

**1. Most children's books these days have \_\_\_\_ colour illustrations.**

[=attractive]

(a) hunching

(b) despising

(c) enticing

(d) racking

**2. My son's incessant questions are annoying, but I won't \_\_\_\_ his curiosity.** [=constrain / suppress]

(a) brand

(b) stray

(c) redeem

(d) stifle

**3. Homeownership rates among young Americans continue to \_\_\_\_.**

[=drop/ fall/ decrease]

(a) plummet

(b) wince

(c) chuck

(d) rig

**4. A meteorological satellite fell out of orbit and \_\_\_\_ to Earth last week.**

[=fell]

(a) emulated

(b) fended

(c) plummeted

(d) flocked

**5. Employees like her are an asset to our company, so we try to \_\_\_\_ them.**  
[=keep]

- (a) retain
- (b) refrain
- (c) curtail
- (d) hamper

**6. He \_\_ his accident to alcohol-induced performance impairment.**  
[=blamed...on]

- (a) strangled
- (b) hampered
- (c) attributed
- (d) eluded

**7. She never told her children that she had \_\_\_\_ from a boarding school when she was young.** [=run away]

- (a) engendered
- (b) absconded
- (c) twitched
- (d) sprawled

**8. My parents' warnings didn't \_\_\_ me from marrying the girl of my dreams. (=discourage/ scare/ stop]**

- (a) dim
- (b) flex
- (c) smear
- (d) deter

**9. The \_\_\_ noises from the kitchen kept the baby awake. [=rattling/ banging sounds]**

- (a) raking
- (b) etching
- (c) clattering
- (d) assassinating

**10. Imprisonment will be the punishment for those who won't \_\_\_ by the new law. [=obey/ follow ]**

- (a) fine
- (b) abide
- (c) ratify
- (d) pioneer

**11. You will be severely penalised for not \_\_\_\_ by my order.  
[=obeying/following]**

- (a) abiding
- (b) smearing
- (c) flexing
- (d) bullying

**12. Don't you understand that you'll gain weight when you \_\_\_\_ on sweets and fast food? [=eat too much]**

- (a) overlap
- (b) augment
- (c) gorge
- (d) falter

**13. He never ceased to \_\_\_\_ his controversial beliefs. [=maintain/argue/defend]**

- (a) undercut
- (b) trickle
- (c) infuse
- (d) assert

**14. I use a special lotion that \_\_\_\_ insects. [=keeps away]**

- (a) orbits
- (b) repels
- (c) pans

(d) relays

**15. The earthquake victims are eligible for \_\_\_\_\_ housing.**  
[=financed/supported]

(a) subsidised

(b) zipped

(c) overtaken

(d) flanked

**16. In my home country, it's compulsory to \_\_\_\_\_ children.**  
[=inoculate/protect from illness]

(a) heed

(b) wail

(c) salvage

(d) vaccinate

**17. Every winter they carefully \_\_\_\_\_ their apple trees to promote significant growth of fruit buds.** [=cut/ shorten]

(a) lurch

(b) prune

(c) reaffirm

(d) heave

**18. If they attack us we won't hesitate to \_\_\_\_\_. [=fight back]**

- (a) retaliate
- (b) scurry
- (c) dice
- (d) hustle

**19. We managed to leave only when the tide \_\_\_\_\_. [=went back]**

- (a) tensed
- (b) boomed
- (c) booted
- (d) receded

**20. I think it's impossible to \_\_\_\_ school examinations. [=stop]**

- (a) paddle
- (b) concur
- (c) abolish
- (d) orchestrate