

Unit 2

Words in Action

Adjectives denoting **physique**

plump	fleshy or overweight	lanky	very thin, tall and ungraceful
corpulent	excessively fat	spindly	long, thin, suggesting weakness
obese	medically very overweight	feeble	weak, lacking in muscular power
muscular	strong with well-developed muscles	delicate	easily injured or easily made ill
stout	rather fat and heavy at the same time	frail	delicate, usually in poor health
hefty	big and strong	gaunt	thin, extremely weak, as though from lack of food
husky	strong and powerfully built	sickly	often ill
burly	large in body, bulky and stout	bony	very thin, as though the bones show through the skin
virile	exhibiting physical strength and sexual power	skinny	very thin
sturdy	possessing excellent health and strength	decrepit	weak and in bad condition from old age
robust	strong, healthy with stamina	senile	(connected with old age) showing the weakness of the body and especially of the mind

Exercise A >>> Complete the table with the noun derived from the corresponding adjective.

ADJECTIVES

NOUNS

corpulent
obese
virile
decrepit

ADJECTIVES

NOUNS

stout
frail
senile
muscular

Exercise B >>> Make three lists of adjectives that come under the headings of:

STRONG

FAT

WEAK

Vocabulary Development

Task One >>> Tick the one word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word(s) in heavy type.

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|--|--|--|
| 1 An ex-convict is a person | ☐ about to be punished | ☐ who has already undergone punishment |
| 2 A sane individual is | ☐ healthy in mind | ☐ mad |
| 3 A naked person | ☐ has his clothes on | ☐ hasn't got his clothes on |
| 4 An enemy that capitulates | ☐ surrenders | ☐ fights to the bitter end |
| 5 People who abide by the law | ☐ observe it | ☐ disregard it |
| 6 An unscrupulous man | ☐ is guided by conscience | ☐ is not guided by conscience |
| 7 A graceful woman | ☐ is attractive in movement | ☐ is unattractive in movement |
| 8 A friend sticking to his promises | ☐ keeps them | ☐ breaks them |
| 9 A blunt person | ☐ is invariably polite | ☐ doesn't take the trouble to be polite |
| 10 A convent is another word for | ☐ monastery for women | ☐ school |

Task Two >>> What are the nouns derived from the adjectives listed below?

ADJECTIVES	NOUNS
chivalrous	
treacherous	
poor	
prosperous	
royal	
sane	

ADJECTIVES	NOUNS
notorious	
loyal	
fit	
persistent	
noble	
cruel	

Task Three >>> Complete the sentences using the words defined below.

- A** **compulsive** - very difficult to stop or control
compulsory - something that must be done either by rules, laws, etc
A vision test is _____ when you are applying for a driver's license.
- B** **plump** - slightly fat
plumber -sb who fixes or installs water pipes, radiators, showers, etc.
Although Sharon is a bit _____ she still seems fit and healthy.
- C** **stout** - rather fat and heavy
stately - impressive and dignified
Who do you suppose lives in that _____ mansion?
- D** **in high spirits** - cheerful and happy
in low spirits - rather depressed
Jason was _____ for weeks after crashing his car.
- E** **capitulate** - surrender on stated conditions; come to terms with the enemy and surrender
recapitulate - go through the main points
Can you please _____ that for me; I'm not sure I understood.
- F** **vow** - swear solemnly that one will do something
avow - admit or declare openly
Will you _____ to stop smoking if I stop eating chocolate?
- G** **curtail** - cut down/back on; reduce
entail - make something necessary; involve
Don't agree to take on the job until you are sure what it _____.

Task Four >>> Cross out the words in lists A and B which are **not** synonymous with the words in CAPITAL letters.

A CHIVALROUS

- ☐ corpulent
- ☐ gallant
- ☐ courteous
- ☐ courageous
- ☐ blunt
- ☐ robust
- ☐ honorable
- ☐ double-faced

B TREACHEROUS

- ☐ false
- ☐ disloyal
- ☐ faithful
- ☐ trustworthy
- ☐ dependable
- ☐ deceitful
- ☐ underhand
- ☐ reliable

Vocabulary Practice

A. Read the text below and choose the correct word **A, B C** or **D** to fit the gaps.

Greenhouse gases are being released into the atmosphere 30 times faster than the time when the Earth experienced a (11)..... episode of global warming. A study comparing the rate at which carbon dioxide and methane are being (12)..... now, compared to 55 million years ago when global warming also occurred, has found dramatic differences in the speed of release. James Zachos, professor of earth sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz, said the speed of the present buildup of greenhouse gases is far greater than during the global warming after the (13)..... of the dinosaurs. "The emissions that caused this past episode of global warming probably lasted 10,000 years," Professor Zachos told the American Association for the Advancement of Science at a meeting in St. Louis. "By burning fossil fuels, we are likely to emit the same amount over the next three centuries." He warned that studies of global warming events in the geological past (14)..... the Earth's climate passes a (15)..... beyond which climate change accelerates with the help of positive feedbacks - vicious circles of warming. Professor Zachos is a leading (16)..... on the episode of global warming known as the palaeocene-eocene thermal maximum, when average global temperatures increased by up to 5°C due to a massive release of carbon dioxide and methane.

His research into the deep ocean (17)..... suggests at this time that about 4.5 billion tons of carbon entered the atmosphere over 10,000 years. "This will be the same amount of carbon released into the atmosphere from cars and industrial emissions over the next 300 years if present (18)..... continue", he said. Although carbon can be released suddenly and naturally into the atmosphere from volcanic activity, it takes many thousands of years for it to be removed permanently by natural processes. The ocean is capable of removing carbon, and quickly, but this natural (19)..... can be easily (20)....., which is probably what happened 55 million years ago. "It will take tens of thousands of years before atmospheric carbon dioxide comes down to preindustrial levels," the professor said. "Even after humans stop burning fossil fuels, the effects will be long-lasting."

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|--------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| 11. A. prearranged | B. premier | C. previous | D. fundamental |
| 12. A. emitted | B. exhaled | C. incorporated | D. digested |
| 13. A. dementia | B. demolition | C. detachment | D. demise |
| 14. A. comment | B. mark | C. compliment | D. indicate |
| 15. A. barricade | B. verge | C. threshold | D. perimeter |
| 16. A. autocrat | B. authority | C. administrator | D. proprietor |
| 17. A. dusts | B. sediments | C. dirt | D. powder |
| 18. A. trends | B. gadgets | C. fads | D. crazes |
| 19. A. capacity | B. competence | C. intelligence | D. bulk |
| 20. A. overcharged | B. overstated | C. overshadowed | D. overwhelmed |

B. Fill the gaps in the following sentences with the correct answer **A, B C** or **D**.

- 21 is a real health hazard.
 a Stupidity b Sturdiness c Animosity d Obesity
- 22 The old lady was becoming increasingly affected by
 a senility b masculinity c virility d chivalry
- 23 His excuses invariably exasperated the manager.
 a feeble b frail c robust d wealthy
- 24 I don't to be a genius but I am not stupid either.
 a permit b agree c compare d claim
- 25 Smoking can be to your health.
 a delightful b harmless c detrimental d indifferent
- 26 People their spending power when prices rise.
 a increase b curtail c prolong d think
- 27 He became an outlaw by the law.
 a defying b observing c sticking to d abiding by
- 28 is a punishable offense.
 a Hunting b Poaching c Jogging d Boxing
- 29 Marian was a beautiful, ... young lady.
 a corpulent b gaunt c slender d bony
- 30 Don't trust him; he's cruel, ... and unscrupulous.
 a loving b slack c treacherous d trustworthy