

# Vocabulary Ex. > Essential Words in English (IV)

Finding synonyms > Choose the best answer.

<b>1. exceptional</b>	(A) dominant	(B) dense	(C) phenomenal	(D) acceptable
<b>2. terrify</b>	(A) distort	(B) frighten	(C) destroy	(D) challenge
<b>3. prepare</b>	(A) prime	(B) display	(C) depend on	(D) create
<b>4. delicate</b>	(A) vibrant	(B) distinct	(C) diverse	(D) sensitive
<b>5. dangerous</b>	(A) hazardous	(B) terrible	(C) harmless	(D) intolerable
<b>6. elaborate</b>	(A) gigantic	(B) impressive	(C) complex	(D) dramatic
<b>7. minuscule</b>	(A) tiny	(B) dim	(C) significant	(D) useless
<b>8. superficial</b>	(A) emotional	(B) lasting	(C) shallow	(D) incredible
<b>9. rudimentary</b>	(A) dormant	(B) ideal	(C) basic	(D) arbitrary
<b>10. vigorous</b>	(A) dominant	(B) convenient	(C) impressive	(D) strong
<b>11. amenity</b>	(A) advice	(B) convenience	(C) element	(D) peace
<b>12. ruin</b>	(A) destroy	(B) conform	(C) grow old	(D) baffle
<b>13. mention</b>	(A) surround	(B) remark	(C) assert	(D) clarify
<b>14. emphasize</b>	(A) frighten	(B) highlight	(C) delete	(D) persuade
<b>15. exaggerate</b>	(A) burgeon	(B) dominate	(C) elaborate	(D) overstate
<b>16. disperse</b>	(A) circulate	(B) destroy	(C) distort	(D) encircle
<b>17. release</b>	(A) free	(B) replace	(C) rise	(D) settle
<b>18. inconsistent</b>	(A) destructive	(B) emphatic	(C) elaborate	(D) erratic
<b>19. commonplace</b>	(A) elementary	(B) rudimentary	(C) prevalent	(D) uniform
<b>20. pier</b>	(A) depth	(B) crack	(C) dock	(D) prime
<b>21. benefit</b>	(A) prosper	(B) demand	(C) assist	(D) distinguish
<b>22. noticeably</b>	(A) constantly	(B) enormously	(C) conspicuously	(D) broadly
<b>23. rumored</b>	(A) routinely	(B) purposefully	(C) comparatively	(D) reportedly
<b>24. blind</b>	(A) oblivious	(B) visible	(C) sensitive	(D) shifting
<b>25. thrive</b>	(A) exaggerate	(B) burgeon	(C) dominate	(D) endorse
<b>26. endure</b>	(A) suffer	(B) erode	(C) release	(D) disappear
<b>27. broaden</b>	(A) impress	(B) elicit	(C) reveal	(D) enlarge
<b>28. switch</b>	(A) enrich	(B) shift	(C) propose	(D) support
<b>29. retrieve</b>	(A) recover	(B) deteriorate	(C) disperse	(D) relinquish
<b>30. insist</b>	(A) demand	(B) mention	(C) disperse	(D) intrigue

Taken from Matthiesen, S. (2007) Barron's Essential Words for TOEFL, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Barron's, USA

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**Choosing synonyms in context > Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word in bold.**

1. Because much collective behavior is **dramatic** and unpredictable, theories of such behavior are more evaluative than analytic.  
(A) hazardous      (B) unexpected      (C) terrifying      (D) emotional
2. In contrast to their springtime nuptial plumage, ninnies songbirds revert to a **drab** plumage during the winter.  
(A) minuscule      (B) elaborate      (C) different      (D) colorless
3. A seed is **dormant** at the time it is shed by its parent.  
(A) vigorous      (B) inactive      (C) minuscule      (D) rudimentary
4. The newspaper strip and the comic book represent the **dominant** graphic mythology of the twentieth century.  
(A) major      (B) magical      (C) familiar      (D) complex
5. The vast majority of animals exhibit a **distinct** symmetrical form.  
(A) unique      (B) similar      (C) elaborate      (D) natural
6. Kapok is made from the silky fibers that **encircle** the seeds of the tropical silk-cotton tree.  
(A) release      (B) destroy      (C) surround      (D) circulate
7. Evidence suggests that the rumor process **eliminates** the most improbable accounts of an event.  
(A) elicits      (B) deletes      (C) emphasizes      (D) exaggerates
8. The most **elementary** type of convection can be explained by the fact that heat rises.  
(A) mentioned      (B) erratic      (C) prevalent      (D) primary
9. The thermostat is **an element** in some types of fire detection devices.  
(A) a problem      (B) an amenity      (C) a component      (D) an advantage
10. Poorly constructed **dwellings** cannot withstand severe storms.  
(A) houses      (B) piers      (C) boats      (D) roads
11. The candidate's support **evaporated** after the announcement of his program reached the newspapers and television news programs.  
(A) burgeoned      (B) suffered      (C) broadened      (D) disappeared
12. The president's popularity has **eroded** since the publication of a recent newspaper article.  
(A) recovered      (B) shifted      (C) intensified      (D) deteriorated
13. The natural forest vegetation has **entirely** disappeared from the landscape.  
(A) slowly      (B) reportedly      (C) completely      (D) conspicuously
14. Lightning is electricity that is discharged as **an enormous** spark, hitting the closest spot on the ground.  
(A) a mighty      (B) a tremendous      (C) a blinding      (D) a terrifying
15. The trade unions worked hard for an agreement that would be **endorsed by** their members.  
(A) demanded by      (B) supported by      (C) attractive to      (D) of benefit to

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