

**1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list below in the correct form.**

*innate compulsive nit-pick eccentric mundane hackneyed  
hierarchy earth-shattering determine contrive*

- a** Even though I was only doing the most \_\_\_\_\_ of jobs, cleaning floors and changing sheets, I enjoyed my time at the hotel.
- b** For most of his life, Pierre was despised as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ gambler. He spent every penny he had on his habit.
- c** I felt she was only pretending to cry as there was something very \_\_\_\_\_ about her sobbing.
- d** His normal practice was to saunter up to an unsuspecting girl in the park and softly ask, 'Have I seen you before?' The \_\_\_\_\_ phrase nearly always worked.
- e** My neighbour is very \_\_\_\_\_. He wears a white suit while doing the gardening and sings to his tomatoes.
- f** While George was happy to offer a helping hand when required, he fully believed in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ society and that inequality of power should persist in the workplace.
- g** It was then that Adam made the \_\_\_\_\_ discovery that his best friend of twenty years was actually his half-brother.
- h** Is our ability to count \_\_\_\_\_ or learned?
- i** In \_\_\_\_\_ the positive outcome of a complex building project, the key factors are preparation, timing, and luck.
- j** His pedantic attitude and constant \_\_\_\_\_ sent his long-suffering wife to an early grave.