

Vocabulary Ex. > Essential Words in English (II)

Finding synonyms > Choose the best answer.

1. appeal	(A) detect	(B) assert	(C) ask for	(D) allow
2. astounding	(A) noisy	(B) amazing	(C) visible	(D) energetic
3. ban	(A) forbid	(B) get together	(C) intensify	(D) restore
4. elicit	(A) declare	(B) authorize	(C) conform	(D) extract
5. abdicate	(A) relinquish	(B) enclose	(C) prohibit	(D) heighten
6. misleading	(A) unequivocal	(B) deceptive	(C) changeable	(D) abrupt
7. resolute	(A) determined	(B) renowned	(C) perceptive	(D) solved
8. resilient	(A) bothersome	(B) tenacious	(C) unbearable	(D) vital
9. tempt	(A) entice	(B) cool down	(C) discourage	(D) invite
10. vague	(A) intolerable	(B) ambiguous	(C) lazy	(D) adverse
11. confront	(A) resolve	(B) challenge	(C) demand	(D) forbid
12. obstruct	(A) obscure	(B) tempt	(C) enhance	(D) block
13. intrigue	(A) fascinate	(B) deceive	(C) intensify	(D) enrich
14. substitute	(A) predecessor	(B) replacement	(C) additional	(D) original
15. delicate	(A) alternative	(B) shallow	(C) frail	(D) resilient
16. convince	(A) assert	(B) persuade	(C) restore	(D) yield
17. rare	(A) appealing	(B) inclusive	(C) vague	(D) unique
18. shed	(A) discard	(B) cry out	(C) protect	(D) cloud
19. enhance	(A) encourage	(B) strengthen	(C) relinquish	(D) entice
20. puzzled	(A) advanced	(B) assertive	(C) baffled	(D) astute
21. stiff	(A) ordinary	(B) agile	(C) rigid	(D) high
22. traditional	(A) arbitrary	(B) contemporary	(C) conventional	(D) frequent
23. indeed	(A) truly	(B) albeit	(C) abroad	(D) only
24. curious	(A) commonplace	(B) extravagant	(C) peculiar	(D) ordinary
25. adequately	(A) sufficiently	(B) deceptively	(C) amazingly	(D) intensely
26. immense	(A) abrupt	(B) massive	(C) complicated	(D) ongoing
27. exceedingly	(A) importantly	(B) extremely	(C) assertively	(D) limitedly
28. visibly	(A) noticeably	(B) secretly	(C) incredibly	(D) frequently
29. ordinarily	(A) restrictively	(B) coarsely	(C) cautiously	(D) routinely
30. restrictively	(A) exclusively	(B) adversely	(C) roughly	(D) relatively



Taken from Matthiesen, S. (2007) Barron's Essential Words for TOEFL. 4th Ed. Barron's, USA
Adapted by Andrés Barón-Ávila
MA Education and Technology – UCL – IOE



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

1. Not until 1946 did the world chess governing body, FIDE, **assert** its control over international championship play.
 (A) declare (B) relinquish (C) ask for (D) decrease
2. All classifications of human societies and cultures are **arbitrary**.
 (A) confusing (B) haphazard (C) insufficient (D) ambiguous
3. Paul Newman's **apparently** effortless acting skill has enabled him to play a variety of characters.
 (A) seemingly (B) extremely (C) visibly (D) deceptively
4. The Monroe Doctrine **authorized** the US to mediate in the affairs of LA countries in case of foreign invasion.
 (A) empowered (B) forbade (C) elicited (D) tempted
5. J. Edgar Hoover was an **astute** professional who served as director of the FBI for 48 years.
 (A) perceptive (B) resilient (C) astounding (D) determined
6. Custer was **cautioned** by his advisors not to underestimate the strength of his opponent.
 (A) challenged (B) persuaded (C) known (D) warned
7. **Bright** feathers have been used for ornamentation since early times.
 (A) long (B) unique (C) delicate (D) brilliant
8. Telescopic images from outer space are often **blurred** by atmospheric conditions.
 (A) clouded (B) interrupted (C) enhanced (D) blocked
9. The green-grey leaves of the sweet alyssum are untoothed and usually **bear** many silvery hairs.
 (A) carry (B) yield (C) absorb (D) hide
10. For many years, scientists were **baffled** by the small size of the atom.
 (A) amazed (B) curious (C) puzzled (D) fascinated
11. Water is the **most complex** of all the familiar substances that are single chemical compounds.
 (A) clearest (B) simplest (C) most valuable (D) most complicated
12. The origin of the circus is **comparatively** recent, having little in common with Roman circuses.
 (A) apparently (B) relatively (C) certainly (D) proportionally
13. The cotton gin was **commonplace** on many nineteenth-century farms in the US.
 (A) often used (B) sorely needed (C) frequently seen (D) limitedly accepted
14. Under the microscope, cultivated silk fibers look **coarse**.
 (A) rough (B) rigid (C) delicate (D) immense
15. The sweet potato is **chiefly** grown in the southern United States.
 (A) exclusively (B) mostly (C) rarely (D) successfully



Taken from Matthiesen, S. (2007) Barron's Essential Words for TOEFL. 4th Ed. Barron's, USA
 Adapted by Andrés Barón-Ávila
 MA Education and Technology – UCL – IOE

