

## Vocabulary List Two

1. **adroit**  
(adj.) skillful, expert in the use of the hands or the mind  
*synonyms: clever, deft, slick, dexterous*  
*antonyms: clumsy, inept*
2. **amicable**  
(adj.) peaceable, friendly  
*synonyms: congenial, neighborly, cordial*  
*antonyms: hostile, antagonistic*
3. **averse**  
(adj.) having a deep-seated distaste; opposed, unwilling  
*synonyms: disinclined, loath*  
*antonyms: favorably disposed, eager, keen*
4. **belligerent**  
(adj.) given to fighting, warlike; combative, aggressive  
(n) one at war, one engaged in war  
*synonyms: (adj.) assertive, truculent, pugnacious*  
*antonyms: (adj.) peaceful, conciliatory, placid*
5. **cursory**  
(adj.) hasty, not thorough  
*synonyms: quick, superficial, perfunctory*  
*antonyms: thorough, painstaking, careful*
6. **duplicity**  
(n) treachery, deceitfulness  
*synonyms: double-dealing*
7. **grimace**  
(n) a wry face, facial distortion  
(v) to make a wry face  
*synonyms: (n) a pained expression, facial contortion*  
*antonyms: (n) grin; (v) beam*
8. **impervious**  
(adj.) not affected or hurt by; admitting of no passage or entrance  
*synonyms: impenetrable, resistant, proof against*  
*antonyms: porous, permeable, vulnerable*
9. **impetus**  
(n) a moving force, impulse, stimulus  
*synonyms: impulse, spur*  
*antonyms: curb, hindrance, constraint*

10. **meticulous**  
(adj.) extremely careful; particular about details  
*synonyms: fussy, fastidious*  
*antonyms: careless, negligent, sloppy*
11. **quintessence**  
(n) the purest essence or form of something; the most typical example  
*synonyms: paragon, exemplar*
12. **tepid**  
(adj.) lukewarm; unenthusiastic, marked by an absence of interest  
*synonyms: halfhearted, insipid*  
*antonyms: enthusiastic, heated*

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**Choosing the Right Word:** Select the word that better completes each sentence.

1. Because I was not even born when The Beatles were at the height of their popularity, their albums do not fill me with (duplicity, nostalgia).
2. It was rude of you to make a (tepid, grimacing) face so obviously when the speaker mispronounced words and made grammatical errors.
3. Though it may appear rather ordinary to the casual reader, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is to me the (impetus, quintessence) of eloquence.
4. Some civil engineers believe that someday it may be (feasible, averse) to derive a large part of our energy directly from the sun.
5. Providing a powerful defense force for our nation does not mean that we are taking a (belligerent, meticulous) attitude toward any other nation.
6. Anyone who is (averse, cursory) to having a girls' hockey team in our school doesn't know what's been happening in recent years with women's sports.
7. News of famine in various parts of the world has given added (imperviousness, impetus) to the drive to increase food production.

8. After shouting at each other rather angrily, the participants in the roundtable discussion calmed down and parted (belligerently, amicably).
9. When I saw my sister land in a tree on her first parachute jump, my interest in learning to skydive became decidedly (tepid, adroit).
10. The lawyer's (adroit, belligerent) questioning slowly but surely revealed the weaknesses in his opponent's case.
11. Do you think you are being fair in passing judgment on my poem after such a (cursory, impervious) reading?
12. His parents tried to encourage an interest in literature, music, and art, but he seemed (amicable, impervious) to such influences.
13. In the Sherlock Holmes stories, we read of the evil Professor Moriarty, whose (duplicity, quintessence) was almost a match for Holmes's genius.
14. I knew you would be (impervious, meticulous) in caring for my plants, but I did not expect you to water them with a medicine dropper!
15. After the dictator walked out of the peace talks, the visiting diplomat tried to carry on (amicable, belligerent) negotiations between the two nations.
16. How many people actually enjoy drinking (cursory, tepid) milk before bedtime even though it is highly recommended to ease digestion?
17. (Impervious, Duplicitous) to everything except a rare radioactive isotope found deep in the earth, the superhero battled the giant aliens to save the world.
18. Those who are (adroit, averse) to seafood may enjoy the many other menu options.
2. Because I was looking forward to a hot bath, I was disappointed at the feeble stream of \_\_\_\_\_ water that flowed into the tub.
3. If you are \_\_\_\_\_ to hard study and intensive reading, how do you expect to get through law school?
4. Only when we learned that the embezzler had tried to cast suspicion on his innocent partner did we realize the extent of his \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Although he shows no particular talent as a worker, he is exceptionally \_\_\_\_\_ at finding excuses for not doing his job.
6. What good is a plastic raincoat that is \_\_\_\_\_ to water if it also prevents any body heat from escaping?
7. Although the ranchers and miners had been feuding over water rights for years, the sheriff tried to maintain \_\_\_\_\_ relations with both parties.
8. For centuries, Switzerland has avoided becoming a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ in the conflicts that have scarred the rest of Europe.
9. When I heard you speaking French so fluently, my determination to master that language received a fresh \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The accountant's records--neat, accurate, and complete in every respect--show that she is a most \_\_\_\_\_ worker.
11. King Arthur's Knights of the Round Table were the \_\_\_\_\_ of chivalry.
12. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ examination of my luggage was enough to show me that someone had been tampering with it.

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**Completing the Sentence:** From the word list, choose the word that best completes each sentence.

1. If, as you claim, you really like raw oysters, why do you make such an eloquent \_\_\_\_\_ every time you swallow one?

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**Synonyms:** Choose the word from the list that is the same or most nearly the same in meaning as the *italicized* word or expression in the phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

1. Her *antipathetic* response to the homeless man  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. A shocking case of *fraud*  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The intimidating *scowl* on his face  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Staged a *painstaking* re-creation of a famous battle \_\_\_\_\_ 1.

5. Respond with a *confrontational* voice \_\_\_\_\_

**Antonyms:** Choose the word from the list that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the *italicized* word or expression in the phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

1. *Smiled broadly* at the sight of her grandchild \_\_\_\_\_ 2.

2. The *enthusiastic* response of the fans \_\_\_\_\_ 3.

3. *Vulnerable* to harsh criticism \_\_\_\_\_

4. *Incredibly attentive* to detail \_\_\_\_\_ 4.

5. *Harsh* in tone and manner \_\_\_\_\_

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**Writing Task: Words in Action**

Select one of the two options below to write a minimum of two fully developed paragraphs in response. 5.

*Option 1:* Look back at “Fashion Victims” (handout provided separately prior to unit study). Think about how clothing styles have changed over the years and how they reflect the social values of a particular time period. Write a short essay in which you analyze what current clothing styles reveal about contemporary society. Use at least *two details* from the passage and at least *three words* from the unit to support your analysis.

*Option 2:* Many schools require students to wear uniforms. In a short essay, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of school uniforms. Use specific examples from your own observations, studies, reading, or personal experiences. Write at least two paragraphs, and use three or more words from the unit.

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**Original Sentences:** Choose five words from this unit and create five original sentences that each contain a context clue revealing the meaning of the chosen word.