CONFUSED WORDS 9

1. HARD / HARDLY

1. No matter how _____ I tired, I couldn't open that door.
2. Now that we have kids, we _____ ever go out.
3. _____ anyone wants to work _____ for a small wage.
4. They could _____ hear each other because the music was so loud.
5. After a _____ climb, we were rewarded by a picture-postcard vista of rolling hills under a deep blue summer sky.

2. HOSTEL / HOSTILE

1. There has been a _____ reaction to the government's proposed tax increases.
2. If you're traveling solo, a _____ can be cheaper than a hotel.
3. Volunteers from the shop also give talks in local _____ and provide cheap clothing to them.
4. The company convinced investors to reject a _____ bid from Enterprise Oil Plc worth £1.5 billion.

3. INSIDIOUS / INVIDIOUS

1. High blood pressure is an _____ condition which has few symptoms.
2. Such a difficult choice placed her in an _____ position.
3. Personally, we can't stand this _____ practise of sneaking adverts into non-commercial formats.
4. I have nothing to say about these principles of _____ discrimination.

4. MAIN / MANE

1. One of the _____ reasons I came to England was to study the language.
2. The painting depicts a beautiful young man with a flowing _____ of red hair.
3. The horse was rushing about in the field, tossing its _____.
4. You'll be examined in three _____ areas; speaking, listening and reading comprehension.

5. MISSAL / MISSILE

1. The _____ strike was devastating - the target was totally obliterated.
2. He hastily opened the _____ and started the opening prayer.'
3. Edith responded immediately by buying a _____ and a catechism and preparing for baptism.
4. Stones, bottles, and other _____ were thrown at the police.

6. MORTAR / MORTISE

1. Drill a hole and chisel a shallow _____ in that jamb for the strike plate.
2. They can be ground easily in a _____ and pestle or in an electric spice or coffee grinder.
3. A car bomb and a _____ rip through a commercial area in central Baghdad.
4. Then cut a V-channel across the mortise anywhere within the _____.
5. The buildings are all made of either sandstone blocks or _____ with heavy sand content.

7. NUTRITIONAL / NUTRITIOUS

1. Some readymade meals are _____ and very easy to prepare.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Cooking vegetables reduces their _____ value.
3. It does sometimes help to know the _____ content of foods.
4. It is always important to choose enjoyable, _____ foods.

8. RESPECTFULLY / RESPECTIVELY

1. George and Kenneth were married in 1980 and 1985, _____.
2. When she was asked if she had any ambition to become prime minister, she _____ declined to answer the question.
3. As the body was carried through the crowd, people drew back _____.
4. A group of human heroes and villains set out to _____ save or exploit the situation.

9. SHONE / SHOWN

1. There was a rumour that the first trailer for the film would be _____, but no such luck.
2. With the determination she's _____ in the last few months, she's proved nothing's impossible.
3. It was foggy and the sun _____ feebly through the murk.
4. They have _____ that the great white shark is not a mindless killer, and its positive profile is now higher than ever.
5. Her love of the English language was always evident and _____ through her many and varied readings.

10. USED TO / BE USED TO / GET USED TO

1. Eventually you'll _____ the smells of the laboratory.
2. Although I haven't got many friends here, I don't feel lonely. I _____ being on my own.
3. They _____ live by the sea, but now they live in the city.
4. Tom _____ working night shifts now, although he found it hard at the beginning.
5. She _____ sing in a choir, but she gave it up.
6. His car has been stolen so now he _____ getting to work by bus.

11 HURDLE / HURTLE

1. A chase involves larger, rigid fences while a _____ race is run over shorter, more flexible obstacles.
2. The road was little-trafficked, though cars tended to _____ past at alarming speeds.
3. I'm trying to be patient, but my confidence is low and that is a hard _____ to overcome.
4. Throwing the glass vase against the wall will cause pieces of it to _____ in random directions.
5. They say he can _____ as well - and run a decent 200m.

12 INTENSE / INTENT

1. I've tried persuading her not to go but she's _____ on it.
2. They rushed to the blazing aircraft, but were forced back by the _____ heat.'
3. The same eyes were looking at me, almost burning me with their _____ gaze.
4. He's _____ and serious about the work, but sometimes he'll go off on a comic riff.

13 LINEAMENT / LINIMENT

1. Oil of wintergreen, also known as methyl salicylate, is a time-honoured rub or _____ used for sprains, strains, aches, pains and arthritis.
2. Their final powerful lines reduced to _____ around the eyes.
3. If you experience such a symptom, there is no point in ignoring it or rubbing _____ in the belief that it is a muscle pain.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. His vanity is a _____ in his character which had entirely escaped me.

14 MAIZE / MAZE

1. In Britain, this flour usually goes under the name of _____ meal.
2. The old part of the town was a _____ of narrow passages.
3. The villagers grow coffee and _____ to sell in the market.
4. The kids got lost in the _____ that was created in a _____ field.
5. It's almost impossible to get through the _____ of bureaucracy.

15 OBSOLESCENT / OBSOLETE

1. Gas lamps became _____ when electric lighting was invented.
2. Much of our existing military hardware is _____.
3. The hostel at Waterbank has served a purpose for 40 years but is now _____.
4. So much equipment becomes _____ almost as soon as it's made.

16 PRECEDENCE / PRECEDENTS

1. There are several _____ for promoting people who don't have formal qualifications.
2. _____ must be given to the injured in the evacuation plans.
3. There are plenty of _____ in Hollywood for letting people out of contracts.
4. The order of _____ for titled nobility in Britain is duke, marquis, earl, viscount, baron.

17.INTENTION / MEANING

1. We have no _____ of launching a pre-emptive strike, but we will retaliate if provoked.
2. The birth of her first grandchild gave new _____ to her life.
3. He's full of good _____, but he never does anything about them!
4. Education had no great _____ for him until much later in his life.

18.MULTIFARIOUS / MULTITUDINOUS

1. The newspaper report detailed the fraudster's _____ business activities.
2. The performers displayed their _____ talents.
3. And if you have an aversion to the colour brown in all its _____**s** shades, be warned: it's everywhere - flooring, panelling, furniture etc.'
4. When one looks at Nature as a whole, there are _____ diversities contained within it, and many wholes that exist within it.

19. PERPETRATE / PERPETUATE

1. The aim of the association is to _____ the skills of traditional furniture design.
2. In this country, half of all violent crime is _____ by people who have been drinking alcohol.
3. Federal soldiers have been accused of _____ atrocities against innocent people.
4. Increasing the supply of weapons will only _____ the violence and anarchy.

20. PREMIER / PREMIERE

1. The world _____ of the opera will be at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York.
2. It's what Google needs in order to remain the _____ search engine.
3. The Prime Minister will also discuss this with the Chinese _____ during his forthcoming visit to the UK.
4. The film based on the first book of the series - Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone – will _____ next week.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

21. RESTIVE / RESTLESS

1. During the trip, they had grown _____, quarrelsome, and hungry.
2. He's a _____ type - he never stays in one country for long.
3. She spent a _____ night, tossing and turning.
4. The audience was becoming _____ as they waited for the performance to begin.

22. VARIANCE / VARIANTS

1. There are many colas on the market now, all _____ on the original drink.
2. There has been some unusual _____ in temperature this month.
3. Young people's reactions to world events are often at _____ with those of their parents.
4. There are four _____ of malaria, all transmitted to humans by a particular family of mosquitoes.

23.HEROIN / HEROINE

1. Great acts of courage happen every day, but heroes and _____ often go unrecognised.
2. _____ is obtained from morphine and is extremely addictive.
3. And I just saw something about a new comic with a _____ called Aphrodite.
4. He was arrested at the airport with a kilo of _____ secreted in his clothing.

24. INTRUSIVE / OBTRUSIVE

1. There are no recriminations, no judgement, no _____ questions.
2. The logo was still visible but less _____ this time in beige.
3. The soldiers were in civilian clothes, to make their presence less _____.
4. The telephone is a relatively _____ technology, interrupting you from what you are doing and demanding attention.

25. LIABLE / LIBEL

1. One cannot say what one likes about people or institutions because one cannot _____ anyone.
2. The law holds parents _____ if a child does not attend school.
3. The areas of town near the river are _____ to flooding.
4. She threatened to sue the magazine for _____.

26. MALEVOLENT /MALICIOUS / MALIGNANT

1. There is also concern over infective and _____ complications.
2. The central character is a _____ witch out for revenge.
3. He complained that he'd been receiving _____ phone calls.
4. I could feel his _____ gaze as I walked away.
5. All viruses are _____, nasty little programs written by misguided people.
6. The process by which _____ cancer cells multiply isn't fully understood.

27. MERCENARY / MISSIONARY

1. He had some _____ scheme to marry a wealthy widow.
2. He did _____ work for the Presbyterian Church in Alaska.
3. When the public purse snapped shut, they resorted to ever more _____ ways of earning a crust.
4. The _____ established schools as a principal method of teaching and preaching.

LIVEWORKSHEETS