

Unit 14

Words in Action

wet	covered with liquid
moist	slightly wet
damp	rather wet in an unpleasant way
humid	(of weather) having a lot of wetness in the air and usually very hot
soaked	thoroughly wet
saturated	so wet that no more water can be absorbed
soggy	unpleasantly filled or covered with water so that there is lack of firmness

drenched	made wet all over
sodden	filled with water, heavy with wetness
muggy	(of weather) unpleasantly warm, not dry, almost sticky
sultry	(of weather) airless and oppressive

NOTE: If you are caught in a downpour without an umbrella, you become either **soaked**, **drenched to the skin**, **dripping wet** or **saturated**. If it is cold as well, you may be **frozen to the bone** or **chilled to the marrow**.

Exercise A >>> Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate word from the words in the parentheses.

- 1 Don't sit on that bench, the paint is still _____. (**wet, saturated**)
- 2 It was so hot and _____ that day that we decided not to go on a picnic. (**humid, soggy**)
- 3 He looked innocent, and his eyes were huge and _____ with tears. (**sodden, moist**)
- 4 It is during the rainy season in West Africa, when it is hot and humid, and people feel sticky and tired, that we speak of _____ weather. (**soaked, muggy**)
- 5 To wipe a window, we normally use a _____ piece of cloth. (**soggy, damp**)
- 6 It began pouring with rain, and all the summer hikers got _____. (**humid, drenched**)
- 7 It was fortunate that we had taken a pair of blankets with us, which we spread onto the _____ ground before we sat down to rest our aching feet. (**damp, muggy**)
- 8 When playgrounds are provided with water, children are fond of getting _____. (**saturated, wet**)
- 9 In underground places such as cellars and caves, the air is dank and _____. (**damp, soaked**)
- 10 After working in the field for several hours, Joseph was _____ with sweat. (**muggy, drenched**)

Exercise B >>> All the verbs in the following sentences are used with a meaning different from their original one. Replace all the verbs in heavy type with another verb or phrase to show that you understand the way they're used. **Example:** The Queen's son was **created** Prince of Wales (*appointed*)

- 1 He's a man of esteem who **commands** respect. _____
- 2 All the people in the village **observed** the traditions handed down to them by their ancestors. _____
- 3 The car **gathered** speed and was soon lost from sight. _____
- 4 The house will **fetch** at least £270,000. _____
- 5 We were overwhelmed by the hearty welcome they **extended** to us. _____
- 6 It's absurd to **entertain** such a foolish idea. _____
- 7 The manager flatly refused to **commit himself**. _____
- 8 The medicine should be **administered** according to the prescription. _____
- 9 We would like to **advise** you that your account with us has been overdrawn since May 6th. _____
- 10 The bank refused to **back** their plan. _____

Vocabulary Development

Task One >>> Several nouns can be formed from phrasal verbs. Study the definitions of the following nouns and then fill in the blanks in the sentences that follow with the appropriate noun.

A **stowaway** is a person who hides on a ship or a plane to get a free journey.

A **crackdown** is the taking of severe, repressive, disciplinary or corrective measures against somebody.

A **showdown** is an act that brings an issue (usually a serious disagreement) to a head.

A **turnout** is a gathering of people (attendance) or a quantity produced (output).

turnover is the money value of sales in a business for a given period, or the number of workers who leave in that period.

A **handout** is printed press information,

usually distributed at a press conference.

A **brush-off** is a clear refusal to listen to somebody or to be friendly.

An **outbreak** is a sudden or violent appearance or beginning of sth bad (said of a passion or of a disease affecting large numbers of people)

A **breakout** is an escape usually from a prison.

A **breakaway** is the act of escaping from sb, a group or a bad habit.

A **breakthrough** is a new discovery, especially in research, knowledge, understanding, etc.

A **buildup** is an increase, a gradual accumulation of buildings, troops, traffic, etc.

An **outcast** is a person who is cast out from his home or country. One rejected and despised by society.

A **lockout** is the closing of a factory or other place of business by employers in order to make employees on strike come to terms with the management.

A **take-over** is an act of gaining control, especially of a company by buying most of its shares.

- The head of the police promised that there would soon be a severe _____ on vice and drug offenses.
- The _____ group within the old political party formed a new left wing in parliament.
- Shortly after the summit conference of the super powers on nuclear disarmament, a _____ was distributed to journalists summarizing the main points discussed in it.
- The _____, hidden in a life-boat on the upper deck, was discovered accidentally by a member of the crew and was handed over to the captain.
- The workers' refusal to accept the management's proposals led to the latter's declaring a _____ in the factory.
- All middle-sized oil companies worldwide are likely candidates for _____ by huge multinational companies.
- Scientists are hovering on the brink of a major _____ in the treatment of this incurable disease.
- Mr. Jones had a _____ with the manager which resulted in his resignation.
- The massive _____ of nuclear weapons on a universal scale threatens the very existence of mankind.
- The value of goods and services sold abroad last year amounted to £50,000, almost doubling the company's _____.
- The _____ of the Second World War was in 1939.
- The _____ from the concentration camp where captives were held occurred one winter night in 1943.
- They always wanted to get rid of him, they didn't like him being part of their circle of friends. They treated him as an _____.
- Thousands of supporters of the Conservatives attended the rally. It was a good _____.
- He wanted to go out with her, but all he got was a _____.

Task Two >>> COLLOCATIONS in English are frequently used in everyday language. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate word to form a collocation.

Example: He didn't show up **after all**. ('after all' is a collocation).

- Relax and take it easy for a while, and _____ all don't panic.
- We arrived at the theater in _____ time.
- John will be here before _____.
- She knew she wasn't being listened to, but all the _____ she went on speaking.
- Things are looking up in the business for the time _____.
- People would come from _____ and wide to visit the castle and its famous tower.
- He's right to a certain _____.
- Most of the convicts have been caught, but I think there are two or three of them still _____ large.
- It is not that the man was ungenerous; far _____ it.
- Mary is by _____ the best tennis player in the club.
- So _____ for music. Let's do some work now.
- All schools are closed until _____ notice.
- I prefer badminton to squash; it is not so tiring for one _____.
- If you can do all your shopping at one supermarket, so much the _____.
- Would you like a couple of bucks? No, but thanks _____ the same.
- For _____, I've done the right thing in my life.
- Boring lecturers usually speak at _____ without really saying very much.
- Whenever I send Pete on an errand, he's back in _____ to no time.
- We didn't expect heavy losses in the air; after _____, we had superb aircraft.
- We go out once in a _____.

Task Three >>> Fill in the blank space in each of the following sentences with the appropriate **VERBS** which, along with the noun, form a verbal expression.

Shake hands, take fright, pay a visit are verbal expressions.

- 1 Insanity caused him to _____ fire to his own house.
- 2 Take this medicine; it _____ miracles.
- 3 Because he does all the top jobs in the office, he _____ his own trumpet.
- 4 She's always ready to _____ a compliment.
- 5 My wife always _____ fault with whatever I do.
- 6 A meeting is going to be _____ at the Town Hall next Wednesday.
- 7 They were able to _____ sail when the storm abated.
- 8 How strange to _____ count of all the books he has read!
- 9 I failed to see what purpose his foolish remark would _____.
- 10 When the tower clock began to _____ the hour, I knew it was time for me to go.
- 11 If you don't pass the exam this time, don't _____ heart; you should try again next year.
- 12 In the Middle Ages, it wasn't rare to see a poacher be _____ to death.
- 13 We _____ a hard bargain before we were able to reach an agreement.
- 14 You _____ the risk of losing your money if you invest it in that company.
- 15 My father likes _____ his own business so he turned down a proposal to enter into a partnership with another company.
- 16 I wish you would _____ an ear to me from time to time.
- 17 While attending the rally, I _____ sight of an old friend of mine among the crowd.
- 18 I've _____ no occasion to meet him recently.
- 19 Businessmen normally _____ busy lives.
- 20 You, as the oldest boy here, should _____ an example for the younger ones.

Task Four >>> Replace the words in bold with a suitable form of a verb ending either in **-ate** or **-fy**. Make any other changes necessary. You are also given the first two letters of each verb.
Example: *The introduction of computers into the operating system of the multi-national company will **make** the handling of information **easier**.* **Answer:** *make easier = facilitate*

- 1 He was so enraged at their effrontery that nothing could **quieten** him **down**. (pa_____)
- 2 His health, far from improving, is **becoming worse**. (de_____)
- 3 The invading army was **utterly destroyed** by the Allied Forces. (de_____)
- 4 Cars **lose** their **value** as time lapses. (de_____)
- 5 The victors attempted to **instill their beliefs into** the defeated. (in_____)
- 6 The witness **gave evidence** that he had seen the accused enter the bank carrying a shotgun. (te_____)
- 7 The whole consignment of canned food was shipped back to the manufacturers as being **impure and likely to cause disease**. (co_____)
- 8 Stamps **with holes in them** are valueless irrespective of their rarity. (pe_____)
- 9 His claim on the property of the deceased was **declared null and void** by the court. (nu_____)
- 10 'If you keep pestering me, I'll **let the police know**,' said Mary to the insistent youth. (no_____)
- 11 The two authors **worked together** on the book. (co_____)
- 12 The accusation was **based on falsely invented** evidence. (fa_____)
- 13 The peace treaty between the two warring countries was **confirmed and formally accepted** by their Parliaments respectively. (ra_____)
- 14 When this solid substance **becomes liquid**, a tremendous energy force will be released. (li_____)

Vocabulary Practice

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

Now, nearly 40 years later, the Cold War is over, but Churchill's ideals - (11)....., democracy, freedom - are just as relevant. So Westminster decided to give its galleries "on the lion of the twentieth century" a twenty-first-century (12)..... . In the museum's new permanent collection, multimedia (13)..... trace Churchill's life, philosophy, and writing, concentrating heavily on World War II and the "Sinews of Peace" speech; a "leadership corridor" compares him with other British and American (14)..... . The rededication (15)..... tonight with a talk by Churchill's daughter and granddaughter and continues over the weekend with a community luncheon, black-tie gala, and a keynote address by the TV news (16)..... Chris Matthews.

Another exhibit, (17)..... to the Cold War itself, shows how true Churchill's predictions proved to be. Of course his (18)..... was a long time coming. When he arrived in Richmond three days after his Westminster speech to address the Virginia General Assembly, he (19)..... the controversy he had created. "You have not asked to see beforehand what I am going to say," he remarked to the legislators. "I might easily (20)..... a lot of things people know in their hearts are true but are a bit shy of saying in public."

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| 11. A. persistence | B. vigilance | C. power | D. fussiness |
| 12. A. refresh | B. instigation | C. update | D. renew |
| 13. A. exhibits | B. demonstrations | C. evidence | D. gadgets |
| 14. A. governments | B. politics | C. tyrants | D. rulers |
| 15. A. is | B. kicks off | C. ends | D. continues |
| 16. A. celebrity | B. mogul | C. anchor | D. hot shot |
| 17. A. geared | B. denouncing | C. commiserating | D. dedicated |
| 18. A. vindication | B. conviction | C. prediction | D. pessimism |
| 19. A. accepted | B. declined | C. acknowledged | D. greeted |
| 20. A. conceal | B. blurt-out | C. lie about | D. assume |

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

- 21 We had to _____ to get through the low doorway.
a bow b shrug c stoop d kneel
- 22 When the company closed down because of financial difficulties, I was made _____.
a frivolous b surplus c disabled d redundant
- 23 Our journey through China was _____ with difficulties.
a beset b surrounded c assaulted d devoid
- 24 It was teeming down with rain and we all got _____.
a dripping b humid c damp d soaked
- 25 Mary, you look _____ today.
a promoted b modified c gorgeous d avid
- 26 God is _____.
a omnivorous b omnipotent c herbivorous d carnivorous
- 27 It was so hot and _____ that day that we couldn't possibly have gone for an outing.
a moist b sultry c frozen d soggy
- 28 She didn't realize at that time how dull and _____ her life had been.
a dreary b enchanting c engrossed d exciting
- 29 It's absurd to _____ such a foolish idea.
a extend b entertain c administer d commit
- 30 Experts will _____ IQ tests among school-goers and quote the results.
a promote b take c administer d complete