....
4 The man in the courthouse was on trial for **elicit** smuggling of drugs. .....
5 The police held the firm belief that the suspect was an **access** to the crime. .....
6 He wrote a **populous** book and rose to fame. .....
7 The **dissent** of the mountain proved difficult. .....
8 We usually buy **stationary** in bulk for office use. .....
9 He's a versatile and **ingenuous** man. .....
10 Nowadays more and more people move to **urbane** areas. .....

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Vocabulary Practice

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

A solution to **(11)**..... desires and expectations perhaps lies in the recognition that wealth does not involve having many things. It involves having what we long for. Wealth is not an absolute. It is relative to desire. Every time we seek something we cannot afford, we grow poorer, whatever our resources. And every time we feel satisfied with what we have, we can be **(12)**..... as rich, however little we may actually own. There are two ways to make people richer: to give them more money or to **(13)**..... their desires. Modern societies have succeeded spectacularly at the first option but, by continuously inflaming appetites, they have at the same time helped to negate a share of their most impressive achievements.

The most effective way to feel wealthy may not be to try to make more money. It can be to **(14)**..... ourselves - practically and emotionally - from anyone we both consider to be our equal and who has become richer than us. Rather than trying to become bigger fish, we should concentrate our energies on **(15)**..... around us smaller companions next to whom our own size will not **(16)**..... us. In so far as advanced societies provide us with historically elevated incomes, they appear to make us richer. But, in truth, the net effect of these societies may be to **(17)**..... us because, by fostering unlimited expectations, they keep open a permanent gap between what we want and what we can afford, who we are and who we might be. The **(18)**..... we have paid for expecting to be so much more than our ancestors is the permanent feeling that we are far from being all we might be. We should be careful what we read in the papers and what programmes we watch. No matter what the media **(19)**..... at us, we must remain realistic in our goals and expectations and not allow ourselves to be **(20)**..... into a life of materialism.

11.	**A.** coiling	**B.** curving	**C.** spiralling	**D.** revolving
12.	**A.** counted	**B.** added	**C.** thought	**D.** accounted
13.	**A.** refer	**B.** reassure	**C.** recline	**D.** restrain
14.	**A.** dispute	**B.** vary	**C.** single	**D.** distance
15.	**A.** gathering	**B.** heaping	**C.** loading	**D.** distributing
16.	**A.** brood	**B.** fret	**C.** trouble	**D.** console
17.	**A.** redeem	**B.** impoverish	**C.** enrich	**D.** augment
18.	**A.** fee	**B.** price	**C.** fund	**D.** charge
19.	**A.** sends	**B.** delivers	**C.** exploits	**D.** throws
20.	**A.** liberated	**B.** quarantined	**C.** brainwashed	**D.** investigated

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

21 Many poets have ..... the beauties of the countryside.
a extolled **b** feared **c** excited **d** inhibited

22 Hopes of finding the missing climbers are now beginning to ..... .
a reduce **b** faint **c** dim **d** fade

23 The team's coach insisted on a program of ..... training before the big game.
a rigorous **b** slack **c** severe **d** positive

24 Prices at Greek hotels are still affordable, but in Switzerland they are ..... .
a moderate **b** inaccessible **c** reasonable **d** exorbitant

25 The crash ..... the motorway for several hours.
a prevented **b** hindered **c** obstructed **d** inhibited

26 After his wife's death, he..... drinking.
a got to **b** came to **c** held to **d** took to

27 The plague, otherwise known as the Black Death, was a ..... disease.
a contagious **b** contiguous **c** contingent **d** congenial

28 The young man felt ..... in the presence of so many young ladies.
a inhospitable **b** hindered **c** inhibited **d** prohibited

29 It was obvious that the child suffered from a serious speech ..... .
a handicap **b** impediment **c** inhibition **d** hindrance

30 His heavy boots ..... him at work.
a hampered **b** stemmed **c** repelled **d** compelled

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