

Exercise 1 Writing Correct Words

On the answer line, write the word from the vocabulary list that best completes each definition.

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|---|-----------|
| 1. Appearing a certain way, but not actually so; professed | 1. _____ |
| 2. Done or acting in secret; sneaky | 2. _____ |
| 3. Extremely noticeable; glaring | 3. _____ |
| 4. Standing out and attracting attention; prominent | 4. _____ |
| 5. Deception by means of a strategy or a device; a deceptive strategy or device | 5. _____ |
| 6. To show off in order to impress others | 6. _____ |
| 7. Not readily noticeable; inconspicuous | 7. _____ |
| 8. To remove or withdraw from public view; seclude | 8. _____ |
| 9. Done quickly and with stealth; sly | 9. _____ |
| 10. Capable of coming into existence but not visible | 10. _____ |

Exercise 2 Using Words Correctly

Decide whether the italicized vocabulary word has been used correctly in the sentence. On the answer line, write *Correct* for correct use and *Incorrect* for incorrect use.

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|---|-----------|
| 1. Clara's <i>ostensible</i> reason for coming to the house was to return our lawn mower, but she really wanted to meet our cousins. | 1. _____ |
| 2. <i>Flagrant</i> parking violations are rewarded by the police. | 2. _____ |
| 3. Because the case was so sensational, the judge <i>sequestered</i> the jury. | 3. _____ |
| 4. The pirates announced their arrival with an <i>unobtrusive</i> blast from their cannon. | 4. _____ |
| 5. The boy's <i>furtive</i> manner made people trust him instinctively. | 5. _____ |
| 6. Ella's aches and pains were only a <i>subterfuge</i> to avoid going shopping. | 6. _____ |
| 7. Kevin decided to tell the complete story by eliminating the <i>salient</i> details. | 7. _____ |
| 8. Shy and embarrassed, Elise <i>flaunted</i> her discomfort by sitting quietly in a corner. | 8. _____ |
| 9. Hercules' strength was hardly <i>latent</i> in childhood; he was said to have strangled two snakes in his cradle when he was a baby. | 9. _____ |
| 10. McDonald conducted a <i>surreptitious</i> search for a new job so that his supervisor wouldn't find out. | 10. _____ |

Exercise 3 Identifying Synonyms and Antonyms

Decide which word or phrase has the meaning that is the same as (a synonym) or opposite to (an antonym) that of the capitalized vocabulary word. Write the letter of your choice on the answer line.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. SALIENT (synonym):
a. hidden b. striking c. covered d. sarcastic | 1. _____ |
|---|----------|

2. FURTIVE (antonym):
a. forthright b. offensive c. stealthy d. furrowed
3. FLAUNT (synonym):
a. disregard b. display c. antagonize d. waver
4. SEQUESTER (synonym):
a. bring forth b. follow c. line up d. set apart
5. LATENT (antonym):
a. perceptible b. abundant c. riotous d. quiet
6. FLAGRANT (synonym):
a. fluent b. affectionate c. outrageous d. courteous
7. OSTENSIBLE (antonym):
a. violent b. peculiar c. infamous d. actual
8. SUBTERFUGE (synonym):
a. reserve b. trick c. puzzle d. solution
9. UNOBTRUSIVE (antonym):
a. subtle b. obvious c. exceptional d. insincere
10. SURREPTITIOUS (synonym):
a. overt b. acute c. secretive d. noticeable

2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Exercise 4 Using Different Forms of Words

Decide which form of the vocabulary word in parentheses best completes the sentence. The form given may be correct. Write your answer on the answer line.

1. The sculpture was placed in a _____ position at the top of the staircase.
(*salient*)
2. The _____ of Lillian's lies astonished her friends. (*flagrant*)
3. The cat crept _____ toward the goldfish bowl. (*furtive*)
4. By choosing to join a certain kind of religious order, a nun can live in _____.
(*sequester*)
5. The detective entered the room _____ and was able to hear and see a great deal before being noticed. (*unobtrusive*)
6. The thief entered the darkened house _____ but was surprised by the detective, who was waiting for him. (*surreptitious*)
7. Lucy antagonized her friends by _____ Ed's school ring, which she wore on a chain around her neck. (*flaunt*)
8. Gary was _____ truthful, but Millicent was still suspicious. (*ostensible*)
9. Sandy won the prize by _____ but then felt guilty about it. (*subterfuge*)
10. Chicken pox is infectious during its _____. (*latent*)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Reading Comprehension

Each numbered sentence in the following passage contains an italicized vocabulary word or related form. After you read the passage, you will complete an exercise.

The Treasure of Oak Island

Over the past two hundred years, treasure hunters have flocked to Oak Island, off the coast of the Canadian province of Nova Scotia. Millions of dollars have been spent in attempts to excavate a 170-foot pit, where submerged wooden chests filled with precious jewels and gold coins await someone with the engineering genius to remove them.

According to legend Oak Island was put under a curse in 1720. During that year mainlanders saw strange flickering lights on the island. (1) By using *subterfuge*, several people ventured close enough to see huge bonfires and large groups of pirates hard at work. (2) These people were said to have died mysteriously after reporting the *surreptitious* activity. (3) Two men who rowed in to inspect the pirates' activity were not *furtive* enough; they were never seen again. (4) Rumors of *flagrantly* illegal activity were circulated but were never proved. (5) The pirates had *sequestered* themselves and their activities quite well.

The curse remained until 1795, when three young men landed on Oak Island. Out for a day of canoeing and exploring, they soon noticed a pulley device from an old ship that was nailed to the trunk of a large oak tree. (6) The most *salient* feature of the pulley was its

position directly over a depressed square of earth. Daniel McInnes, Jack Smith, and Tony Vaughan were convinced that they had found the site of pirate treasure.

The next day the three returned to Oak Island with shovels, axes, and picks. They found an old clay-lined shaft, seven feet wide and refilled with loose dirt. Shoveling out tons of dirt, they also discovered platforms of heavy oak planks located at ten, twenty, and thirty feet. Thirty feet beneath the surface, they were no closer to a bottom of any sort. After weeks of digging, the young men were forced to return to their farming.

McInnes, Smith, and Vaughan had not given up their dream, however. (7) They still believed that they had found a *latent* source of incredible wealth. (8) By making *unobtrusive* inquiries, they found Dr. John Lynds, who, inspired by their enthusiastic tales, raised capital to buy equipment and hire labor. Working furiously, the diggers excavated to one hundred feet below the surface. When they struck a solid layer, they believed that they had found the last barrier to the treasure. (9) Deciding to rest until morning, the excited treasure-hunters dreamed of *flaunting* their riches to their neighbors. Their expectations were shattered, however. The

next morning the shaft was filled with sixty feet of water. No amount of bailing or pumping could reduce the level of the water, which seemed to flow into the shaft through some underground source.

Since the Oak Island treasure pit was discovered in 1795, thirty to forty separate expeditions have been mounted to try to unearth the treasure. All of the work done over the years has yielded only a bone whistle shaped like a violin and three heavy links of a gold chain. (10) Engineers have *ostensibly* come to understand the construction of the tunnels and shafts; however, the sophisticated drilling equipment, hydraulic pumps, metal detectors, dynamite blasts, and bulldozers that they have used have failed to reveal what lies buried in what has come to be known as the "money pit."

Whether the treasure turns out to be the gold of the Incas, the loot of the pirate Captain Kidd, the plunder of Spanish explorers, or the never-recovered jewels of Marie Antoinette, treasure hunters are sure of one thing. The treasure must be extraordinarily valuable to have warranted the conception and construction of a hiding place that has defied the best talents of the modern engineering world.

Please turn to the next page.

Reading Comprehension Exercise

Each of the following statements corresponds to a numbered sentence in the passage. Each statement contains a blank and is followed by four answer choices. Decide which choice fits best in the blank. The word or phrase that you choose must express roughly the same meaning as the italicized word in the passage. Write the letter of your choice on the answer line.

1. Several people used _____ to approach the island.
a. boats c. the cover of darkness
b. a natural bridge d. deception
2. They were said to have died mysteriously after reporting the _____ activity.
a. pirates' b. illegal c. secretive d. fascinating
3. Two men were not _____ enough.
a. imaginative b. sly c. graceful d. skillful
4. Rumors of _____ illegal activity were never proved.
a. glaringly b. humorously c. supposedly d. purposefully
5. The pirates had _____ themselves and their activities quite well.
a. encouraged b. stopped c. secluded d. covered
6. The most _____ feature of the ship's pulley was that it hung over a depression in the ground.
a. interesting b. confusing c. reasonable d. noticeable
7. The three young men still believed that they had found a _____ source of wealth.
a. challenging b. glamorous c. concealed d. endless
8. They located Dr. John Lynds by making _____ inquiries.
a. discreet b. written c. public d. disorganized
9. They dreamed of _____ their riches to their neighbors.
a. creatively describing c. giving clues about
b. boastfully displaying d. voluntarily explaining
10. Engineers have _____ come to understand the construction of the money pit.
a. not b. almost c. definitely d. seemingly

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Writing Assignment

Suppose that you are planning a surprise party for a close friend. You are extremely excited about the party — so excited, in fact, that you are having a difficult time keeping the secret from your friend. You decide that you will write a letter about the party to a relative or another friend. This way, you can communicate the details without giving away the secret. Using at least five of the words from this lesson and underlining each word that you use, write a letter in which you explain how you will handle the party.