

(E) Choose the correct verb from the box below to answer each question. Change the form or tense if required.

enthral	alleviate	enchant	annex	extol	ingratiate
stifle	elucidate	revere	concoct	perch	postulate
curtail	vilify	instigate	malign	pillage	pervade
exacerbate	disparage	grumble	chastise	lament	endeavour

1. This new measure will prove counterproductive and only serve to _____ growth, ensuring that it takes us longer than necessary to climb our way out of this recession.
2. He has been _____ in the press and cast as some sort of devil figure. Perhaps some perspective is needed; after all, his only crime was to criticise the royal family.
3. William Butler Yeats is one of Ireland's most _____ poets of the 20th century.
4. I _____ that the reason why e-cigarettes have been banned in some countries is down more to the strength of the cigarette manufacturers' lobby than it is any underlying health concerns. Research has shown them to be 99% safer than ordinary cigarettes after all.
5. Priceless works of art _____ during the war are now being returned their rightful owners.
6. The jaguar stood motionless, _____ high above the oblivious boar on a rock, ready to pounce at just the right moment to catch its unwitting victim completely unawares.
7. Despite efforts to clean up the streets and lock up the gang leaders, gang rule still _____ in many parts of New Mexico, and the ordinary people continue to live in fear.
8. I will _____ now to explain my proposal to you and I truly hope you will be as enthused by it as my staff and I are.
9. You will only _____ the situation by attempting to make contact with your brother again; he has been severely hurt by your actions and your relationship may well be beyond repair.
10. He _____ the virtues of simplicity, but he failed to win very many in the audience over to his vision of life in the 21st century.
11. He made several _____ remarks about his ex-wife in public and she is now threatening to sue him for defamation of character.
12. It is hoped that the shipment of food and supplies will _____ the humanitarian crisis in famine- struck Uganda.
13. He had to _____ his holiday and take the next flight home from New York to rush to the bedside of his terminally ill mother. He arrived just in time to say his last goodbyes.
14. I was _____ by the pristine beauty of this magical forest from the moment I laid eyes upon it; it truly was a sight to behold.
15. If you constantly _____ about life and tell everyone your sob story, you will quickly find yourself isolated and without friends; no one likes to be depressed and we all have our own problems to deal with. Perhaps you need an injection of positivity in your life; it could be just the medicine you need to help you turn things around.
16. The violence was _____ by a small hardcore element that had infiltrated the otherwise peaceful group of demonstrators.
17. He _____ his decision to take the shot when he realised his teammate had been unmarked in the box, but it was by then too late and all he could do was watch on as the ball sailed high over the cross bar.
18. When Germany _____ Austria before World War Two, its forces met with little resistance as they marched towards the capital. In fact, they were, by and large, welcomed with open arms.
19. He _____ an alibi so convincing that the jury found in his favour and he was released from custody a free man.
20. His political pedigree has been _____ by members of the press, with whom he is terribly unpopular.
21. Stop trying to _____ yourself with the boss all the time; the rest of the team will turn against you and will be left feeling very alone and isolated.
22. The government has been _____ in the press for cutting social welfare payments in the latest budget. As one commentator put it, 'Why on earth should the poorest of the poor be made to suffer even more? Isn't it about time we targeted high-income earners for more tax.'
23. The reasons why it is necessary to change our ways to help fight global warming have been _____ by scientists many times, but the message still isn't getting across to Joe Bloggs on the ground.
24. I was _____ by the story and must admit I found it one of the most captivating films I have viewed in many a year.