

Vocabulary Ex. > Essential Words in English (IV)

Finding synonyms > Choose the best answer.

1. exceptional	(A) dominant	(B) dense	(C) phenomenal	(D) acceptable
2. terrify	(A) distort	(B) frighten	(C) destroy	(D) challenge
3. prepare	(A) prime	(B) display	(C) depend on	(D) create
4. delicate	(A) vibrant	(B) distinct	(C) diverse	(D) sensitive
5. dangerous	(A) hazardous	(B) terrible	(C) harmless	(D) intolerable
6. elaborate	(A) gigantic	(B) impressive	(C) complex	(D) dramatic
7. minuscule	(A) tiny	(B) dim	(C) significant	(D) useless
8. superficial	(A) emotional	(B) lasting	(C) shallow	(D) incredible
9. rudimentary	(A) dormant	(B) ideal	(C) basic	(D) arbitrary
10. vigorous	(A) dominant	(B) convenient	(C) impressive	(D) strong
11. amenity	(A) advice	(B) convenience	(C) element	(D) peace
12. ruin	(A) destroy	(B) conform	(C) grow old	(D) baffle
13. mention	(A) surround	(B) remark	(C) assert	(D) clarify
14. emphasize	(A) frighten	(B) highlight	(C) delete	(D) persuade
15. exaggerate	(A) burgeon	(B) dominate	(C) elaborate	(D) overstate
16. disperse	(A) circulate	(B) destroy	(C) distort	(D) encircle
17. release	(A) free	(B) replace	(C) rise	(D) settle
18. inconsistent	(A) destructive	(B) emphatic	(C) elaborate	(D) erratic
19. commonplace	(A) elementary	(B) rudimentary	(C) prevalent	(D) uniform
20. pier	(A) depth	(B) crack	(C) dock	(D) prime
21. benefit	(A) prosper	(B) demand	(C) assist	(D) distinguish
22. noticeably	(A) constantly	(B) enormously	(C) conspicuously	(D) broadly
23. rumored	(A) routinely	(B) purposefully	(C) comparatively	(D) reportedly
24. blind	(A) oblivious	(B) visible	(C) sensitive	(D) shifting
25. thrive	(A) exaggerate	(B) burgeon	(C) dominate	(D) endorse
26. endure	(A) suffer	(B) erode	(C) release	(D) disappear
27. broaden	(A) impress	(B) elicit	(C) reveal	(D) enlarge
28. switch	(A) enrich	(B) shift	(C) propose	(D) support
29. retrieve	(A) recover	(B) deteriorate	(C) disperse	(D) relinquish
30. insist	(A) demand	(B) mention	(C) disperse	(D) intrigue

Taken from Matthiesen, S. (2007) Barron's Essential Words for TOEFL. 4th Ed. Barron's. USA
Adapted by Andrés Barón-Ávila
MA Education and Technology – UCL – IOE



Choosing synonyms in context > Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word in bold.

1. Because much collective behavior is **dramatic** and unpredictable, theories of such behavior are more evaluative than analytic.
 (A) hazardous (B) unexpected (C) terrifying (D) emotional
2. In contrast to their springtime nuptial plumage, ninny songbirds revert to a **drab** plumage during the winter.
 (A) minuscule (B) elaborate (C) different (D) colorless
3. A seed is **dormant** at the time it is shed by its parent.
 (A) vigorous (B) inactive (C) minuscule (D) rudimentary
4. The newspaper trip and the comic book represent the **dominant** graphic mythology of the twentieth century.
 (A) major (B) magical (C) familiar (D) complex
5. The vast majority of animals exhibit a **distinct** symmetrical form.
 (A) unique (B) similar (C) elaborate (D) natural
6. Kapok is made from the silky fibers that **encircle** the seeds of the tropical silk- cotton tree.
 (A) release (B) destroy (C) surround (D) circulate
7. Evidence suggests that the rumor process **eliminates** the most improbable accounts of an event.
 (A) elicits (B) deletes (C) emphasizes (D) exaggerates
8. The most **elementary** type of convection can be explained by the fact that heat rises.
 (A) mentioned (B) erratic (C) prevalent (D) primary
9. The thermostat is **an element** in some types of fire detection devices.
 (A) a problem (B) an amenity (C) a component (D) an advantage
10. Poorly constructed **dwelling**s cannot withstand severe storms.
 (A) houses (B) piers (C) boats (D) roads
11. The candidate's support **evaporated** after the announcement of his program reached the newspapers and televisions news programs.
 (A) burgeoned (B) suffered (C) broadened (D) disappeared
12. The president's popularity has **eroded** since the publication of a recent newspaper article.
 (A) recovered (B) shifted (C) intensified (D) deteriorated
13. The natural forest vegetation has **entirely** disappeared from the landscape.
 (A) slowly (B) reportedly (C) completely (D) conspicuously
14. Lightning is electricity that is discharged as **an enormous** spark, hitting the closest spot on the ground.
 (A) a mighty (B) a tremendous (C) a blinding (D) a terrifying
15. The trade unions worked hard for an agreement that would be **endorsed** by their members.
 (A) demanded by (B) supported by (C) attractive to (D) of benefit to

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