

Fill in the blanks

Society & Emotions

- masterstroke
- blunder
- condescendingly
- devastated
- conceal
- counterproductive
- downtrodden

1. During his adolescence, he often felt emotionally lost and completely _____ by the pressure around him.
2. The journalist tried to _____ the truth, but eventually the evidence came out.
3. When I heard the news about the accident, I was completely _____.
4. She spoke to him _____, as if he was incapable of understanding simple things.
5. His constant complaints can be _____, instead of helping, they just make things worse.
6. I really kicked myself for falling for such an obvious _____.
7. He said the book was the author's "_____" but everyone could tell he was just flattering himself.

War & Danger

- conscription
- crawling
- shrine
- Grim Reaper
- shelling
- granted
- ravaged

1. After the heavy _____, the entire district was engulfed in smoke.
2. The army issued a call-up notice informing men of upcoming _____.
3. The city's old cathedral turned into a _____ of memories for fallen soldiers.
4. An unexpected explosion sent people _____ into the shelters.

5. The _____ is often depicted holding a long scythe.
6. The coastline was completely _____ by the storms last night.
7. People took safety for _____ until the danger became real.

Psychology & Behavior

- mindlessly
- break the spell
- magpie
- flatter yourself
- non-reciprocal
- fuel
- perform

1. Legends say a hero will rise to _____ of eternal winter.
2. She spoke _____, not even thinking about the consequences of her words.
3. Their relationship was clearly _____; she gave everything while he gave nothing.
4. He always bought random items like a true _____, attracted to anything shiny.
5. Stress can _____ destructive habits if not controlled.
6. He tried to _____ diplomacy during the conversation, but failed badly.
7. Don't _____ — nobody is as impressed as you imagine.

General Vocabulary

- muffle
- pastry
- dense
- storeys
- spider webs
- mischief
- saturated

1. The newly built house has three _____ and a large balcony.
2. Children often make _____, especially when left unsupervised.

3. The meadow was covered with cotton candy–like mist and sparkling _____.
4. The aircraft was said to be too _____ to fly safely in thunderstorms.
5. He dropped in unexpectedly, just to say hello, and brought some homemade _____.
6. She tried to _____ her crying by covering her mouth.
7. The whole room felt _____ with the smell of fresh pastries.

Match the words with their definitions

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Wunderkind / child prodigy | 4. Aussies | 8. Curator |
| 2. Veneer | 5. To spur | 9. Purgatory |
| 3. Peril | 6. Lowdown | 10. Validity |
| | 7. To delude | |

- A. A dangerous situation
- B. To deceive with false beliefs
- C. Australians (informal)
- D. A thin surface layer hiding the truth
- E. A person who organizes and manages something
- F. To encourage or stimulate
- G. The truth or essential facts about something
- H. Strong legal or logical correctness
- I. A state of suffering before redemption
- J. A brilliant, extremely talented young person

Complete the following collocations using the correct word.

1. Strictly _____ the rules
2. To adjust / _____ to new conditions
3. To act _____ a fairy tale
4. To rely _____ someone
5. To exalt / preach _____ a virtue
6. A dense spider _____
7. To break the _____
8. The final _____
9. To please _____
10. Close _____ with allies

Watch the video and use all words from the box to describe its plot

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. medical check-up | 6. distorted | 14. to encounter |
| 2. explicit (e.g. <i>explicit symptoms, explicit instructions</i>) | 7. ill-fated | 15. mere mortal |
| 3. to specify | 8. to detach | 16. to rot |
| 4. lumpy | 9. inadequacy | 17. foul stench |
| 5. interfering signals / interference | 10. density | 18. to moan |
| | 11. to plummet | 19. incoherent |
| | 12. to threaten | 20. fragile |
| | 13. exhausted | |

Read the short text. Some words from the list have been replaced with numbers in brackets. Your task is to choose the correct word from the list based on the context and write its letter after the number. After reading the text, create an alternative ending to the story using at least 5 words from the list that were not used in the original text.

Once upon a time, in a small village, there lived a (1)___ who was constantly teased because he was weak. People even called him a (2) ___. But the young man was known to use his mind (3) ___ and often surprised everyone with clever ideas.

One day, a (4)___ appeared in the village, made of herbs and spices, which smelled strangely sweet. The (5) ___ villagers were unsure whether to trust it and went (6) ___. Meanwhile, a pair of (7) ___ had just arrived in town, full of hope and happiness.

At the village square, people watched the (8) ___ overhead, amazed at its size and speed. Some tried to (9) ___ their fears by covering their ears and whispering to each other. The village elders tried (10) ___ the situation, but some villagers were still (11) ___ and complaining.

In the evening, a deep (12) ___ fell over the village as everyone mourned the (13) ___ of the old king. His (14) ___ ways were remembered, and some hoped to (15) ___ the mistakes of the past. It was revealed that the day before the King had tasted that mysterious concoction...

A. broom
B. newlyweds
C. distorted
D. to amend
E. concoction
F. wimpy
G. perverted
H. sorrow
I. whipping boy
J. peevish

K. virtue
L. remotely
M. judiciously
N. to fall for
O. tomb
P. to accrete
Q. prosperity
R. to moan
S. fussy
T. gaze

U. aircraft
V. backwards
W. to muffle
X. folk
Y. to hold
Z. to set a good
example/sample
AA. wimpy

Your alternative ending