

Unit 5

Words in Action

acid	unkind or critical	tart	sharp in manner
sour	having or showing a bad temper/ disagreeable in manner	harsh	severe, cruel, unsympathetic
bitter	hard to accept, usually used to express a feeling of disappointment/extremely cold	cutting	hurtful
caustic	sarcastic	biting	sharply critical and is often caused by anger or dislike

Exercise A >>> Choose either **a**, **b** or **c** to complete each sentence.

- There was little protection against the ____ wind.
a bitter **b** powerless **c** sour
- It is sometimes very difficult to appreciate his ____ wit.
a caustic **b** nieve **c** frail
- Josh's ____ irony is just a means of making him feel superior.
a decrepit **b** intrepid **c** cutting
- The professor, weary and increasingly ____ in mood, walked into the auditorium.
a valiant **b** biting **c** sour
- I'm sure that his ____ remarks and sarcasm were a result of your own hostile behavior towards him.
a biting **b** gentle **c** robust
- I have often felt hurt by her ____ humor.
a annihilating **b** acid **c** courageous
- Her ____ reply left us shocked at her insolent behaviour.
a hefty **b** delicate **c** tart
- It has often been found that ____ punishment in many cases proves to be detrimental rather than beneficial.
a caustic **b** cutting **c** harsh
- Failing their senior class was a ____ disappointment for many students.
a gallant **b** feeble **c** bitter
- She was often reduced to tears by her tutor's ____ remarks.
a harsh **b** gaunt **c** luxuriant

Exercise B >>> Put the correct word in the sentences below using the corresponding words on the right.

- She's the _____ head of the company.
- She's a _____ young woman. **VIRTUAL - VIRTUOUS**
- She was rather large and _____.
- Her _____ courage inspired us all. **UNFAILING - UNGAINLY**
- Don't touch these tools! They're not your _____.
- Mary behaves with perfect _____. **PROPERTY - PROPRIETY**
- He lives in _____ fear of being discovered.
- Daffodils are _____ plants. **PERENNIAL - PERPETUAL**
- He _____ his rare collection of old coins.
- The truth is that he _____ the challenge of competition. **RELISHES - CHERISHES**
- He was neither happy nor _____ about what happened.
- His behaviour at the party was most _____. **REGRETFUL - REGRETTABLE**

Vocabulary Development

Task One >>> Tick the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 A profitable business ____. | ☐ makes a profit | ☐ makes no profit |
| 2 Labor is very ____ work. | ☐ hard | ☐ easy |
| 3 Another synonym for slaughter is ____. | ☐ slay | ☐ prey |
| 4 The opposite of debtor is ____. | ☐ credible | ☐ creditor |
| 5 To enslave is to ____ somebody. | ☐ subjugate | ☐ irritate |
| 6 When you initiate direct talks with somebody, you ____ them. | ☐ start | ☐ terminate |
| 7 A benevolent society ____ the needy. | ☐ helps | ☐ ignores |
| 8 When old fashioned cars are superseded by catalytic cars ____. | ☐ the former take the place of the latter | ☐ the latter take place of the former |
| 9 When there's a long standing feud between two people it means that they ____. | ☐ are on good terms | ☐ hate each other |

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

A wary - be careful about something ⇔ **weary** - extremely tired

He's been _____ of dogs since he was bitten.

B stinging - bitter, unkind ⇔ **stringent** (of rules) severe

The job advertisement listed many _____ requirements.

C renovate - repair and return to good condition ⇔ **innovate** - introduce something new; make changes

It is a great deal of work to _____ a house.

D implicit - not directly expressed ⇔ **explicit** - clearly and fully expressed

It is _____ that you will dress up if you go to a wedding.

E status - a person's social, legal or professional position ⇔ **statute** - a written law

Some people feel that a new car can increase their _____.

F utility - usefulness ⇔ **utilisation** - making use of something or finding a use for something

The efficient _____ of time is an important skill to learn.

Task Three >>> Rewrite the following sentences or join them by using the **NOUN** derived from the words in **bold**.

*Example: They **predicted** the results amazingly accurately.*

*Answer: Their **PREDICTION** of the results was amazingly accurate.*

1 We can't easily **dispose** of nuclear waste.

_____.

2 Without a doubt he was **devoted** to his wife.

_____.

3 The supplies were **inadequate**. This resulted in the failure of the expedition.

_____.

4 That it was an **insane** notion needed no questioning.

_____.

5 His **inept** remark exasperated everybody present.

_____.

6 We should duly emphasize how **immediate** the problem is.

_____.

7 They **deferred** payment due to lack of funds.

_____.

8 You can't take her **frivolous** remark seriously.

_____.

9 He acted astonishingly **fast**.

_____.

10 The lack of books impoverishes us **intellectually**.

_____.

Task Four >>> Fill in the blanks with appropriate **prepositions**.

1 'Your father looks busy, doesn't he?' 'He's working _____ a new book; his autobiography, actually.'

2 'How badly was the car damaged?' 'The damage _____ it was terrible.'

3 'Do you know him?' 'We do know him _____ sight, you might say, but not very well.'

4 'How soon will the new model be available?' 'It will be _____ sale from next month on.'

5 'What are you looking for?' 'The scissors! What have you done _____ them?'

6 'Shall I drive you to the airport?' 'No, thanks, I'd rather go _____ my car.'

7 'They dress well, don't they?' 'They can afford to; they're well _____, you know.'

8 'Why are they demolishing the front of the building?'

'They're making _____ the ground floor flat into a shop, I think.'

9 'Could I speak to Dr. Jenkins, please?' 'Hold on a moment. I'll put you _____ to him.'

10 'Do I stand a chance of passing the exam, sir?'

'You do! Put your best foot forward and don't let me _____.'

Vocabulary Practice

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

As petrol prices continue to (11)....., many people are looking for ways to reduce the (12)..... of higher prices while still doing the driving necessary to their work and other activities. (13)..... are some suggestions which will save you a (14)..... amount of money on petrol.

1. Ask yourself every time you (15)..... to use your car, truck, SUV, or van, "Is this trip really necessary?" Every mile you drive your vehicle will cost you at least an (16)..... of 36 cents. If the trip is not necessary, think twice before using your vehicle.
2. Drive at a (17)..... speed on the motorway. According to the Department of Energy, most automobiles get about 20 per cent more miles per gallon on the motorway at 55 miles per hour than they do at 70 miles per hour.
3. Consider (18)..... an automobile which gets the best petrol mileage. For example, generally, the following get better petrol mileage: lighter weight vehicles, vehicles with smaller engines, vehicles with manual transmissions, those with four cylinders, and those with fewer accessories. Check the "fuel economy" labels (19)..... to the windows of new automobiles to find the average estimated miles per gallon for given makes and models.
4. Decrease the number of short trips you make. Short trips (20)..... reduce petrol mileage. If an automobile gets 20 miles per gallon in general, it may get only 4 miles per gallon on a short trip of 5 miles or less.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 11. A. crash | B. accelerate | C. escalate | D. fly |
| 12. A. danger | B. occurrence | C. burden | D. chance |
| 13. A. Below | B. After | C. Coming | D. Later |
| 14. A. measurable | B. negotiable | C. negligible | D. considerable |
| 15. A. think | B. plan | C. need | D. arrange |
| 16. A. equivalent | B. average | C. amount | D. increase |
| 17. A. mild | B. conservative | C. considerate | D. substantial |
| 18. A. inquiring | B. trading | C. preferring | D. purchasing |
| 19. A. attached | B. selected | C. stretched | D. held |
| 20. A. extensively | B. exclusively | C. intensively | D. drastically |

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

- 21 This road is ____ to floods in winter.
a fragile b sensitive c leading d unprotected
- 22 The new town development has begun to ____ on the surrounding green belt.
a reach b encroach c enter d intrude
- 23 I was informed by the police officer that he would be forced to take me into ____.
a guardianship b bail c custody d protection
- 24 My inquiries did not ____ any information of value.
a elicit b arouse c illicit d swell
- 25 Charles was not sure which profession to enter, but finally ____ for law.
a chose b opted c accepted d selected
- 26 His ____ sarcasm exasperated me.
a biting b decorous c benevolent d fearful
- 27 His ____ as a brave soldier spread throughout the country.
a renovation b renown c pilgrimage d expedition
- 28 He found it all but impossible to bear the ____ of a nomadic life.
a amenities b sourness c decorum d harshness
- 29 He ____ the illusion that he will live to be a hundred.
a grows b relishes c develops d cherishes
- 30 Samantha was dressed in a very ____ trouser suit.
a contemptible b decorous c stinging d becoming