CONFUSED WORDS 10

1 MUSCLE / MUSSEL

1. To this she added most of a can of tomatoes and a touch of cream, and the _____ were put in to steam.
2. He flexed his _____ so that everyone could admire them.
3. This magazine has considerable financial _____ and can afford to pay top journalists.
4. I actually like rocks because you can find lots of stuff in them like _____ and crabs and shellfish.
5. I pulled a _____ in my back lifting some drawers.

2 PRESCRIBE / PROSCRIBE

1. The Athletics Federation has banned the runner from future races for using _____ drugs.
2. The doctor _____ some medicine and told her to have a week's rest.
3. Grammatical rules _____ how words may be used together.
4. Torture and summary execution of political prisoners are _____ by international law.

3. RATIONAL / RATIONALE

1. He's asking you to look at both sides of the case and come to a _____ decision.
2. He tried to explain the scientific _____ behind his work.
3. Mary was able to short-circuit her stress response by keeping her thoughts calm and ____.
4. However, the _____ for such initiatives is not, of course, solely economic.

4SANE / SEINE

1. The fishermen use a _____ net in this fishery to encircle the tuna like a fence.
2. Success depended on dragging the _____ close to the bottom and banks and closing it before fish escaped.
3. In the doctor's opinion he was _____ at the time of the murder.
4. The only thing which keeps me _____ after a hard day in the office is jogging!

5 SIMPLE / SIMPLISTIC

1. I know that sounds _____, but it's hard to describe in more complex terms!
2. We didn't go swimming for the _____ reason that the water was too cold.
3. It is _____ to treat strategic choice just as the logical comparison of strategic options.
4. Encyclopaedias on CD-ROM include sound, illustrations and _____ animations.

6 STRAIGHT / STRAIT

1. You bought the tickets, so if I pay for the taxi, we'll be _____.
2. So many companies are in such dire _____ that their prices have come right down.
3. Perhaps the deep-sea corals thrive better on the other side of the _____?
4. Let's get this _____ - you're travelling to Frankfurt on Monday and Brussels on Tuesday, is that correct?
5. Attempting to turn gays _____ is no less ludicrous than attempting to turn _____ gay.'

7 VARY / VERY

1. We were at the _____ end of the queue, so we didn't manage to get any tickets.
2. Some people give a regular monthly donation while others _____ the amount they give.
3. The letter was sent on Monday from Berlin and arrived in Hamburg the _____ next day.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. Prices _____ greatly depending on the time of year and type of accommodation.

8 MESSAGE / NEWS

1. We've had no _____ of them since they left for Australia.
2. I even used birds to send my _____ from here directly to Devlin.
3. The _____ that Dan had resigned took everyone by surprise.
4. The _____ on the card said 'Be my Valentine'.

9 MOBILE / MOVABLE

1. As I understand it they are _____ and can easily be transferred if the need arises.
2. t's a vinyl doll with _____ arms and legs.
3. They will be able to invite _____ bankers to their homes and offices.
4. There are three kinds of freely _____ joints that play a big part in voluntary movement.

10 OVERDO / OVERDUE

1. Winemakers can _____ the colour extraction and thus spoil the flavour.
2. There is a slight sting in the tale for borrowers of library books that are _____, however.
3. After a heart attack you have to be careful not to _____ things.
4. Teachers have joined a strike aimed at forcing the government to pay _____ salaries and allowances.
5. *She was born two weeks* _____ *at 10.08 am on January 29.*
6. It is important never to _____ new exercises.

11 PERSECUTE / PROSECUTE

1. Religious minorities were _____ and massacred during the ten-year regime.
2. His latest film is about the experience of being _____ for being gay.
3. People who hand in illegal weapons will not be _____ during the amnesty.
4. And he is not - Roosevelt could _____ that war and obviously did it effectively.

12 PRESCRIPTION / RECEIPT

1. The surgeon gives the patient a _____ for supervised physical therapy.
2. Make sure you are given a _____ for everything you buy.
3. I was given the wrong tablets when the chemist misread my _____.
4. Save your _____ and each evening write down your expenses for the day.

13 RAVAGE / RAVISH

1. She would be too ashamed to confide in the abbess about how she was _____ by a stranger.
2. Younger women are also not immune to the _____ of this disease.
3. Almost miraculously, these structures were spared the _____ of the 1906 earthquake.
4. One night a wolf comes and kills many chickens and _____ a lamb.

14 REVIEW / REVUE

1. With exams approaching, it's a good idea to _____ your class notes.
2. Anyone who has seen a _____ of their sketches knows how deliriously funny their work can be.
3. Do you go out of your way to seek out _____ in newspapers and magazines?
4. Do not look here for wit, satire, or dazzling invention, in which the old-time _____ abounded.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5. In yesterday's military _____, the army presented the largest parade of troops in recent years to President Chen.

15 SETTLER / SETTLOR

1. In New Zealand, European blackberries introduced by white _____ are common.
2. The _____, having established the trust has no power thereafter to amend.
3. Colonial _____ generally come to a country with which they have no previous connection.
4. Accordingly any benefits derived by the _____ were not derived from the interests given.

16 SUBSTITUTE / SUBSTITUTION

1. It looks as though the coach is going to make a _____.
2. Vitamins should not be used as a _____ for a healthy diet.
3. You can read about other countries, but there's no _____ for visiting them yourself.
4. There is no other member of the club who can currently replace him, and that showed after his _____.

17 VENAL / VENIAL

1. Luckily, the production is strong enough elsewhere for this to remain a _____ sin.
2. They are accused of being involved in _____ practices.
3. He regarded publishers, agents and reviewers as stupid and _____.
4. The teacher did not take off points for the _____ errors in my paper.

18IN THE WAY / ON THE WAY

1. Can you move, please? You're _____ the way.
2. Brazil is _____ the way to becoming one of the world's strongest economies.
3. We could leave early and have breakfast _____ the way.
4. She can't do her dance because the table is ___ the way. Can you help me move it?

19MANIAC / MANIACAL / MANIC

1. I won't get in the car with Richard - he drives like a _____!
2. He's kind of _____ - I wish he'd calm down.
3. This was one for the war buffs amongst the motoring _____.
4. He suddenly exploded into _____ laughter.
5. This is the perfect place to relax as it's busy but never too _____.
6. She is hunched forward over the wheel with a _____ expression.

20 METAL / METTLE

1. The explosion sent pieces of _____ and glass hurtling through the air.
2. The real test of her political _____ came in the May elections.
3. Cooking for such important people really puts you on your _____.
4. As the hot _____ passed between the huge rollers it was pressed into thin sheets.

21 MOMENT / MOMENTUM

1. The falcon seemed to hang in the air for a _____ before diving onto its prey.
2. In an attempt to give new _____ to their plans, the committee set a date for starting detailed discussions.
3. If you want a private conversation with her you'll have to choose your _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. The spacecraft will fly around the earth to gather _____ for its trip to Jupiter.
5. He was staring out of the window and he didn't answer me - I think he was just having a _____.

22 NAUSEATED / NAUSEOUS

1. If the patient is poorly nourished, the drugs make them feel _____.
2. She could not eat anything without feeling _____.
3. The bride's mother was wearing a _____ combination of green and yellow.
4. He was _____ at the sight of such cruelty.

23 PERSPECTIVE / PROSPECTIVE

1. When his _____ employers learned that he smoked, they said they wouldn't hire him.
2. Because of its geographical position, Germany's _____ on the situation in Russia is very different from Washington's.
3. You must keep things in _____ - the overall situation isn't really that bad.
4. We've had three sets of _____ buyers looking at the house.
5. In 15th-century Italy, artists rediscovered the rules of _____.

24 PRESENCE / PRESENTS

1. She _____ a monthly magazine programme on the BBC.
2. The children squealed in delight when they saw all the _____ under the Christmas tree.
3. The _____ of pollen in the atmosphere causes hay fever in some people.
4. His daughter's _____ seemed to fill her empty bedroom.
5. This summer school _____ an opportunity to experience all aspects of dance.
6. There was a strong police _____ at the demonstration.
7. He stood there in the corner of the room, a dark, brooding _____.
8. In effect, Parsons _____ us with a beguilingly simple outline of social evolution.

25 REAL / REEL

1. The _____ difficulty was the language, because my children don't speak English.
2. Greg got up and looked at the film _____ in the projector.
3. Most modern kings and queens rule their countries only in a formal way, without _____ power.
4. He realized that he'd finally caught a _____ fish, so he tried to _____ it in.
5. He knew thousands of place names by heart, and he could _____ them off.

26 RIFFLE / RIFLE

1. He _____ through a few pages, his eyes quickly following the lines.
2. Police officers carrying semi-automatic _____ rode the capital's Metro subway trains.
3. While Tom _____ through the address book, little Kevin butted in with the numbers.
4. If you might have to fire a _____ or shotgun indoors, keep your hearing protection near the gun.

LIVEWORKSHEETS